

From: [J. O'Neil](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] comment on machine gun range in Bourne
Date: Tuesday, September 1, 2020 9:12:09 AM

Mr. Driscoll,

I am writing to strongly object to the proposed machine gun range for Camp Edwards in Bourne. As a resident of Bourne, my family and I already have our peace disturbed on a regular basis by low flying military aircraft. Their route goes directly over our house. We also hear live gun fire already. Adding machine gun fire to that mix will make us feel as if we're in a militarized war zone.

In addition, as the proposed only facility in the state it would mean more military vehicles traversing our aging Cape Cod Canal bridges, bridges that are slated for replacement in the next few years.

Bourne and the Upper Cape has already sacrificed a lot in having Camp Edwards located here. No one can forget the devastating pollutants that seeped into the ground and designated the area a Superfund site. Groundwater plumes (plumes of toxic pollutants!) are still being dealt with more than 30 years after it was designated a Superfund site.

Cape Cod is an area of world renown beauty and tranquility - we shouldn't be known for machine gun fire. I am confident there are far more suitable sites in the state for machine gun training.

Thank you.
Jennifer O'Neil

From: [Mary Wallace](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Machine Gun Range at Camp Edwards, Joint base Cape Cod
Date: Tuesday, September 1, 2020 3:25:17 PM

Commenter

#159

To Mr Keith J. Driscoll

I have lived on Cape Cod for 42 years, It is my mission to work toward protecting the environment by saving the trees so that we will have fresh air. Removing 170.5 acres of trees to create a military machine gun range will take us in the wrong direction and increase the risk to Cape Cod's fragile ecosystem . We, the residence of Cape Cod, do not need this. Trees are a critical element in all of our efforts as they sequester carbon from the atmosphere and, thus, reduce the process of warming that has contributed to the climate crisis. I live behind Nickerson State Park and have seen the destruction of hundreds of trees caused by storms in recent years. Please realize that your plan to willingly destroy forested land for any purpose is not acceptable. I wholeheartedly disagree with your plan for this machine gun range or any other purpose that requires destroying forested land.

The ability to replace forest in this amount would take many, many years and with the bad weather, and lack of rain we are already experiencing maybe never. I do not want this for Cape Cod. Please do not do this to our beautiful peninsula.Thank you.

Sincerely,
Mary Wallace
206 Red Fawn Rd.
Brewster,MA 02631
508-737-5503

From: [Melissa Bird](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Military Gun Range
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 6:29:49 AM

Commenter
#160

To:
Massachusetts Army National Guard
Joint Force Headquarters
Hanscom Air Force Base, MA 01731
Mr. Keith J. Driscoll, MEPA/NEPA Manager

September 2, 2020

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed construction and operation of a Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range (MPMG) on Camp Edwards, Joint Base Cape Cod in Barnstable County, Massachusetts. Based on the information provided about the proposed MPMG Range project, the inadequate environmental assessment regarding it, and the long history of environmental degradation and destruction past military activities have caused – and continue to cause – in the Upper Cape Cod towns of Bourne, Sandwich, Falmouth and Mashpee, I strongly urge the MAARNG to reconsider its decision to develop a MPMG Range on Cape Edwards.

Again, please reconsider this proposal, our community is very much not in favor of it.

Thank you,
Melissa Bird
Harwich, Cape Cod

From: [Traci Gionfriddo](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] No machine gun range at camp Edwards
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 11:10:22 AM

Commenter
#161

As a longtime Cape Codder, I am vehemently opposed to this proposal and will invest whatever time and money I can towards its defeat. Our sandbar is ecologically fragile and there has been enough contamination from the base already.

Traci Gionfriddo
Brewster MA

From: [Kathleen Johnson Miller](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Cc: [Jeffrey Miller](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] MPMG on Camp Edwards
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 10:19:47 AM

Commenter
#162

Dear Mr. Driscol,

I am very concerned about this military proposal for our limited resource land of Cape Cod. The Cape has been exposed to enough environmental degradation and destruction from past military activities stemming from the base. Have these all been addressed and cleaned up? The base sits atop a regional aquifer. There are many communities that have been and will be affected by this proposal, not to mention the increase in traffic. Arms practice carries with it the toxic substances. The clear cutting of so many acres of forest, in this day and age when we need to consider climate mitigation, is unacceptable. The impact on species is unacceptable. The impact on neighbors is unacceptable. This is clearly a poorly planned, and wrong decision for our Cape Cod. I stand opposed to this proposal as does my husband.

