

U.S. AIR FORCE
ELLSWORTH AFB, S.D.

Next RAB Meeting

Mark your calendars! The next Restoration Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., May 20, 2014, in the Douglas Middle School Library. For more information, please call (605) 385-2677, or (605) 385-5056.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

www.ellsworth.af.mil/library/environmental/restorationadvisoryboard.asp

View the following:

- RAB presentations
- Public announcements
- Meeting information
- Past newsletters

VISIT THE INFORMATION REPOSITORY!

The Information Repository is located at the South Dakota Air & Space Museum, and is available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. View our website for more information.

Air Force Planning 2015 Five Year Review

Ellsworth Air Force Base is planning to start its fourth "Five Year Review" (FYR) of the status of the base's environmental cleanup program. Five Year Reviews were completed in 2000, 2005, and 2010.

The purpose of a FYR is to determine if remedies remain protective of hu-

man health and the environment. If any issues that affect protectiveness are found during a FYR, recommendations are made to address them.

The process will include a review of the data and information, inspection of the site, and community interviews. The community can contribute during

this review by providing questions and comments to the base's primary point of contact:

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28 CES/CEIR
2125 Scott Drive
Ellsworth AFB, SD 57706
(605) 385-2677

New Web-Based Administrative Record <http://afcec.publicadmin-record.us.af.mil>

In the past, getting details on the environmental cleanup progress at Ellsworth required a drive to the base to flip through pages of documentation. Today, with the help of a new online system, administrative record documents are now available electronically in a centralized location.

The online database makes the documents easily accessible to the public,

as well as to regulators and other officials.

The system is a culmination of three years of work, which included converting all existing installation documents into electronic files, and developing a database for centralized storage for more than 170 active and closed installations in the continental United States.

In addition to Ellsworth documents, area residents may be interested in viewing documents for the following sites managed by Ellsworth Air Force Base:

- Air Force Retained Area of the Former Badlands Bombing Range
- Former PM-1 Reactor Site at Sundance, Wyoming.

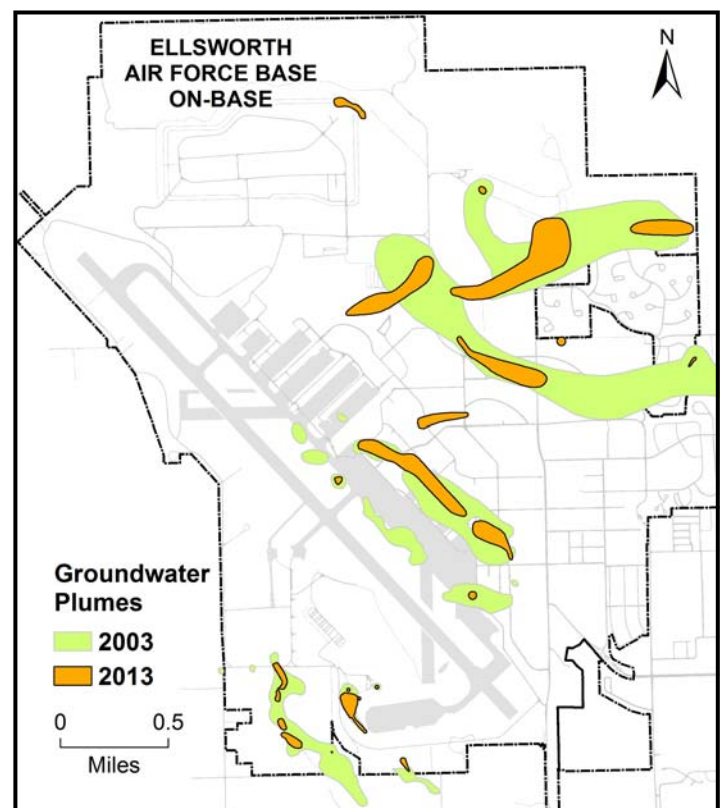
Groundwater Plumes Continue to Shrink

The illustration on the right shows the shrinking groundwater contaminant plumes in Ellsworth from 2003 to 2013.

