

From: [Dorria DiManno](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Machine Gun Training Range
Date: Saturday, September 5, 2020 10:42:52 AM

Commenter
#261

9.5.2020

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

Please add my name and voice to those who oppose the establishment of a new machine gun training range on Cape Cod.

In addition to truly significant environmental concerns with the loss of many acres of foliated land and wild animal habitat, we must consider community impact.

- Does a gun range make Cape Cod a better place?
- Is it something we cannot live without?
- Does it improve the lives of the human and wildlife populations surrounding it?
- Is there a better location elsewhere for this project?

I implore you and other decision-makers to reconsider this proposal.

Thank you,

Dorria DiManno
South Dennis, MA

From: [John Everett](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Planned Planned Forest Clearing for a Machine Gun Range at
Date: Saturday, September 5, 2020 2:34:35 PM

Commenter

#262

Dear Mr. Driscoll

It is distressing to learn that there is a plan to clear up to 171 acres of forest land at Camp Edwards, Joint Base Cape Cod in order to construct a machine gun range. In addition to losing the beauty of almost 200 acres of forest, four aspects of the proposed project concern me.

First) Forests play an important role in reducing the effects of climate change/global warming. As you know through the magic of photosynthesis trees take in carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the atmosphere and using the sun's energy break "CO"₂ into carbon and oxygen. The carbon is stored as wood and the oxygen is released back to the atmosphere. This in effect sequesters CO₂ and at the same time increases the oxygen content of the atmosphere. The sun's energy used in the process reduces the amount of heat energy reflected back into the atmosphere. In short trees are a partial solution to reducing the effects of climate change.

Second) The proposed project is said to cost \$11,000,000.00 an amount of money that might be better spent elsewhere within or outside of the defense budget. This is especially true in that the project seems redundant. There are other firing ranges at Fort Drum and elsewhere in New England.

Third) World wide forest habitat is being destroyed at an alarming rate. Forests are essential to maintaining biodiversity, which is essential for the health of the planet, and hence to the wellbeing of human kind.

Fourth) As a former Chemical Corps officer I am well aware of the efforts too improve the image of the military with regard to environmental and family welfare concerns. A good example is the evolution of Fort Detrick Maryland from a research and production facility for chemical warfare agents to a general support facility, cancer research institute, and housing area. This forest clearing project would appear to have a negative effect on these public relations goals.

For climate, financial, public relations, and environmental considerations I urge you to consider canceling this project.

With all due respect,

John R. Everett, PhD

From: [Barbara Everett](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Environmental Review of plans for a multi-purpose machine gun range at Camp Edwards, Joint Base, Cape Cod
Date: Saturday, September 5, 2020 1:53:03 PM

To: Keith J. Driscoll

Please consider seriously the environmental consequences of clearing almost 200 acres of forested land at the base for the construction of the proposed machine gun range. Personally I have been a big fan of trees since I was a child but clueless about their environmental significance until a few years ago. At that time my husband and I were incredibly fortunate to attend a presentation given by Wayne Walker, Forest Ecologist, Woods Hole Research Center. With vivid detail and scientific clarity we were introduced to the protective role trees play in storing carbon from the atmosphere and safeguarding all of us in the process. If you have not had the opportunity to hear Dr. Walker, I would like to recommend gently that you make it a point to meet with him and/or his colleagues before moving ahead with this proposal. I believe you will find the experience enlightening and empowering.. Perhaps you may even emerge with a new commitment to becoming a defender of the forests as we did. The knowledge these researchers have amassed about the critical role trees play in protecting the planet, and us, is staggering in amount and impact. This would be worthy of our attention under any circumstances but is essential during these times of the dramatic environmental challenges we are facing in the era of climate change, or the climate crisis as it is increasingly being categorized.

When I was a child, walking in the woods behind my grandmother and grandfather's home in Stoughton, Massachusetts, I developed a deep appreciation of the trees for their beauty, their shade, the habitat they provided for other plants and for birds and small animals. I learned a great deal from my grandfather about the Native Americans' reverence for nature and it has remained with me. I am no longer a child, but an 81-year-old elder, hopefully wiser as well as older. Over the course of my lifetime I have become increasingly aware of how little appreciation later arrivals to America had for that history or for the natural world and the consequences of that ignorance for all of us living here now. My grandfather died when I was six years old. The houses in the neighborhood where he and my grandmother lived were purchased soon afterward by a "big box" company of the time. The woods were demolished and the ground paved over for a huge parking lot. I never went back to see that.

