



### Gustavus Airport Firefighting Testing Area PFAS Factsheet

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of manmade chemicals that have been used for a wide variety of residential, commercial, and industrial uses. PFAS are considered emerging environmental contaminants and the health effects are not well known.

DOT&PF was alerted in late July 2018 to concentrations of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in the groundwater at Gustavus Airport. The presumed source of PFAS in groundwater at the Gustavus Airport is the Federal Aviation Administration-mandated use of fire-fighting foams at Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) testing areas.

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) groups five similar compounds into a combined PFAS action level of 70 parts per trillion. Out of caution, DEC will require the provision of alternative drinking water to affected properties with levels above 65 parts per trillion.

PFAS discovered in the Gustavus Airport terminal well are reported in concentrations above DEC action levels. Concentrations at a nearby well which serves the National Park Service water system are below DEC action levels.

DOT&PF is working with an environmental consulting firm, Shannon & Wilson, Inc., and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to identify and sample private water wells south of the airport as well as retest the two previously sampled wells beginning Monday, August 27, 2018. Test results from the samples are expected to be available by the end of September.

#### DOT&PF Public Informational Meeting

**Monday, August 27, 2018, 5:30-7pm, at Gustavus Library**

- The Alaska Departments of Transportation, Environmental Conservation, Health and Social Services, and Administration will attend and provide information.
- Shannon & Wilson, will attend to schedule sampling times for properties south of the airport.

**Website:** [www.alaska.gov/go/C732](http://www.alaska.gov/go/C732)

**For questions about testing & study:**

Shannon & Wilson, Inc.  
Kristen Freiburger, Project Manager  
Phone: 907-479-0600  
Email: [krf@shanwil.com](mailto:krf@shanwil.com)

**For regulatory questions:**

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation  
Contaminated Site Program  
Danielle Duncan, Environmental Program Specialist  
Phone: 907-465-5207  
Email: [danielle.duncan@alaska.gov](mailto:danielle.duncan@alaska.gov)

**For questions about PFAS health effects:**

Alaska Department of Health & Social Services  
Kristin Bridges, Public Health Scientist  
Phone: 907-269-8028  
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**For questions about Gustavus Airport Firefighting training area and all other inquiries:**

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