



Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor Silverdale, Washington PFAS Private Drinking Water Well Sampling Results



August 2025

The U.S. Navy is requesting property owner permission to address per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, in drinking water wells near Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor and conduct sampling of certain drinking water wells within the sampling areas (Figure 1).

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.

The most common activity associated with the historical release of PFAS to the environment at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor (NBK-Bangor) (**Figure 1**) was the use of firefighting foam (specifically aqueous film-forming foam). Due to this historical use, PFAS are present in the groundwater on-base and have been detected in nearby off-base drinking water wells located in the direction that groundwater flows away from the base.

SEPTEMBER 2024 POLICY FOR PFAS IN PRIVATE DRINKING WATER WELLS

On April 26, 2024, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a final National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) establishing nationwide drinking water standards for certain PFAS under the Safe Drinking Water Act. The regulation applies to public drinking water systems. Operators of public drinking water systems regulated by the NPDWR have until April 26, 2029, to meet these standards. In September 2024, DoD published "Prioritization of Department of Defense Cleanup Actions to Implement the Federal Drinking Water Standards for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances under the Defense Environmental Restoration Program," which describes DoD's plans to incorporate the EPA's drinking water regulation into DoD's ongoing PFAS cleanups and prioritize actions to address drinking water wells with the highest levels of PFAS from DoD activities. **Table 1** shows the DoD PFAS Interim Action Levels for Private Drinking Water Wells.

PREVIOUS PRIVATE DRINKING WATER WELL SAMPLING

From 2020 through 2024 the Navy sampled 382 drinking water wells near NBK-Bangor. PFOA and/or PFOS were detected in two drinking water wells above 70 parts per trillion (ppt), the DoD interim action level at the time. In 2024, the Navy connected one property to Silverdale Water District public water system. No further action was recommended for the remaining property based on multiple rounds of sampling with no additional exceedances above the September 2024 DoD PFAS Interim Action Levels for Private Drinking Water Wells.

Table 1: DoD PFAS Interim Action Levels for Private Drinking Water Wells

PFAS	Level
perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	12 ppt
perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)	12 ppt
perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)	30 ppt
perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS)	30 ppt
hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO-DA, or GenX)	30 ppt
hazard index for mixture of at least two of PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS)	3 (no units)

ppt = part(s) per trillion

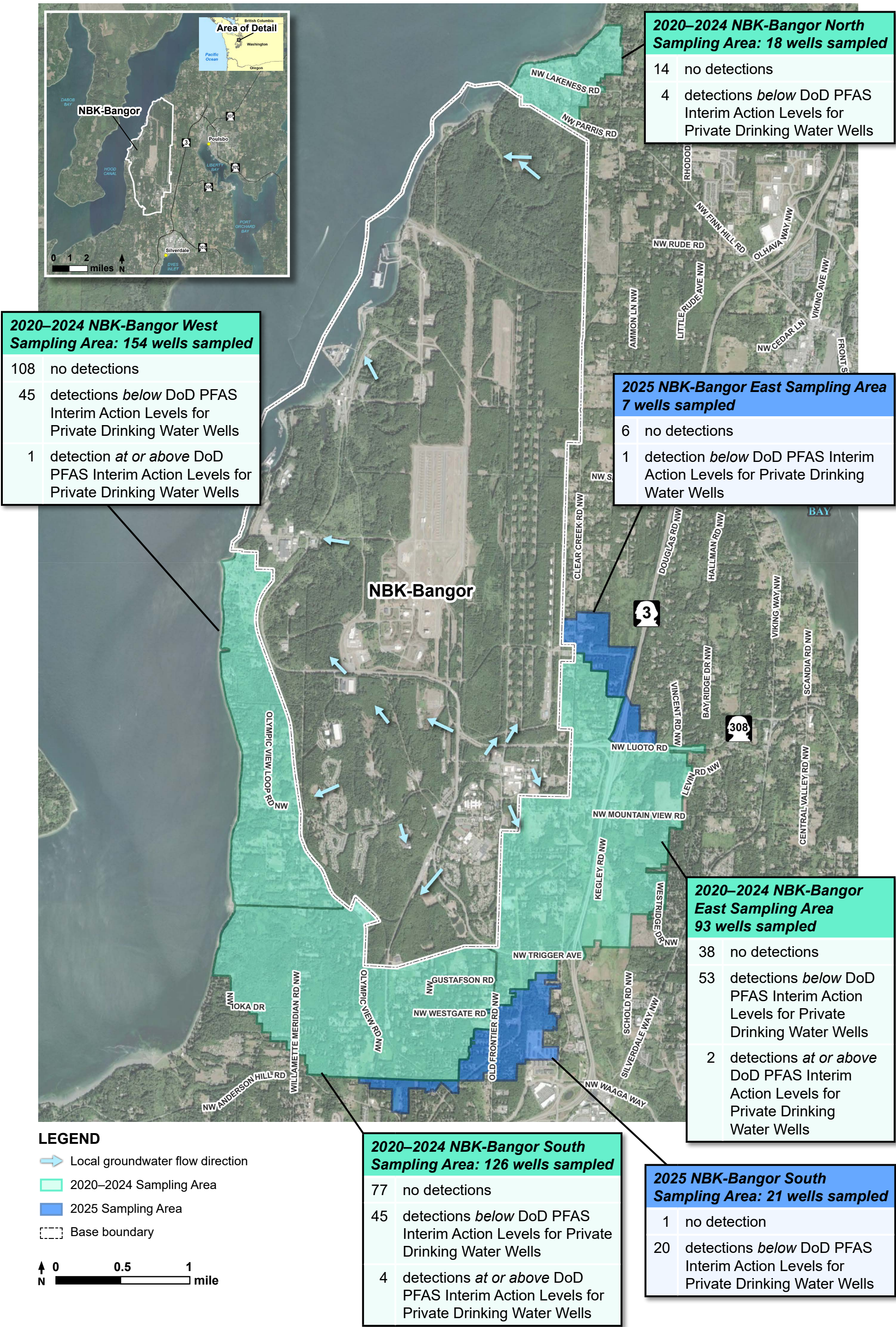
These levels are based on current EPA NPDWR levels. If EPA updates applicable requirements, DoD will review and update its policy as appropriate.