I am hopeful that you will consider the woods at Camp Edwards with a renewed appreciation of their beauty and beneficence as you consider the proposals for their destruction.

With appreciation,

Barbara Anderson Everett
36 Diane Avenue
South Yarmouth MA 02664

From: [Barbara Hines](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Joint Base Cape Cod
Date: Saturday, September 5, 2020 5:18:35 PM

Commenter
#264

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

I am a resident of Mashpee, just up the street from the base. Building machine gun training area so close to homes, a school and with such impact to the habitat, environment and the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve seems ludicrous to me.

Please insist on a public hearing!

Sincerely,

Barbara Hines
Mashpee

From: [William Holcombe](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Cc: [Susan Starkey](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Proposed Gun Range on Joint Base Cape Cod
Date: Saturday, September 5, 2020 9:37:26 AM

Commenter
#265

To: Keith Driscoll,

I live in East Sandwich and recently heard about the proposed machine gun range on Joint Base Cape Cod. I read the letter written to you by Andrew Gottlieb of Association to Protect Cape Cod and a transcript of Sandra Faiman-Silva's testimony.

I totally support their detailed and well thought out objections and strongly urge you to de-commission the planned machine gun range before it gets started and does permanent harm to our precious eco-system on the Cape.

Bill Holcombe, Quaker Representative
Faith Communities Environmental Network
Sandwich Quaker Meeting
3 Great Hills Dr, East Sandwich, MA 02537

From: [Martha Knapp](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Camp Edwards
Date: Saturday, September 5, 2020 11:41:41 PM

Commenter
#266

Keith,

Using the Camp Edwards location for a machine gun range is almost beyond comprehension. The affects this could have on ground water, the habitat for our wildlife and endangered species, and an increase in noise pollution are only a few of the considerations.

What about the basic issue that no one needs to own a machine gun, let alone have a place to shoot it? In the current climate of hatred, division, racism, and intolerance, why is encouraging people to own and shoot these weapons even a consideration?

I am appalled that this is being proposed and I'm disappointed in what is becoming of the Cape. We are losing what has always made the Cape so special. We are no longer a community that cherishes and protects its natural beauty and have become a commercialized commodity that exploits it.

Please rethink this and do the right thing before it is too late.

Martha Knapp
Cape Cod Year-Round Homeowner

From: [Dorria Marsh](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Machine Gun Training Range
Date: Saturday, September 5, 2020 12:46:34 PM

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

Please add my name and voice to those who oppose the establishment of a new machine gun training range on Cape Cod.

In addition to truly significant environmental concerns with the loss of many acres of foliated land and wild animal habitat, we must consider community impact.

- Does a gun range make Cape Cod a better place?
- Is it something we cannot live without?
- Does it improve the lives of the human and wildlife populations surrounding it?
- Is there a better location elsewhere for this project?

I implore you and other decision-makers to reconsider this proposal.

Thank you,

D. Marsh
Harwich, Ma

From: [Lisa McNeill](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Proposed Machine Gun Range at Camp Edwards
Date: Saturday, September 5, 2020 9:56:22 AM

Commenter
#268

I write in opposition of the proposed machine gun range at Camp Edwards on Cape Cod. I've lived on Cape Cod for 25 years, and in that time there have been long conversations and projects related to the clean up of the base from past emissions, and there have been wonderful environmental (and community) programs that have occurred there.

Cape Cod is a fragile ecosystem. Anything we do today will impact the environment for decades to come. Additionally, our nation (and world) is in the midst of horrendous natural disasters due to global warming. (Science tells us this is a fact and not debatable.) Please, we must not add to the problem by taking away a large swath of existing forest now.

Thank you,
Lisa McNeill
27 Winter Street
Yarmouthport, MA 02675

From: [SANDI-PIETRAGALLA](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Fwd: Machine gun range
Date: Saturday, September 5, 2020 8:31:01 AM

----- Original Message -----

From: SANDI-PIETRAGALLA <sandiwithscissors@comcast.net>
To: "Keith.J.Driscoll.nfg@mail.mil." <Keith.J.Driscoll.nfg@mail.mil.>
Date: 08/30/2020 9:24 AM
Subject: Machine gun range

Please do not put a machine gun training range at Otis AFB! We need another place for gun training in this country like we need a hole in the head.

This land would better serve the people as a wildlife sanctuary and also better represent the heart and soul of Massachusetts citizens.

At this time, with so much division in our nation, the last thing that is needed is a training range for weaponry.

Please do the right thing.

