There is no regulatory requirement to conduct this drinking water sampling. The Navy is conducting the sampling in collaboration with partners such as United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 10, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) Region 10, the Washington State Department of Ecology, the Washington State Department of Health, and the Kitsap Public Health District.

## PFAS

PFAS have been used in many household and industrial products because of their stain- and water-repellent properties. PFAS are now present virtually everywhere in the world because of the large amounts that have been manufactured and used.

Once these compounds are released, many of them tend to stay in the environment for a very long time. Several PFAS are chemicals of emerging concern. Although the EPA has started the process to establish regulatory levels for several PFAS in drinking water, there are currently no Safe Drinking Water Act regulatory standards. The EPA has developed drinking water health advisories for a small number of PFAS; these advisories are non-enforceable and non-regulatory. The advisories provide technical information to states and other public health officials on health effects, analytical methodologies, and treatment technologies.

On March 14, 2023, the EPA proposed a draft regulatory drinking water standard for certain PFAS, including PFOA and PFOS. In response, the DoD has issued the following statement:

"DoD respects and values the public comment process on this proposed nationwide drinking water rule and looks forward to the clarity that a final regulatory drinking water standard for PFAS will provide. In anticipation of the final standard that EPA expects to publish by the end of 2023, the DoD is assessing what actions DoD can take to be prepared to incorporate EPA's final regulatory standard into our current cleanup process, such as reviewing our existing data and conducting additional sampling where necessary. In addition, DoD will incorporate nationwide PFAS cleanup guidance, issued by EPA and applicable to all owners and operators under the federal cleanup law, as to when to provide alternate water when PFAS are present."

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS OFF-BASE DRINKING WATER SAMPLING**

**https://pacific.navfac.navy.mil/BANGORPFAS**

**IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, CONTACT:**

Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Northwest
Public Affairs Officer

**(360) 340-5592** or **navfacnwpao@us.navy.mil**

More information about EPA's actions for PFAS in drinking water is online at: https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas.

## NAVY POLICY

For now, the Navy is continuing to follow the policy it issued in June 2016 to conduct investigations at installations where there has been a known or suspected release of PFAS to the environment. The first priority with these investigations is to ensure that PFOA and PFOS concentrations in drinking water wells are not above 70 ppt, individually or combined, as a result of Navy operations.

## ACTIONS BASED ON RESULTS

Preliminary drinking water sample results are typically received from the laboratory within 30 days after the samples are collected, and final laboratory reports are typically available within 3 months. Property owners and tenants will be called to notify them of their preliminary drinking water sample results. Final drinking water sample results will be mailed to property owners and tenants. Property information will be kept confidential to the extent permitted by law. Final drinking water sampling results are available online at: https://www.acq.osd.mil/eie/eer/ecc/pfas/map/pfasmap.html. Individual drinking water sample results cannot be linked with the sampled property on this website.

The Navy will provide bottled water for drinking and cooking to any property owner or tenant in the sampling area whose drinking water well contains PFOA and PFOS, individually or combined, above 70 ppt and will continue to provide bottled water until a long-term solution is implemented.

The Navy will continue to investigate the presence of PFAS on NBK-Bangor and evaluate if actions are needed on base. The Navy is committed to ensuring the safety of the property owners and tenants in the community. The public can find out more about all on-base environmental investigations at NBK-Bangor by visiting https://go.usa.gov/xh29v.

## HEALTH INFORMATION

**Studies on PFOA and PFOS have found both compounds in the blood samples of the general population. Research to better understand health effects from exposure to low levels of PFOA, PFOS, and other PFAS is ongoing. Federal agencies such as ATSDR and EPA continue to conduct and support research into health effects associated with PFAS exposure. More information about health effects can be found online at:**

**ATSDR: https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas/index.html**

**EPA: https://www.epa.gov/pfas**



# Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor
# Silverdale, Washington
# 2023 Drinking Water Sampling for PFAS

September 2023

**The Navy is requesting permission to sample drinking water obtained from wells within a sampling area near Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor (NBK-Bangor) for certain per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, commonly known as PFAS.**

PFAS are a family of thousands of different chemicals that have been widely used in many household and industrial products since the 1950s. The Navy and Department of Defense (DoD) have developed proactive policies to address past releases of PFAS, including perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS), at installations nationwide.