Kathleen and Jeffrey Miller
39 Pond Street
Brewster, MA 02631

jmiller@berkshirephotonics.com

Commenter

#163

From: [Michae](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Proposed machine gun range
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 10:12:25 AM

Good morning. In a follow up to my previous email, has Ft. Devens been looked at as a possibility for this proposed gun range? It seems like it would be more accessible as it's in the middle of the state, has more major roads close by, doesn't have the tourist and their traffic to contend with during summer months, not to mention 2 aging bridges (the ONLY access to the Cape) that will be replaced, causing traffic issues, in and of themselves, for the next 8-10 years during construction of new bridges and then demolition of the old ones.

Ft. Devens seems to be a better alternative. Thanks.

PS. Still awaiting a reply!

M.

Michael Katz
508.208.5204 (cell)
mnk26@comcast.net

Commenter

#111

> On Aug 28, 2020, at 11:34 AM, Michae <mnk26@comcast.net> wrote:

>

> Mr. Driscoll:

> I am writing to register my opposition to the proposed machine gun range at Camp Edwards. As a Forestdale resident whose property borders Weeks Pond, we are already subject, year round, to noise pollution from planes, helicopters and the EXISTING firing range on the base, as well as traffic issues to and from the base. This noise and traffic increases during the summer with the National Guard doing their 2-week sessions. This added range, with larger caliber weapons, machine guns and grenade launchers, will only increase that noise pollution. And, the added traffic to and from the base on Snake Pond Rd. would also cause additional issues, especially during the summer season. This range would not only be used by Mass National Guard for their training, but also for law enforcement training and firearm certification by numerous departments around this state and, perhaps, other states as well. Not to mention the environmental impact caused by deforestation of +/- 190 acres and committing up to 5,000 acres for buffer zones around the range. To quote Ms. Shapiro's opinion in today's Cape Cod Time,..." this proposed construction IS short-sighted and unconscionable". If a Ropes/Obstacle course IN THE WOODS at Heritage Gardens can be squashed because of traffic, noise and perceived resulting property value decreases, by the neighbors around Heritage Gardens, how on earth can a large caliber/machine gun range be acceptable? Look forward to your reply. Enjoy the weekend.

> M.

>

> Michael Katz
> 508.208.5204 (cell)
> mnk26@comcast.net

>

From: [Kris Nasinnyk](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STOP the Machine gun range at Camp Edwards
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 4:00:25 PM

Commenter
#164

Dear Mr.Driscoll,

I strongly oppose the destruction of 170 acres of forest area to accommodate the Multipurpose Machine Gun Range's nearly 200 acres of land disturbance. I have been a strong advocate of conservation and open space here on our beloved Cape Cod. Why are you willing to decimate such a large area? And for *machine guns*? This sounds preposterous to me from all angles. I do not understand how the environment will *not be affected*. Was wildlife ever considered? I also believe that the plan includes 5,200 acres in order to accomodate the areas where the ammunition would land. Really- do you honestly believe that our small piece of Massachusetts can afford to just give up on such a parcel of land?

I heard about this proposal from conservation groups- I had not seen or heard of this as I do not subscribe to the Cape Cod Times. I sincerely hope that you all reconsider this plan and maybe use one of Donald Trump's many golf courses instead. He is very much in favor of these types of destructive weapons.

Sincerely,
Kris Nasinnyk
47 Heritage Drive
Orleans, MA

Commenter

#165

From: [Kim Anstey](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Cc: [Kim Anstey](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition to proposed machine gun range at Camp Edwards
Date: Thursday, September 3, 2020 6:41:22 PM

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

Mr. Driscoll,

I am a resident of Eastham MA, on Cape Cod, and want to express my opposition to the development of a Machine Gun Range at Camp Edwards. Cape Cod is a unique and wonderful natural haven. We must ensure all elements of its environment are protected.

Without a comprehensive study of the major issues associated with the project, there is no way to know the total environmental consequences. Specifically we need to understand the potential adverse impacts the proposed large-scale forest clearcutting in this region of Cape Cod would have on carbon sequestration, rare species habitat, high-value pine barren natural communities and groundwater resources.

