



PFOS and PFOA at Ellsworth Air Force Base (AFB)

The Air Force Response to PFOS and PFOA in Groundwater at Ellsworth AFB

The Air Force is working closely with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 8 and South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources to identify locations at Ellsworth AFB where perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) may have been released and initiate any required mitigation actions due to exceedances of the EPA Lifetime Health Advisory (LHA).

Preliminary Assessment

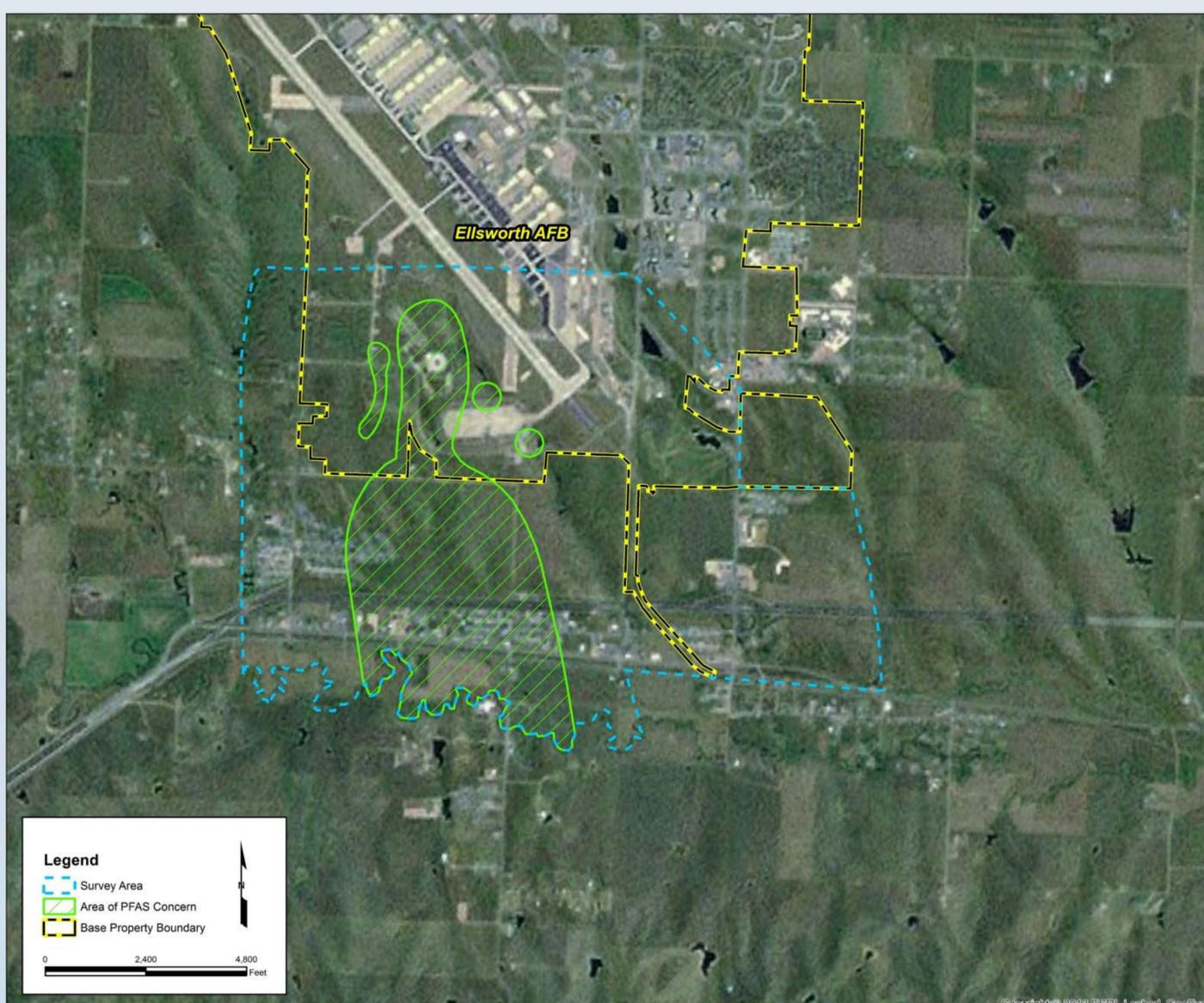
Completed in May 2015. Areas where aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) was used, stored, handled, or released have been identified at Ellsworth AFB.

Site Inspection / Remedial Investigation

Ongoing field investigations of identified sites include sampling groundwater, surface water, soil, and sediment to verify where releases occurred. Laboratory testing shows that PFOS and PFOA are present in groundwater at Ellsworth AFB. Offsite migration of PFOS and PFOA in groundwater has been identified in the area along the southern border of Ellsworth AFB as indicated on the figure below.

Next Step

The Air Force is conducting a drinking water well survey for areas adjacent to Ellsworth AFB to collect samples from private drinking water wells to analyze for PFOS and PFOA. The Air Force will provide an alternate drinking water source if levels of PFOS and PFOA exceed the EPA LHAs. Two residences across County Road 214 have been connected to city water so far due to PFOS and PFOA levels exceeding EPA LHAs.



The Air Force will reach out to homes with drinking water wells within the Area of PFOS and PFOA concern first (shown by green hash) and expand as needed within the Survey Area (shown by blue dashes).