Sandra Pietragalla

Commenter
#270

From: [Donna Savino](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Machine Gun Range
Date: Saturday, September 5, 2020 10:30:14 AM

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

I am writing to voice my disapproval of the proposed machine gun firing range on Joint Base Cape Cod.

I object to its development due to its potential environment impacts on the delicate environmental balance here on the Cape. Clearing of several acres of land for the range will disrupt several wildlife species. The spent ammunition will decay and contribute to further leakage of toxins into the Cape aquifer, jeopardizing our water supply. Lastly, as a near neighbor and one who would likely hear this, I do not want my peace and quite disturbed by the sounds of machine gun fire. The thought of it is horrendous.

Please find a more remote place to locate this.

Sincerely,
Donna Savino
Mashpee, Ma

Donna Savino

Commenter
#271

From: [Ceil Smith](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition to Machine Gun Range on Cape Cod
Date: Saturday, September 5, 2020 2:00:34 PM

Mr. Driscoll-

I am a resident of Brewster, MA, on Cape Cod, and want to submit my opposition to the development of a Machine Gun Range at Camp Edwards. 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. Noise is another consideration that should be looked at.

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.

Ceil Smith
23 Waldun Way

Commenter
#272

Brian Sullivan
184 High St.
Plymouth, MA 02360

Mr. Keith Driscoll
MAARNG
2 Randolph Rd.
Hanscom Air Force Base, MA 01731

September 5, 2020

Dear Mr. Driscoll:

With respect to the machine gun range proposal for Camp Edwards, I simply don't know where to begin...but let me try:

- Obviously, the Army National Guard is aware of the long-standing PFAS, lead contamination and water pollution issues that have impacted Joint Base Cape Cod for decades
- And obviously, despite those very serious concerns, The Guard would still like to destroy 177 acres to create an eight-lane machine gun range on the base, a designated Superfund Site
- But beyond the land & water contamination, there are many other related environmental issues to be considered
- While the proposal minimizes the noise impact from a machine gun range, currently the noise pollution level from current training exercises as well as from jets, cargo aircraft and Coast Guard choppers is already overwhelming
- And then let's consider children trying to focus on learning while the noise and disruption from grenade launchers and .50 caliber weapons are firing right next to their elementary school
- We think school children are already significantly challenged due to the Covid threat don't you?
- Furthermore, in view of the fact that the Cape is experiencing one of the driest summers in many years, we don't think the already budgetary-challenged surrounding towns would relish the threat of responding to forest fires created by the firing range

PAGE 2

Mr. Keith Driscoll

- Additionally, as has been recently reported, many Cape lakes and ponds are suffering from increased levels of toxic algae and cyanobacteria
- Therefore, we don't think it would be prudent to burden our water system with additional toxins created by the lead from a machine gun range
- Then let's consider the impact upon traffic flow resulting from a 19% increase in usage of the base
- If you haven't attempted to drive over either the Sagamore or Bourne bridges during the summer and fall months, we think you'd find that exercise already quite challenging
- Beyond, that if you haven't driven on Route 130 recently, you might think you were in a Mad Max movie...
- When traveling on the Cape, we try to avoid the town of Sandwich as much as possible since the number of huge commercial sand & gravel trucks dominate and intimidate vehicles on the 130 corridor (spilling clouds of dust and smoke in their wake)
- Thus, a 19% incremental traffic flow of army caravans each season would only exacerbate an already distressful experience for cape residents
- Moreover, it's going to take many years for the Cape's small businesses to rebound from these troubling times
- So let's help those small businesses and not discourage tourists from returning to one of their favorite destinations each season due to a 19% increase in traffic disruption

In closing, Mr. Driscoll, we all love our soldiers and appreciate their heroic sacrifices for us over the last two decades...but we believe there is a better suited alternative site for a machine gun range than on Cape Cod.

Sincerely,

Brian Sullivan

Cc: George Dunham

Cc: Cape Cod Times

*Pamela S. Truesdale
47 Garrison Road
Falmouth, MA 02540
(508) 843-5074
email: ptrues@comcast.net*

Commenter
#273

September 5, 2020

Keith J. Driscoll, NEPA/MEPA Manager
MAARNG
2 Randolph Road
Hanscom Air Force Base
MA 01731

RE: Proposed Machine Gun Range, Camp Edwards, EEOEA # 5834

To Whom it May Concern:

I am opposed to the siting of the proposed machine gun range within the Northern Training Area (NTA) of Camp Edwards on Joint Base Cape Cod, formerly known as Mass Military Reservation (MMR).

