WURTSMITH AIR FORCE BASE – PUBLIC MEETING

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Remediation and Redevelopment Division (MDEQ)



PFC Use in Different Industries

Examples of Fluoropolymer Applications



Semiconductor Manufacturing



Non-stick Coatings for Cookware and Small Electrical Appliances



Low Permeable
Automotive Fuel Hose



Electronics



Chemical and Pharma Processing Valves, Lined Piping, Tanks

Aerospace Materials Hydraulic Tubing
Wire & Cabling

- http://fluorocouncil.com/PDFs/Industrial-Reliance-on-FluoroTechnology.pdf
- OECD (2013) Synthesis Paper on Per- and Polyfluorinated Chemicals (PFCs) (https://www.oecd.org/env/ehs/risk-management/PFC_FINAL-Web.pdf)



PFC Use in Different Industries

Examples of Fluorinated Polymer and Non-Polymer (Surfactants) Applications



Protective Health Care Garments



Architectural Coatings



Protective Finishes on Apparel and Textiles



Industrial Firefighting



Paint

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PFCs at Wurtsmith

- The primary source of PFCs at Wurtsmith are attributed to AFFF* use.
- Prior to the invention of AFFF, Protein Foam was widely used – but not as effective.
- The Fluorine and Carbon bond is a very strong chemical bond, which makes PFCs resistant to heat, oxidation and reduction.
- PFCs are persistent in the environment (i.e. very difficult to remediate and remove).



^{* -} Aqueous Film Forming Foam

Why AFFF?

