

Subject	Meeting #7 - Barnes Air National Guard Base (ANGB) Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)			
Prepared by	Johannah Phelan /Jacobs			
Location	Westfield Athenaeum, Lang Auditorium	Date/Time	April 25, 2024, 6:00 p.m.	
	WebEx Meeting			
RAB Members		Additional Meeting Participants		
Col David Halasi-Kun/Barnes ANGB, Base Co-chair		Chris Brown/National Guard Bureau (NGB)		
Kathleen Hillman, Community Co-chair		Jennifer Baker/Barnes ANGB		
Mary Ann Babinski		Jay Hewitt/Barnes ANGB		
Chris Clark		Maj Brian Morecraft/Barnes ANGB		
Kristen Mello		Col Sarah Sinclair/Barnes ANGB		
Mary O'Connell		Amy Brand/Jacobs		
Jane Okscin		Johannah Phelan/Jacobs		
Caprice Shaw, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)		A full list of meeting attendees is provided in Attachment A.		

The Barnes ANGB RAB Meeting No. 7 was held on April 25, 2024 at 1800 at the Westfield Athenaeum and via WebEx. 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 the RAB facilitator, Amy Brand/Jacobs, welcoming participants. Amy presented the agenda, provided an overview of meeting guidelines and how to use the WebEx meeting platform, and then invited the Base Co-chair and Community Co-chair to provide opening remarks.
- 2 Col Halasi-Kun, Base Co-Chair and representative of Barnes ANGB, and Community Co-Chair Kathleen Hillman made opening remarks welcoming and thanking RAB members and community participants.
- 3 The meeting summary from the January 2024 meeting was approved pending corrections to the spelling of Mary Ann Babinski's name and Southampton. Future meeting dates of July 25 and October 24, 2024 and January 30, 2025, were approved by the RAB.
- 4 Rachael Morin resigned from the RAB and should be removed from the RAB list on the slides.
- 5 There are meeting summaries from previous meetings that are approved but are not posted on the Base website. Amy will confirm the Base has the meeting summaries and they are posted. Kristen Mello will send video links to also be posted to the Base website.
- 6 The RAB discussed accessibility of Lang Auditorium as there is not an elevator to the basement. The group discussed a conference room at the airport with an elevator but felt that it was less conveniently located. Amy will confirm with the librarian if there are other rooms that meet accessibility requirements. If not, the group felt that the Lang Auditorium



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could continue to be used unless they hear of people who are unable to attend because of accessibility.

- 7 Chris Brown, Remedial Project Manager for the National Guard Bureau, discussed the Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) grant and the need for additional input from the RAB members to satisfy reporting requirements for the grant issued for FY23. Feedback on the process can be sent via email or letter. Kristen Mello sent a letter to the installation today to satisfy this requirement.
- 8 Chris has received many questions on the TAPP process from other installations and within the NGB as Barnes was the first grant issued in about 10 years. Kristen mentioned drafting a Google document with annotations to help others understand the process. Kristen and Chris agreed to a one-page handout in public-friendly terms to guide others through the process.
- 9 The RAB discussed the FY24 TAPP grant. ANG received funds on April 16, 2024. The end of the period of performance is not required to be within the Fiscal Year (FY) in which the funding was issued. A grant issued with FY24 funding can have a period of performance that extends beyond FY24. The end date can be negotiated during the award process.
- 10 The Federal Register for the new per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) is scheduled to be released on 26 April 2024. The rule provides five years for regulated drinking water purveyors to comply with the MCLs. The MCLs are not approved to be used as cleanup levels by the DoD as of right now. The Air Force will review existing PFAS sampling results, especially off-base wells, and will prioritize providing drinking water treatment at locations where known levels of PFAS in drinking water from Air Force activities are the highest.
- 11 Chris provided information on the Uniform Federal Policy-Quality Assurance Project Plan (UFP-QAPP) and its organization by worksheets. Worksheets #10, 11, 17, and 18 provide information focused on the field effort including the conceptual site model and data gaps, data quality objectives, sampling strategy, and sampling locations. An electronic copy (PDF) will be provided to the RAB through a DoD SAFE file exchange and will be searchable.
- 12 Remedial Investigation (RI) field work is scheduled to begin in late Fall 2024 after the UFP-QAPP has been reviewed and approved.
- 13 The report that Dr. Boutt, previous TAPP advisor, generated under the TAPP grant was provided to the RI contractor and was considered when developing the site conceptual model. Dr. Boutt's formal involvement with the RAB ended with completion of the period of performance for the TAPP grant.
- 14 Dr. Boutt's report was shared with the RAB via email on 21 December 2023. Chris will also have it posted to the Administrative Record.
- 15 Homeowners with private wells in the area that participated in the MassDEP sampling and had PFAS detected greater than 20 parts per trillion (ppt) had point of entry treatment (POET) systems installed. RAB members asked if there has been a discussion between MassDEP and DoD to take over the sampling and monitoring for those systems. Mary Ann asked if the data reports for those systems are available on the City of Westfield's website. Caprice Shaw, MassDEP, said the data go directly to the homeowner and is posted to the State's files. The group also discussed if homes that were below the 20 ppt concentration for installation of POET systems would be revisited since the MCLs are now



