

**Environmental Management Commission  
Barnstable County Clean Water Center  
Buzzards Bay, Massachusetts**

**June 3, 2026  
9:30 a.m.**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Members:**

Commissioner Bonnie Heiple  
Commissioner Nicole LaChapelle  
Commissioner Tom O'Shea

**Organization:**

EMC/MassDEP  
EMC/DCR  
EMC/DFG

**Telephone:**

617-292-5500  
617-626-1250

**Environmental Officer:**

Len Pinaud, Environmental  
Officer

**Organization:**

EMC

**Telephone:**

617-694-2644

**E-mail:**

Leonard.pinaud@mass.gov

**Attendees:**

LTC Alexander McDonough

**Organization:**

MA ARNG, Base  
Operations  
Manager

**Telephone:**

339-202-9303

**E-Mail:**

Alexander.v.mcdonough.mil@army.mil

Kathleen Kolva  
Jake McCumber  
COL Matthew Porter  
Mike Ciaranca  
Emily Kelly  
Scott Amirault  
Michael Dutton

MA ARNG  
MA ARNG  
JBCC Exec. Dir  
MANG E&RC  
MANG E&RC  
US Coast Guard  
Barnstable County  
Administrator  
Barnstable County  
Commissioner  
Barnstable County  
Barnstable County

774-286-6108  
339-202-9343  
508-789-8375  
339-202-9358  
339-202-9341  
508-375-6929

Kathleen.a.kolva.civ@army.mil  
Jacob.c.mccumber.nfg@army.mil  
Matthew.n.porter.mil@army.mil  
Michael.a.ciaranca.nfg@mail.mil  
Emily.d.kelly2.nfg@mail.mil  
Scott.f.aminrault@uscg.mil  
Michael.dutton@capecod.gov

Mark Forest

508-274-1936

mark.forest@capecod.gov

Tracy Long  
Brian Baumgartel

**Handouts Distributed at Meeting:**

1. EMC Draft Meeting Minutes: June 5, 2025
2. EMC Draft Meeting Minutes: October 28, 2025
3. Environmental Management Commission Environmental Officer Update, June 2026
4. Camp Edwards Update, 3 June 2026
5. State of the Reservation Report, 3 June 2026
6. Camp Edwards Natural Resources Update Spring 2026
7. State of the Reservation Report Overview, Training Year 2025
8. Camp Edwards Tour Dates, Spring 2026

**Agenda Item #1. Welcome/Agenda Review – Commissioner Tom O’Shea, Environmental Management Commission Chair**

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

**Agenda Item #2. Review of EMC Minutes and Approval – Commissioner Tom O’Shea, Environmental Management Commission Chair**

- The June 5, 2025, EMC minutes were reviewed. Commissioner Heiple made a motion to accept the minutes; Commissioner LaChappelle seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.
- The October 28, 2025, EMC minutes were reviewed. Commissioner Heiple made a motion to accept the minutes; Commissioner LaChappelle seconded the motion. Commissioner O’Shea abstained, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

**Agenda Item #3. – Massachusetts Alternative Septic System Test Center – Mr. Brian Baumgaertel, Wastewater Division Director**

Mr. Forest introduced Mr. Baumgaertel and the Clean Water Center, which is a unique partnership between Barnstable County and the National Guard. It has been in place for many years to test innovative methods of dealing with septic waste. The Clean Water Center was recently cited as an area to make investments in by the Commonwealth to boost the emergent clean water technology cluster.

Mr. Baumgaertel explained that the Clean Water Center runs four programs designed to support wastewater infrastructure and environmental protection in Barnstable County:

- Alternative Septic System Testing which tests wastewater treatment technologies.
- The Septic Utility Program, which helps towns choosing to use onsite wastewater treatment systems to manage those technologies in an integrated way.
- The Aqua Fund provides low-interest loans to homeowners for failed septic repairs or sewer connections.
- Workforce development and public education programs help train the local wastewater workforce and educate residents about wastewater treatment options.

Commissioner Heiple said that it is important to think together about the workforce development piece. MassDEP does a lot of work with the Mass Clean Energy Center and workforce development, and some of their expertise may be available about standing up these programs and making them function most effectively. Mr. Forest noted that he and Mr. Baumgaertel work with the Commissioners’ departments, working together to solve issues. Commissioner O’Shea said that the intense focus on clean water on Cape Cod is unprecedented across the state. He said they would love to know more about workforce development in the clean water/wastewater treatment sector.

**Agenda Item #4. 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).

- Camp Edwards completed the State of the Reservation Report for Training Year (TY) 2025. There is a summary document that was also produced.
- The advisory council public meetings have been moved off Joint Base Cape Cod and into the community in the hope that community members will attend the meetings.
- Three seats are open on the Science Advisory Council (SAC) in the areas of public health, land use management, wildlife habitat management or water protection. Science Advisory Council member Denis LeBlanc announced his plan to retire from the council at its last meeting. The Community Advisory Council (CAC) has two open seats: a JBCC family and an At-Large member. An election for SAC and CAC chairs and vice chairs will be held at the Fall meetings.

