

Alaska
International Airport
System
AeroNexus®

Fairbanks International Airport Update

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ACI-NA MARCOM Community Engagement Panel

To Keep Alaska Flying and Thriving



Project Background

Fairbanks International Airport (FAI) found concentrations of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in the groundwater at the Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Training Areas. The concentrations found exceeded the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's and Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation's Advisory Levels.

FAI immediately contracted environmental consulting firm, Shannon & Wilson, Inc., to determine impacts beyond airport property as well as Spring Alaska/Vision Construction to provide alternate water to residents in the initial sampling areas.



What are PFAS?

- Per – and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) are a group of manufactured chemicals
- PFASs are sometimes referred to as perfluorinated chemicals (PFCs)
- They are widely used in everyday products including:
resistance to stains, grease, water and fire¹
- Exposure is primarily through ingestion of contaminated drinking water²

Sources: ¹ National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, ² New Jersey Department of Health



Why have PFAS been used at airports?

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) mandates⁴:

- “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 412⁵:

- Foams shall be flowed annually to insure expansion ratio and drainage criteria are met. (See Appendix A for criteria details)

The previous use of AFFF at FAI prompted testing of monitoring and testing wells for PFAS presence (sampled summer 2017)

Sources: ⁴*Use and Potential Impacts of AFFF Containing PFASs at Airports,*

⁵*National Fire Protection Association Standard 412*



Research, Planning, Implementation

Emergency Response: Reduce impact to human health

Communications Goals:

1. Be a trusted source of information for potentially impacted residents
2. Be accountable
3. Complete transparency
4. Build interagency partnerships

Audience:

1. Potentially impacted residents
2. Statewide press
3. Elected officials

Pull out your Crisis Communications Plan!



