
**Community Advisory Council and Science Advisory Council to the
Environmental Management Commission**

Zoom

October 8, 2020

5:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

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Matt McKay	MA ARNG		
Keith Driscoll	MA ARNG		
Andrew Gottlieb	APCC		
John Phelan	Mashpee Deputy Fire Chief		
Susan Rohrbach	Citizen		
Betsy Smith	Citizen		
Cole Silva	CC Democrat Socialists		
Ms. Harris	Citizen		
Jim Wolf	Cape Air		
Elizabeth Harder	Harwich Delegate		
Jane Leafer	Citizen		
Fred Lane	Citizen		

Pat Johnson	Senator Julian Cyr
	Office
Patty Waltner	Citizen
Elaine Dickinson	CC League of Women
	Voters
Sandra Faiman-Silva	Resident

Handouts Distributed at Meeting:

1. Environmental Officer Update October 2020.
2. Camp Edwards Update July 2020
3. Natural Resources Programmatic Update July 2020
4. Draft Meeting Minutes, Community Advisory Council, May 15, 2019
5. Draft Meeting Minutes, Joint Community Advisory Council and Science Advisory Council, July 29, 2020

Agenda Item #1. Welcome

Mr. Pinaud, Environmental Officer for the Environmental Management Commission (EMC) welcomed everyone to the meeting being held remotely through Zoom video conferencing. The Science Advisory Council (SAC) and Community Advisory Council (CAC) is a regularly scheduled meeting and is being held virtually through Governor Baker's Executive Order dated March 12, 2020, which suspends certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law.

Community Advisory Council Chair, Mimi McConnell, is the Chair for the meeting.

Mr. Pinaud asked for the participating CAC and SAC members to identify themselves:

Mr. Harding, CAC
Ms. Canedy, CAC
Ms. Lewis, SAC
Mr. Gschwend, SAC
Mr. Virgilio, CAC
Mr. Campbell, CAC
Mr. Prohett, CAC
Brig. Gen. Gaglio, CAC
Mr. Duggan, SAC

Agenda Item #2: Review of CAC Minutes and Approval – Mimi McConnell, CAC Chair

Review of the CAC minutes was postponed until the next meeting when there is a quorum.

Agenda Item #3: Review of Joint CAC/SAC Minutes and Approval – Mimi McConnell, CAC Chair/CAC SAC Members

Review of the Joint CAC/SAC meeting minutes was postponed until the next meeting when there is a quorum.

Agenda Item #4: Environmental Officer Update – Leonard Pinaud, EMC Environmental Officer

Mr. Pinaud presented a summary of the Environmental Management Commission (EMC)

- Established by Massachusetts Law, Chapter 47 of the Acts of 2002 (Chapter 47), within the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. Its role to ensure the permanent protection of the drinking water supply and wildlife habitat of the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve. The law further directed that the position of Environmental Officer be established,

which Mr. Pinaud holds. The EMC facilitates an open and public review process for activities within the Reserve. Two advisory councils were established by Chapter 47: the 15-member Community Advisory Council and the 7 to 9-member Science Advisory Council.

- The Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve was established within the northern 15,000 acres of Joint Base Cape Cod (JBCC) for water supply and wildlife habitat protection and for the use and training of the military provided that activities are compatible with water supply and wildlife habitat protection.
- The EMC ensures compliance with and enforcement of the nineteen Environmental Performance Standards (EPSs) codified in Chapter 47 of the Acts of 2002. Several EPSs are relative to the Multi-purpose Machine Gun range, including those for pollution prevention, vegetation management, habitat/wildlife/rare species management, noise management and Small Arms Range management. Specific to Small Arms Range Management: ranges may only be used in accordance with range-specific Operation, Maintenance and Monitoring Plans (OMMPs). OMMPs are approved by the EMC and managed under an adaptive management program that integrates pollution prevention, and best management practices (BMP), including the recovery of projectiles.

Mr. Pinaud discussed the proposed Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range (MPMG) Range:

- The MPMG was proposed by the Massachusetts Army National Guard (MAARNG) in 2012. The EMC, SAC, and the CAC have been routinely updated on the MPMG Range planning.
- The EMC provided written comments on the range design, and Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) submittals. The EMC's NEPA comment letter dated September 25, 2020 identified inconsistency between MEPA and NEPA filings as the MPMG Range is not designed to accommodate weapons systems proposed in the NEPA filing; and would pose a significant safety, environmental and noise concern.
- Camp Edwards sent the EMC response letter dated September 30, 2020 stating no high explosives will be used on the range, and the range will be a copper-only ammunition range.