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lower and if homes that were not previously tested would be considered. Homeowners should contact Caprice and she will connect them with the Board of Health for testing.

- 16 Drew Barton of Battelle, the RI contractor, discussed the sampling areas selected for the first phase of sampling. There are six areas of concern identified in the UFP-QAPP based on the Site Inspection data. Groundwater generally flows north to south, and the runway acts as a groundwater divide.
- 17 At Vertical Aquifer Sample (VAS) locations, groundwater samples will be collected at multiple depths to create a vertical profile of concentrations. Samples will be analyzed for PFAS using U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Method 1633. Sampling locations upgradient (on the north side) of the installation are not currently planned but are being considered.
- 18 Kristen asked if the ponds north of the runway would be sampled and Amanda Martin, USACE, confirmed that sediment and surface water from the ponds would be sampled.
- 19 The group discussed accessing private property. The RI contractor will prioritize sampling in public rights of way first. If private land needs to be accessed, then they will work with ANG to have the homeowners grant access via a Right-of-Entry (ROE) agreement.
- 20 The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is rehabilitating a dam along Arm Brook and Powdermill Brook. Are they aware of the PFAS RI? RAB members emphasized the need for those working on the dam to be aware of the PFAS sampling. Sediment samples in that area previously collected were non-detect, although surface water samples had PFAS detections. There is no specific process in place for coordination that Chris Brown is aware of, but he agreed to reach out to NCRS for situational awareness.
- 21 Mary Ann asked for clarification about sampling locations within the yellow areas shown on the map (slide 23). Those yellow area are proposed aquifer (groundwater) sampling areas and specific well locations will be proposed in the UFP-QAPP.
- 22 Chris Clark asked about the depth for surface water sampling in the water column. The decision on the depth has not been finalized. Amanda stated that details about sampling depth will be finalized during the UFP-QAPP. Chris cautioned about only sampling for PFAS on the surface of the water. Dan Folan, USACE, indicated that typically, moving water (river or stream) is sampled below the water surface and stagnant water like a pond is typically sampled at the air/surface water interface. Kristen stated that PFAS chemicals prefer the air/water interface and sampling should be conducted at that interface. Kristin indicated if the surface water were only sampled below the surface, PFAS may be missed. She offered to provided references if needed. Jennifer Apell, USACE chemist, indicated that this is more of an issue when there are foams at the surface because there is more air/water interface there. She indicated that if they saw foam on surface water, this would be good to know.
- 23 Chris C responded that he has observed foam in Hampton Ponds and the Westfield River. Kristen emphasized that they recommend that they collect a lot of surface water samples in a lot of different water bodies, in a lot of different places and depths (including the surface), so that they can be sure the surface water is fully characterized.
- 24 Caprice provided her contact information: <u>caprice.shaw@mass.gov</u> and (413) 540-6253.
- 25 RAB Co-Chairs Kathleen and Col Halasi-Kun thanked everyone for their participation and attendance.