Additionally, a reassessment of the project should examine whether this project is an appropriate use for the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kim Anstey
130 Sparrowhawk Lane
Eastham, MA, 02642

Sent from Mail < Caution-<https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=550986> > for Windows 10

Commenter

#166

From: [Rosemarie Aussant](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] machine gun range opposition
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 1:56:11 PM

I am opposed to the construction of a machine gun range at Camp Edwards Joint base because of the likely damage it will cause to Cape Cod water, air quality and forested land.

I am a full time resident of Harwich Ma.

Thank You

Ms. R. Aussant

From: [Jo Brisbane](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Machine Gun Shooting Range at Joint Base Cape Cod
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 3:15:24 PM

I am fully opposed. Do you not realize that the Cape Cod groundwater has been ruined before, by everything from firefighting "practice" foams, to leftover ordnance in the past?

Take this machine gun practice somewhere inland and remote. Somewhere the hell else.

--Jo Brisbane
East Dennis, MA

From: [Christine Briscoe](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Practice Range Cape Cod
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 1:10:29 PM

Mr. Driscoll,

This is to ask that the assault rifle (or any weapons) practice range not be placed in our beautiful and vulnerable environment. The destruction of 170 acres of trees will have a huge impact on the ecosystem including the displacement of and potential harm to a variety of species already in jeopardy due to our lack of good stewardship. We must work diligently to maintain and, it is to be hoped, improve our entire ecosystem. Our climate crisis is real and we must act responsibly to address it in every form.

Thank you.

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Peace,
Christine Briscoe



From: [Maria](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Machine Gun Range
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 5:09:55 PM

Mr. Driscoll,

I am a resident of Wellfleet, MA, on Cape Cod, and want to submit my opposition to the development of a Machine Gun Range at Camp Edwards. Mr. Driscoll, Cape Cod is a unique and wonderful natural haven that deserves to have all elements of its environment protected. I managed the natural resources of Cape Cod National Seashore for nine years, and have personal knowledge of their fragility - and of their interdependence.

Without a comprehensive study of the major issue areas associated with the project, there is no way to know the total environmental consequences. Specifically we need to understand the potential adverse impacts the proposed large-scale forest clearcutting in this region of Cape Cod would have on carbon sequestration, rare species habitat, high-value pine barren natural communities and groundwater resources.

Additionally, a reassessment of the project should examine whether this project is an appropriate use for the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Maria Burks

From: [Nancy Civetta](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Machine Gun Range
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 5:47:01 PM

Dear Mr. Driscoll:

I oppose the proposed machine gun range for many reasons. Here are a few:

-I have no clue about machine guns, and I am sure the military needs to be able to train to use them, but Cape Cod is not the right spot for that.

-We have limited natural resources left on Cape Cod, and we need to be protecting them not clear cutting them.

-This is a delicate peninsula, and development is having detrimental effects on everything from our drinking water supply to habitat for the flora and fauna that also make their home here.

-The construction and operation of the machine gun range could too easily throw the fragile nature of this spit of sand out of balance.

-You can never fully predict nor mitigate for the unintended consequences that such a massive project will have.

-If people complained about the noise from the wind turbines, what will they say about a machine gun range even if "silencers" are able to be used.

-Less exposure to guns here is better for our children, who are already dealing with the stresses of school shooter drills and the uncertainty of COVID-19.

Please take these few thoughts into consideration and stop this project from moving forward.

Thank you,
Nancy Civetta
80 West Main St.
Wellfleet, MA 02667
T: 508-349-2788
E: nancy@civettacom.com

Commenter

#171

From: [Marcella Curry](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Camp Edwards Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 3:26:46 PM

I am a resident of Cape Cod and oppose the creation of the gun range at Camp Edwards. To secure the health of the Cape we need to protect our water and the clear cutting will have an adverse effect no matter that your EA says it won't. Also to secure the health of our planet, we need to acknowledge climate change and to clear cut 170 acres is ignoring climate change. Your EA says Camp Edwards is "the largest intact area of relatively unfragmented forest remaining on Cape Cod and serves as an important refuge for wildlife which require large ranges of interior forest habitat." We need to preserve this.

