

**Community Advisory Council to the
Environmental Management Commission
Building 1805
Camp Edwards, Massachusetts
October 9, 2025
6:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes**

CAC Members:

Andrew Campbell
Maj. Gen. Virginia Gaglio
Shawn Cody
Andrew Gottlieb
Mark Harding
Rob Crevey
Mark R. Forest
John Kelly
Jane Dolan
Robert Catalanotti

Organization:

Bourne
MA ANG
MA ARNG
Mashpee
Wampanoag Tribe
MA ARNG
Barnstable County
At-Large
At-Large
At-Large

Telephone:

508-759-3723
339-202-3705
508-968-5154
617-797-3301

339-202-9365

508-317-5376
508-274-8810
508-714-6435

E-Mail:

Cmc-capecod@comcast.net
Virginia.i.gaglio.mil@army.mil
Shawn.c.cody.civ@army.mil
argottlieb@gmail.com
mark@wampworx.com
Robert.crevey@mass.gov
Mark.forest@capecod.gov
irishbuckets@gmail.com
jdolan99@live.com
Rocst80@gmail.com

EMC Staff:

Len Pinaud

Organization:

EMC Environmental
Officer

Telephone:

617-694-2644

E-Mail:

Leonard.pinaud@mass.gov

Attendees:

Alex McDonough

Organization:

Camp Edwards

Telephone:

774-286-1373

E-Mail:

Alexander.v.mcdonough.mil@army.mil
Kathleen.a.kolva.civ@army.mil
Jacob.mccumber@mass.gov
Erin.hilley@mass.gov
michael.a.ciaranca.nfg@army.mil
emily.d.kelly2.nfg@army.mil
Matthew.n.porter.mil@army.mil
Torre.p.finley@uscg.mil

Kathleen Kolva

Camp Edwards

339-202-9307

Jake McCumber

MA ARNG

339-202-9343

Erin Hilley

MA ARNG

Michael Ciaranca

MANG E&RC

339-202-9358

Emily Kelly

MANG E&RC

339-202-9341

Matt Porter

JBCC Exec. Dir.

508-789-8375

Torre Finley

USCG

501-351-1026

Handouts Distributed at Meeting:

1. Community Advisory Council Draft Meeting Minutes, May 15, 2025
2. Environmental Management Commission Environmental Officer Update, October 2025
3. Camp Edwards Update, 9 October 2025
4. Camp Edwards Natural Resources Update Fall 2025
5. Camp Edwards Approved Munitions List (AML), 9 October 2025
6. Environmental Performance Standards Revisions, October 2025
7. Operations, Maintenance and Monitoring Plan Revisions, October 2025
8. Proposed Field Refueling Locations Map Screening

Agenda Item #1. Welcome – Mr. Mark Harding, CAC Vice Chair

Mr. Harding welcomed everyone to the Community Advisory Council (CAC) meeting. Community Advisory Council members present at the meeting: Andrew Campbell, Bourne; Andrew Gottlieb, Mashpee (participating remotely); Maj. Gen Virginia Gaglio, Military Representative (participating remotely); Shawn Cody, Military Representative; Mark Harding, Wampanoag Tribe; Rob Crevey, Falmouth, Mark Forest, At-Large Member; John Kelly, At-Large Member; Jane Dolan, At-Large Member; Robert Catalanotti, At-Large Member. Members not present: Heather McElroy, Cape Cod Commission; Ralph Vitacco, Sandwich; Robert Prohett, Upper Cape Water Supply Cooperative.

Agenda Item #2. Review of CAC Minutes and Approval – Mr. Mark Harding, CAC Vice Chair

- The May 15, 2025, minutes were reviewed. Mr. Forest and Ms. Dolan abstained; all others were in favor of the minutes as written.

Agenda Item #3: Environmental Officer Update – Mr. Leonard Pinaud, EMC Environmental Officer

Mr. Pinaud, EMC Environmental Officer (EO), summarized the activities related to the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve (the Reserve).

- Two new members were appointed to the Science Advisory Council (SAC): Mark Faherty and Melissa Lombard; there are three vacancies left to fill in the areas of public health, land use management, water protection or wildlife habitat management. The CAC has two positions still open: one for a Joint Base Cape Cod (JBCC) family member and one At-large seat. Efforts are ongoing to fill the remaining vacancies.
- Mr. Pinaud is working with Camp Edwards to reduce the number of exceptions to policy by modifying the Operations, Maintenance and Monitoring Plans, the Approved Munitions List, and the Environmental Performance Standards (EPSs).
- Camp Edwards final public tour of the season will be held on October 17.