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Action Items

1	Amy will confirm the Base has copies of all RAB meeting summaries to post on their website.
2	Kristen will send video links to also be posted to the Base website.
3	Amy will check with the Athenaeum to determine whether other accessible rooms are available.
4	Kristen and Chris agreed to prepare a one-page handout in public-friendly terms to guide others through the TAPP grant process.
5	Chris will have Dr. Boutt's TAPP report posted to the Administrative Record.
6	Chris will inform NCRS about PFAS RI.

7 Amy will update the RAB slides to remove Rachael Morin's name as a RAB member and to updated Caprice Shaw's contact information.

Attachment A RAB Meeting Attendees (in person and online*)

Apell	Jennifer	USACE
Babinski	Mary Ann	RAB Member
Baker	Jennifer	Barnes ANGB
Barton	Andrew	SRS Battelle JV
Barzyk	Tom	BB&E
Brand	Amy	Jacobs RAB Facilitator
Brown	Chris	National Guard Bureau Restoration Program Manager
Clark	Chris	RAB Member
David	Lisa	Jacobs
Dickerson	Mark	National Guard Bureau
Folan	Dan	USACE
Freihofer	Keith	National Guard Bureau
Glass	Col	Barnes ANGB
Greenberg	Grace	USACE
Griffin	James	SRS Battelle JV
Halisi-Kun	Col. David	Barnes ANGB Base Co-Chair
Hewitt	Јау	Barnes ANGB
Hillman	Kathleen	RAB Member Community Co-Chair
Laube	Jenna	National Guard Bureau

Lawrence	Larissa	ANG
Magdinec	Elaine	ANG
Martin	Amanda	USACE
Mello	Kristen	RAB Member
Morecraft	Maj Brian	Barnes ANGB
O'Connell	Mary	RAB Member
Okscin	Jane	RAB Member
Phelan	Johannah	Jacobs
Shaw	Caprice	Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Sinclair	Col Sarah	Barnes ANGB
Williams	Wendell	National Guard Bureau
Unknown		Unidentified call-in participant
Unknown		Unidentified call-in participant





Barnes Air National Guard (ANG) Base Restoration Advisory Board Meeting #7 April 25, 2024













- 6:00 PM Agenda Review and Hybrid Meeting Logistics
- 6:05 PM Welcome and Introductions
- 6:10 PM RAB Business
- 6:25 PM Environmental Restoration Program Status Update
- 7:10 PM Public Questions and Comments
- 7:25 PM Closing Remarks
- 7:30 PM Adjourn









Hybrid Meeting Logistics

Amy Brand

Jacobs

RAB Facilitator







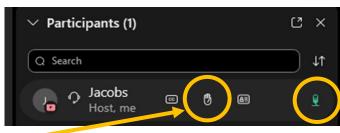
INTEGRITY

Webex Basics – Computer

SERVICE



- Video OFF except for presenters
- Open participants list
- To ask a question:
 - RAB Members Raise hand to be called on to speak
 - Scroll over your name in the participant list and click on hand symbol
 - Unmute yourself when called on
 - Public participants Type a question to "all co-hosts" in the <u>Q&A pane</u>l
 - Click on 3 dots in lower right corner, choose Q&A
 - Select "all co-hosts" and type question
 - Questions will be answered at the end of the meeting



	All Co-hosts
	Ryan
	Peggy
Laura	
	Andy
Ask	Host
	ect a host or cohost in the Ask menu first and then e your question here. There's a 512-character limit.



Webex Basics – Telephone Participants



- Follow along on slide presentation (emailed or download from 104th Fighter Wing website at <u>https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/About/Restoration-</u> <u>Advisory-Board/</u>
- Use your phone mute button when not speaking.
- Dial *3 to raise hand to be called on to speak after the presentation
 - Host will unmute you after seeing the raised hand
 - You will then receive a prompt to dial *6 on the phone to unmute yourself
 - Unmute and identify yourself when asking a question or making a comment.