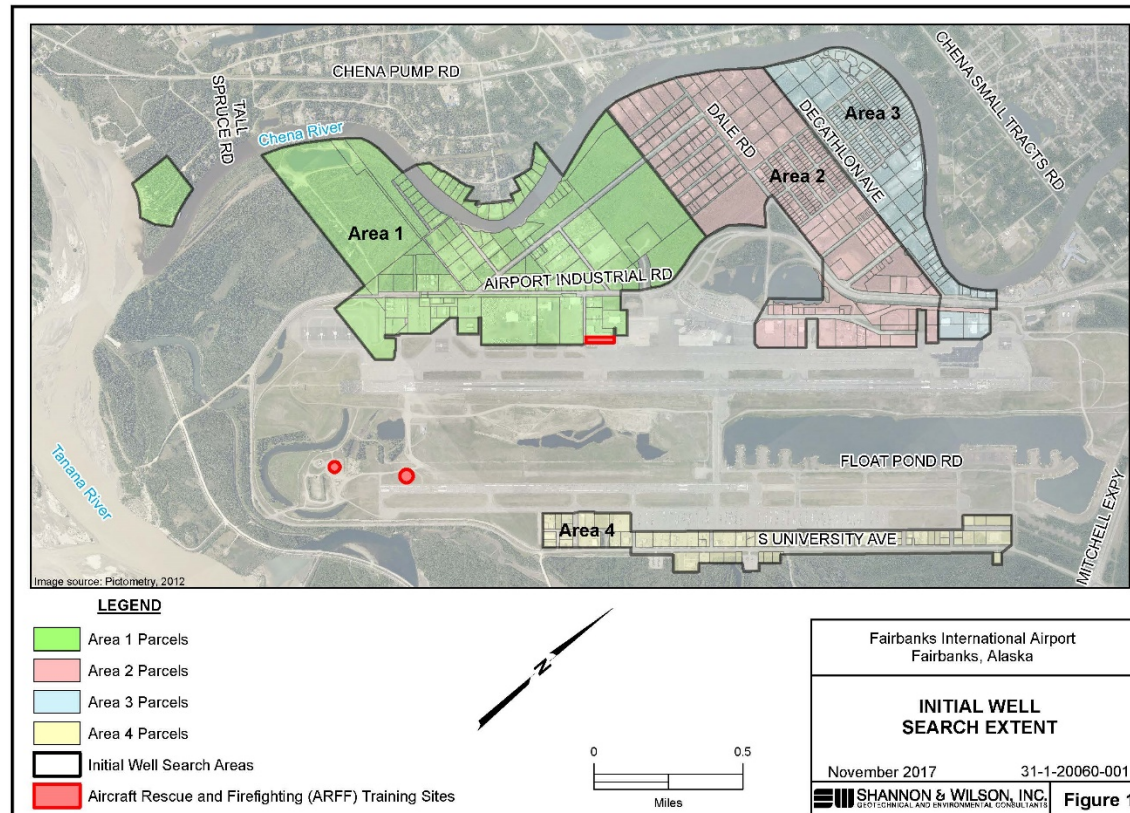
Community Engagement

Key Messages:

- Protecting the health and safety potentially of potentially impacted residents is of highest priority.
- DOT&PF is taking this very seriously. We are acting as rapidly as possible to ensure anybody who needs alternate drinking water is supplied and we are committed to finding long-term solutions.
- This is an emerging contaminant as well as an emerging situation around the country. We are committed to making the best decisions possible and working with affected communities with full transparency by sharing information as we know it.

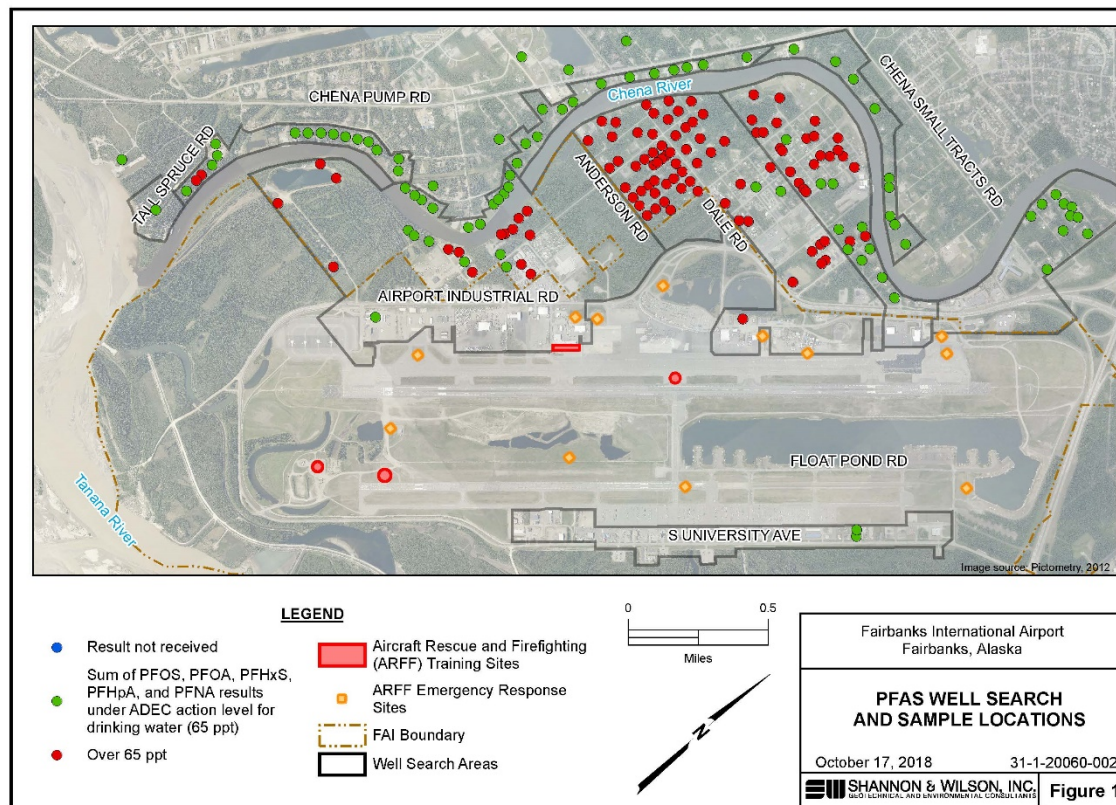


Initial Sampling Areas





Current Sampling Results





Questions?