
**Environmental Management Commission
Building 3495
October 25, 2018
9:30 a.m.**

Meeting Minutes

<u>Members:</u>	<u>Organization:</u>	<u>Telephone:</u>
Commissioner Ron Amidon	EMC/DFG	617-626-1550
Commissioner Martin Suuberg	EMC/DEP	617-292-5856
Commissioner Leo Roy	EMC/DCR	617-626-1250

<u>Environmental Officer:</u>	<u>Organization:</u>	<u>Telephone:</u>	<u>E-mail:</u>
Len Pinaud, Environmental Officer	EMC	508-946-2871	Leonard.pinaud@state.ma.us

<u>Attendees:</u>	<u>Organization:</u>	<u>Telephone:</u>	<u>E-Mail:</u>
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Handouts Distributed at Meeting:

1. EMC Draft Meeting Minutes: May 24, 2018
2. Environmental Officer Update – October 2018
3. Massachusetts National Guard Environmental Readiness Center Current Activities
4. Natural Resources Update
5. Draft Guidelines and Procedures for the Administration of the EMC and Advisory Councils

Agenda Item #1. Welcome, Opening Remarks and Introductions– *Mr. Ronald Amidon, EMC Chair*
Commissioner Amidon convened the Environmental Management Commission (EMC) at 9:30 a.m. and welcomed everyone. The members and attendees introduced themselves.

Agenda Item #2 Review and Approval of EMC Minutes

The May 24, 2018 EMC minutes were reviewed. Commissioner Roy made a motion to accept the minutes; Commissioner Suuberg seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Agenda Item #3 Environmental Officer Update – *Mr. Leonard Pinaud, Environmental Management Commission Acting Environmental Officer*

Mr. Pinaud, EMC Environmental Officer, gave an update on items that the EMC has been involved with since the last meeting in May 2018.

Mr. Pinaud stated that progress has been made on the EMC By-Laws revision, but there are action items to be completed, therefore, no vote will be taken at the meeting.

Mr. Pinaud said that the Approved List of Munitions was updated and an official letter was submitted to ensure everyone is referencing the correct, updated list.

Mr. Pinaud stated that the inspection forms for the India, Juliet, Kilo, and Lima ranges have been updated over the past six months. The form was field tested by Mr. Pinaud and Range Control. There were some small issues with the ranges but those were fixed. The inspection forms were successful, he noted.

Mr. Pinaud stated that the Massachusetts Fisheries and Wildlife Board UCWSR/Camp Edwards Ranges Tour was held on August 14, 2018. He noted the tour raises awareness of positive things happening at Camp Edwards and in the Reserve.

Mr. Pinaud stated that Secretary Beaton and staff attended a tour of the Camp Edwards ranges on August 29, 2018. He said that Dr. Ciaranca, the Environmental & Readiness Center (E&RC), Natural Resources, Range Control and Army Corp of Engineers coordinated the tour.

Commissioner Suuberg stated that Secretary Beaton told him how much he appreciated the tour and program.

Mr. Pinaud stated that there was an issue with some detections of contaminants in Sentry wells for the Upper Cape Water Supply Cooperative wells, August 2018. He displayed the well locations WS-1, WS-2, WS-3, and Sentry wells. Mr. Pinaud said that in May 2018, the explosive compound RDX was detected in groundwater samples collected by the Upper Cape Regional Water Cooperative from sentry wells C-1S (0.43 µg/L) and C-4S (0.27 µg/L). The Massachusetts Contingency Plan Groundwater 1 standard for RDX is 1 µg/L (ppb) and the Environmental Protection Agency Health Advisory is 0.6 µg/L.

The Impact Area Groundwater Study Program resampled sentry wells C-1S and C-4S for explosives and perchlorate. There were detections of perchlorate at low, estimated values, he noted.

Commissioner Amidon said that not all the wells are tested every year. He asked who determines which wells will be tested and at what levels. Mr. Pinaud stated that MassDEP requires certain well sampling. MassDEP has contacted the Water Cooperative and is discussing increasing frequency of sampling for Sentry Wells and Water Supply Wells and increasing the number of analytes per sample with the Impact Area Groundwater Study Program.

Commissioner Roy stated that more frequent sampling and adding analytes is important but expensive. He asked who is funding the sampling. Mr. Pinaud stated that the Cooperative has agreed to pay for sampling of the Sentinel and Water Supply Wells. The Impact Area Groundwater Study Program would pay for increased sampling for the monitoring wells.

Mr. Pinaud stated that there have been no explosives or perchlorate has been found at the Water Supply Wells only the Sentinel Wells.

Agenda Item #4 Reports from the Community and Science Advisory Councils – Council Chairs

Mr. Pinaud stated that there was no SAC report.

Mr. Harding, Community Advisory Council (CAC), stated that one of the issues on the CAC is the commitment of some of the members and the three current vacancies. He noted that it is difficult getting a quorum at the CAC meetings; the last quorum was in May 2016. He suggested the EMC support the appointments for the CAC vacancies. A letter has been drafted for the remaining CAC members but he will contact the members personally to ensure that they will be able to attend meetings and if members can't new members will need to be appointed.

Mr. Pinaud displayed a CAC member list. The current members are by legislation 15 members. The vacant seats are: Mashpee, Sandwich and the Massachusetts Army National Guard. He has been working with the Bob Greco, Department of Fish and Game, the Executive Office Energy and Environmental Affairs and Governor's Office regarding CAC appointments. The quorum for the CAC is 10 members and if the revised By Laws are approved that would change to a simple majority of 8 members. He said that remote participation will be an option after the By Laws are approved. Mr. Pinaud is open to changing the meeting times and discussing agenda topics. He could reach out to members on a one to one basis with assistance from the EMC.