The most common activity associated with the historical release of PFAS to the environment at NBK-Bangor (**Figure 1**) is the use of firefighting foam (specifically aqueous film-forming foam, or AFFF) for testing, training, firefighting, and life-saving emergency responses. Due to this historical use, PFAS are present in the groundwater on-base and may also be present in nearby off-base drinking water wells located in the direction that groundwater flows away from the base.

In 2020, the Navy completed a Basewide PFAS Preliminary Assessment (PA) that identified known and potential releases of PFAS to the environment. Based on this information, the Navy established a drinking water sampling area within 1 mile in the direction of groundwater flow away from confirmed PFAS release areas. Off-base drinking water sampling began in February 2020. As of September 2023, drinking water samples have been collected from 343 drinking water wells within the 2020 sampling area (**Figure 2**). Results are summarized in **Table 1**.

**Table 1: Results of 2020 Drinking Water Sampling for PFOA and PFOS near** NBK-Bangor

| PFOA + PFOS | Number of wells |
|---|---|
| No detections | 246 |
| Detections *below* 70 parts per trillion (ppt) | 95 |
| Detections *above* 70 ppt | 2 |
| **Total** | **343** |

A Site Inspection (SI) of the PFAS release areas began in 2022. PFOA and PFOS have been detected in groundwater above 70 ppt at NBK-Bangor. During the SI, additional information about the direction of groundwater flow was obtained. Based on the new SI analytical and groundwater data, the Navy established a new 2023 sampling area