Agenda Item #5: Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range – COL Matthew Porter, Camp Edwards Commander, MA ARNG, MAJ Alex McDonough, Plans and Training Officer, MA ARNG

A presentation was given on the proposed MPMG range at Camp Edwards.

- COL Porter, Camp Edwards Commander, stated that all the National Guard qualifications for training are the same as the active Army component. Traveling to another training site out of state takes a lot of time; in-state training is more efficient and allows soldiers to be home with their families sooner.
- MAJ McDonough, Camp Edwards Operations Officer, discussed the location of the range on Camp Edwards and Chapter 47 of the Acts of 2002, and the EPSs, which ensure environmental protection and guide development of small arms ranges. He reiterated that the EMC has review and approval of the range design and the Operations, Maintenance and Monitoring Plan, which outlines how the MAARNG will capture, contain, manage, monitor, and report on the range.

MAJ McDonough described an MPMG Range:

- It is used to zero, detect, identify, engage and defeat Stationary Infantry Targets (SITs), Moving Infantry Targets (MITs), and Stationary Armor Targets (SATs) in a tactical array.
- The 8-lane range is a part of a range development plan to meet qualification needs at Camp Edwards, which is based on the force structure of the MAARNG and the number of soldiers in a unit needing to qualify. Currently, Camp Edwards is unable to meet this qualification need.

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- The current project would support the MAARNG's training requirement for the M249 (5.56mm) and M240B (7.62 mm) machine guns using only copper ammunition. There is future potential for the .50 caliber machine gun, when copper or the like approved ammunition is available.
 - The proposed location is the current, 40 acre KD Range and would comprise 140 acres; with the potential .50 caliber project adding 71 acres for a total of 211 acres.
 - Funding for the range is from Military Construction (MILCON) money: \$11.5 million (\$9.7 million for range construction and \$1.8 million for targetry). Mitigation funding for FY 19 and FY 20 is \$748k.

MAJ McDonough presented the history of the meetings related to the MPMG range, beginning in 2012 to present including:

- briefings to the Science and Community Advisory Councils (SAC, CAC) and the EMC in 2012, 2013, and 2015 to 2020.
- Briefings were also given at Boards of Selectmen in Falmouth, Mashpee, Sandwich and Bourne in 2015. That same year, the MAARNG conducted a live fire noise study and made notification to the surrounding community.
- Briefings were given to the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs in 2017 and to the Military-Civilian Community Council in 2018.

Mr. Driscoll, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) manager for the MAARNG gave an overview of the regulatory milestones:

- Massachusetts, Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP), Project 18-37434
- January 2018: Initiated formal discussion with NHESP
- November 2018: First formal meeting
- February 2019: Initial planning document sent for review
- August 2019: Site visit to Camp Edwards
- December 2019: Box Turtle protection plan developed
- April 2020: Application for Conservation and Management Permit submitted
- July 2020: Supplemental Environmental Impact Report Certificate received
- August 2020: Received initial draft Permit
- September 2020: Received final draft permit and returned with final edits
- Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA: 301 CMR 11.00)
- February 10, 2020: Notice of Project Change
- June 10, 2020: Supplemental Environmental Impact Report
- July 7, 2020: Certificate from Secretary of Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA: 32 CFR Part 651)

- Initiated 2018: August 2019: Initiated Interagency Intergovernmental Coordination, stake holder letters sent.
- February 2020: Interagency letters sent, comments incorporated into Environmental Assessment.
- 17 July 2020: Received Certificate from Energy and Environmental Affairs that the process adequately met with the NEPA standards.
- 8 August 2020: NEPA published for public comment.
- 7 September 2020: Public comment period closed and received approximately 370 comments. There are over 900 comments being reviewed by National Guard Bureau. The documents will be posted on the E&RC website.

MAJ McDonough discussed why Camp Edwards and KD Range were chosen for the site.