Ms. McConnell asked if the background process form is still the same. Mr. Pinaud replied yes the background check is a requirement.

Commissioner Amidon stated that the process for appointments could be reviewed. He suggested a memo from the EMC and Mr. Pinaud expressing how important the CAC's service is to the EMC, which may help with member attendance.

Commissioner Roy asked if a simple majority could be lowered to help attendance. Mr. Pinaud replied the requirement for a simple majority quorum was from the open meeting law.

Commissioner Amidon suggested creating a format within the By Laws that limits the use of remote participation with once a year per member, for example. Commissioner Suuberg stated that a physical quorum in the room is needed.

Agenda Item #5 By Law Discussion – Mr. Leonard Pinaud, Acting Environmental Officer, EMC

There was no By Law discussion.

Agenda Item #6: Camp Edwards Update – Dr. Mike Ciaranca, Environmental and Readiness Center, MA ARNG

Dr. Ciaranca discussed the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) permitting and the property transfer for the Eversource Switching Station; the Article 97 legislation required for the transfer has passed. Eversource will need a small piece of property but will release rights to their current property. He noted that it is a net gain for training land.

Dr. Ciaranca said that the Soldiers Field Card was updated during 2018 to include several additions: no unauthorized road trail, or horizontal engineering work, tree scarring must be avoided, and to contact the Natural Resource Office for preventative mitigation measures.

Dr. Ciaranca stated that SAC Ad Hoc Committee meeting for small arms range monitoring was on held August 15, 2018. In spring 2019. As a result of the meeting, there will be sampling of all the Small Arms Ranges surface and subsurface soils and groundwater sampling of metals to determine what can make metals mobile in the system. The next meeting will be in the spring, he noted.

Dr. Ciaranca said that Echo Range is near completion. There was an issue with the lifters on the targets, and the target manufacturer, Meggitt Training Systems, did an assessment of the targets and found a

simple solution using silica packets to absorb moisture in the pins, he noted. In addition, the antenna on Sierra Range is too high and interferes with the targets on Echo Range.

Dr. Ciaranca said that netting was installed at Lima Range and the firing line fencing was fixed.

Dr. Ciaranca reported that the Request for Proposal for the design for the Multi-purpose Machine Gun Range has been issued. NEPA/MEPA will begin following the design award.

Dr. Ciaranca discussed the Reserve/Training Area Refueling EPS 15.3.3, which states: “*No storage or movement of fuels for supporting field activities, other than in vehicle fuel tanks, will be permitted except in approved containers no greater than five gallons in capacity.*”

Dr. Ciaranca said the MAARNG has completed two Proofs of Concept and been granted seven exceptions to policy. All exceptions and the Proofs of Concept were successfully implemented. The next steps are to finish developing the map and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), develop the new EPS language, and propose the EPS change to the SAC, CAC and EMC in Spring 2019.

Agenda Item #7: Natural Resources Update – *Mr. Jacob McCumber, Natural Resource Manager, MAARNG*

Mr. McCumber gave an update on the Natural Resources Program activities. He said that the program is continuing bat monitoring. The program is in final negotiation for the Conservation Management Plan for the Agassiz’s Clam Shrimp. The species is much more widespread than originally thought; they have doubled the known locations in four new towns and seven new properties, he noted. Mr. McCumber stated that the Whip-poor-will projects are ongoing with data monitoring to continue in the spring.

Mr. Pinaud asked when there will be a response from the Division of Capital Management and Maintenance (DCAMM). Mr. McCumber has sent three emails requesting a date for the CMP to be registered with the deed and permit. Mr. Pinaud said that the Commissioners have asked to have the matter closed out on the record when the management plan had a permit. He can consult with Rich Leehan, Department of Fish and Game, regarding closing out the process. Commissioner Suuberg stated that one of the Commissioners could contact DCAMM.

Commissioner Roy asked if the deed restriction has been resolved. Mr. McCumber replied that there is no deed restriction; it is attaching the Conservation Management Permit to the deed. Commissioner Roy asked if the permit is ready. Mr. McCumber replied yes except for the registered date for the deed. Commissioner Roy offered to contact the Commissioner at DCAMM.

Mr. McCumber stated that there is a proposed listing of Walsh’s Digger bee (*Anthophora walshii*) and Eastern hognose snake (*Heterodon platyrhinos*). He noted that they are working with MassWildlife on the proposed state listing. Mr. McCumber stated that there is snake monitoring and disease study.

Mr. McCumber reported three prescribed burn days with 148 acres burned (April, June), one wildfire of 5 acres in April; the cause was electrical. The program has a goal of four training burns and three management burns in the fall.

Mr. McCumber stated that for mechanical restoration there was a RAW4 thinning Tiber harvest, 14 acres southwest corner of the Impact Area where there is continuous pitch pine and BP20 ITAM restoration. Mr. McCumber stated that for chemical restoration there were Calamagrostis treatment in coordination with MassWildlife. There is a frost bottom state-listed plan protection in training area actively seeking chemical treatment.

Mr. McCumber said there was a Division of Fisheries and Wildlife Board tour in August, Cape Cod Bird Club in September, Introduction to Wildland Firefighting Course in September, a meeting was held with the Barnstable County League of Sportsman Clubs on 26 April and one is scheduled for 25 October.

Mr. McCumber stated that the Deer Hunt scheduled dates are: Youth: 29 September, Paraplegic: 1-3 November, Archery scouting: 5-6 November, Archery: 8-10 November, Military: 30 November - 01 December, Shotgun: 3-8 December, and Muzzleloader: 14-15 December.

Agenda Item #8 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Agenda Item #9 Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.