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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
 - Submit questions in writing addressed to "all co-hosts"
 - Questions will be read and addressed at the end of the meeting
 - Public questions by phone may be asked verbally at the end of the meeting by pressing *3 to raise your hand





Welcome and Introductions

Col. David Halasi-kun Kathleen Hillman









Welcome and Introductions



FIGHTER	NATIONA
Air Natio	onal Guard Team
Col. David Halasi-kun (Base Co-Chair)	Christopher Brown, National Guard Bureau
Jennifer Baker, 104 th FW Environmental Coordinator	Contractors: BB&E, Jacobs (Amy Brand, RAB facilitator)
Communi	ity RAB Members
Kathleen Hillman, Community Co-Chair	Marianne Babinski
Chris Clark	Nabil Hannoush
Kristen Mello	Rachael Morin
Mary O'Connell	Jane Okscin
Representative Kelly Pease	Dawn Thomas
Senator John Velis	
Regula	atory Contact
Caprice Shaw, Massachusetts Department of Environr	mental Protection (MassDEP)
EGRITY SE	ERVICE EXCELLE



Welcome and Introductions



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Team			
Amanda Martin, Project Manager/ Technical Lead	Grace Greenberg, Risk Assessor		
Jennifer Apell, PhD, Project Chemist	Mike Narcisi, Wetland Ecologist/Soil Scientist		
Dan Folan, PhD, PG, LSP, Geologist/Hydrogeologist			
SRS-Battelle JV Team (USACE Contractor)			
Andrew Barton, Battelle, Project Manager James Griffin, SRS, Alternate Project Manager			







RAB Business

Amy Brand Jacobs RAB Facilitator







Meeting Summaries



- Draft meeting summary from RAB Meeting #6 (January 2024)
 - Emailed to the RAB any comments?
 - Draft posted on the 104th FW website: <u>https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/About/Restoration-Advisory-Board/</u>







Upcoming Meetings



- Dates
 - Agreed on fourth Thursday of the month, every 3 months: January, April, July, October
 - Adjustments to be made when needed
 - Upcoming meetings: July 25, 2024

October 24, 2024 January 23 *or* 30, 2024

- Meeting location
 - Continue with Westfield Athenaeum?









Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) Grant



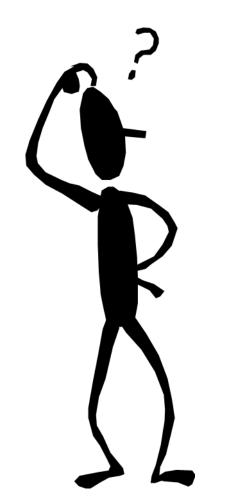
- FY23 TAPP awarded June 16 to University of Massachusetts Amherst
 - RAB Reporting Requirement, ref. CFR203.14
 - Informal report on the services obtained and overall satisfaction of the community with quality of service and products received.
 - Should include: brief project description, services obtained, and overall satisfaction
- FY24 TAPP Grant
 - RAB members voted by majority to pursue a TAPP focused on potential human health impacts
 - Funding Approved April 16, funds being routed to Base Contracting



SERVICE







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

Christopher Brown National Guard Bureau









The Maximum Contaminant Level Rule



- On 10 Apr 2024, EPA established final maximum contaminant levels (MCL) for several PFAS in drinking water
 - PFOA and PFOS: 4ppt each; PFHxS, PFNA and HFPO-DA (GenX): 10ppt each
 - Mixtures of two or more of PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and PFBS: Hazard Index of 1
- The rule provides five years for regulated drinking water purveyors to comply with the MCL levels
- DoD will implement these standards at all DoD-owned drinking water systems
- MCLs are also used as cleanup standards, and can be used as a risk trigger level to take short-term actions (e.g., private drinking water well treatment), under the federal cleanup law, Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)
 - DAF is reviewing existing PFAS sampling results
 - DAF will be expanding existing cleanup investigations, and assess "background" levels of PFAS
 - Providing drinking water treatment for impacted off-base wells on prioritized basis, with focus on installing enduring solutions such as municipal connections or whole-house filters
 - Prioritizing locations where known levels of PFAS in drinking water from DAF activities are the highest



