

**Subject** Meeting #12- Barnes Air National Guard Base (ANGB) Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)

**Prepared by** Kathryn Burns, Jacobs

**Location** Westfield Athenaeum  
Microsoft Teams

**Date/Time** July 24, 2025, 6:00 p.m.

RAB Members	Additional Participants
Col. Andrew St. Jean, 104 FW Barnes ANGB, acting base co-chair	Robert Lewis, Barnes National Guard Bureau (NGB) Restoration Program Manager (RPM)
Mary Ann Babinski (online)	Lt. Col. Sarah Sinclair, 104 FW Barnes ANGB
Chris Clark	Jennifer Baker, 104 FW Barnes ANGB
Kathleen Hillman, community co-chair	Emma Kosub, DAWSON (online)
Kristen Mello	Caprice Shaw, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)
Mary O'Connell	Tom Keefe, MassDEP
Jane Okscin	Tamara Cardona-Marek, MassDEP
Dawn Thomas	Amy Brand, Jacobs
	Kathryn Burns, Jacobs

A full list of attendees is provided in **Attachment A**.

The Barnes ANGB RAB Meeting No. 12 was held on July 24, 2025 at 1800 at the Westfield Athenaeum and via Microsoft Teams. The following notes provide a summary of discussions during the meeting and are not intended to serve as a transcript or further explain information provided during the meeting. A copy of the presentation is attached in **Attachment B**.

- 1 The meeting began at 6:00 p.m. with RAB facilitator, Amy Brand (Jacobs), welcoming participants and introduced Kathleen Hillman (community co-chair) and Col. Andrew St. Jean (ANGB, acting base co-chair) for opening comments. Kathleen Hillman and Col. St. Jean greeted meeting members. Amy then introduced Caprice Shaw and Tom Keefe with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP).
- 2 Tom Keefe (MassDEP) introduced himself to the meeting members and provided his background and described his role with MassDEP.
- 3 Amy Brand (Jacobs) informed meeting members that of staffing changes at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), including the project chemist.
- 4 Lt. Col. Sinclair (ANGB) presented the Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) grant information. She thanked everyone for their input on TAPP Grant #2. After the Contracting Officer did an independent review, they determined that based on what was in the contract and what was provided, they met the requirements and the TAPP will be considered final. From that experience, they learned to ask specific questions to make sure the scope covers what they really are looking for. They have received approval for funding for TAPP Grant #3 and it is with the contracting office. However, Mary Ann Babinski (RAB Member) asked how much money Barnes ANGB was granted. Lt. Col. Sinclair stated that just under \$25,000.00 was granted for the Barnes ANGB TAPP grant.
- 5 Amy Brand (Jacobs) stated that she will get the meeting summaries from the January and April RAB meetings to the RAB Members by early next week (July 28-30<sup>th</sup>, 2025). Amy offered the option of

- opening RAB Meeting summary drafts to RAB Member comments. Kristen Mello (RAB Member) asked if the recording has been uploaded. Amy stated she would double check.
- 6 Amy Brand (Jacobs) reviewed meeting dates for upcoming RAB meetings: October 23, 2025 and January 29, April 23, and July 23, 2026.
- 7 Amy Brand (Jacobs) introduced project manager, Emma Kosub (DAWSON) for her presentation on the Community Engagement Support Contract for the Barnes Community Involvement Plan (CIP). The CIP was finalized and made publicly available on the Administrative Record on July 1, 2025. She reviewed the interview methodology, which included reaching out to 39 local contacts, sharing the survey with the RAB in January and asking RAB members to share the survey with others, and using Barnes ANGB social media to post to Facebook. Thirteen total responses were collected. Additional slides in the presentation summarized the responses received on various questions, including how long people lived or worked in the area, their communication preferences, and awareness of the RAB. Emma reviewed the ongoing and anticipated community involvement activities that are presented in the CIP.
- 8 Emma Kosub (DAWSON) finished her presentation by providing the general schedule for the next CIP update and shared an active link to provide input on future CIP updates (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Barnesupdate>), and Amy Brand (Jacobs) opened the meeting up to RAB Member discussion questions.
- 9 Chris Clark (RAB Member) asked if Emma Kosub (DAWSON) could speak to the survey response population of 13 and if she believes there were enough people for the CIP. He asked why thirteen was chosen as a sample population. Emma replied that it a “pulse” of the community population, and that the questionnaire is not designed to be a statistically significant method. For the CIP, a specific time frame is established, where surveys are optional and conducted online. Emma added that the 2020 CIP sample population was seven and was performed by mailing surveys.
- 10 Kristen Mello (RAB Member) voiced extreme frustration and stated the failure of the CIP was how the community and the RAB members were approached. Kristen said that the community should be approached before a job (in this example, a CIP) is done, rather than after the fact, to build a relationship between the community and the contractor. She objected to the RAB being asked to “do your job” when the CIP survey was presented to them in January, indicated that the media contacts were incorrect, and reiterated her frustration at receiving a report about the Barnes community that did not adequately include them in the process. She stated that it was a bad approach” and that the contractor needs to approach the RAB earlier and build a relationship before asking for their assistance.
- 11 Amy Brand (Jacobs) stepped in and reminded the group that this CIP is final but that DAWSON has opened up a survey to collect recommendations on how to do the CIP differently; that link will remain open for comments, suggestions, recommendations. Emma Kosub (DAWSON) confirmed that the survey will remain open for the next two years. Amy clarified that CIPs at other Department of Defense (DoD) facilities are often updated every 5 years, and the Barnes ANGB will be updated in 2 years, in 2027. Amy also clarified that community involvement activities that are conducted do not need to be included in the CIP in order to be performed. Amy reiterated that she understood RAB members’ comments and frustration and that the open survey link would help them collect input on how to update the CIP differently next time. In addition, comments on how to do the CIP differently that are captured in meeting summaries can be reviewed in the process of preparing the approach for the next CIP.

