Update on PFAS in Gustavus

Aurah Landau
Public Information Officer
DOT&PF Southcoast Region

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To Keep Alaska Flying and Thriving
GST Airport & AFFF Use Areas
Why have PFAS been used at airports?

PFAS have been used at Gustavus Airport in AFFF for required FAA training exercises, equipment testing, and any needed emergency fire response.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) mandates¹:

- “testing of firefighting foam equipment on aircraft rescue and firefighting vehicles is done in accordance to NFPA 412: Standard for Evaluating Aircraft Rescue and Fire-Fighting Foam Equipment”

Simplified summary of NFPA 412²:

- Foams shall be flowed annually to insure expansion ratio and drainage criteria are met.

The use of AFFF at the Gustavus Airport prompted testing of monitoring and testing wells for PFAS presence (sampled summer 2018)

Sources: ¹Use and Potential Impacts of AFFF Containing PFASs at Airports, ²National Fire Protection Association Standard 412
Preliminary PFAS Sampling Results
Timeline

- Burn pit last used 2014
- AFFF used at Gustavus Airport for certification testing only (≈10 seconds per year) ≈2015 – Current
- Gustavus preliminary water sampling June 27, 2018
- DOT&PF received preliminary sampling test results July 30, 2018
Response Actions

Short-term - Done
• Using water for training
• Directed Alaska Airlines & Alaska Seaplanes to continue to use alternate water (coincidently begun in May 2018 due to surface water intrusion)
• Assign multi-agency group to assist
• Contract independent environmental consultant to sample

Short-Term – Ongoing
• Community outreach & collaboration with city, school, Park Service
• Determine plume

Long-Term – Beginning
• Determine appropriate water filtration options & scale
• Find alternative foams or containment systems for FAA-required foam tests
Timeline

- Burn pit last used: 2014
- AFFF used at Gustavus Airport for certification testing only (≈10 seconds per year): ≈2015 – Current
- Gustavus preliminary water sampling: June 27, 2018
- DOT&PF received preliminary sampling test results: July 30, 2018
- Inter-agency coordination begun: Early August, 2018
- State of Alaska contracted Shannon & Wilson, Inc.: August 16, 2018
- Well sampling begins: August 27, 2018
- Inter-agency teams begins investigating long-term water source options: September 2018
Water Sampling

Collect site characteristics

Learn community concerns

Collect info to inform filtration solution

Provide alternate drinking water

Sampling
1st Sampling Area: Previously Sampled Wells, Airport Wells & Residences
Info Provided Changed Sampling Plan
2nd Sampling Area: Tracking Old Drainage Ditch

LEGEND

- ≤2.0 ppt
- 2.1 to 17.4 ppt (3% to 25%)
- 17.5 to 34 ppt (25% to 49%)
- 35 to 64 ppt (50% to 99%)
- ≥65 ppt (over action level)

Areas 1 and 2
Area 3
Area 4
Area 5

- Airport Property Boundary
- Surface Water Sample

Map source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

Gustavus Airport
Gustavus, Alaska

PROPOSED SEARCH AREAS 3 - 5
September 2018
101543

Figure
3rd Sampling Area: Determining W & S Plume Edges
Results to Date
PFAS sampling results determine scope of action

- For wells testing above 65ppt – provide alternative drinking water source and develop permanent source of drinking water
- For wells testing 35-70ppt – retest quarterly
- For wells testing 17.5-35ppt – retest annually

- Sampling may include source area delineation and groundwater monitoring

Future action may involve on-site and off-site projects, including:

- Determine extent of PFAS plume
- Site characterization (e.g., extent of contamination, identifying sources and dates)
- Provide long-term source of alternative drinking water if necessary
The Division of Risk Management administers the self-insurance program for each State agency, handling all third party claims.

For more information please visit:
http://doa.alaska.gov/drm/
All residents who believe they are impacted by the contamination may contact Risk Management to receive claim filing instructions.

For claim filing instructions contact:
Alaska Department of Administration
Division of Risk Management
Sheri Gray, Risk Manager
PO Box 110218
Juneau, AK 99811-0218
Phone: 907-465-5724
Fax: 907-465-3690
Email: sheri.gray@Alaska.gov

Additional contacts:

Scott Jordan - Director
907-465-5723
Community Outreach

DOT&PF is committed to being open and transparent

Press Releases:
- Sign up for GovDelivery
- [https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/AKDOT/subscriber/new](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/AKDOT/subscriber/new)

Website:
- [Alaska.gov/go/C732](http://Alaska.gov/go/C732)

Email:
- airportwater@alaska.gov
- Subject – sign up

Contact:
Aurah Landau
Public Information Officer
Southcoast Region, DOT&PF
O: 907-465-4503
C: 907-500-2100
Questions?