

Environmental Management Commission
Building 1805
June 15, 2023
9:30 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

Members:

Commissioner Tom O'Shea	EMC/DFG	617-626-1550
Commissioner Bonnie Heiple	EMC/MassDEP	617-292-5500
Commissioner Brian Arrigo	EMC/DCR	617-626-1250

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Environmental Officer:

Len Pinaud, Environmental Officer

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Attendees:

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Jodi Lyn Cutler	IAGWSP	339-202-9327	Jodi.l.cutler.nfg@army.mil
Gary Moran	MassDEP	617-292-5775	Gary.moran@mass.gov
Paulo Baganha	MA ARNG	339-202-3960	Paulo.a.baganha.mil@army.mil

Handouts Distributed at Meeting:

1. EMC Draft Meeting Minutes: October 27, 2022
2. Environmental Officer Update – June 2023
3. IAGWSP Introduction and PFAS Update, June 15, 2023
4. IAGWSP Projects Underway and Look Ahead
5. Joint Base Cape Cod
6. Introduction Brief for EMC, 15 June 2023
7. Natural Resources/ITAM
8. Camp Edwards Natural Resources

Agenda Item #1. Welcome – Mr. Leonard Pinaud, Environmental Management Commission Environmental Officer

Commissioner O’Shea welcomed everyone to the Environmental Management Commission (EMC) meeting.

Agenda Item #2. Election for EMC Chair – Environmental Management Commission Commissioners

Commissioner Arrigo nominated Commissioner O’Shea for Chair of the EMC; Commissioner Heiple seconded the nomination, and all were in favor. Commissioner O’Shea was elected EMC Chair.

Agenda Item #3. Review of EMC Minutes and Approval – Environmental Management Commission Chair

The October 27, 2022, EMC minutes were reviewed. Commissioner Arrigo made a motion to accept the minutes; Commissioner Heiple seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Agenda Item #4. Environmental Officer Update – Mr. Leonard Pinaud, Environmental Management Commission Acting Environmental Officer

Mr. Pinaud, EMC Environmental Officer, gave a brief overview of the EMC including Chapter 47 of the Acts of 2002, which established the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve within the Northern 15,000 acres of Joint Base Cape Cod (JBCC) and the EMC, which was created within the Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs. He discussed the EMC’s role including ensuring the permanent protection of the drinking water supply and wildlife habitat of the Reserve and facilitating an open and public review of activities within the Reserve.

Mr. Pinaud then summarized the activities in the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve (the Reserve) that the EMC has been involved with:

- The Annual State of Reservation reports from 2018 to 2022 are on the Massachusetts National Guard’s website and the EMC’s website. The document has information on military training and environmental issues, water supply date and items covered by Chapter 47 of the Acts of 2002.
- Fourteen range inspections were completed between October 14, 2022, and June 2023.
- Mr. Pinaud attended the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) Bourne and Sagamore Bridge replacement virtual meetings to keep informed regarding the potential for any impact to the Training Area/Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve (the Reserve) from the new bridges or roadway reconfigurations. Currently, he does not believe there will be any impact to the Reserve, however the design is not finished. Mr. Pinaud will attend future meetings to stay involved.
- Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Response Standard Operating Procedure (SOP): this SOP is for UXO finds on the training ranges or in the Cantonment area that are not associated with UXO work being done by the Impact Area Groundwater Study Program (IAGWSP). Occasionally, a soldier or security officer will discover ordnance items in the training area and a process was developed to deal with UXO outside of IAGWSP. The SOP is a decision matrix that informs staff how to respond. The SOP includes public notification and notification to UXO technicians, either military Explosive Ordnance Disposal team or the State Police Bomb Squad. There were two UXO finds in the last six months and the SOP was used for those finds.
- Twice per year before the spring and fall hunting season, the EMC coordinates with DFG, the Environmental Police and Camp Edwards’ Natural Resources Program for the turkey and deer hunts held at Camp Edwards. Part of JBCC and the Training Area/Reserve are off-limits for hunting depending on remediation work or UXO.