- 12 Kathleen Hillman (RAB Co-Chair) asked if there is any way to redo the CIP. Robert Lewis (NGB) stated it has been accepted as final. Kathleen asked who accepted it as final. Robert stated that he did.
- 13 Mary O’Connell (RAB member) asked for more information on the process for community outreach. Emma Kosub (DAWSON) replied that DAWSON reached out the RAB and through social media but also collected the names and contact information for a wide range of community members, including non-profits, school administrators, local government, local businesses, environmental organizations and more. Emma asked if she answered Mary’s question. Mary replied, “not really” and indicated that, except through the RAB, she didn’t hear anything about it in the community. and then asked Emma if she feels as though she was successful with the CIP. Emma replied that she is open to recommendations on better ways to reach the community. Based on her experience writing CIPs at other facilities, Amy Brand (Jacobs) provided background information about U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidance for CIPs, indicating that guidance recommends input from at least 20 people, if possible, but also stated that has written a CIP based on seven responses. The outreach approach used in this CIP followed the EPA guidance; using social media as an approach is a step beyond that.
- 14 Mary O’Connell (RAB member) again asked if Emma Kosub (DAWSON) felt successful in the job she did. Amy Brand (Jacobs) said stated she found it unfair to ask a contractor if they felt like they were successful. Robert Lewis (NGB) stated he was satisfied with the approach and effort that DAWSON put forth and that they just didn’t get a higher response rate.
- 15 Kristen Mello (RAB Member) said the sample size was biased. Robert Lewis (NGB) asked how the sample was biased. Kristen then stated that she has already observed failure from the EPA for CIP guidance. Kristen stated that while they accept that the CIP is done, it is only correct because of updates from the RAB. She reiterated that the RAB should be approached and consulted earlier about the survey, how to distribute it, and how best to engage the community.
- 16 Mary O’Connell (RAB Member) indicated that she found it offensive to have a comment deemed unfair as it is the forum. Amy Brand (Jacobs) acknowledged Mary’s feedback and then moved the meeting on.
- 17 Kathleen Hillman (RAB Community Co-chair) asked if people do submit information to the survey, will it be compiled for the next survey? Emma Kosub (DAWSON) said that the survey lives in a database that will remain open for the next two years and will provide this information to ANGB.
- 18 Kathleen Hillman (Community Co-Chair) then asked if the feedback would help to change the CIP? Amy Brand (Jacobs) clarified that this survey is to collect information on how to better conduct the CIP interview process next time; it is not the survey itself that was distributed to people.
- 19 Mary O’Connell (RAB member) asked for a heads up so that the RAB members can notify the community about the survey. Amy Brand (Jacobs) clarified that this is a new survey, and Emma Kosub (DAWSON) confirmed that this feedback is for ideas for input and improvement for how to conduct the next CIP process.
- 20 Robert Lewis (NGB) and Craig Johnson (EA) then presented the Barnes Non-Aqueous Film-Forming Foam (AFFF) Due Diligence slides, describing the process to examine other potential sources of PFAS that may have been stored, handled, or used on the base other than AFFF. The process is synonymous with doing a Preliminary Assessment, including analyzing historical documents and interviewing people who may have worked there.
- 21 Craig Johnson (EA) indicated that more than 113 shops and locations at Barnes were identified, and five will be recommended for further evaluation. They have submitted the draft and anticipate submitting the draft final in August 2025 and final Due Diligence report in late 2025.

- 22 RAB member questions were opened. Chris Clark (RAB Member) asked what specific per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) analytes were assessed during this investigation. Chris Johnson (EA) indicated that they are looking for non AFFF sources of PFAS such as those found in degreasers rather than aqueous foam. Chris asked if they were under a certain regulatory class or family of PFAS compounds or if they are looking at the entire family of all 12,000 compounds? Craig replied there is not a lot of information available on what compounds were used and they won't know until the Site Investigation stage. Sites were assessed based on a knowledge of whether PFAS were used at the location or not.
- 23 Chris Clark (RAB Member) asked for more information. Craig Johnson (EA) replied that at this stage of the investigation, it is unknown; there are not a lot of safety data sheets available to classify by analytes. They are using a conservative approach until they have more data and using well known guidance documents during this phase to identify materials that may have PFAS in them.
- 24 Kristen Mello (RAB Member) indicated she was glad this work is being done now, especially since she knows there was a plating shop. She asked if the Historical Dumping Ground at the end of the runway (Area of Concern or AOC 8) was included or excluded during this investigation due to its location on the outside of chain link fence. Craig Johnson (EA) provided a screenshot of this area on a map for the audience to follow along with. Mike Kulbersh (USACE) clarified it is the Barnes Municipal Airport Landfill (AOC 8). Robert Lewis (NGB) stated that this area is already part of the Remedial Investigation. Craig will discuss with Robert, who will provide further information to the RAB when possible.
- 25 Caprice Shaw (MassDEP) asked how this is relevant to the ongoing investigation- is it a standalone investigation, or will it be added to the current investigation. Will it be two different investigations? Robert Lewis (NGB) stated this is a separate investigation, but since there is a Basewide Remedial Investigation (RI) this data is being collected. Tom Keefe (MassDEP) clarified that these samples will be compared to the list of 40 PFAS compounds when reported.
- 26 Chris Clark (RAB Member) asked what Robert Lewis (NGB) meant when he said there was nothing. Robert said there is "not nothing" but, as an example, they might move an area forward for investigation but in the end find there was no presence of PFAS at the building.
- 27 The presentation moved on to the Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) Status Update.
- 28 Robert Lewis (NGB) provided an update on Site 2, indicating that a lease amendment was being signed with the City. For the PFAS RI, the final Uniform Federal Policy for Quality Assurance Project Plans (UFP-QAPP) is forthcoming in July 2025, and the start of field sampling is dependent on access agreements
- 29 Amanda Martin (USACE) presented the overall schedule. Amy Brand (Jacobs) asked her to explain what Q4 FY 25 is. Q4 FY 25 spans the fourth quarter (Q) - July, August, and September - of the Fiscal Year (FY). The FY is three months shifted from the calendar year. She indicated that they were targeting field work for mid-August, but that is dependent on access agreements. The critical path for access was with the City of Westfield and the airport, but that agreement had been signed and they will be able to begin surface soil sampling on that property in mid-August. She indicated that they were pursuing several other access agreements with the City as well as private access agreements.
- 30 Dawn Thomas (RAB Member) asked whether project activities stop in September at the end of the fiscal year until the new budget or contract comes through? Amanda Martin (USACE) responded that contractors have a five-year contract. The ANG hires the USACE on a year-by-year basis with a new approved budget each year. Amanda indicated that there may be a few weeks of pause in October until the funding comes through. Dawn asked if winter sampling can still be done even during the