Agenda Item #4: Camp Edwards Update – Mr. Alexander McDonough, Base Operations Manager

Mr. McDonough presented an update on activities at Camp Edwards.

- Mr. McDonough announced he is now the Base Operations Manager on the full-time side and Deputy Commander on the military (M-day) side. This follows COL Matthew Porter's transition to the role of JBCC Executive Director, replacing Brig. Gen (ret) Chris Faux. Due to a hiring freeze, the Deputy Base Operations Manager and Director of Facility Engineers positions are currently vacant, with Mr. McDonough covering these duties.
- The public Camp Edwards tour program has been popular and is at capacity. He noted seats are always reserved for SAC and CAC members.
- Camp Edwards is working to establish a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Mashpee Wampanoag tribe. Initial discussions include their potential participation in the First Responder/Military controlled hunt day on December 5.
- \$1 million in federal funding has been secured for a comprehensive National Academy of Science (NAS) follow-on consensus study on small arms ranges at Camp Edwards, focusing on fate and transport of metals, potential migration to groundwater, and effective monitoring and management efforts. The report will include technical details and an executive summary with text and figures to support public engagement. The study is anticipated to take 12 to 18 months.
- Camp Edwards continues to support mobilization and demobilization efforts; supporting three units mobilizing, including the 26th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade to Africa.

- Major Events: Camp Edwards hosted several major events, including "Regional Cooperation 2025" (a tabletop exercise with international partners), the Garrison Commanders Leadership Course, and an Air Assault course.
- Deer hunting: four deer were taken during the Youth Deer Hunt; a Military/First Responder hunt will be held December 5.
- An electrical upgrade is in the design phase for Sierra Range so new, standardized Army target lifters can be installed. The underground wiring will be updated; there is no change to the range's footprint or use.
- Range sampling ended today.

CAC members asked if the follow-on consensus study will look at inactive and legacy small arms ranges, will this study inform what a future Multi-purpose machine gun range (MPMG) looks like, and if the MAARNG receives funding, would the MPMG be built using the original 2017 design and then modified if the study found that the design was deficient? A CAC member noted that General Keefe (The Adjutant General, Massachusetts National Guard) stated in a letter to EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin that the MPMG design is 100% complete and ready to build once funded, and asked how can the design be considered finalized if it is supposed to incorporate the findings of the upcoming study?

- Details of the consensus study's scope are still being determined; the primary focus is looking holistically at the active small arms ranges.
- The MAARNG said yes, any recommendations from the National Academy of Sciences would go into a modification of a design if there is a significant design modification required, but the recommendations would also feed into the design, maintenance and monitoring of all future and active ranges to align with those scientific recommendations.
- The previous military construction (MILCON) funding for the MPMG has expired, and there is no new funding identified for the project. The consensus study will be completed before new funding is secured. If something comes out of the study that requires additional design elements, the MAARNG would incorporate that into a modified design.

Agenda Item #5: Natural Resources Update – *Mr. Jacob McCumber, Natural Resources & Training Lands Manager*

Mr. McCumber provided a Natural Resources update.

- Flora Projects: a paper on *Triosteum* genetics was recently published; the genome was mapped for *perfoliatum* and *aurantiacum* and confirmed the state endangered plant is found on Camp Edwards. Vegetation surveys were conducted throughout the base. Algonquin/Enbridge consultants were out twice during the summer completing surveys for the project, surveying habitat conditions for wildlife around the project.
- Fauna: The program completed bat acoustic surveys, box turtle monitoring and bird surveys along with periodical cicada surveys. The program hosted bird tours, a butterfly walk and lead a barrens management walk at Crane Wildlife. The fall hunt season has begun; the youth deer hunt was held recently with 15 hunters taking four deer.
- Prescribed fire: during the spring, three burns were conducted in the grasslands totaling 108.5 acres and seven burns were conducted in the Pine Barrens totaling 702.5 acres. There are no fall burns planned. The Integrated Wildland Fire Management Plan is in finalization. Extensive fire trainings include aviation, ignitions, introduction to wildland fire, Incident Commander 3 & Task Force Leader, and national level instruction in Florida and Oregon.