I served as a member of the original Community Working Group (CWG), established in May, 1997, consisting of representatives of neighboring towns, military services located at MMR, and the Massachusetts National Guard. We were established to advise the Secretary of Environmental Affairs on acceptable future uses of the MMR for both the developed 5,000 acre Cantonment area, and the @ 15,000 acres of the NTA. Our collective work produced the *MMR Master Plan Final Report, September 8, 1998*.

The 14,410 acres of the Northern Training Area represents the largest intact remaining contiguous open space of relatively unfragmented forest remaining on Cape Cod. This open space primarily consists of the largest remaining habitats in the Northeast of Pitch Pine/Scrub Oak barrens.

The NTA also lies entirely within the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve of 13,352 acres designated to protect the Cape's sole source aquifer. The creation of the Water Supply Reserve, Executive Order #414 by Governor Celluci in October, 1999, was also a direct result of the CWG's work. I felt extremely proud on that day, standing on the highest point in MMR, and looking out over the canopy of green space to Buzzards Bay as the Governor read his Order. I felt I had participated in something significant for the future of Cape Cod. The Executive Order states that approximately 15,000 acres of the MMR be subject to "permanent protection and coordinated management plans for water supply, wildlife habitat, and open space protection consistent with necessary and compatible military activities".

The Army National Guard, as the proponent of this project, has not provided a satisfactory explanation of why such a range is "necessary", and why it is necessary

specifically on Cape Cod within the Upper Cape Water Supply reserve. How is this project deemed a “compatible military activity”? Clearly, troops have been receiving this training elsewhere; why can’t that practice continue? Cape Cod residents deserve answers.

I find it disheartening to learn that this enlarged/improved range will clear over 170 acres of trees, and this is deemed to be of “no significance”. With climate changes already being experienced, reducing acres of forest and wildlife habitat is unwise and short sighted. In addition to clear cutting in the largest contiguous open space on the Cape, the project will also “take” several rare species by disrupting habitat. Then there is the admission that actually more like *5,000 acres* of the NTA —that’s one third of it! —will be required to accommodate the operation, since it includes unspecified acreage where the projectiles fired on the range could land. I fail to see how this lives up to the Executive Order mandate of “permanent protection” of this acreage.

To my mind, this is a totally unacceptable percentage of alteration to the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve, and nothing of the scope that the CWG would have envisioned as “necessary and compatible” military activities. It represents extremely poor environmental stewardship of this property. The impacts of this proposed range are not insignificant at all and not compatible with protecting our environmental resources. I urge you to withdraw the plans for this unacceptable gun range at Camp Edwards.

Sincerely,

Pamela S. Truesdale

From: [Christopher Wadsworth](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] cutting for target range
Date: Saturday, September 5, 2020 10:50:17 AM

Commenter
#274

I AM WRITING TO VOICE MY OPPOSITION TO THE PREPOSED TARGET RANGE. .

--

Christopher Wadsworth mobile: 508 221 6760

Commenter

#275

From: [Elizabeth Wegman](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Joint Base Cape Cod Plans - Impact Study Findings
Date: Friday, September 4, 2020 6:41:36 PM

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed plan for the installation of a machine gun range at Joint Base Cape Cod. I believe that this plan is inimical to the environment and community. I contend against the report finding that this range will not significantly impact the environment; in contrast, I believe that it will.

At the very least, I believe that a virtual public forum is necessary to discuss this plan and the impact study's findings.

Thanks for taking the time to read this email. Enjoy the rest of your weekend.

Best Regards,
Elizabeth Wegman

From: [LAWRENCE AUSTIN](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] machine gun range
Date: Sunday, September 6, 2020 10:28:05 AM

Mr. Driscoll - I am a licensed psychotherapist who deals almost exclusively in trauma issues. My concern about the machine gun firing range is for both adults and children.

I have worked with a number of adult patients who live near firing ranges (police and private). The intermittent trainings at the police range come as a type of shock to these people, meaning that if the firing simply starts at random times it pushes them into a fight or flight state in which their bodies become flooded with cortisol and adrenaline. These hormones come with physical implications including a raise in blood pressure and, if unchecked, hardening of the arteries, stroke or cardiac events. Adding to the distress of the police trainings, which are during the week, the private ranges (including a sand and gravel business that allows use by private citizens) can operate on Saturdays and Sundays.

With that as a base, I would ask you to consider the effects of this same scenario on children, especially children in pre-school and elementary school. Move them into a fight or flight state repeatedly and the overall effect could be emotional damage that lasts a lifetime. Anticipatory anxiety, waiting for the firing to start again without knowing when, creates anxiety disorders.