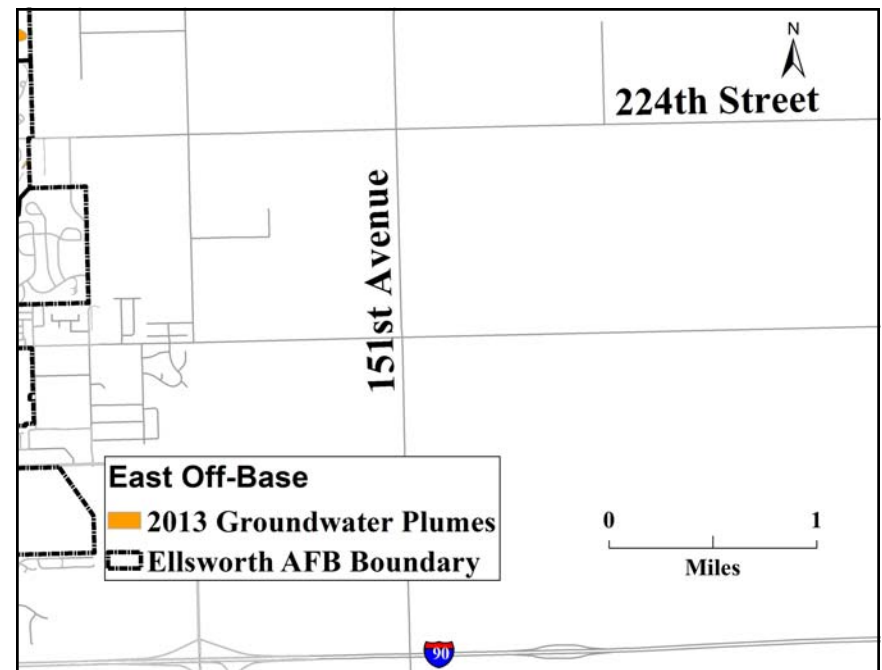
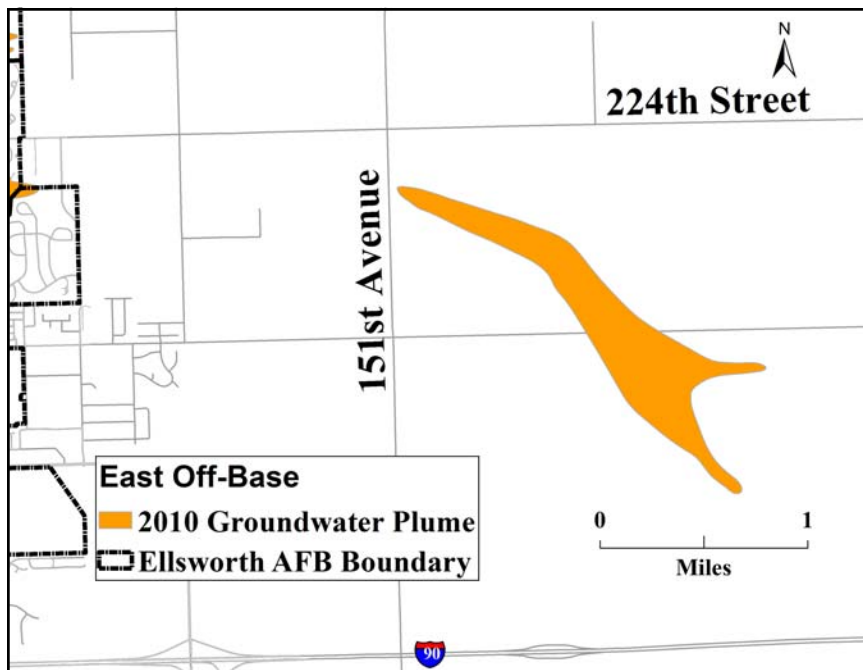
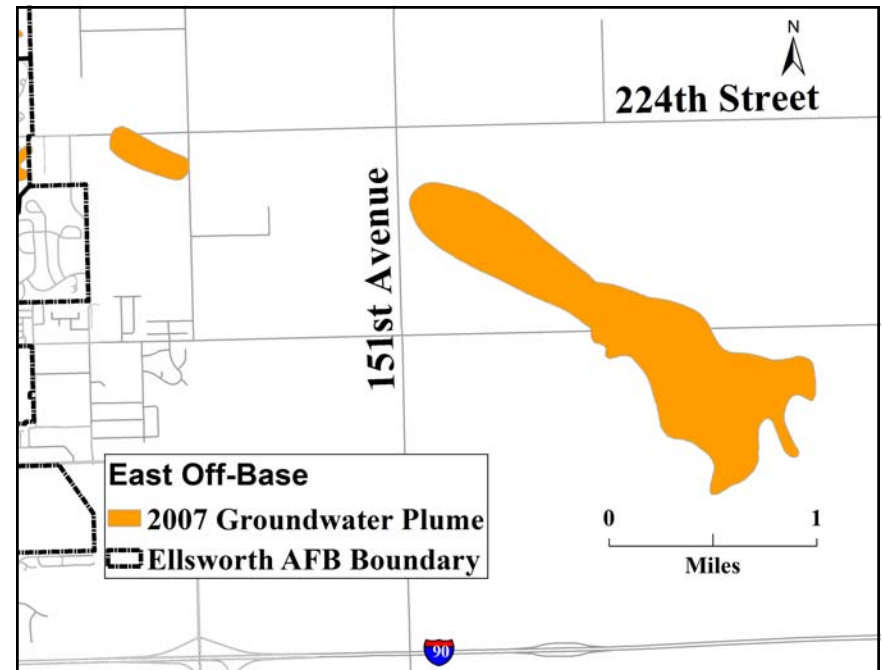
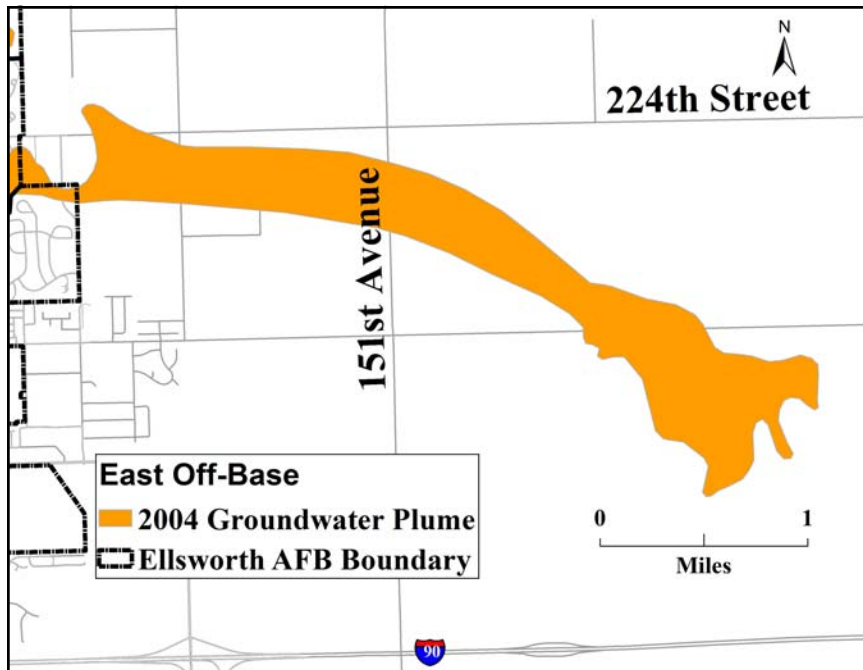
The areas are determined using laboratory results from routine annual sampling conducted every spring.

The plumes are predominantly composed of chlorinated solvents, particularly trichloroethylene (TCE). However, areas limited to the flight-line area also have petroleum contaminants in groundwater.

The maximum TCE concentration observed on-base has decreased significantly over the past 10 years. In 2003, the maximum TCE concentration was 700 micrograms per liter. In 2013, the maximum TCE concentration was 80 micrograms per liter.



Groundwater Concentrations Greater than Maximum Contaminant Levels



These figures show the east off-base groundwater contaminant plume (mostly trichloroethylene or *TCE*) rapidly decreasing in size since treatment began at the base boundary in 1997. Removing the source at the base boundary has allowed the plume to rapidly decline, or naturally attenuate. After the source of contamination was removed, natural processes of dilution, dispersion, and degradation reduce the small amount of contamination that remains in the groundwater.