- pause on funding? Amanda said that yes, sampling will still be conducted. Amanda clarified that some types of sampling targets specific seasons, such as fall and spring for snowmelt.
- 31 Drew Parnell (Batelle) continued the Project Fieldwork Presentation, highlighting the project fieldwork scope that is underway and what is next. He then presented the project fieldwork schedule, which will begin with the first round of surface soil sampling. He emphasized that there are multiple rounds of sampling to obtain data in different seasons. Drew showed the map of the AOCs and presented the locations for surface soil sampling and vertical aquifer sampling (groundwater)
- 32 The presentation finalized and moved to questions from RAB Members.
- 33 Chris Clark (RAB Member) asked Drew Parnell (Batelle) to define lithology. Drew defined lithology as what type of geologic material is beneath the surface (examples: sand, clay, loam).
- 34 Chris Clark (RAB Member) also asked with the soil sampling approach, how many iterations will be performed for effective characterization? How do you decide whether to continue with soil sampling? Drew Parnell (Batelle) responded that the goal is to identify where Project Screening Levels (PSLs) are in exceedance and to consider background; if sample PSLs do not go down after the first sampling, then another iteration will occur. The total number of iterations is unknown.
- 35 Chris Clark (RAB Member) asked if the margin for delineation is if samples are below the PSL and background values. Drew Parnell (Batelle) said yes.
- 36 Chris Clark (RAB Member) asked where background samples are taken from and how a background sample is collected? Drew Parnell (Batelle) stated that ten sampling locations were identified, selected in locations on base that were not directly affected by PFAS. Whitney Plasket (USACE) said that ten soil sampling locations were identified off-base on private properties for background sampling. On-base and off-base background will be collected the same way.
- 37 Kristen Mello (RAB Member) asked if the locations that were selected for background sampling are nowhere near septic, electric, air deposition from factories, electroplating or lamination facilities, etc.? Whitney Plasket (USACE) replied yes, that SRS Battelle had put the ten potential background sampling locations on the same map that showed potential other sources of PFAS; that is shown in the Data Gap summary report in the QAPP. She confirmed that the off-base background sampling locations are not near other potential PFAS source locations.
- 38 Caprice Shaw (MassDEP) asked who approves the background concentration? Amanda Martin (USACE) replied that it is a statistical evaluation that is included in the RI report. Caprice asked for clarification on how that statistical evaluation is done. Amanda replied that the analysis treats background sampling like a population and does a population comparison with what's found to see if there's a statistical difference. She didn't want to get too far into it, since she is not a risk assessor, but the analysis can be reviewed in the risk assessment portion of RI report.
- 39 Tom Keefe (MassDEP) asked whether they'd be receiving a copy of the QAPP in August and Amanda Martin (USACE) indicated that it is actually final; the RI is beginning in August.
- 40 Caprice Shaw (MassDEP) asked if the Risk Assessment was a final document already that included in the attachment? Amanda Martin (USACE) responded that the Risk Assessment workplan was an appendix to the QAPP reviewed by MassDEP, and clarified that was the work plan, not a final document. Mike Kulbersh (USACE) stated it is found in Appendix F of the UFP QAPP, the Risk Assessment Workplan. Caprice said that it was her understanding that Appendix F was a finalized document. Amanda said that no, the data gap memo was finalized. The Risk assessment workplan addressed comments from MassDEP, and we received four comments, which were addressed by Batelle.

- 41 Kristen Mello (RAB Member) asked if the QAPP is finalized and if it is different from the draft copy the RAB members reviewed? Amanda Martin (USACE) responded that it's only different in addressing the comments that they said they would address in the responses, and that the AOC 3 soil investigation was included because the risk-based screening levels decreased, which triggered the addition of the background soil sampling.
- 42 Kristen Mello (RAB member) asked if this document will be available in the Administrative Record? Robert Lewis (ANGB) and Amanda Martin (USACE) said yes, it will be within the next couple of weeks.
- 43 Chris Clark (RAB member) asked for a document timeline of when to expect status update documents from the Environmental Restoration Program (ERP). Robert Lewis (NGB) said he would provide RAB members with a list.
- 44 Amy Brand (Jacobs) opened the meeting up to questions from the public.
- 45 Jessica Britton (community audience member), asked if the EPA CIP guidance aims for survey responses from 20 people, that it is rarely above 10% of the population? Amy Brand (Jacobs) said no, and that the survey that is done now used to be conducted as in-person interviews under the original guidance. Now the information is more frequently collected through an online questionnaire, but the guidance was never intended to be a statistically significant survey. It is qualitative and meant to provide a snapshot cross-section of the community. Emma Kosub (DAWSON) confirmed that those are the same guidelines they followed to gather information for the Barnes CIP. The guidance is general, and aims for a minimum of 20 responses, but is not a firm baseline. Ultimately, the response depends on how information about the survey was disseminated and how many people chose to participate.
- 46 Jessica Britton (community audience member) asked whether the survey was mailed to people and Amy Brand (Jacobs) responded that it was an online survey. Jessica asked what social media channels were used for posting this survey, given that she followed many social media accounts and did not see anything about the survey. Emma Kosub (DAWSON) stated that it was posted to the 104<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing Facebook page twice in February. Jessica expressed concern about the size of the response rate and using that to extrapolate information about the community. She stated the Westfield community forum on Facebook - which has about 27,000 members - would be a great channel to use to engage the community. She also suggested that school administrations, businesses, and local unions would also be good sources for community engagement. Amy replied that Jessica's suggestions on how to engage the community on social media will be considered for the next CIP.
- 47 Laura Vandeburg (community audience member, Professor of Environmental Health Sciences at University of Massachusetts Amherst) introduced herself. Her research explores how early life exposures to chemicals predispose people to diseases that manifest later in life, such as cancer, obesity, and infertility. Some of her students recently connected with scientists who have studied PFAS and members of Westfield Residents Advocating for Themselves (WRAFT) and then produced two publicly accessible videos on PFAS and Westfield. She stated that she was surprised that videos were considered inappropriate to share in the meeting because of regulations of the RAB, and she encouraged individual RAB members to share them widely. She stated that she is available to help design a community outreach survey.
- 48 The co-chairs provided closing remarks and the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

### Action Items:

- 1 Tom Keefe's contact will be provided to RAB Members.

- 2 Amy Brand will send out meeting summaries to RAB members for review and approval.
- 3 Robert Lewis will provide RAB Members with a timeline for documents related to the ERP.