Do our children need that? Do adults need that? Please reconsider the value of this firing range keeping in mind the serious effects on people. There is already a range available for these trainings.

Lawrence Austin, LICSW

From: [JOHN BRAZIER](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Please stop the machine gun range project
Date: Sunday, September 6, 2020 11:11:10 AM

Mr. Driscoll,

I am a full-time Cape Cod resident living in Mashpee quite close to the JBCC. I urge you to abandon the project to clear-cut 170 acres of forested land. Not only is this project unwise from an environmental standpoint, but it will continue the need for remediation for decades to come. As you know, there is a long history of such highly expensive remediation caused by contamination of the aquifer from chemicals and the soil from expended ammunition.

Please do not contaminate the Upper Cape any further nor worsen the base's contribution to climate change.

John Brazier
5 Par Three Court
Mashpee, MA 02649

From: [Catherine Ellis](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] "NO" to Machine Gun Range
Date: Sunday, September 6, 2020 1:57:47 PM

Commenter
#278

I am writing to oppose the machine gun range on JBCC.

The amount of land that will be deforested is unconscionable. Please do not proceed with this range.

Sincerely,

Catherine Ellis

Commenter

#279

From: [V June Hager](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] PROPOSED MILITARY MACHINE GUN RANGE AT CAPE EDWARDS JOINT BASE ON CAPE COD
Date: Sunday, September 6, 2020 10:22:07 PM

This is a terrible idea! I write to express my opposition and dismay re the proposed Gun Range at Cape Edwards. Cape Cod is and should be a haven of nature and peace and not ring out with the sounds of war.

We are not at all convinced that the proposed gun range has been studied enough for environmental damage to the surrounding areas. There is still much pollution from past practices which must be contained and cleaned up and the health and environmental impacts have been identified and removed.

Sincerely
June Hager
115 Shady Lane
Eastham Ma 02642

Commenter
#280

From: [Allen Hardon](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Proposed range does not belong on JBCC!
Date: Sunday, September 6, 2020 8:59:28 AM

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.

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

There are plenty of existing sites in state that would be better locations. Your track record with ground water contamination is not good and the initial findings are a sham.

Many better alternatives exist without clearing 170 acres of prime forestland!

MAARNG should be ashamed of themselves.

Thank you for listening to these concerns,

--

Allen Hardon

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(602) 571-6101

From: [Kim Hines](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Feedback on proposed machine gun range installation
Date: Sunday, September 6, 2020 8:26:07 AM

Mr Driscoll,

I am writing in concern to the proposed machine gun training site on cape cod.

I want to state that I am completely opposed to having this site installed. I believe that having such a facility in a densely populated area such as we are around the base at present would pose a burden. Both in terms of environmental impacts and our basic ability of quiet enjoyment at our properties.

I am strongly requesting that a great deal more of outreach be done to our communities informing people about potential impacts of this installation.

I believe you should be holding a number of public presentations that clearly and definitively describes your proposal.

I have had experience with these sorts of installations having grown up near Fort Devens in Ayer MA.

I am a Mashpee resident and look forward to hearing more detail and reasons for it before this project moves forward

Thank you,

Kim Hines

Sent from my iPad

From: [Laurie Hutton-Corr](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Multi-purpose machine gun range on Cape cod
Date: Sunday, September 6, 2020 6:57:38 PM

I am writing to object to the multi-purpose machine gun range proposed for the Joint Resource Base Cape Cod. I strongly disagree with the Army's view that disturbing almost 200 acres of forested land will have "No Adverse Environmental Impacts." Any time that many trees are removed there is environmental impact, to say nothing of the lead that will go into the ground (and water). Also, I cannot find any reference to the Cape Cod Commission weighing in on this proposed project and their input/view is vital as they are there "to protect the unique values and quality of life on Cape Cod by coordinating a balanced relationship between environmental protection and economic progress." They are the only unbiased source that can do that. There has been enough harm done to Cape Cod by the military over the years and this most recent project represents yet another internally-focused view, without the appropriate transparency, that lacks regard for the people and the environment of the Cape.

Laurie Hutton-Corr
36 Island Street
South Dennis, MA 02660

From: [Sheila Lyons](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Cc: [Sheila Lyons](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Proposed National Guard Machine Gun Training Facility, Joint Base Cape Cod
Date: Sunday, September 6, 2020 2:38:07 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.