1967 – USS Forrestal fire Protein Foam







134 sailors died,161 sailors injured

196 lives saved out of 200

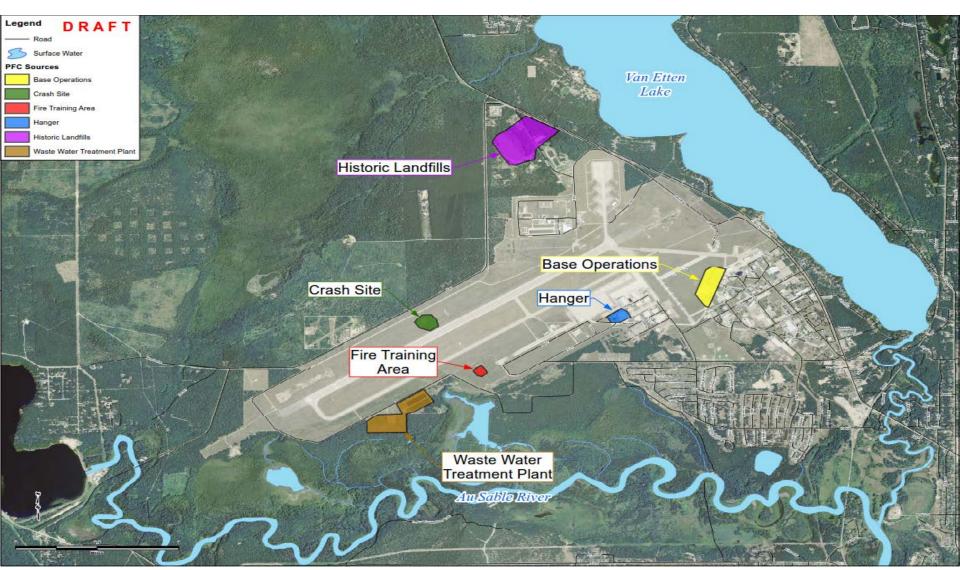


Former Wurtsmith Air Force Base





Identified PFC Sources



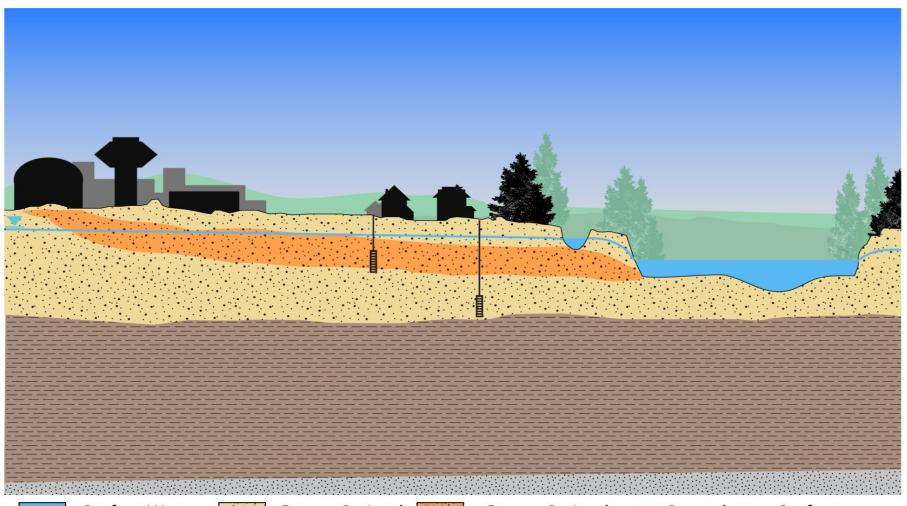


2016 PFC Site Investigation





Conceptual Contaminant Migration





Surface Water

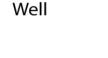


Coarse Grained Sediment