**Attachment A**

**RAB Meeting Attendees (in person and online\*)**

Last Name	First Name	Organization
*	Dan	
*13033304626		
*16175128061		
*14018244791		
Babinski*	Mary Ann	RAB member
Baker	Jennifer	ANGB
Barzyk*	Tom	BB&E
Belanger*	Todd	Parsons
Brand	Amy	Jacobs
Britten	Jessica	Community member
Brown*	Caitlin	USACE
Burns	Kathryn	Jacobs
Cardona-Marek	Tamara	MassDEP
Clark	Chris	RAB member
Driscoll*	Ellie	USACE
Freihofer*	Keith	NGB
Gorantha	Eesha	UMass Amherst
Gupta	Vani	UMass Amherst
Hewitt*	Jay	104FW
Hillman	Kathleen	RAB member
Jenks	Hannah	UMass Amherst
Johnson*	Craig	EA Engineering
Keefe	Tom	MassDEP
Kolli*	Tanya	UMass Amherst
Kosub*	Emma	DAWSON
Kulbersh*	Mike	USACE
Lewis	Robert	NGB
Lourie	Jenna	UMass Amherst
Maharaj	Anika	UMass Amherst
Martin*	Amanda	USACE
Mello	Kristen	RAB member
Narcisi*	Michael	USACE
O'Connell	Mary	RAB member
Okscin	Jane	RAB member
Parnell	Drew	Batelle
Pease	Kelly	State Representative
Plasket	Whitney	USACE

Shaw	Caprice	MassDEP
Sinclair	Sarah, Lt. Col.	ANGB
St. Jean	Andrew, Col.	ANGB
Stefanik*	Lydia, Lt. Col.	NGB
Thomas	Dawn	RAB member
Vandenberg	Laura	UMass Amherst



# Barnes Air National Guard (ANG) Base Restoration Advisory Board Meeting #12 July 24, 2025



# Agenda



- 6:00 PM Agenda Review and Meeting Logistics
- 6:05 PM Welcome and Introductions
- 6:10 PM RAB Business
- 6:15 PM Community Involvement Plan Update
- 6:35 PM Non-AFFF Due Diligence
- 6:45 PM Environmental Restoration Program Status Update
- 7:15 PM Questions and Comments
- 7:25 PM Closing Remarks
- 7:30 PM Adjourn



# Meeting Logistics

Amy Brand

Jacobs

RAB Facilitator



# Meeting Guidelines

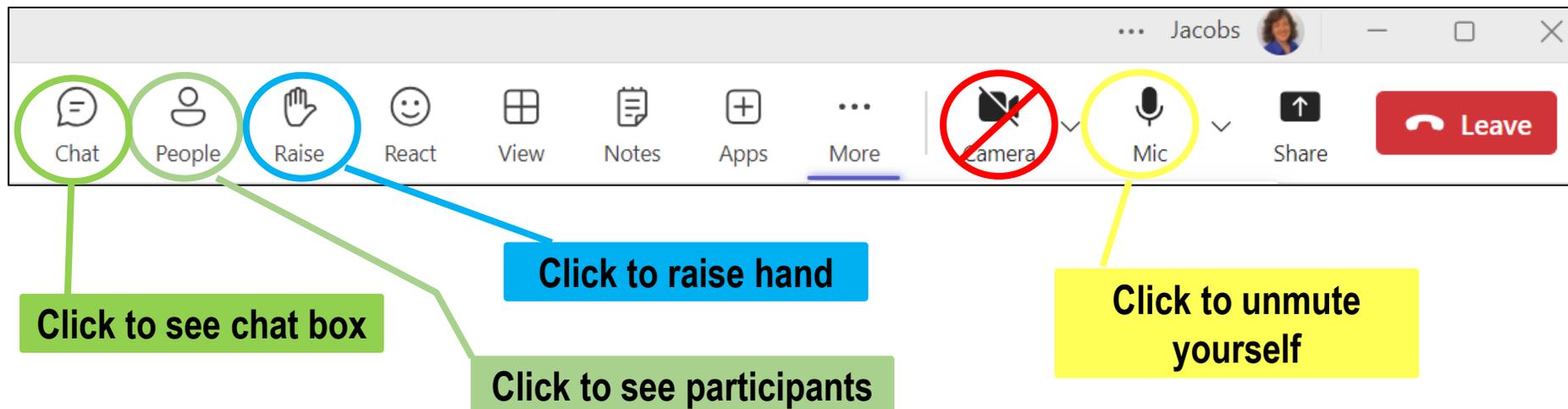


- RAB Members
  - Ask questions at the end of each topic
  - Raise hand to be called on to speak
  - Introduce yourself so that everyone (in room and online) knows who is speaking
  - Please observe a 2-minute limit to enable other RAB members to participate.
- Public Participants
  - Hold questions to the end of the meeting
  - In the room, raise hand and introduce yourself when called on
  - Online, submit questions through the “chat feature”
  - Questions will be read and addressed at the end of the meeting



# MS Teams - Computer

- Camera – **Turn OFF** to save bandwidth – presentation will be on screen
- Participants – On the lower right, click on **Participants** to open panel
- To ask a question:
  - RAB Members - **Raise hand** to be called on to speak, **unmute** yourself when called on
  - Public participants – Use **Chat** to type your question





# MS Teams Basics – Telephone Participants



- Follow along on the slide presentation (emailed or download from 104<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing website at <https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/About/Restoration-Advisory-Board/>)
- Use your phone mute button when not speaking
- Dial \*5 to raise hand to be called on to speak after the presentation
  - Use \*6 or your phone mute button to unmute and identify yourself when asking a question or making a comment
- Any RAB members using a phone? Please identify at beginning of meeting



# Welcome and Introductions

Kathy Hillman, Community Co-Chair

Col. David Halasi-kun, Base Co-Chair



# Welcome and Introductions



## Air National Guard Team

Col. David Halasi-kun (Base Co-Chair)

Robert Lewis, National Guard Bureau

Jennifer Baker, 104<sup>th</sup> FW Environmental Coordinator

Contractors: BB&E, EA, Dawson, Jacobs

## Community RAB Members

Kathleen Hillman, Community Co-Chair

Mary Ann Babinski

Chris Clark

Sandi Gil

Kristen Mello

Mary O'Connell

Jane Okscin

Representative Kelly Pease

Dawn Thomas

Senator John Velis

## Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

Caprice Shaw

Thomas Keefe

Tamara Cardona-Marek, PhD

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# Welcome and Introductions

## U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Team

Amanda Martin, Project Manager/ Technical Lead

Grace Greenberg, Risk Assessor

Caitlin Brown, Project Chemist

Mike Narcisi, Wetland Ecologist/Soil Scientist

Dan Folan, PhD, PG, LSP, Geologist/Hydrogeologist

Whitney Sauv , PE, Environmental Engineer

## SRS-Battelle JV Team (USACE Contractor)

Andrew Barton, Battelle, Project Manager

James Griffin, SRS, Deputy Project Manager

Max Zelenevich, Field Lead

## Contractors

Tom Barzyk, BB&E

Emma Kosub, Dawson

Craig Johnson, EA

Amy Brand, Kathryn Burns, Jacobs



# RAB Business

Amy Brand, Jacobs

Robert Lewis, National Guard Bureau

Emma Kosub, Dawson



# Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) Grant



- FY24 TAPP Grant (#2)
  - Final Document and Presentation provided to RAB 06/30
- FY25 TAPP Grant (#3)
  - Approved for funding;
  - PWS prepared and with contracting