- Camp Edwards was selected because MAARNG Soldiers are required to qualify on crew serve weapons annually; there's an availability of ranges in surrounding area; the quality of training area for other training tasks and time for travel.
- KD Range was selected after a comprehensive analysis conducted of all 16 existing ranges. KD Range minimizes any Surface Danger Zone conflicts with other training sites, and the environmental impact of other sites was determined to have significant impact on the environment and not cost effective.

Mr. McCumber, MAARNG National Resources Manager, discussed environmental management at Camp Edwards.

- There is a dedicated conservation and land management program at Camp Edwards. The Sikes Act (1960) requires conservation management at military installations and requires an Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan. He discussed the partnerships with other agencies including US Fish and Wildlife Service and Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife.
- The Massachusetts Endangered Species Act requires a Conservation and Management Permit (CMP) and requires demonstrated "Net Benefit" for state-listed species and their habitats. A plan was developed and approved by the Massachusetts Division of Fish and Wildlife (MADFW). The plan has a net benefit offsetting habitat takes. The holistic plan establishes an on-site mitigation bank and land protection for MPMG. Two-hundred-sixty acres were transferred to MADFW, expanding Crane Wildlife Management Area and 130 acres of forested area was protected for box turtles.
- Additional mitigation for MPMG consists of an initial habitat improvement investment of 551 acres of pine barrens and 36 acres of grassland, a requirement for long-term maintenance, active, long-term resource monitoring, and annual meetings and reports.
- Fiscal Year (FY) 2019/2020 mitigation included 699 acres of habitat improvement in the pine barrens; 152 acres of habitat improvement in the grasslands, a combination of in-house and contracted projects, and prescribed burns.

Mr. McKay, Environmental Compliance Manager for the MAARNG, stated that a computer model was created showing noise emanating from the range.

- Due to EMC concern, the Army conducted a live-fire noise study in 2015 to validate the computer model. The live-fire noise study was conducted in partnership with the EMC and included the M249, the M240B, M2 and .50 cal; adjacent ranges were also live to simulate a worst case scenario.
- The MAARNG requested feedback from the community through 700 fliers distributed to nearby neighborhoods. Feedback showed no negative impacts from the noise. Eight responses were received, one reported hearing the range and one reported no noise.
- After the study was complete, the range was moved north to provide further noise mitigation to the surrounding community.
- Additional noise analysis will be conducted after construction to measure impacts and determine if additional mitigation measures are required.

Mr. Ciaranca discussed historic ranges:

- Under US Environmental Protection Agency Administrative Order (2) the Impact Area Groundwater Study Program investigated past Small Arms Range for potential groundwater impacts.
- 66 tons of lead projectiles and 9 million pounds of soil were removed from past ranges.
- No impact to groundwater was found.

He then discussed current ranges:

- All ranges based on EPS 19 have an Operation, Maintenance, and Monitoring Plan.
- Requires that rounds are captured, contained, and managed and impacts are monitored and reported.
- Currently soils and groundwater are monitored annually for lead, copper, and antimony and those constituents that may make metals mobile in soil.
- To date, from seven active ranges no impact to soil or groundwater has been identified.

MAJ McDonough discussed traffic impacts:

- MAARNG traditionally uses live fire ranges between April and November annually between Friday and Saturday
- Generally, one battalion sized element will use this range per weekend
- Based on this projected use, military traffic to the base will not be significantly impacted.

Agenda Item #6: CAC SAC Comment – Mimi McConnell, CAC Chair

Ms. Canedy requested that acronyms be spelled out and the Zoom chat feature be disabled in future meetings so the public may ask questions directly. She asked where are the reports and filings that were referenced. Mr. Driscoll noted that the public comments are being addressed and will be posted on Massachusetts National Guard Environmental & Readiness Center website. The reports and filings are on the same web site.

Mr. Prophett asked are the Model M29 lead and MK19 grenade launcher part of the Copper-only range munitions? MAJ McDonough replied that they are not.

Mr. Prophett stated that the Upper Cape Water Supply Cooperative's concern was that RDX would be detrimental to the groundwater. MAJ McDonough stated that any weapon or munition used at Camp Edwards must go through an approval process and review by the SAC without causing any harm to the environment. Mr. Prophett asked has there been any mitigation of the additional water falling on impervious surfaces created by the range, which would impact the recharge of the water system. MAJ McDonough stated that the proposed range would be a reduction of impervious surfaces and the design takes into account drainage consideration requirements.