Sincerely,
Marcella Curry
South Dennis, MA

From: [Joan Francolini](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Proposed machine gun range at Camp Edwards
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 2:43:05 PM

Mr. Driscoll,

I am a resident of Orleans MA, on Cape Cod, and want to submit my opposition to the development of a Machine Gun Range at Camp Edwards. Mr. Driscoll, Cape Cod is a unique and wonderful natural haven that deserves to have all elements of its environment protected.

Without a comprehensive study of the major issue areas associated with the project, there is no way to know the total environmental consequences. Specifically we need to understand the potential adverse impacts the proposed large-scale forest clearcutting in this region of Cape Cod would have on carbon sequestration, rare species habitat, high-value pine barren natural communities and groundwater resources.

Additionally, a reassessment of the project should examine whether this project is an appropriate use for the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve.

Thank you for your time and consideration.
Joan Francolini
7 Barney Way, Orleans MA 02653

From: [Bonnie Hempel](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Cc: [Bell Carole](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Machine Gun Range on Cape Cod
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 12:19:13 PM

The eight-lane machine gun range, the first in the state, being planned for Camp Edwards is a catastrophe.

It will require clear cutting 170.5 acres of trees, and would require 5,000 plus acres for the venture.

This is Cape Cod, a slip of land that is slowly being eroded by Mother Nature and rapidly being devoured by greedy developers getting rich by gobbling up our precious land.

It's early in this calamity and there hasn't been much feedback from our elected officials. It's difficult to imagine that Representative Peake, Senator Cyr, Representative Whelan and all the other Cape officials are in support of this debacle. Surely, there is a more suitable area for this in the whole state of Massachusetts, gives one pause, one wonders what incentive is driving this project.

Please, I'm reduced to begging, please Cape Cod Commission, Conservation Trusts, Environmental Groups, County Government, any public servant, agency, organization who care very much for our beautiful Cape Cod, don't let this happen. Those of us who have absolutely no control over anything it seems, are looking to you for support and clear-headedness, DO NOT LET US DOWN!

Bonnie Hempel

Dennis, MA

From: [Carolyn Kemp](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposed to Proposed MPMG Range
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 1:43:07 PM

Commenter
#174

Dear Mr Driscoll,

I am writing to express strong opposition to the Machine Gun Range proposed for Camp Edwards. Clear cutting 170 acres of forest and polluting one third of the Upper Cape fresh water supply is an unacceptable environmental cost that can't be recovered. Fresh water sources are scarce on the Cape and need preservation not desecration.

Please support people, air and clean water, not more weapons of destruction and death.

Thank you.

Carolyn Kemp
Chatham MA

Carolyn Kemp

From: [Patricia Marti](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Proposed MPMG Range, Camp Edwards
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 3:22:38 PM

Commenter
#175

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

I write to you to oppose the planned construction of a new MPMG range at Fort Edwards. I am strongly opposed to the destruction of over 170 acres of forest land in Barnstable. With all the valuable things trees do to improve our environment, It makes no sense to destroy so many, especially to create a killing field.

Please register my opposition to this project as a citizen who is concerned about our environment and wants to promote conservation.

Thank you for your attention,
Patricia Marti

From: [john parke](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Proposed Gun Range -- strongly opposed
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 2:54:41 PM

Commenter
#176

Hello Mr. Driscoll,

As a resident of Cape Cod and taxpayer I strongly oppose the proposal for a gun range at Camp Edwards.

We don't need more noise, traffic and most of all more use of guns here on the Cape. Especially weapons that encourage mass killing and mayhem.

Please put a stop to this plan.

All my best,

John S. Parke
508-367-6632

Commenter

#177

From: [Mary Slayter](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Proposed Machine Gun Range
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 1:02:17 PM

Mr. Driscoll,

I want to strenuously endorse the opposition of the Association to Preserve Cape Cod to your proposed machine gun range (as expressed in their letter to you of September 1, 2020).

I concur with their recommendation that you engage an independent environmental consulting agency to reassess the impact of the proposed project, and reconsider its suitability for Cape Cod, from both an environmental and cultural standpoint. As you plan to clear cut such a large swath of land, I am contemplating a significant expenditure this year to replace trees lost from my property in recent years. We should all be working together to protect and preserve what is left of our precious environment!

Sincerely,

Mary T. Slayter
3 Pleasant St.
West Dennis 02670

Sent from my iPad

Commenter

#178

From: terryandthegirls@gmail.com
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Machine Gun Range
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 1:25:20 PM

I protest the construction of the machine gun range at Camp Edwards because of the threat to our environment. Cape Cod is threatened by the climate change and has already been seriously effected.