# RAB Business

- Meeting summary – comments and approval
- Upcoming meetings
  - Fourth Thursday of the month, every 3 months: January, April, July, October
  - Adjustments to be made when needed
  - Upcoming meetings:     October 23, 2025  
                                  January 29, 2026 (note, 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday)  
                                  April 23, 2026  
                                  July 23, 2026



# Barnes ANGB Community Involvement Plan (CIP) Update

Emma Kosub  
Project Manager  
DAWSON



# Barnes ANGB CIP Update



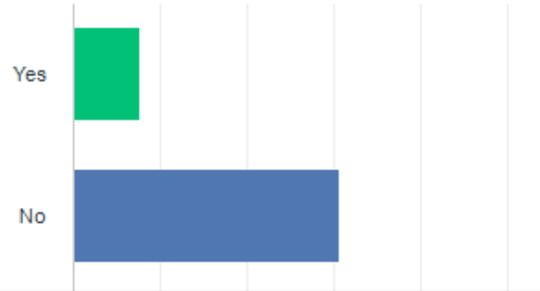
- Current Activities:
  - CIP Finalized on July 1, 2025
  - Will be uploaded to Administrative Record and available to the public
- Final CIP Overview:
  - Interview Methodology:
    - Virtual interviews 12/20/24-2/25/25
      - 39 local contacts were contacted via email
    - RAB members were encouraged to participate and share the survey at 1/30/25 RAB meeting
    - Barnes ANGB posted and reposted to the 104<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing Facebook page sharing to over 18,000 followers
    - 13 responses were collected



# Barnes ANGB CIP Update

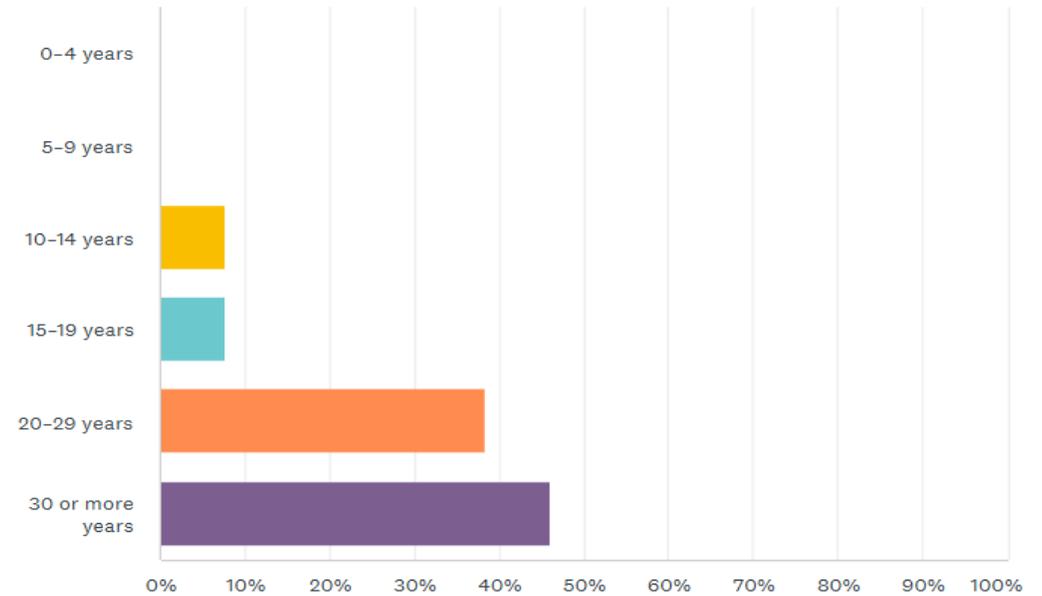
Have you or a family member ever worked at Barnes ANGB? If so, when?

Answered: 13 Skipped: 0



How long have you lived and/or worked in the area?

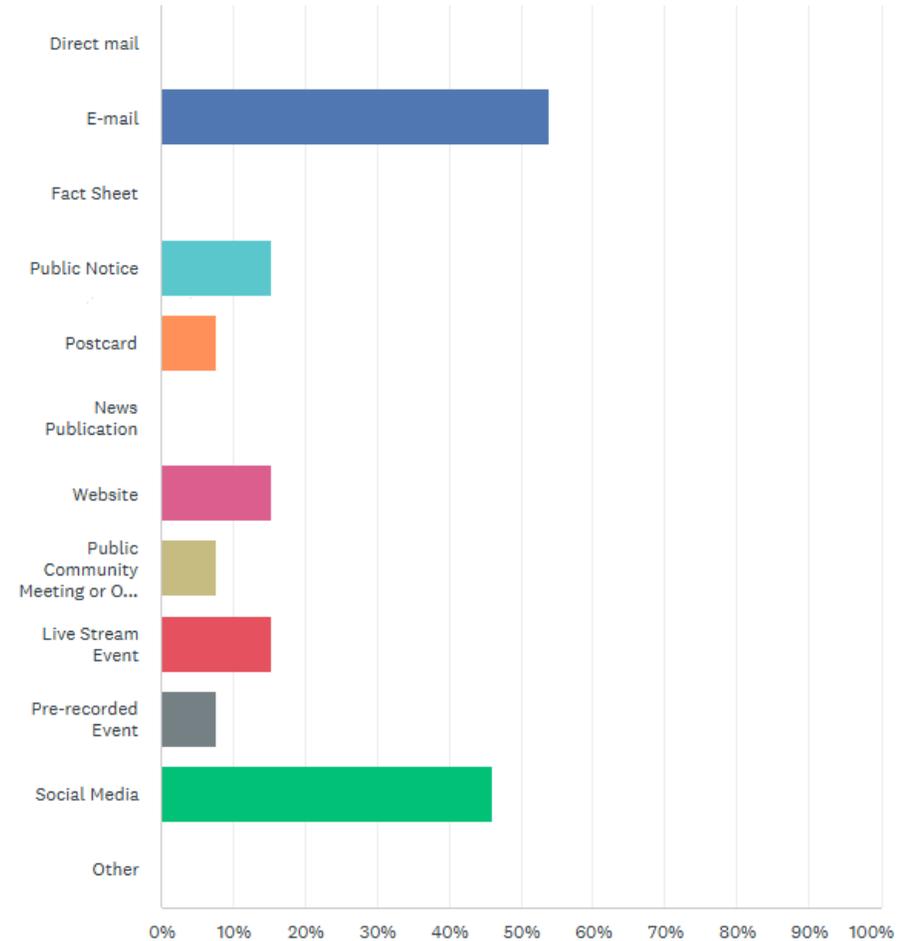
Answered: 13 Skipped: 0





# Barnes ANGB CIP Update

- Communication Preferences:
  - Preferred method for receiving information about environmental projects: Email, social media, public notices, website updates, and a livestream event if one were to be offered.
  - Preference indicated sharing ERP updates on a quarterly basis, which aligns with RAB meeting frequency.