- Eversource is rebuilding its switching station and has a powerline from the station through the Training Area/Reserve and into the community. The EMC is involved in ensuring they have a good understanding of what they are doing and ensuring good communication.
- There are two vacancies on the Community Advisory Council (CAC) and up to five vacancies on the Science Advisory Council (SAC). The SAC is legislated to have five to nine members on it. For the past 10 to 15 years, the council has had five or six members. The SAC is comprised of subject matter experts, and one of Mr. Pinaud's goals is to get those vacancies filled.
- The EMC's website was established a year and a half ago; it previously had space on the Massachusetts National Guard's website. It was moved to mass.gov.
- The US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) has issued a draft determination for its Sole Source Aquifer Review of the Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range at Camp Edwards. It is out for public comment.

Commissioner Heiple asked if there are any particular areas of expertise that would be helpful on the SAC? Mr. Pinaud replied one area is public health. He reached out to the Department of Public Health, which has been helpful. Mr. Pinaud's role is to provide names to the Governor's office to have Boards and Commissions get those appointees completed. Commissioner Heiple said she would be happy to raise this with the Department of Public Health's commissioner.

Mr. Pinaud introduced Ms. Dolan, US EPA Remediation Project Manager, who discussed the US EPA's Safe Drinking Water Act, Administrative Order 2 (AO2), Five Year Review Report.

- In 2017, the modification to AO2 allowed for lead ammunition or other live ammunition and certain pyrotechnics to be used on the small arms ranges at or near the training ranges to the extent that MAARNG received continued approval and oversight from the EMC and followed the Environmental Performance Standards (EPSs). It also specified that EPA would review its decision every five years.
- US EPA recently issued a five-year review report for that action. The report validated whether the decision to modify the prohibition of firing lead ammunition and pyrotechnics is protective of human health. Ms. Dolan looked at five years of data, did a site inspection of the ranges, reviewed the range records, and reviewed the sampling data. EPA determined that the Massachusetts Army National Guard (MAARNG) was conforming with the requirements established in the Operations, Maintenance and Monitoring Plans (OMMPs) and the EPSs and the EMC was ensuring compliance with those standards.

Commissioner O'Shea asked if there is any action required of the EMC relative to the review? Ms. Dolan replied there is a section of the review titled "Other Findings," where recommendations were made to the EMC and the MAARNG. The MAARNG responded in writing that they either have completed or are in the process of implementing the recommendations. Mr. Pinaud reiterated that the recommendations were helpful; he supports all of them as does the MAARNG.

Mr. Pinaud introduced Mr. Cody, JBCC Cleanup Liaison, who provided some background and history of the cleanup programs at JBCC. There are two programs: the Air Force Civil Engineer Center, which handles Superfund, towards Mashpee and Falmouth, and the Impact Area Groundwater Study Program (IAGWSP), which deals with the Training Area/Reserve. IAGWSP has been in operation for around 20 years. The Training Area/Reserve was broken down into 14 operable units, the small arms ranges were investigated, and lead-contaminated soil removed. IAGWSP's contaminants of concern are RDX and Perchlorate. They have identified all the areas where there is contamination and plumes. Systems are in place to treat the plumes and land use controls are in place.

Ms. Cutler, IAGWSP Remediation Manger, discussed Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in groundwater and the Upper Cape Water Supply WS-2.

- IAGWSP is installing seven wells upgradient of WS-2 to check for PFAS. No regulated compounds have been found above regulated levels; IAGWSP has also tested the Upper Cape Water Supply Cooperative (UCWSC) well; the Department of Defense's new methodology was used. The methodology looks for 40 analytes; only six are regulated. Precursors are part of that methodology and are not regulated. One analyte, PFOSA—a precursor for PFOS—was found at such a low level it is below the reporting limit and is a “J” or estimated value at 0.57 parts per trillion (ppt).
- IAGWSP has resampled and is expecting the results.
- During the Science Advisory Council meeting, Denis LeBlanc from the USGS, reported that he talked to an expert within USGS and said when they find PFOSA that low, it is usually perceived as a lab contaminant.