- The Approved Ammunition List was revised November 18, 2025.
- The Environmental Performance Standards were revised on March 19, 2026. The Environmental Management Commission voted on the revised performance standards at their October 2025 meeting and the Environmental Performance Standards were open for public comment with comments received from the Cape Cod Commission.
- The Operations, Maintenance, and Monitoring Plan is a living document and if there is a change in the way small arms ranges operate or in training doctrine, the plan should be updated to reflect that to ensure there is no adverse effect to the natural resources and groundwater resource. That was recently revised.
- The Field Refueling Operations Standard Operating Procedure and its associated refueling map were finalized on March 19, 2026. Input on the SOP was solicited from the SAC, CAC, and the Environmental Management Commission.
  - At its spring meeting, SAC members had additional questions on two refueling locations and an action item from that meeting was for Mr. Pinaud and the MAARNG to look at particle tracks based on the USCG groundwater model for those two locations. Mr. Pinaud will follow up on that.

**Agenda Item #5. Camp Edwards Update – LTC Alex McDonough, Deputy Commander**

LTC McDonough presented an update on activities at Camp Edwards.

- The Camp Edwards tour schedule has been set for the summer with tours running from June to October, except for July.
- Meetings with the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe continue and a Memorandum of Understanding is at National Guard Bureau. Camp Edwards has opened the Military Deer Hunt to members of the Tribe; it was well attended.
- The Integrated Operations, Maintenance, and Monitoring Plan (IOMMP) has been modernized and approved—ensuring consistency for Soldiers and Range Operations.
- An ad hoc committee of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine will address scientific and technical issues related to potential aquifer contamination from small arms ranges. \$1 million is funded for the study and the contract awarded for the approximately 18-month process. Four meetings are anticipated.
  - Commissioner Heiple asked who identified issues for the study? LTC McDonough responded that many of them were the result of the meeting of experts in October 2024 and the MAARNG and IAGWSP identifying baseline issues and using the opportunity to look holistically at the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve.
- One unit has conducted pre-mobilization training since the last SAC meeting; three units are expected to return during the next two quarters. There are no major exercises planned for this year; most events supported this year are standard weekend drills and annual training events. August will be the largest month for training by number with more than 4,000 Soldiers planned to train at Camp Edwards during the month.
- Electrical upgrades are planned for Sierra and Echo ranges to enable installation of new target lifters. The design is in progress, and contract solicitation is scheduled for this fiscal year pending funding availability. Ammunition round cleanup is planned for India Range. A work order has been produced, and the award is projected for contract this fiscal year. Round cleanup is planned for Echo Range in 2028.

**Agenda Item #6. – State of the Reservation Report Training Year 2025 – LTC Alex McDonough, Deputy Commander**

LTC McDonough provided a presentation on the State of the Reservation Report for Training Year 2026.

- The State of the Reservation Report is divided into five sections (Introduction, Small Arms Ranges and Military Training Activities, Environmental Program Management, Remediation Program Activities, Miscellaneous Military and Civilian Activities) and several appendices and is more than 200 pages.
- The report provides information on copper and lead ammunition use, range usage, number of soldiers trained during the year, small arms range monitoring, environmental program resource management activities, and the status of compliance with the Environmental Performance Standards.
- The report is distributed through both the Camp Edwards and Environmental Management Commission websites, provided to Cape Cod town managers, select boards and the Barnstable County Commission, and made available at the Jonathan Bourne Public Library. A six-page summary report is also available.

**Agenda Item #7. Natural Resources Update** – *Mr. Jacob McCumber, Natural Resources & Training Lands Manager*

Mr. McCumber gave presentation on Natural Resources at Camp Edwards.

- The Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan update is planned to be completed in December 2026.
- Fauna work included the things like the Christmas bird count, data analysis and reporting. The final results of the bats data analysis will be complete soon. The endangered species consultation for bats was submitted in October 2024 is still in process.
- The fall hunt was successful with good hunter participation and the highest deer harvest since 2024.
- Flora projects include restoration of the buffer on Deep Bottom Pond, reintroduction of Liatris and frost bottom rehab. Thirty-three acres were harvested in Training Area C-13 in January/February with pine barrens restoration adjacent to the C-14 restoration area. Eighteen acres were harvested in Training Area BA-3 where snag reduction work was also completed.
- Wildland Fire was originally planned for 1,700 acres; however, the fire manager is on medical leave and plans are being adjusted. The Natural Resources Program will provide assistance at Wildlife Management Areas and other partner sites and is hopeful for potential burn opportunities at Camp Edwards in Training Area A-4 and the grasslands.
- Southern pine beetles are expanding northward and have killed thousands of acres of pitch pine in New York and New Jersey. Southern pine beetles were first observed at Camp Edwards in December 2025; there are 22 confirmed sites, ranging from one tree to dozens infested. He set up a Southeastern Massachusetts communication group and is working to set up an education or outreach session in June. They are advocating proactive work as much as possible although there are challenges with that. Southern pine beetles highlight the need for resilience in the Pine Barrens and restoration work.

**Agenda Item #8. Public Comment** – *Commissioner Tom O'Shea, Environmental Management Commission Chair*

There was no public comment.

**Agenda Item #9. Adjourn** – *Commissioner Tom O'Shea, Environmental Management Commission Chair*

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.