# Barnes ANGB CIP Update



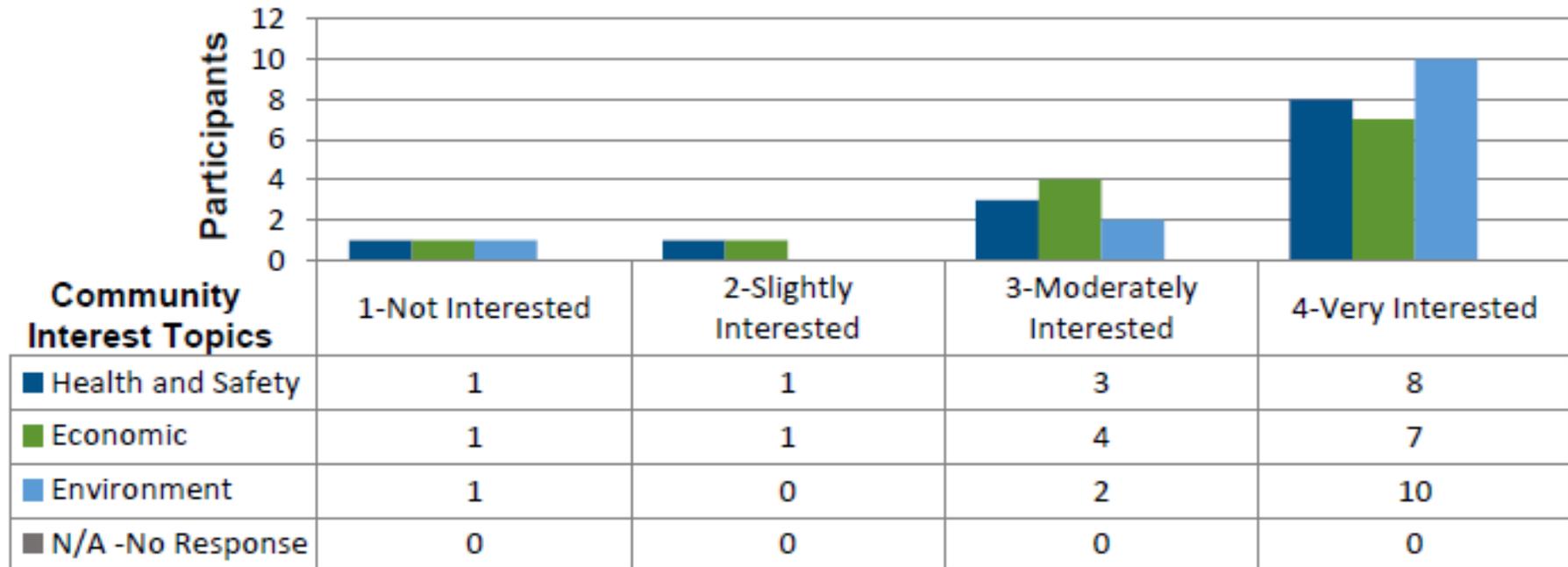
- Interview Results Continued:
  - December 2024 through February 2025 interview respondents indicated that most were not aware of the RAB at Barnes and have not yet attended a meeting.
  - When asked how to improve RAB meetings at Barnes ANGB, no comments were received.
  - No additional comments were requested from respondents specific to the ERP at this time.



# Barnes ANGB CIP Update

- Below are aspects of the ERP that interest respondents:

**Figure 4 Community Interview Results**





# Barnes ANGB CIP Update



- Final CIP Overview:
  - Ongoing and Anticipated Activities:
    - Establishing points of contact – PAO/RPM;
    - Maintaining AR website and IR;
    - Distributing Fact Sheets as needed;
    - Maintaining mailing lists of interested groups, individuals, local media and federal, state and local officials;
    - Placing public notices in local newspapers to announce public comment periods, public meetings, and other pertinent information; and
    - Participating in RAB meetings and/or public meetings.



# Barnes ANGB CIP Update



- **Upcoming Activities:**
  - Tentative next CIP update expected 2027
    - Please share recommendations for future CIP updates:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Barnesupdate>

***Points of contact for Barnes ANGB:***

**Public Affairs Officer Email:**

Jerry Hewitt [jerry.hewitt@us.af.mil](mailto:jerry.hewitt@us.af.mil)

**Support Contractor Point of Contact:**

Emma Kosub: [ekosub@dawsonohana.com](mailto:ekosub@dawsonohana.com)



# RAB Member Discussion



- Please raise your hands and unmute yourself when recognized.
- Introduce yourself at the beginning of your question or comment.
- Please limit questions to 2 minutes to give other RAB members an opportunity to participate.



# Barnes Non-AFFF Due Diligence

Robert Lewis  
National Guard Bureau

Craig Johnson  
EA



# Barnes ANGB non-AFFF PFAS Due Diligence



## The Team

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Omaha District
- Air National Guard (ANG)
- EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc., PBC (under contract to USACE)

## Project Objectives

- Determine whether and where potential sources of PFAS other than AFFF, were stored, handled, used or released
- Identify if a potential PFAS release warrants further investigation or if no further PFAS investigation, study, or cleanup is warranted

## Project Tasks

- Conduct historical records search of documents such as Environmental Baseline Surveys
- Interview personnel familiar with the history and operations of the base
- Determine if potential or identified releases of PFAS due to ANG activities require additional investigation
- Prepare research reports for each ANG installation



# Barnes ANGB non-AFFF PFAS Due Diligence



## Research Summary:

- Administrative Record Documents digitally searched 658 documents/reports, reviewed other applicable documents, 11 primary documents evaluated
- Over 113 shops/locations within Barnes ANGB
- Barnes ANGB Environmental Manager was interviewed
- 5 shops/locations recommended for further evaluation

## Schedule

- Draft Due Diligence Report February 28, 2025
- Draft Final Due Diligence anticipated August 2025
- Final Due Diligence anticipated late 2025



# RAB Member Discussion



- Please raise your hands and unmute yourself when recognized.
- Introduce yourself at the beginning of your question or comment.
- Please limit questions to 2 minutes to give other RAB members an opportunity to participate.



