



FROM THE NAVFAC NORTHWEST PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

Date: March 12, 2021
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Navy to Make PFAS Notifications to Agricultural Operations

Next week the Navy will begin making notifications to owners and operators of agricultural operations near Navy installations with known per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) impacted groundwater.

Notifications are required under a new federal law – Section 335 of the 2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The law requires the Department of Defense (DOD) to work with the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to identify agricultural operations within one mile down gradient of DOD installation boundaries, in the direction the groundwater flow, for which groundwater sampling results exceed 70 parts per trillion of PFOA and/or PFOS and /or 40 parts per billion of PFBS.

Notifications are being made based on the USDA identified agricultural operations and PFAS results from applicable Navy installations. The Navy will provide notification packets to those USDA-identified agricultural operations that fall within the applicable notification areas.

Notification packets will include a letter from the base commanding officer, a copy of Section 335 of the NDAA and the range of levels for PFOA, PFOS, and/or PFBS found in groundwater. The packet will also include health and safety information from government agencies about these substances. Multiple notification packets may be sent to different people at the same address to ensure all official owners and operators have been notified. Notification letters will be distributed as information is received from USDA.

This is only a notification effort. At this time, there are no additional actions required or planned for these USDA-identified agricultural operations. While PFAS are not currently regulated as hazardous substances, Navy and Marine Corps installations nationwide are proactively conducting investigations to identify PFAS releases and address them. For more information on Navy's PFAS investigation and drinking water response actions, please visit <https://www.navfac.navy.mil/NWPFAS>.

For more information on this notification effort, please contact the Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Public Affairs Officer, Mr. James Johnson at 360-396-6387 or via email at PAO_Feedback@navy.mil.

Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command: The Facilities and Expeditionary Combat Systems Command
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