Coarse Grained Sediment With Contaminant Plume Groundwater Surface







Fine Grained Sediment



Bed Rock

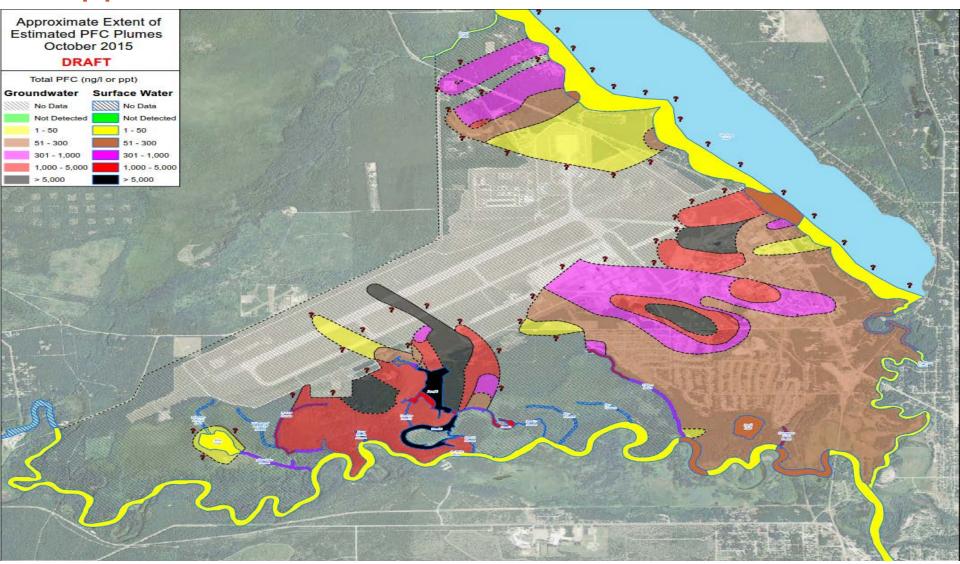


Groundwater Flow Direction



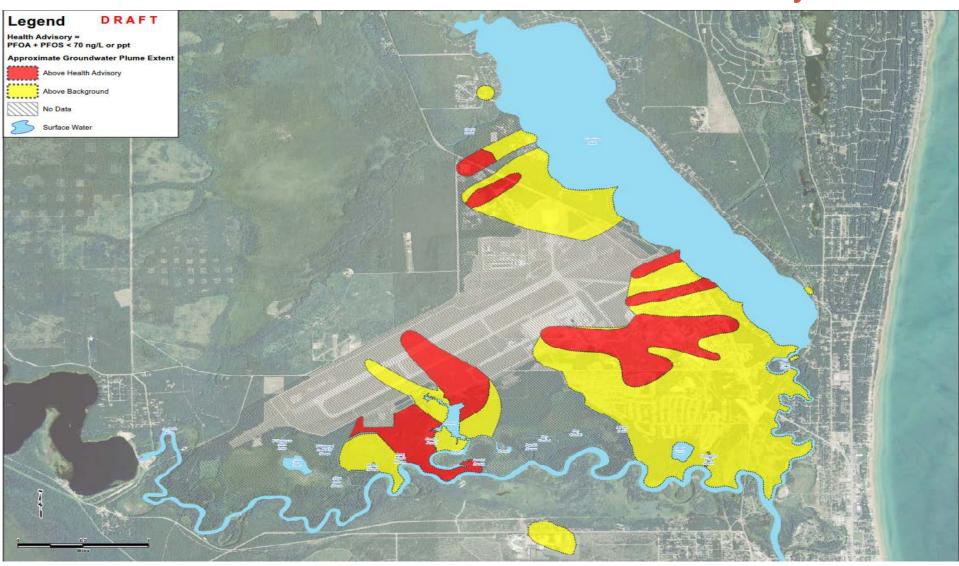


Approximate Extent of PFC Contamination



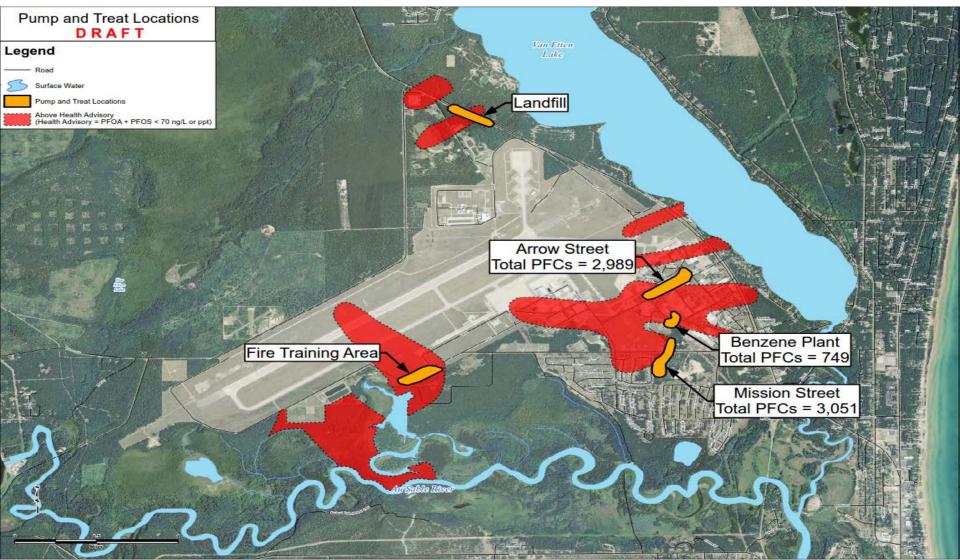


PFC Contamination Above Health Advisory





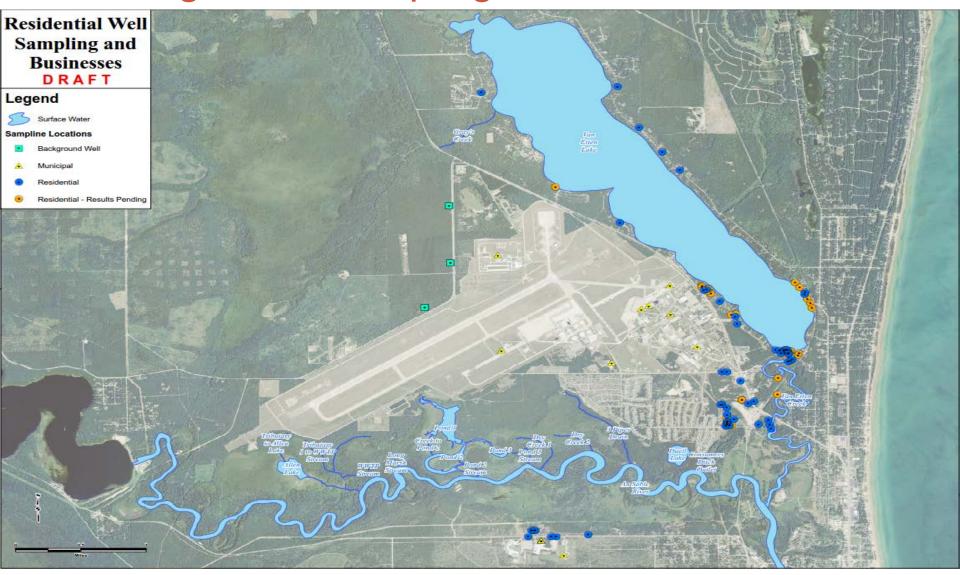
WAFB Pump and Treat Systems (1978 - Present)