# Environmental Restoration Program Status Update

Robert Lewis  
National Guard Bureau  
Remedial Project Manager



# Environmental Restoration Program



- Site 2 Current Status
  - Draft Final Permanent Solution Statement (PSS)
  - Activity and Use Limitation (AUL) agreed upon with city
  - A Lease Amendment signed with city
- PFAS Remedial Investigation (RI)
  - Final UFP-QAPP forthcoming in July 2025
  - Start of field sampling activities pending Access Agreements



# Barnes Restoration Calendar



2024				2025				2026				2027				2028
Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
FY24				FY25				FY26				FY27				FY28
Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
FY 24 TAPP Grant				FY 25 TAPP Grant				FY 26 TAPP Grant								
UFP-QAPP								RI Field Work				RI Report				
				RAB review												RAB review



# Project Fieldwork Scope

- Site Access Agreements
- Permit compliance
- Utility location
- Surface soil sampling
- Subsurface soil sampling
- Surface water and sediment sampling
- Vertical aquifer sampling (groundwater)
- Groundwater monitoring well installation
- Borehole geophysical logging
- Piezometer installation
- Monitoring well development
- Groundwater sampling
- Groundwater and surface water elevation monitoring
- Location surveying
- Habitat assessment
- Investigation-derived waste management and disposal
- Field record management and reporting

Green = in progress

Yellow = next steps

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# Project Fieldwork Schedule

Activity	Schedule
Access agreements & permits	Ongoing
Utility location	August 2025
Surface soil sampling, round 1	August 2025
Background surface soil sampling	August-September 2025
VAS	August-September 2025
Surface soil sampling, round 2	October-November 2025
Subsurface soil sampling, round 1	October-November 2025
Subsurface soil sampling, round 2	January-February 2026
Monitoring well installation	August 2025-January 2026



# Project Fieldwork Schedule

Activity	Schedule
Groundwater sampling, round 1	May 2026
Groundwater sampling, round 2	October-November 2026
Piezometer installation	October 2025
Surface water/ sediment sampling, round 1	October 2025
Surface water/ sediment sampling, round 1	May 2026
Habitat Assessment	May 2026



# PFAS RI Site Layout

- AOC 1 – Former Fire Training Area
- AOC 2 – Former Fire Training Area
- AOC 3 – Stormwater Drainage Basin
- AOC 4 – Hangars 27A and 27B
- AOC 5 – Former Fire Station
- AOC 6 – Current Fire Station
- AOC 7 – Hush House
- AOC 8 – Fire Department Equipment Test Area



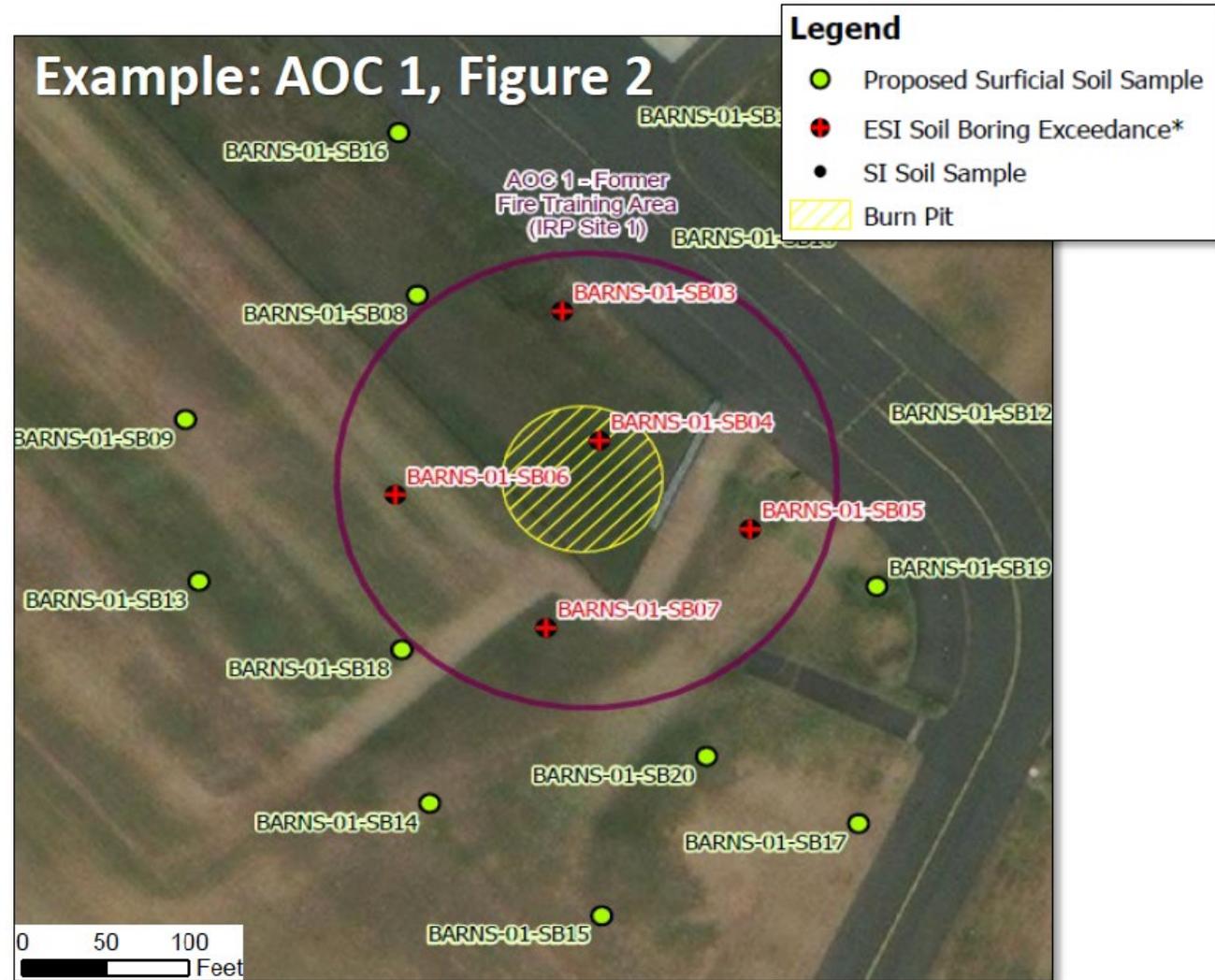


# Soil Sampling



Area	No. of Samples	Questions to be Answered
AOC 1	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where did releases of materials containing PFAS occur?</li> <li>Where and at what concentrations are PFAS present in soils now?</li> </ul>
AOC 2	10	
AOC 3	8	
AOC 4	8	
AOC 5	10	
AOC 6	10	
AOC 7	11	
AOC 8	10	
Background	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are background levels of PFAS in soil?</li> </ul>