- Restoration and training lands: the Battle Position (BP) 14/16 Landing Zone expansion is mostly complete with seeding to be conducted this fall; BP 1 is in a rest/recovery year.
- iNaturalist: An on-line project where observations of flora and fauna on JBCC can be uploaded to the website; more than 2,000 species have been identified and many photos have been uploaded. The website is publicly available: <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/fauna-and-flora-of-jbcc>

Agenda Item #6 – Proposed Munitions List Revisions – Mr. Alexander McDonough, Base Operations Manager and Mr. Leonard Pinaud, EMC Environmental Officer

- The Approved Munitions List is generated by requirements set forth by Camp Edwards 350-2 Range Regulations and the Environmental Performance Standards, which identifies an approved list of munitions for use at Camp Edwards. The list is jointly reviewed and approved through the Environmental & Readiness Center and the EMC Environmental Officer. The list is generated based on what a range is approved for in the Operations, Maintenance and Monitoring Plans (OMMPs) and is used by Range Operations to ensure ammunition issued is the correct ammunition for a range.
- The list has authorized munitions listed for each small arms range (primarily 5.56mm, 7.63mm and 9mm) and training area (blank ammunition and pyrotechnics).
- The proposed revisions to the Approved Munitions List include changes in use to India Range and Sierra Range that will provide for greater operations efficiency, reduced exception to policy requests to the EMC, consolidate non-standard uses onto one Range (India Range) that makes monitoring and management of the environment more efficient and protective.
- Pyrotechnics to be added to the proposed revised list would include smoke grenades, Ground Burst simulators, Star Clusters and Parachute Flares/Smoke, and booby-traps. Pyrotechnics and tracers were tested in field conditions at the request of the SAC and EMC Environmental Officer. Pyrotechnics were tested for potassium perchlorate and tracers for strontium nitrate; the results were non-detect for both compounds. The Impact Area Groundwater Study Program found no potassium perchlorate or strontium nitrate in groundwater associated with pyrotechnic or tracer use.

CAC members discussed the information.

- Members asked were detections for pyrotechnics above or below the Massachusetts Maximum Containment Level (MCL) for perchlorate and what does “non-detect” mean in terms of the sensitivity of the test? All samples tested for perchlorate were “non-detect;” information about the sensitivity of the testing is available in the sampling report.
- The proposed changes to the Approved Munitions List are approved by the EMC Environmental Officer. Mr. Pinaud clarified that after the proposed changes are presented to the SAC, CAC and EMC and the Commissioners provide feedback, the MAARNG will provide him a formal request for approval.
- It was confirmed that munitions items may only be used in certain locations. The Approved Munitions List identifies where a munitions item can be used. In addition, there are seasonal restrictions on items like smoke and pyrotechnics to protect bats on the eastern side of JBCC.

Agenda Item #7 – Proposed Environmental Performance Standards Revisions – Mr. Leonard Pinaud, EMC Environmental Officer

Mr. Pinaud and Mr. McDonough provided information about the proposed Environmental Performance Standards revisions.

- Revisions include administrative updates (changing Massachusetts Military Reservation to JBCC, fixing spelling, updating regulations that have changed but remain applicable, etc.) and minor changes to the General Performance Standard and to EPS 5.
- Minor revisions to EPS 11 and to the language in EPS 11.2 to: prescribed burning will be used to achieve wildland fuel hazard reduction, habitat management and ecosystem health and diversity management goals and objectives in support of training land support and landscape resilience.
- Revisions to EPS 15.3.3 which manages how refueling occurs in Training Area/Reserve may be accomplished. Currently, EPS 15.3.3 prohibits refueling outside of 5 gallon containers in the Training Area/Reserve. Exceptions to policy have been granted for larger day tanks and commercial/civilian refuelers and for military refueling training utilizing HEMTTs.
- The proposed revisions to EPS 15.3.3 would allow refueling with a 150-gallon maximum capacity vehicle mounted day-tank in support of maintenance and construction activities and refueling in support of maintenance, construction and/or military training with HEMTT or civilian fuel tanker truck containing a maximum of 1,500 gallons. HEMTT and civilian fuel tanker truck travel and refueling would only occur on approved roads and locations.
- EPS 15.3.3 has generated a number of exceptions to policy requests due to the requirements of civilian entities such as Eversource and other utility companies, the Impact Area Groundwater Study Program, and others to refuel as part of their missions and training requirements for MAARNG military fuelers driving HEMTTs.
- HEMTTs utilize secondary containment while refueling and procedures are in place in the event of a release.
- A draft Standard Operating Procedure and proposed Field Refueling Locations Map has been developed.