Theresa Vieira

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Brett Warren](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposing machine-gun range
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 5:16:01 PM

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed machine-gun range at Joint Base Cape Cod.

I am a year-round resident of Cape Cod, a voter and taxpayer, and the former owner of a seasonal business here. Everyone who lives on the Cape knows how important tourism is to our economy.

Tourism here relies on the preservation of our fragile Cape ecosystem, which is already suffering from climate change and from pollution caused by fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides, and other chemicals leaching into our single-source aquifer.

People come to the Cape, supporting our economy, to see and enjoy the natural beauty and the wildlife here. Destroying 170 acres of forested land for a military training facility will irreparably harm our environment and our economy.

People also come here, and live here, to enjoy the peaceful surroundings. A machine-gun facility, even an indoor one, will harm that experience too.

I urge you to abandon this terrible plan, which will cause great harm to the majority of people and wildlife on the Cape and benefit very few. This kind of training should continue to be done at existing facilities in the region.

Thank you,

Brett Warren
Yarmouth Port MA

Commenter
#180

From: [Renate Wasserman](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] MACHINE GUN RANGE AT CAMP EDWARDS
Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 3:29:32 PM

Dear Mr Driscoll,

Many years ago when my daughter, Sherri Wasserman Goodman, was Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Environmental Security, she worked very hard to clean up this base to protect the water quality and environment of Cape Cod. She succeeded. I cannot believe there are now plans to undo all this good work.

As a nearly 30 resident of the Cape myself, I want you to know that I strongly oppose the proposed machine-gun range at Camp Edward.

Renate Wasserman
renatewas@verizon.net

From: [Stephen O'Grady](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Camp Edwards Machine Gun Range
Date: Thursday, September 3, 2020 12:48:54 PM

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

I was terribly disappointed to learn of the proposed Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range at Camp Edwards, Joint Base Cape Cod.

As someone who works in the field of conservation and is familiar with environmental impact assessments, I cannot begin to fathom how anyone reached the conclusion that disturbing 200 acres of natural land, including the clearing of 170+ acres of intact and contiguous pine barren woodlands anywhere on Cape Cod would have "less than significant" impact on the area and its water resources. I sincerely hope that the environmental assessment will be redone with more integrity and that this proposal will be reconsidered, so that we as Cape Codders can keep faith in the MAARNG for protecting our interests and keeping us safe. The proposed project does quite the opposite.

Thank you for your consideration,
Steve O'Grady
Orleans, MA

From: [Lynn Abbott](#)
To: Keith.J.Driscoll.nfg@mail.mil
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Proposed expansion of Camp Edwards
Date: Thursday, September 3, 2020 11:28:12 AM

To Keith J. Driscoll,

The expansion of Camp Edwards to 5,000 acres is a bad idea and this is why:

1. SAFETY: It will be too close to schools, roads, and homes.

Even though you have taken steps to maintain a safe distance, nothing is foolproof (i.e. Stray bullets and grenades misfiring). Also, even though there are existing fire breaks to contain a fire, fires can and do jump fire breaks and sparks can be carried by wind into surrounding neighborhoods (think drought conditions).

2. AIR POLLUTION: There will be discharge of weapons, increased traffic with resulting emissions, and the removal of almost 200 acres of trees! Have we learned nothing about global warming? We should be planting trees, not cutting them down!

3. WATER POLLUTION: What impact will the chemicals from the discharge of weapons and pyrotechnics have on the soul source aquifer underneath the base? Who will be monitoring this? How will communities be informed?

4. NOISE POLLUTION: The best part of COVID 19 this past winter was the "Quiet". Noise pollution is something we don't give much thought to, but it can negatively effect our mental and physical health. I don't want my grandchildren to have to listen to the constant noise from the Base as my children had to. You said yourself we won't be able to contain all the noise, which is probably an understatement.

I came to Sandwich almost 40 yrs ago, looking for beauty and peace. Many tourists flock to the Cape for the same reasons. No one wants to live near a war zone, but that seems to be what you wan to build.

Therefore, before even one tree is cut down, or one lane is paved, you owe the people of Sandwich and the Cape many discussions and opportunities to ask questions. You also owe us INDEPENDENT environmental reviews.

