Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command
NAVFAC MID-ATLANTIC

August 25, 2022

Environmental Investigation
Field Work at NSA Cutler Fire Station and Nearby Area

Important Information and What to Expect

As part of the ongoing polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) investigation, the Navy's contractor (Tetra Tech, Inc.) will be conducting environmental fieldwork at Installation Restoration Site 10 (NSA Cutler Fire Station) and nearby area beginning in Fall 2022. The investigation area is illustrated on the attached Figure 1. During this time, the public may hear intermittent noise. The scheduled work will include:

- Mobilization (this includes mobilizing equipment such as a storage container and setting up temporary construction fencing to designate an equipment and supply area),
- Locating underground utilities (this includes marking sample locations with white flagging and wooden stakes),
- Installing groundwater monitoring wells (this includes drilling using large, motorized equipment),
- Borehole and soil logging (this includes using small handheld equipment and a small workstation at each monitoring well location),
- Sampling groundwater and soil (this includes using small handheld equipment and a small workstation at each monitoring well location),
- Water level measurements and hydraulic conductivity testing (this includes using small handheld equipment at each monitoring well location),
- Surveying (this includes using surveying equipment and the potential placement of traffic cones in the survey area).

During the **week of September 12-16, 2022, the field crew will begin mobilization of equipment and conduct underground utility locating activities**. This involves equipment (i.e., storage container and temporary construction fencing) being delivered to an approved, designated area (see attached Figure 1 and area labeled "Temporary Equipment and Supply Storage Area"). Additionally, a private utility locator company will use their utility detection equipment to confirm the proposed drilling locations are clear of any underground utilities. The utility locating activities will entail a crew locating and marking underground utilities (using spray paint, pin flags, or wooden stakes). We ask the

community to help the investigation by not disturbing the utility markings and the equipment and supplies in the designated storage area.

The **drilling activities are expected to commence on September 19, 2022 and are expected to be completed by mid-October**. Installation of each groundwater monitoring well will take approximately one to three days. A direct push technology (DPT) hydraulic drill rig (see Photo 1) will be used to advance soil borings and install shallow monitoring wells, and an air rotary drill rig will install the deep monitoring wells. The public may hear loud, repeated hammering sounds while the drill rigs are advancing the steel rods into the ground.

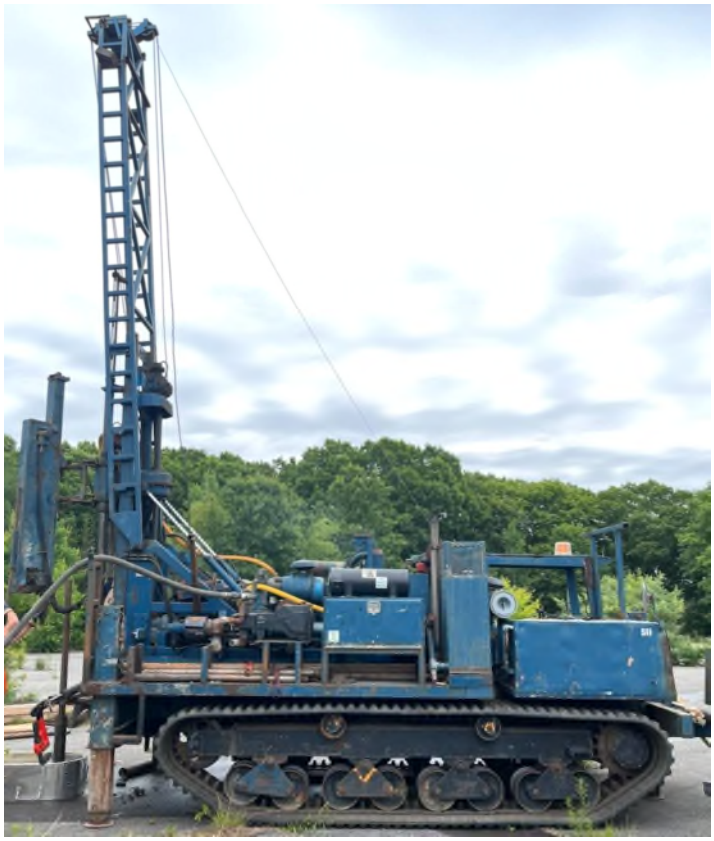

Photo 1: Type of drill rig that will be used to install shallow monitoring wells.

Once installed, each groundwater monitoring well will be protected by a round, metal plate, similar to a typical manhole cover and will be even with the ground surface. Each monitoring well cover will be approximately 6 to 8 inches in diameter and will be surrounded by a 2-foot by 2-foot concrete pad.

Following the installation of the groundwater monitoring wells, the field crew will be collecting water level measurements, conducting groundwater sampling, surveying, and

hydraulic conductivity testing. This **first sampling event is expected to be completed by the end of November 2022**. The field crew may be seen operating a truck/ trailer, using surveying/ groundwater monitoring equipment, and sampling groundwater wells. Any ground surface that is disturbed due to the monitoring well installation or sampling will be repaired to the previous existing condition.