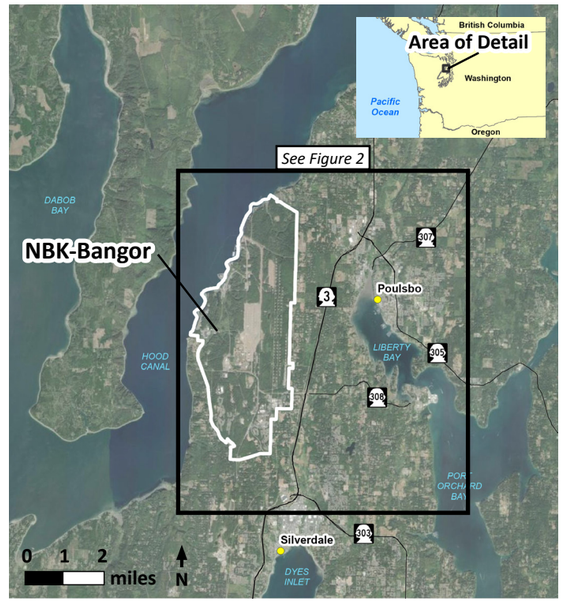



*Figure 1 – NBK-Bangor*

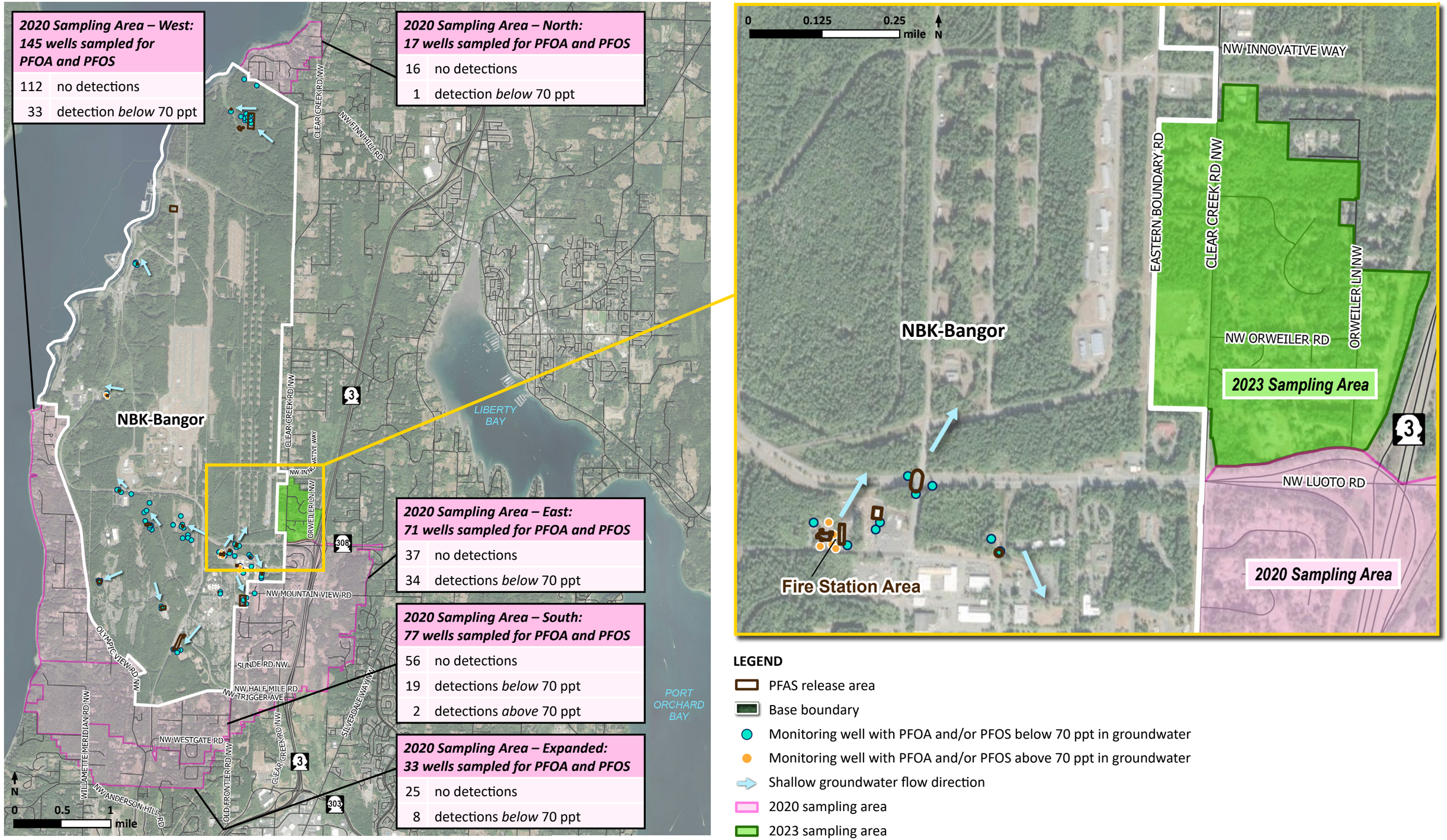
(**Figure 2**), which includes properties located within 1 mile in the direction of groundwater flow away from monitoring wells near the fire station area where PFOA and/or PFOS were detected above 70 ppt.

Records indicate that within the 2023 sampling area, drinking water is provided from many sources including public water systems, several smaller water providers, and private drinking water wells. If your drinking water is provided by a public water system, the Navy does not need to sample the water from your home. The Navy requests to sample drinking water wells in the 2023 sampling area to determine if PFOA and PFOS, individually or combined, are above 70 ppt in these drinking water wells. The Navy also requests to sample drinking water wells located within the 2020 sampling area which were not previously sampled by the Navy.

**The Navy will provide bottled water for drinking and cooking to any property owner or tenant in the sampling area whose drinking water well contains PFOA and PFOS, individually or combined, above 70 ppt. The Navy will provide bottled water until a long-term solution is implemented.**

230719115102_078a62f3

*Figure 2 – Designated Sampling Area*




**LEGEND**

- PFAS release area
- Base boundary
- Monitoring well with PFOA and/or PFOS below 70 ppt in groundwater
- Monitoring well with PFOA and/or PFOS above 70 ppt in groundwater
- Shallow groundwater flow direction
- 2020 sampling area
- 2023 sampling area