Remedial Investigation Update

- Current CERCLA Step: Remedial Investigation (RI)
 - Uniform Federal Policy-Quality Assurance
 Project Plan (UFP-QAPP), Late Fall 2024
 - Start of field sampling activities, Late Fall 2024



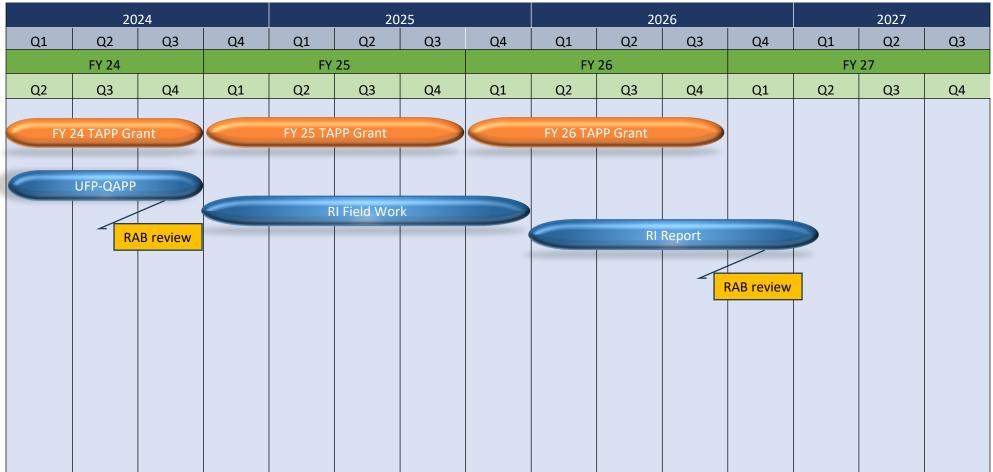






Barnes Restoration Calendar









UFP-QAPP Template

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Worksheet 10 contains the following:

- Detailed description of the region (climate, hydrogeology, geology, etc.)
- Site history, setting, and justification for PFAS investigation at each Area of Concern (AOC)
- Description of potential receptors and potential pathways

Worksheet 11 contains the following:

 Presentation of the reasoning behind the sampling approach, the goals of the study, and the pieces of information that will go into the final report and results.

Note: The following worksheets are chemistry and field application focused and are included to provide the lab analysts and sample team the information to accurately collect and process samples: Worksheets 12, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37

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UFP-QAPP Template

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Worksheet 17 contains the following:

- Background information on what was considered when selecting locations to be sampled
- Soil sample locations and rationale
- Groundwater sampling locations and monitoring well locations and rationale
- Surface water, porewater, and sediment sample locations and rationale

Worksheet 18 contains the following:

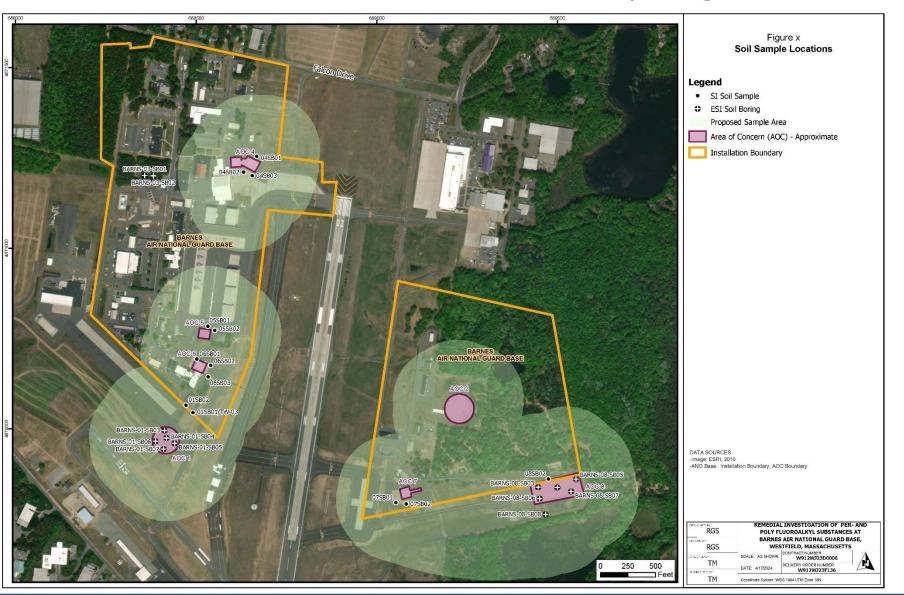
- Soil sample locations, depths, and associated Area of Concern (AOC)
- Groundwater sample locations, depths, and associated AOC
- Sediment sample locations, depths, and associated AOC
- Surface water sample locations, depths, and associated AOC
- Porewater sample locations, depths, and associated AOC
- Additional samples that will be collected for laboratory analysis to ensure the level of data quality is adequate

