



## NEXT NEWSLETTER

The next newsletter will be released in September 2022.

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE

[www.ellsworth.af.mil/About-Us/environmental/](http://www.ellsworth.af.mil/About-Us/environmental/)

View the following:

- Past newsletters
- PFAS Updates
- Presentations
- Public announcements

## CONTACT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

28 BW/PA  
1958 Scott Drive  
Ellsworth AFB, SD 57706  
(605) 385-5056

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the [Administrative Record Website](https://ar.afcec-cloud.af.mil/)

<https://ar.afcec-cloud.af.mil/>

- From the "Installation List" on the left, scroll down and select "Ellsworth AFB, SD"
- If you know the AR number enter it next to "AR #" and click "Search"
- Click on the magnifying glass to open
- Numerous other search blocks can be used

## ATSDR and U.S. EPA Websites Provide Current Information on Health Effects of PFAS

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Diseases Registry (ATSDR) website provides a wealth of information on what is known about the health effects of polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

Visit ATSDR's website here:  
[www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) website summarizes the actions the agency plans to take in the coming months and years to protect public health and the environment from the impacts of PFAS.

Visit U.S. EPA's website here:  
[www.epa.gov/pfas](http://www.epa.gov/pfas)

## Progress Continues on the Basewide PFAS RI

The Air Force awarded the Basewide PFAS Remedial Investigation (RI) contract to BEM/Arcadis in June 2020. The purpose of the RI is to determine the nature and extent of PFAS impacts from the Air Force's use of aqueous film-forming foam.

The initial round of fieldwork was completed in fall 2020 and consisted of sampling groundwater monitoring wells and surface water and sediment on-Base and along Box Elder Creek. Over 150 samples were sent to a laboratory for analysis.

The Air Force used data from the fall 2020 field efforts to develop the June 2021 Work Plan. The July to November 2021 field effort consisted of collecting soil, groundwater, surface water, and sediment samples. Samples were collected along Box

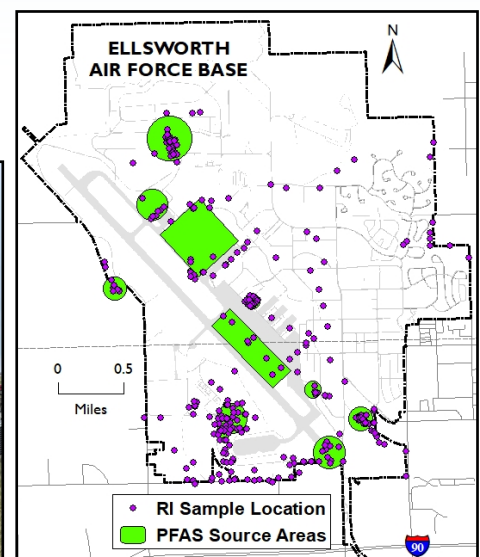
Elder Creek all the way to the Cheyenne River. Over 500 samples were sent to a laboratory for analysis.

The 2020 and 2021 data were evaluated by the Air Force, U.S. EPA, and South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (SD DANR) and the team planned the 2022 field effort, which began in March 2022.

After the RI is complete, a Feasibility Study will evaluate alternatives to address unacceptable risk to human health and the environment.



Drilling activities in May 2022



On-Base sample locations

## U.S. EPA and Air Force Collaborate to Collect “Split-Samples” in May 2022

Two representatives from U.S. EPA Region 8 visited Ellsworth AFB in May 2022 and collected samples from 11 groundwater monitoring wells. The samples were “split-samples” collected at the same time the Air Force contractor, BEM/Arcadis, collected samples for the Basewide PFAS Remedial Investigation.

The Air Force samples were sent to a laboratory for analysis using modified EPA Method 537. The U.S. EPA samples were sent to a different laboratory for analysis using new EPA Method 1633.

The goal of the split sampling event is to confirm that both methods provide comparable results that can be used for making future decisions.



*An environmental scientist from BEM/Arcadis logs purge measurements into a tablet prior to collecting a groundwater sample in May 2022.*

## Update: New Community Water System

The design of the new community water system is on schedule!

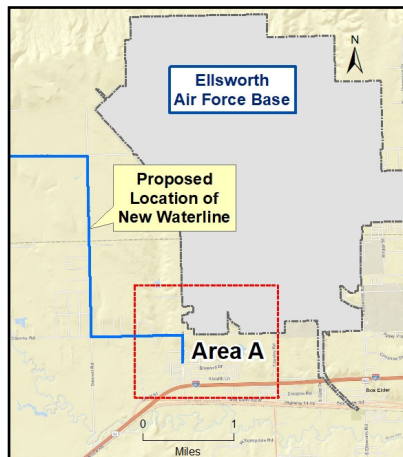
The South Dakota Ellsworth Development Authority (SDEDA) applied to SD DANR for a water permit on March 1, 2022. On May 9, 2022, the Chief Engineer for the SD DANR Water Rights Program recommended approval. A Notice of Application was published in the Rapid City Journal on May 25, 2022 and the Faith Independent on May 24, 2022. The public notices, application, and recommended action are available at: [danr.sd.gov/public](http://danr.sd.gov/public)

SDEDA plans to deliver the 60% design to the Air Force on July 1, 2022.

The Air Force and SDEDA plan to enter into a new two-year Environmental Services Agreement before September 30, 2022. Under the agreement, the Air Force will provide partial funding to build the new community water system.

The system will be built over a two-year period in 2023 and 2024. Residential hookups are tentatively planned for late 2024.

After hookups are complete, PFAS-



impacted residences will begin receiving drinking water from the new community water system and the Air Force will stop providing alternate water and will remove the treatment systems.

Those with questions about the new community water system are encouraged to contact:

Mr. Glen Kane  
SDEDA  
(605) 390-7290  
[Glen.Kane@ellsworthauthority.org](mailto:Glen.Kane@ellsworthauthority.org)

## CONTACTS



**Ellsworth Air Force Base**  
Ms. Rita Krebs  
(605) 385-2688  
[Rita.Krebs.1@us.af.mil](mailto:Rita.Krebs.1@us.af.mil)

Mr. Jens Christensen  
(605) 385-6625  
[Jens.Christensen@us.af.mil](mailto:Jens.Christensen@us.af.mil)



**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8**  
Ms. Natasha Lohwater  
(303) 312-6225  
[Lohwater.Natasha@epa.gov](mailto:Lohwater.Natasha@epa.gov)



**South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources**  
Ms. Joane Lineburg  
(605) 773-3296  
[Joane.Lineburg@state.sd.us](mailto:Joane.Lineburg@state.sd.us)