Agenda Item #7: Public Comment Period – Mimi McConnell, CAC Chair

Mr. Pinaud stated that there was a question about how the copper will be recovered.

- There are capture berms behind each of the targets where the copper projectiles will be captured and harvested.
- There are multiple methods to harvest the metal from the berms, i.e. sift machine or rakes, which will be defined in the Operation, Maintenance and Monitoring Plan.

Mr. Pinaud stated that there was a question about the toxicity of copper to marine and freshwater invertebrates.

- Any metal can increase the level of toxicity, but it is monitored.

Mr. Pinaud stated that there was a question: how much has the government spent on cleaning up the contamination at JBCC.

- \$375 million over the past 20 years to clean up explosives and propellants associated with mortar firing, which is not in the proposed MPMG range.

Ms. Donovan stated there was a question: what are the copper estimates per year: the type, the weight and recovery system and have they been used at another location? What is the percentage of copper to be used and recovered per month and year?

- That data may be found in the Annual State of the Reservation Report data, published on the Environmental & Readiness Center website. The additional protective measures on the ranges at Camp Edwards are unique to the Army working closely with the EMC and its Environmental Officer.

Ms. Donovan said there was a question about noise and the greenhouse gas analysis.

- Mr Pinaud said there is an Environmental Performance Standard that is related to noise, which defers to the Department of Defense (DoD) or Army standard for noise coming from training activities. The noise modeling study performed from the Army was to validate the model in 2015. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) and the MAARNG were in the community and there were no findings with background noise.
- Another noise model and study will be performed once the range is built and if mitigation is necessary, the MAARNG has agreed to perform mitigation of the as built range.
- Mr. Pinaud stated that the greenhouse gas analysis is a requirement of the MEPA filings and the Supplemental Environmental Impact Report.

Caller Questions:

Ms. Elaine Dickinson, League of Women Voters, stated that the lack of openness and low level of publicity is raising a lot of concern. The Cape Cod and Massachusetts League of Women Voters hold positions with land use and water quality. The range plan calls for clear cutting approximately 200 acres as well as the additional problem of potential fires and the sole source aquifer that supplies water to all of Cape Cod. The base is still undergoing groundwater cleanup from previous military training. The League holds no definitive position on noise pollution but they do believe that noise is a concern and the fact that there is an elementary school within the vicinity of the base hasn't been discussed. The League also opposes adding any more traffic and pollution for Cape Cod.

Ms. Sandra Faiman-Silva stated that in the late 1980s she was on a committee investigating pollution on the base. She has strong opposition to the proposal that will have serious environmental, cultural and socio-economic impacts and should be stopped. There is an issue with the proposal and the process of polluting the soil, water, and air.

Mr. Andrew Gottlieb, Director of the Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC), stated that the APCC has provided written comments to the Army National Guard which is part of the record and can be found on the website for APCC. The conclusion is the National Guard's "assessment of no significant impact." is questionable and unacceptable. The largest cutting property on Cape Cod that there is no significant impact on water supply in Bourne, Falmouth, Mashpee and Sandwich that is supported by the forest doesn't meet any reasonable standard of impact and mitigation. The APCC objects to the notion of managing existing forest land that is under control, custody and mitigation doesn't meet the test and needs to be reconsidered. Whether the project can be considered compatible to military training while protecting water resources and habitat by the state law. He reminds the CAC, SAC and EMC that the requirement for the state project to object to activities on JBCC at the self interest of the MANG without a serious review of the impacts, mitigation, or alternatives requires review of the project and assessment through the Environmental Impact Statement that would include a public hearing and other opportunities for public input. APCC urges the EMC, with input from the CAC and SAC, to make that determination for the project to be reassessed.

Ms. Susan Rohrbach, (retired District Director for Senator Daniel Wolf), stated that the conservation management plan should be done and what does the mitigation include now? Is there going to be additional funding, and in terms of the more conservation management and controlled burns, how many acres per year are managed to prevent fires? She asked about training, and with the new range will soldiers from around New England be training at Camp Edwards, and why is a site chosen on top of a water supply for intensive use?