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PFAS RI – AOCs and Soil Sampling Areas





21

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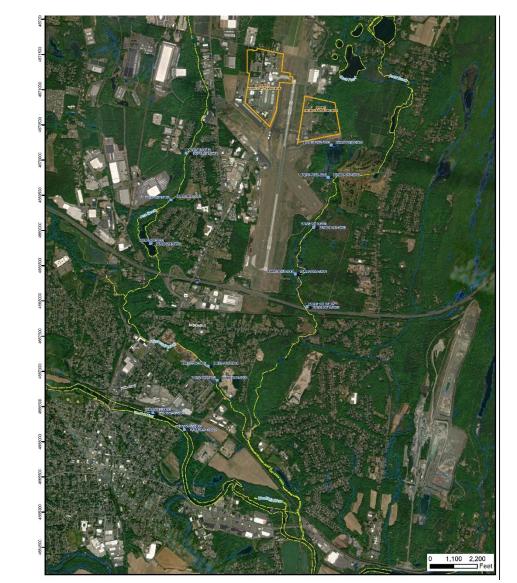
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PFAS RI – Surface Water and Sediment Areas





Legend

- ESI Sediment Sample
- ▲ ESI Surface Water
- —– Proposed Surface Water for Sampling
- ---- Surface Water Feature
- Installation Boundary

INTEGRITY





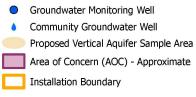


PFAS RI – Groundwater and VAS Areas





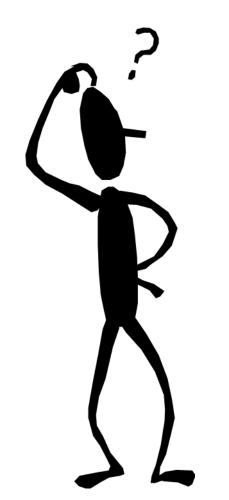
Legend











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.





Public Questions and Comments



In person: Raise hand to be recognized

Online: Submit questions using the written Q&A feature







Contact Information



104 th Fighter Wing, Barnes Air National Guard Base				
Base Co-Chair Commander Col. David Halasi-kun	Environmental Manager Ms. Jennifer Baker		Public Affairs Manager SSgt Randall Burlingame (413) 568-9151 x 698-1202 <u>Randall.burlingame@us.af.mil</u>	
Community Co-Chair				
Kathleen Hillman <u>khillman179@gmail.com</u>				
National Guard Bureau		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: <u>https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/About/Environmental/</u>
- 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
- RRSE Primer: <u>https://www.denix.osd.mil/references/dod/policy-guidance/relative-risk-site-evaluation-primer/RRSE_Primer_Summer1997.pdf</u>

104th Fighter Wing Environmental Administrative Record

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

MassDEP PFAS Information

- <u>https://www.mass.gov/info-details/per-and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas</u>
- Westfield Water Department PFAS Information
 - <u>https://www.cityofwestfield.org/672/PFCs-Information-Updates</u>

RAB Rule Handbook and Information on Technical Assistance for Public Participation

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

Air Force Response to PFOS and PFOA

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

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Closing Remarks

Kathleen Hillman Col. David Halasi-kun











Adjourn