Drinking Water Sampling to Date



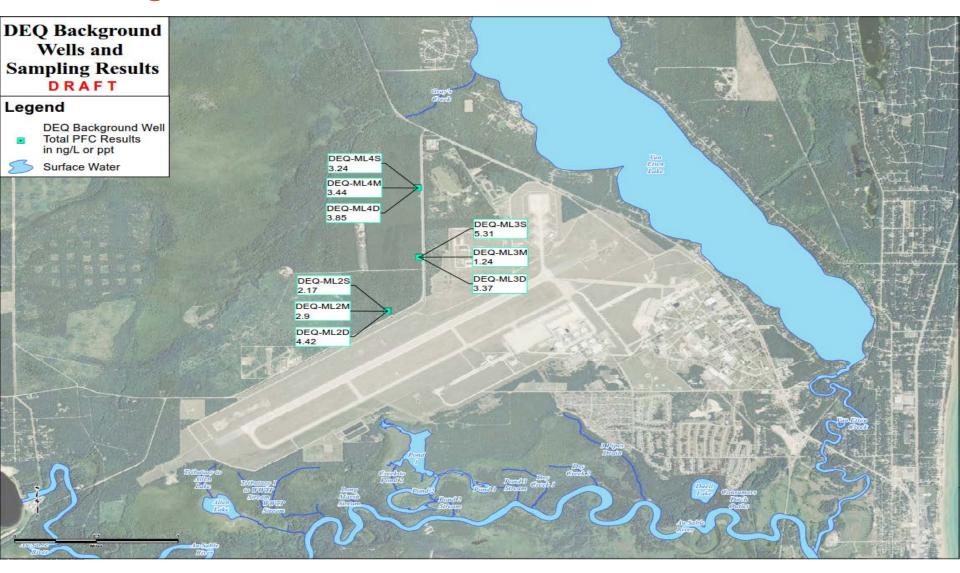


Targeted Areas for Drinking Water Sampling



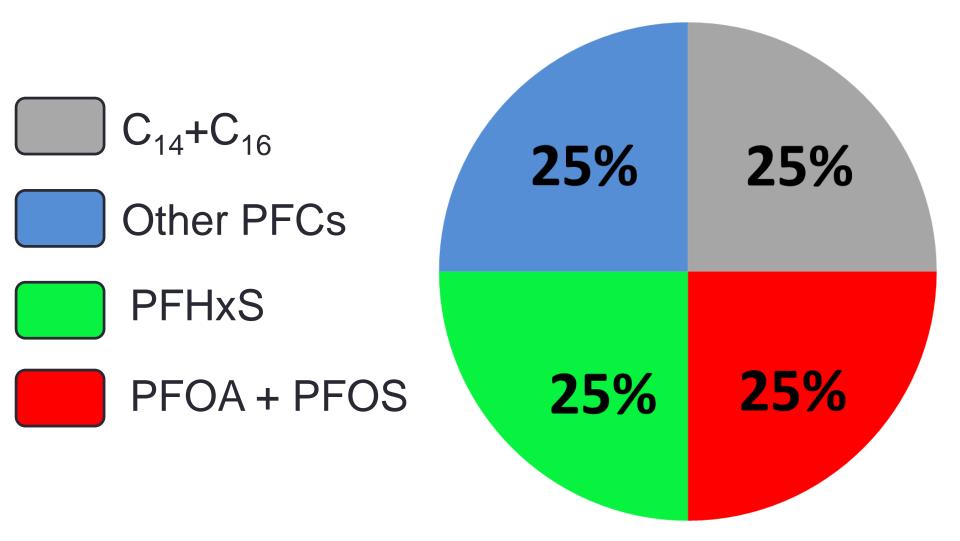


Background PFC Concentrations



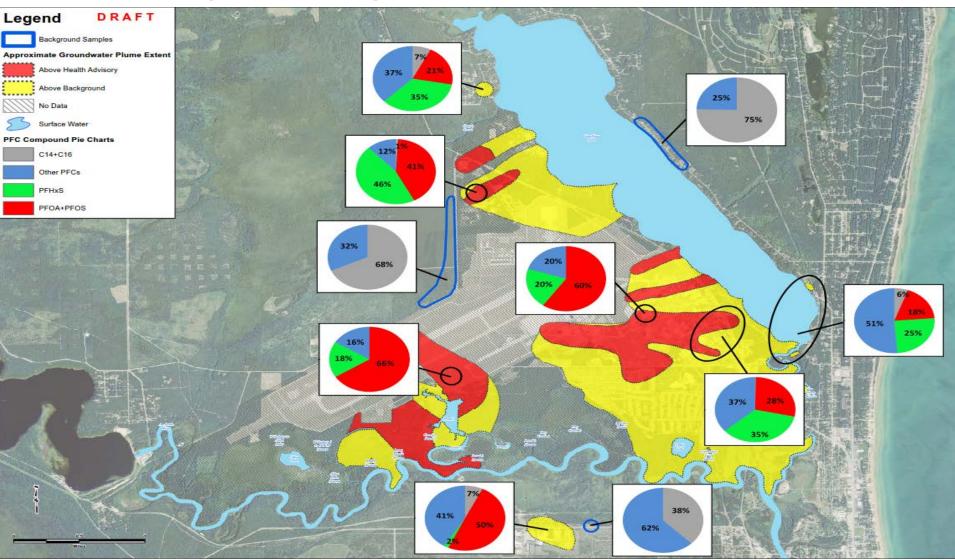


PFC Fingerprinting





PFC Fingerprinting





Targeted Areas for Drinking Water Sampling





Questions?

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