2025 PRIVATE DRINKING WATER WELL SAMPLING FOR PFAS

Due to the September 2024 DoD policy, the Navy reevaluated on-base groundwater results and 2020-2024 off-base private drinking water well results. Based on this information, the Navy identified five additional off-base drinking water wells near NBK-Bangor above the DoD PFAS Interim Action Levels for Private Drinking Water Wells (**Table 1**).

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

Figure 1 – NBK-Bangor PFAS Sampling Area



One of these wells connected to Silverdale Water District public water system on their own accord. The Navy began the process for implementing an enduring solution for the remaining four properties in 2025.

During the re-evaluation due to the September 2024 DoD policy, the Navy determined that the off-base drinking water sampling near NBK-Bangor should be expanded (**Figure 1**).

Additional drinking water well sampling was conducted in 2025. PFAS were not detected in any wells at or above the DoD PFAS Interim Action Levels for Private Drinking Water Wells during the 2025 sampling event. To date, 419 wells have been sampled near NBK-Bangor (**Figure 1** and **Table 2**).

The Navy continues to request property owner permission to sample drinking water wells in the sampling areas that have not been previously sampled by the Navy.

The Navy continues to conduct the sampling in collaboration with partners including the EPA Region 10, the Washington State Ecology, the Washington State Department of Health, and the Kitsap Public Health District.

Records indicate most of the properties within the sampling areas use a private or community well for drinking water (**Figure 1**). **If your drinking water is provided by Silverdale Water District, the Navy does not need to sample at your property.**

RESULTS COMMUNICATION

Preliminary drinking water sample results were received from the laboratory within 30 days after samples were collected. Property owners (and tenants, if present) were notified of their preliminary drinking water sample results. Final drinking water sample results have been mailed or will be mailed to property owners (and tenants, if present) within 3 months after sample collection. They will also be available online at: <https://www.acq.osd.mil/eie/eer/ecc/pfas/map/pfasmap.html>. Individual results cannot be linked with the sampled property on this website. This website also contains information on the DoD's planned sampling of off-base drinking water wells for PFAS.

Table 2: NBK-Bangor – Private Drinking Water Wells Sampled 2020–2025

Total drinking water wells sampled	419
No detections	244
Detections <i>below</i> DoD PFAS Interim Action Levels for Private Drinking Water Wells	168
Detections <i>at or above</i> DoD PFAS Interim Action Levels for Private Drinking Water Wells	7

ACTIONS BASED ON RESULTS

The Navy will continue to address PFAS in private drinking water wells in keeping with the DoD policy.

- **PFAS at or above the DoD PFAS Interim Action Levels for Private Drinking Water Wells (Table 1).** The Navy will work with property owners to implement an enduring solution as soon as possible. Potential enduring solutions may include connection to public water or installation of a drinking water treatment system. For any private drinking water wells with PFOA and PFOS, individually or combined, above 70 ppt, the Navy will provide bottled water for drinking and cooking to property owners or tenants until an enduring solution is implemented.
- **PFAS below the DoD PFAS Interim Action Levels for Private Drinking Water Wells (Table 1).** For final remedial actions, the Navy will address PFAS in private drinking water wells down to EPA NPDWR or background levels in accordance with Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act requirements.

The Navy will continue to investigate the presence of PFAS at NBK-Bangor in partnership with EPA Region 10, Washington State Department of Ecology, Washington State Department of Health, and the Kitsap Public Health District. The Navy is committed to ensuring the safety of its neighbors. To find out more about all on-base investigations, visit <https://pacific.navfac.navy.mil/BANGORPFAS/>.

HEALTH INFORMATION

Federal agencies such as the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) and the 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>

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PRIVATE DRINKING WATER SAMPLING

- Visit our website at <https://pacific.navfac.navy.mil/BANGORPFAS> or scan the QR code →
- Send an email to navfacnwpao@us.navy.mil