- Mr. McCumber replied that there is an existing stewardship requirement in the Integrated Management Plan, however, funding is key. Adding the range with the mitigation plan has provided a permit requirement to fund the mitigation actions and a perpetual management requirement that the MAARNG will be annually coordinating with Mass Wildlife. In the past few years, the MAARNG has spent approximately \$740,000 on mitigation projects.
- The MAARNG averages approximately 300 acres a year of prescribed burns in the Pine Barrens and 40 acres per year in mechanical forestry work. All are planned and designed with partner agencies implementation for Pine Barrens improvements in support of rare species in addition to supporting soldier training.

Ms. Rohrbach asked why there were several years of mitigation for the MPMG range project, which hasn't been approved yet?

- Mr. McCumber replied that any project should have proactive mitigation.

Ms. Rohrbach stated that she opposes to the project for the record.

General Comment: Is the range not adequate and where is the training being conducted now.

- MAJ McDonough stated there is training at Camp Ethan Allen, VT, Fort Dix, NJ and Fort Drum, NY, which is a 7-8 hour commute to the sites in convoys from Massachusetts. There also is a limited number of training dates. The MPMG range is being proposed to meet current training requirements.

Ms. Betsy Smith identified herself as a citizen of Brewster and said the MPMG doesn't have immediate impact on her. She said she didn't realize that 170 acres of trees would be cut down for the range. There is a currently a climate crisis; trees should be planted, not cut down. She is opposed to the project.

Mr. Cole Silva, Barnstable resident, Co-Chair of Cape Cod Democratic Socialists of America, stated their strong opposition to the proposal. The MPMG range would have severe environmental consequences even though it was stated there would be no environmental impact. There is a fragile eco system that has grown less stable due to climate change and reckless decisions made by JBCC that have done things to pollute the waters creating a health hazard for drinking water. The claim that there would be no significant environmental impact is false; the nearly 200 acres that would be clear cut are the home to many ecosystems, and rapid growth in private development on the Cape in the past two decades, there is not enough room for more development and trees are essential for regulating air quality on Cape Cod. The clear cut trees or controlled burn the more likely will be increased air pollution and toxicity. Not only could this harm the wildlife, but creating a machine gun range on the sole source aquifer that provides drinking water to Cape Cod is wholly irresponsible and represents a direct and lethal threat to everyone living and visiting Cape Cod. It is clear that JBCC has a long history in acting in an irresponsible, self-centered, inconsiderate manor towards wildlife, residents, and visitors on Cape Cod. There has been given no reason to believe there will be different behavior than the past, and resistant to the base cleanup efforts. We refuse to allow the only MPMG range in the entire Commonwealth be built in the most sensitive and fragile ecosystem. It is completely unacceptable that the context of the meeting was wasted at the beginning not adequately preparing for the number of people for public comments. "Can we please get a commitment from Mimi McConnell and Len Pinaud that the next Zoom meeting public comment will be using an upgraded Zoom account to accommodate more people and recording video instead of only audio?"

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- Ms. McConnell stated she and Mr. Pinaud thank you for the comments and will be more prepared at the next Zoom meeting. She apologized for the start of the meeting technical difficulties and plan for more public comment input.

Ms. Elizabeth Harder stated that she is against the initiative but needs more time if the proposed MPMG range is considered. There is a change with COVID and climate change, and the project is out of an old school that we need more machine gun training, whose time is over. There needs to be additional types of leadership from the military. The nation with rioting and protests and soldiers traveling in convoys isn't safe with COVID and need to get back to legality with what can actually be done for a secure future of the country.

Mr. Jim Wolf, sustainability program director for Cape Air and member of the Cape Cod Climate Change Collaborative, stated that the public would like as much public comment as possible. He said that the Collaborative has submitted comments and relative to climate change and wildlife protection as the same because the organization is interested in climate change and the clearing of 170 acres would result in a huge loss of carbon sequestration and clear cut fire areas. They believe the environmental assessment is deficient. The claim of no significant impact is deficient and ignored in the environmental assessment must be identified, quantified and early analyzed with input from the public sector. The proposed project lacks a cumulative analysis and avoids alternative analysis in mitigation assessment required under the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). A full Environmental Impact Statement should be prepared with MEPA requirements and cumulative environmental impacts of a proposed action. What is the determination of loss with not having to drive convoys to New York? Is the project showing the military leadership required of them?

Ms. Elizabeth Harder, Harwich delegate to the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates, stated that the lack of transparency has become a scramble to obtain information and it is clear nothing can move forward until a completed EIS then a series of public hearings. The presentation has shown a devastating impact to the water, climate, and quality of life on Cape Cod. There is support of the National Guard but the inconvenience and driving time to other training sites does not justify ruining Cape Cod.