Mr. Gottlieb requested that the words “mission support” be removed from the proposed language in EPS 11.2; in the four bullet points presented by Mr. Pinaud as the basis for adjusting the EPSs, language relating to mission support is not one. He said that introduction of language into the EPSs that speak to things other than environmental performance have the potential to undermine the purpose of the standards. It was agreed that the words “mission support” would be removed from the proposed language.

Agenda Item #8 Proposed Operations, Maintenance and Monitoring Plan Revisions – Mr. Leonard Pinaud, EMC Environmental Officer

Mr. Pinaud provided a presentation on the proposed revisions to the OMMP.

- The OMMP identifies operational and management practices that will be implemented by the Massachusetts National Guard at the small arms ranges and identifies procedures that allow the employment of small arms in a manner that meets current and future military training requirements and employs maximum feasible use of pollution prevention strategies to protect the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve.
- The Environmental Performance Standards (General Performance Standard, EPS 18.1 and EPS 19) have required small arms range management components.
- The proposed changes would combine individual OMMPs for each small arms range into a combined, Integrated OMMP (IOMMP) covering all ranges, update range uses, which have changed based on new ammunition; provide an updated Conceptual Site Model, and provide revised range maintenance procedures including a rotation schedule for metals removal on the ranges.

- Revised environmental monitoring in the IOMMP would change the reference concentration levels for soil, porewater and groundwater. In soil, Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP) Method 3 Ceiling Limit (M3CL) levels in soil have been the reference concentrations to date; Surface soil concentration levels currently set at the M3CLs are proposed to be set using MCP soil cleanup standards that represent a “No Significant Risk” category for soil, indicating the soil has a low potential for harm to human health or the environment. Porewater concentration levels currently set at the Massachusetts Maximum Contaminant Levels for drinking water standards (MMCLs) are proposed set equal to one-half the MMCL. Groundwater concentration levels currently set at the MMCL drinking water standard are proposed set using background concentrations in groundwater.
- A Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) is proposed for the IOMMP that integrate all technical and quality aspects of the IOMMP, including planning, implementation, and assessment, and contains laboratory quality requirements and information that may have previously been reported in a work plan or sampling and analysis plan.
- Under consideration is installation of additional groundwater monitoring wells at each small arms range if, after evaluation, it is determined that the existing monitoring wells are not designed or located to sufficiently represent groundwater downgradient of each range, and the design, location, number and use of lysimeters for porewater sampling.

CAC members discussed the information.

- The OMMP’s ammunition recovery schedule of one range every two years was discussed and a concern was expressed that the US EPA had recommended more frequent retrieval in its draft Sole Source Aquifer review. Mr. McDonough noted the OMMP is a living document that requires both monitoring and maintenance activities driven by the best science. From the MAARNG’s perspective the schedule is the best way to fund the removal activities so they are not in violation. If a new range were to be added at Camp Edwards, the OMMP would be updated. The MAARNG generates the OMMP, which was approved by the EMC.
- Recovery will be conducted by a contractor; India Range is the first small arms range planned, and the MAARNG is currently research companies to conduct the recovery. The EMC Environmental Officer will be involved in the project, which is standard practice.
- Surface Soil reference numbers proposed in the OMMP were discussed. There were concerns about the potential for ranges to exceed these lower “residential standards,” where the small arms ranges have legacy soils. A risk analysis specific to Camp Edwards could be conducted to develop specific numbers for the ranges but could take years to complete. A scientifically-backed number is necessary, and the proposed MCP numbers consider leaching to groundwater. A CAC member noted that there is a solid basis for recommending those numbers.
- For the proposed groundwater standards set at background levels, it was discussed that background levels fluctuate due to geochemistry and may be difficult to use. At its meeting, the SAC recommended using a percentage of the drinking water standard such as ½ the MCL. The SAC Ad Hoc could potentially meet to discuss this.
- The CAC discussed evaluating monitoring wells on the ranges and members noted that it may be a way to validate current data or locate gaps in the data; the cost of installing additional wells was discussed, and it was remarked that there is an existing data set and many current wells on the installation that could be reviewed and could help inform the National Academies of Science study.

Agenda Item #9: Public Comment – Mr. Mark Harding, CAC Vice Chair

There was no public comment.

Agenda Item #10. Adjourn – *Mr. Mark Harding, CAC Vice Chair*

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.