Sheila Lyons
508-246-0610
slyons03@comcast.net < Caution-mailto:slyons03@comcast.net >

On Sep 6, 2020, at 2:17 PM, Sheila Lyons <slyons03@comcast.net < Caution-mailto:slyons03@comcast.net > > wrote:

Dear Mr Driscoll,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed National Guard Machine Gun Training Facility, at Joint Base Cape Cod. As a former Commissioner of Barnstable County, and a citizen of Cape Cod, this proposal is wrong on many levels.

First is, we have had this same experience in our recent past. As a child, sitting on the beaches in Yarmouth, I remember the booming sounds that echoed from the same location, when military exercises were being conducted. I cannot imagine what it must have been like for those who lived in Sandwich, Falmouth Mashpee and Barnstable. However, it was a time when Americans lived in the lingering afterglow of being the hero's of WWII. People trusted the military, and they believed the military's assurances that exercises were necessary for national security, and were harmless to the surrounding environment.

Since, based on the analysis of military leadership, this country has been dragged through unnecessary wars and murderous conflicts that we started, none of which proved to be warding off a clear and present danger to national security. Time revealed the clear and present danger was in fact those past military exercises, polluting the fragile pristine aquifer lens that provides drinking water to the densely populated upper cape towns.

That clean up has cost over \$40 million dollars.

Cape Cod's ecology is just recovering from the damage done by such activity conducted 30 years ago. Its environment is fragile and under stress just from the everyday population.

On top of the environmental and noise pollution this range will produce, the Cape isn't the sleepy little outer land it was even 20 years ago. The Upper Cape is now a year round community with a significantly increased population and a year round economy. This is a dangerous and disruptive endeavor for all in the surrounding area..

My final objection is that, the fact that the National Guard is being trained in heavy assault weapons is objectionable in todays climate. This action will just create more distrust, protest and division within our communities. That distrust and division will be directed at your organization, and it will stoke anger and disagreement within our communities.

I am asking from those who will make the final decision, if your mission is to protect and keep the peace, then please let this go.
No good will come of this action.

Sincerely,
Sheila Lyons
Wellfleet, MA

Sheila Lyons
508-246-0610
slyons03@comcast.net < Caution-mailto:slyons03@comcast.net >

From: [Ei Mckenna](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] machine gun range/ Otis
Date: Sunday, September 6, 2020 1:29:46 PM

Commenter
#284

Hello Mr. Driscoll,

We would like to comment on the proposed machine gun range for joint base cape cod. We feel that this is a misuse of the forested public area to clear cut such a large area and allow machine gun training. This base is still cleaning up pollution from years of misuse and is thought to be a source for possible carcinogens resulting in high rates of cancer in that part of cape cod. As a military family who has lived on numerous army bases over the years and heard that same story at each location, we feel strongly that these practices must stop. Cape Cod is largely one giant aquifer and our water source should be protected and free of toxins. This use will only add to the problem in addition to taking away precious woodland that aids in climate cooling and habitat for endangered species. In addition, we are well aware of the noise such a range will generate having lived near training ranges before in both Europe and the US.

Sincerely,

Ellen-Jeanne Mckenna-Hieb
Louis Hieb, Col. (ret) USA
25 Chatharbor Lane, South Chatham ,MA
(year long residents of Chatham)

From: [Patricia Mullen](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Cc: info@elizabrthwarren.com; www.markey.senate.gov@gmail.com
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Machine gun range at Camp Edwards
Date: Sunday, September 6, 2020 8:17:32 PM

Commenter
#285

Dear Sir;

Regarding plans for a machine gun training site at Camp Edwards, please consider the following.

Clear cutting 200 acres of woods has a huge environmental impact, not only for residents of Cape Cod, but also for the flora and fauna flourishing there.

The military base has a history of pursuing projects which have caused serious negative environmental impact. There are other, better alternatives to reach your goal, such as using an existing range.

Please do not continue with this ill-conceived project.

Sincerely

Trish Mullen
65 Lowry Road
Falmouth, MA
02540

Commenter

#286

From: [Lillie Peterson](#)
To: [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comment on Machine Gun Range
Date: Sunday, September 6, 2020 2:20:00 PM

Good afternoon,

I would like a more thorough environmental impact statement, including noise pollution, prior to the plan for the machine gun range moving forward.

The natural beauty and quiet of Cape Cod are two of the most attractive aspects of living here. The quality of life of the residents surrounding the base should be considered much more carefully, and alterations made before this project moves forward.

Kind regards,
Lillie Peterson-Wirtanen