Ms. Jane Leafer stated that during the presentations there were several chat comments whether is the proposed MPMG range a "done deal" and how much has already taken place in terms of trees cut, acreage cleared, burned and roads improved, and that hasn't been made clear.

- COL Porter stated that there hasn't been any clear cutting or any access roads cut.

Ms. Leafer asked what the money has been spent on to date.

- Mr. McCumber replied that the \$740,000 has been used for mitigation of Pine Barrens and habitat improvement projects consistent with the Natural Resources Management Plans and coordinated with State and Federal agencies.

Ms. Leafer asked if the work already done impacts trees, and not clear cut, but clearing areas of land whether by fire or cutting.

- Mr. McCumber stated that is critical to conserving the Pine Barrens system and the biggest threats to the ecosystem on Cape Cod is the residential development and the lack of conservation management because of the land use history and types of forestry on the base. There is a general poor condition unless it is managed, he said.

Mr. Fred Lane stated that why are public relations not using video and does the MANG report to Governor Baker and has he approved the project.

- COL Porter stated that the video is available on the website www.eandrc.org and it will be released to Cape cable.

Mr. Pat Johnson, Chief of Staff for Senator Julian Cyr, stated Senator Cyr participated in a tour of JBCC and met with BG Faux and Senator Cyr is attentive and diligent to the concerns. He thanked all for the hard work and presentation.

Mr. Pinaud asked for the MANG's next steps under the NEPA process and approaching the EMC for discussion on the project.

- Mr. Driscoll stated that the approximately 900 comments are being accumulated and addressed with National Guard Bureau and Department of Army. The comments will be posted on the E&RC website.
- MAJ McDonough stated that after the findings are published, it will be presented to the CAC/SAC and the EMC to request approval of the MPMG design with the understanding that the EMC will manage the approval of any munitions and weapons fired on that range. The weapons requested to use on the proposed range are already in use on other Camp Edwards ranges.

Mr. Pinaud asked if the determination is made to follow up with an EIS, is there a time line on how long the process will take and does that preserve the funding mechanism?

- Mr. Driscoll stated that if the project goes to an EIS, it may take an additional 2 to 3 years, and the funding may be in jeopardy for construction of the range.

Ms. Patty Waltner stated that it was assumed that the EIS was approved by CAC and SAC but when she contacted Ms. Tara Lewis, she said that the issues were investigated for performance by the SAC but not for approval.

- Mr. Pinaud stated that it doesn't get to the EMC until the process is resolved with all the state and federal agencies and at that time the EMC will have the authority to approve the range design and OMMP.

Ms. Waltner is concerned about the impacts and whether there are discussions about climate change.

- Mr. Pinaud stated that in the sections MEPA 4.4 and NEPA 4.3 there is information on greenhouse gas issues.

Ms. Waltner asked if the collaborative climate change report is incorrect?

- Mr. McCumber stated that there are mitigating factors that offset the loss of the trees. There is mitigating measures with land protection and habitat improvement which will increase carbon capture through increased rate of regrowth of trees. The Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) describes the offsets with improved habitat management and land protection.

Ms. Waltner stated that in the past there was a declaration that there wasn't going to be any further development, only conservation. She is concerned for the future issues on Cape Cod.

Ms. Jane Leafer asked who will be using the range and how much will it be used.

- COL Porter stated that the range will be used primarily by the MANG but there will be other states' units coming to Camp Edwards to train that may use the range.

Ms. Leafer stated that Mr. Ciaranca noted in 2014 and 2015 there was no lead or copper impacts measured for all the plumes. She said in 2008 to present there was no impacts measured.

- Mr. Ciaranca stated in 2014 and 2015, the Impact Area Groundwater Study Program (IAGWSP) completed a Small Arms Ranges Investigation Report and there was no significant impact to soil or groundwater. From 2008 returning to live fire, there have been no impacts to soil or groundwater as a result of firing.

Ms. Leafer asked what the baseline was for current level of measurements of contamination or pollutants.

- Mr. Ciaranca said that before firing on a range there would be a baseline study.

Mr. Pinaud stated that the EMC would like the MEPA process finalized before the next EMC meeting.

Agenda Item #8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.