As part of the ongoing investigation, the Navy's contractor will take samples and collect water level measurements from the newly installed groundwater monitoring wells approximately four to eight times a year. At least two weeks' notice will be provided to the property owners prior to each sampling event. The Navy's contractor will continue to have access to these wells for approximately ten years.

All field work during this phase of the investigation will be performed by a 1 to 6-person crew working during daylight hours between approximately 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

This field action is being completed under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) at NSA Cutler Fire Station and nearby area and will help to understand and quantify impacts to the groundwater at and near NSA Cutler Fire Station. The investigation and associated fieldwork is a critical step in determining a long-term solution.

We ask for your patience during this part of the investigation and assure you we are doing everything possible to minimize disturbances to the community. If you have any concerns, please contact the NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic Public Affairs Office at 1-757-341-1410 or 1-757-341-1411.

Thank you,
NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic Public Affairs

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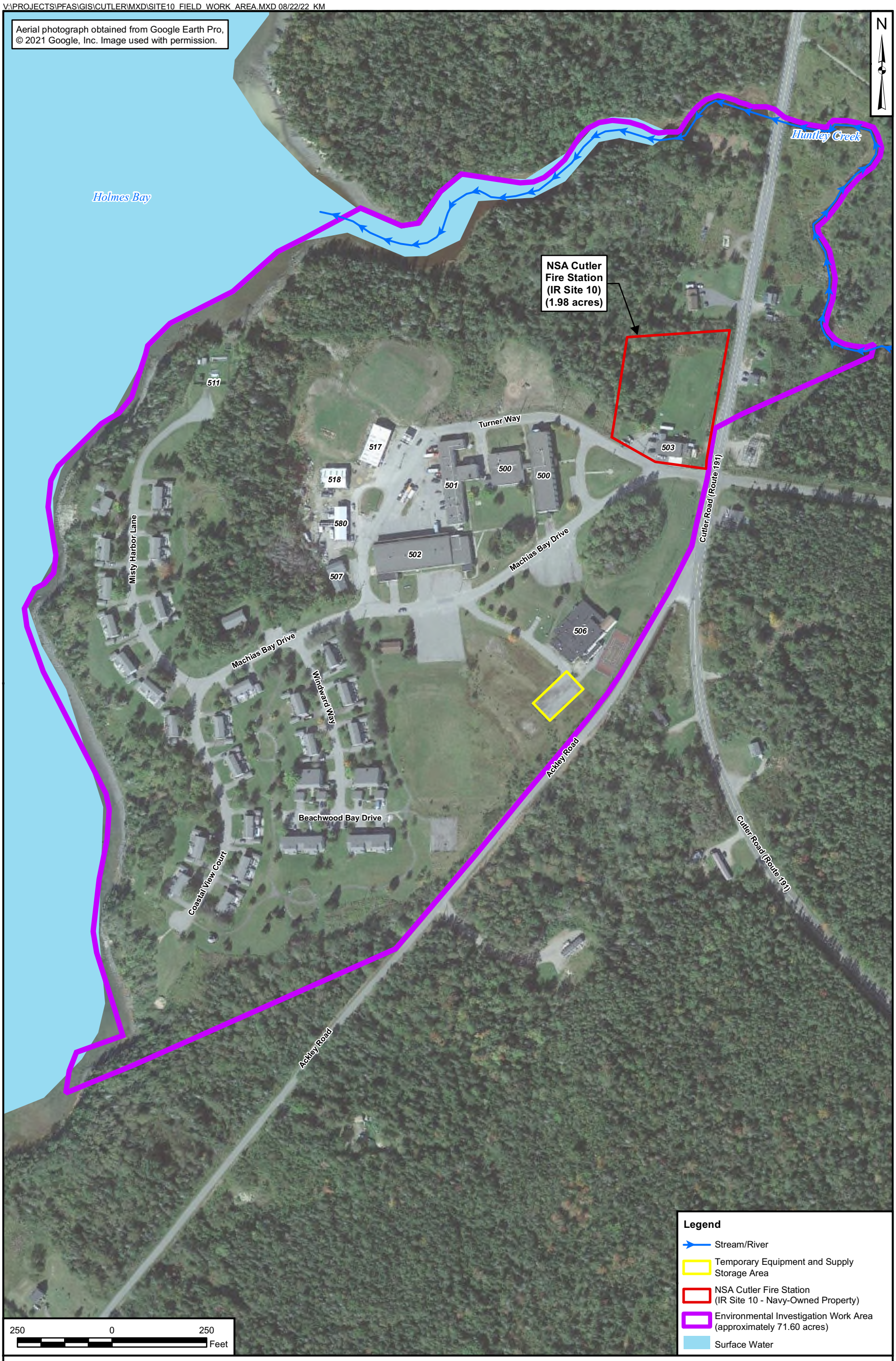

Figure 1
Environmental Investigation Field Work Area
IR Site 10 - NSA Cutler Fire Station
Naval Support Activity Cutler
Cutler, Maine