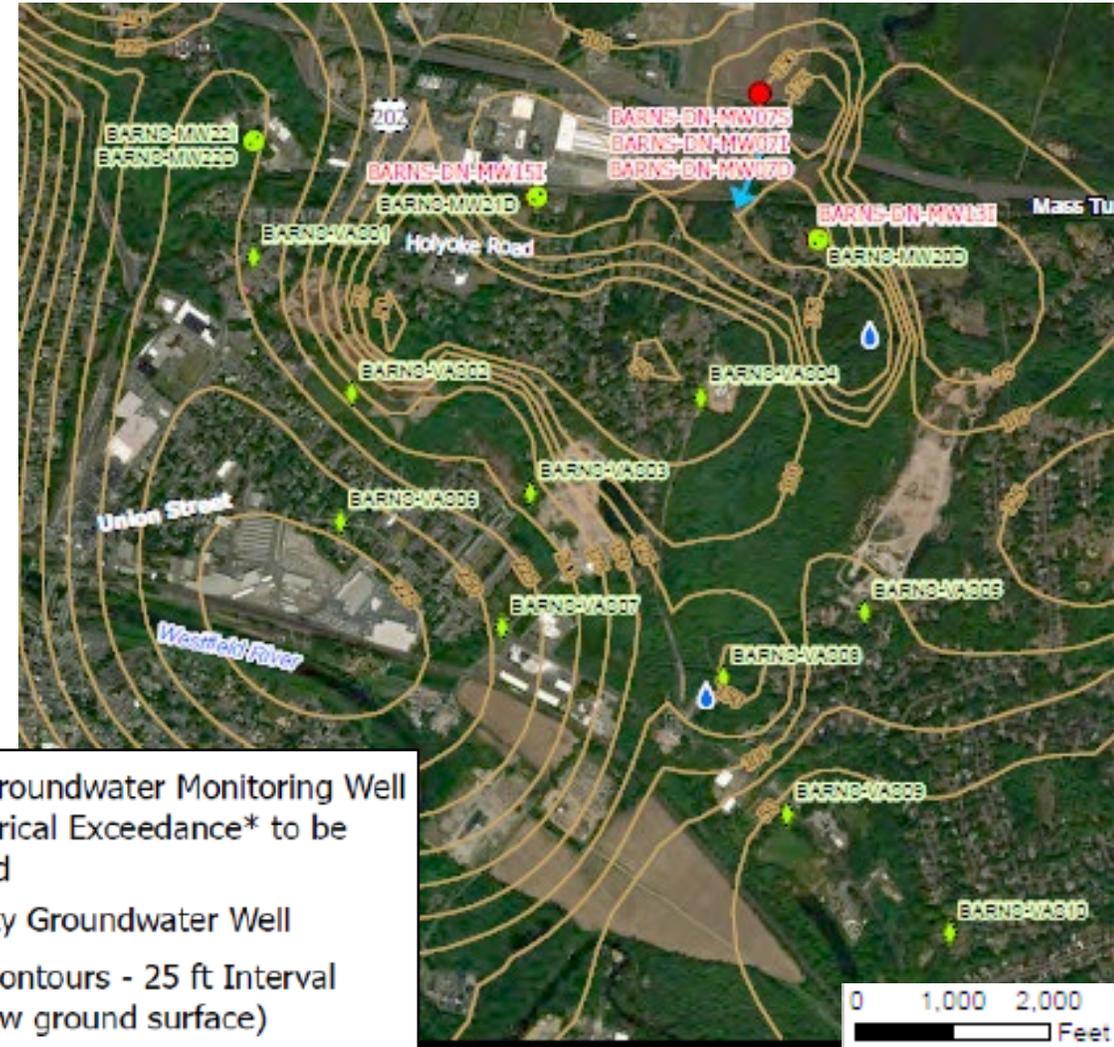
Note: Subsurface soil borings will be drilled based on surface soil results





# VAS (Groundwater)

No. of Loc.	Depths	Questions to be Answered
10	Top of groundwater table plus 3 depths based on lithology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the spatial and vertical distribution of PFAS in groundwater?</li> <li>• Where should permanent wells be located and what depth of groundwater they should screen?</li> </ul>



**Legend**

- ◆ Proposed VAS Sampling Location
- Proposed Monitoring Well
- ★ Known AFFF Release
- Existing Groundwater Monitoring Well with Historical Exceedance\* to be Resampled
- 💧 Community Groundwater Well
- Bedrock Contours - 25 ft Interval (Feet below ground surface)



# RAB Member Discussion



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# Public Questions and Comments



In person: Raise hand to be recognized  
Online: Submit questions using chat



# Contact Information



## 104<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, Barnes Air National Guard Base

Base Co-Chair  
Commander  
**Col. David Halasi-kun**

Environmental Manager  
**Jennifer Baker**

Public Affairs Manager  
**Jay Hewitt**  
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## Community Co-Chair

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RAB members, please submit questions and comments through your Community Co-Chair

## National Guard Bureau

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## Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

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# Websites for More Information



## Environmental Restoration Program at 104th Fighter Wing

- General and Links to PFOS/PFOA Information: <https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/About/Environmental/>
- Restoration Advisory Board: <https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/About/Restoration-Advisory-Board/>

## Relative Risk Site Evaluation (RRSE)

- Barnes RRSE: [https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/Portals/5/Barnes\\_RRSE%20Fact%20Sheet%20and%20Scoring%20Summaries\\_211215.pdf](https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/Portals/5/Barnes_RRSE%20Fact%20Sheet%20and%20Scoring%20Summaries_211215.pdf)
- RRSE Primer: [https://www.denix.osd.mil/references/dod/policy-guidance/relative-risk-site-evaluation-primer/RRSE\\_Primer\\_Summer1997.pdf](https://www.denix.osd.mil/references/dod/policy-guidance/relative-risk-site-evaluation-primer/RRSE_Primer_Summer1997.pdf)

## 104th Fighter Wing Environmental Administrative Record

- <https://ar.afcec-cloud.af.mil/Search.aspx> (Select ANG radio button, select Barnes, and click on search)

## MassDEP PFAS Information

- <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/per-and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas>

## Westfield Water Department PFAS Information

- <https://www.cityofwestfield.org/672/PFCs-Information-Updates>

## RAB Rule Handbook and Information on Technical Assistance for Public Participation

- <https://www.denix.osd.mil/rab/home/>

## Air Force Response to PFOS and PFOA

- <https://www.afcec.af.mil/WhatWeDo/Environment/Perfluorinated-Compounds/>



# Closing Remarks

Kathleen Hillman  
Col. David Halasi-kun



Adjourn