It's impossible to believe this monstrosity of a plan won't have a negative environmental impact on this fragile peninsula we call home.

Thank you,

Lynn Stevens

Sent from my iPad

From: [Kathy Andrews](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Cc: eye_zuckoff@capeandislands.org; clegere@capecodonline.com; don.h.veitch.civ@mail.mil; gdunham@townofsandwich.net
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Public comment re: proposal to clear-cut 170 acres forestland in Sandwich, MA, for machine gun range
Date: Thursday, September 3, 2020 8:26:27 PM

To: Keith J. Driscoll, Hanscom Air Force Base

I'm writing because I understand public comment is sought regarding the Army National Guard's intention to build a machine gun range in south Sandwich, MA. As someone who recently moved to this region in great part because of the area's commitment to environmental stewardship and preservation, I'm flabbergasted to learn of this proposal to sacrifice 170 acres of forestland to add a machine gun training site. Why can't military training continue to take place in Vermont? Why is it a better choice to cram this project into this area? It's shocking to read that the Massachusetts National Guard believes it is "embracing our responsibility to our community and the environment" by reducing the number of its proposed machine gun lanes to eight instead of 10. And "preserving 4 acres of rare species habitat for every acre affected" simply does not cut it. That still comes to 1 of every 5 acres being sacrificed.

Massachusetts, the Cape in particular, should not be asked to host a machine gun range to which military trainees from all over would be invited. Please listen to the voices of people who care about this environment, this region, and the fact that climate change is such a critical issue to consider now with every decision involving our environment. Your assessment concludes there are no significant environmental impacts, but that's inconceivable. This would have a hugely significant impact. Please do not move forward with this plan. At the very least, please hold a public hearing so you can listen to area residents' concerns and respond to their questions.

I'm cc'ing journalists covering this story as well as the National Guard spokesman and the Town of Sandwich Town Manager as I believe they are also interested in public comments on this proposal.

Thank you very much for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Kathy Andrews, resident of East Falmouth, MA

Commenter

#184

From: cbailey.comrealty.net
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] stop the new range
Date: Thursday, September 3, 2020 2:12:18 PM

Mr. Driscoll:

I am outraged by the plan to deforest hundreds of supposedly protected acres to create a machine gun range. This is a completely inappropriate use of land that borders on a small residential town and would greatly impede the tourist trade in our community of Sandwich. It would negatively affect our property values and our quality of life. Imagine sitting in your backyard on Cape Cod and listening to machine gun fire. We already hear the existing range, but this would be much worse!!

I can't believe this is being considered. Please register my opposition, and that of my neighbors.

Chris Bailey
5 Webster Avenue
Sandwich, MA 02563

From: [Sherrie B](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Camp Edwards MPMG Range Environmental Assessment
Date: Thursday, September 3, 2020 12:18:21 PM

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

As a full-time Cape Cod resident I am writing to request that an Environmental Impact Statement be completed for the proposed Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range (MPMG). The Environmental Assessment finding of "no significant impact" is not believable.

Some of the impacts that need further study are:

1. Clear cutting 170.5 acres of intact forest and its effect on both the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve, loss of carbon sequestration value of the trees removed, and the impacts on wildlife and the designated Priority and Estimated Habitat for Rare Species.
2. Possible degradation of the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve during construction of the MPMG Range as well as releasing some of the toxic substances remaining from Camp Edwards .
3. Toxicity of the exploded and unexploded ordnance, such as the lead in bullets.

I urge you to complete a more thorough assessment of the environmental impacts in addition to reassessing whether creating another MPMG Range is necessary. Use of existing ranges, even if travel is required to get to them, would prevent this potential ecological disaster.

Sincerely,
Sherrie Burson
52 Dusty Miller Lane
South Chatham, MA 02659

From: [Katelyn Cadoret](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Machine Gun Range Cape Cod Opposition
Date: Thursday, September 3, 2020 9:14:49 AM

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to oppose the new machine gun range at Camp Edwards due to the clearing of 170.5 acres of forest. This is important habitat for rare and endangered species and groundwater recharge. At the very least, an environmental impact statement should be filed to better understand the effects of such a proposal. The Cape has limited resources and this doesn't seem like a wise use of what natural areas are left.

Best,
Katelyn Cadoret