Mr. Pinaud said that the EMC, MassDEP, US EPA and the MAARNG all work closely with the UCWSC and are coordinating to make sure the right thing is done to protect the water supply. Ms. Cutler is a member of the UCWSC.

Commissioner Heiple asked if in relation to the SAC vacancies, would PFAS be another area to focus on? Mr. Pinaud said one of the subject matters is groundwater and a member with PFAS background would be useful.

Commissioner O'Shea asked how the CAC and SAC together and with the EMC. Mr. Pinaud responded the SAC meets first, then the CAC, and then the EMC; the reason is if there are science issues those need to be vetted. The CAC wants to know what was discussed with the SAC and that is discussed. The SAC and CAC report back to the EMC; either the chairs come to the EMC meeting or Mr. Pinaud reports on their behalf.

Agenda Item #5. Camp Edwards Update – *Mr. Matthew Porter, Base Operations Manager, MAARNG; Mr. Alex McDonough, Deputy Base Operations Manager, MAARNG*

Mr. McDonough gave a brief overview of Joint Base Cape Cod including its military commands, executive director, tenant organizations, and total employees and economic impact. He then gave an introductory brief on Camp Edwards, explaining the dual Federal and state missions, Camp Edwards history, training activities at Camp Edwards, and the Northern Training Area and Cantonment area. He described the small arms ranges provided a brief Camp Edwards update:

- Camp Edwards has been working on updating the Operations, Maintenance and Monitoring Plans (OMMPs) for the ranges. The main goal is making the plans easier to implement and consolidate the individual OMMPs into one document. The individual OMMPs share language; the individual range requirements will be retained, and the forms modernized so they are easier to fill out at the range operations level and soldier training level.
- Soil, porewater and groundwater monitoring are conducted on five ranges at Camp Edwards. Monitoring was last conducted in the fall. There were no detections above action levels in soil or groundwater. Porewater detections of antimony are from legacy soils.
- The MAARNG is in the process of responding to the EPA's draft Sole Source Aquifer Review.
- The EMC should have a copy of the MAARNG's memo regarding recommendations from the EPA's Five-Year Review. Notably, the MAARNG is looking at quantitative versus qualitative metals removal requirements.
- Camp Edwards has been supporting pre-deployment operations for many units. The 716th Engineer Company is completing validations for upcoming deployment; the 326th Aviation Battalion left a few months ago. Every unit goes to Camp Edwards before leaving. Camp Edwards supported annual training and IDT, or weekend training. Camp Edwards generally

support training three weekends a month. Most live fire takes place between Friday and Sunday to support IAGWSP removal of UXO. Camp Edwards hosted the Best Warrior Competition; a soldier from Camp Edwards went to the regional competition in Maine but didn't make it through. COL Bagaglio won the Commander's Marksmanship Cup.

Mr. McCumber provided an update on Natural Resources/Integrated Training Area Management (NR/ITAM) including its mission to maintain and enhance soldier training lands and opportunities through ecosystem conservation, stewardship, and partnership. He discussed the planning, permitting and actions (contracting, in-house, and troop labor projects) and mechanical work that comprises that mission. Mr. McCumber also discussed conservation planning, which provides for sustainable ecosystem management, effective project funding and implementation, strong partnerships, and exceptional soldier training. There are seven full-time staff and three seasonal staff in the program. Camp Edwards has 43 state-listed species and one federally listed species on it. The program is establishing a large-scale mitigation bank on site and has four comprehensive management plans.

Commissioner O'Shea asked with training increasing this time of year and nesting season, how is that coordinated? Mr. McCumber said everyone works together very closely. The primary use zones are known and managed with wildlife in mind. Army installations manage the entire installation so that even when Army training is at its greatest pace, they're only using a certain amount of area, usually not a very high percentage. He said we manage a whole site for those increasing species population.

Agenda Item #6. Public Comment – *Environmental Management Commission Chair*

There was no public comment.

Agenda Item #7. Adjourn – *Environmental Management Commission Chair*

The meeting adjourned at 11:16 a.m.