

**From:** [Mary Grauerholz](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] The future of Camp Edwards: my objections  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 11:32:31 AM

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Dear Mr. Driscoll: I am one of the many residents who have taken refuge at the open space in our military base in Bourne, especially during the pandemic. It is a beautiful spacious piece of land, with meandering trails and flora and fauna that I don't get to see in other locations. I have many reasons to object to the plan to turn almost 200 acres into a range for machine gun practice. If you proceed, it will be another blow to our hard-hit communities. Please reconsider and allow the acreage to be at peace. If not, I will seek out ways to fight it.

Thank you for listening.

Mary Grauerholz-Zuck

Hatchville

Commenter

#77

**From:** [Chesley Haden](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Machine Gun Range  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 5:51:39 PM

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Hello,

First, thank you for your service to our country. I am writing after seeing an article in the Cape Cod Times about a potential machine gun range to be added at Camp Edwards.

I moved to the Cape 4 years ago and live in Sandwich MA. I had no idea when I moved here that I would be hearing any gun firing sounds. According to Google maps, I live 12 driving miles from the base. From the gun sounds I hear, you would think I was 2-3 miles away. It amazes me how loud it sounds.

It's an unsettling sound and I definitely don't want to hear machine guns going off too. For the record, I am opposed to adding a machine gun range on the upper Cape.

Sincerely,  
Chesley Haden

**From:** [Richard Hugus](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Coments  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 5:53:17 PM

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COMMENTS ON DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FNSI), MASSACHUSETTS ARMY NATIONAL GUARD, PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF A MULTI-PURPOSE MACHINE GUN RANGE, CAMP EDWARDS, JOINT BASE CAPE COD

August 27, 2020

From:  
Richard Hugus  
312 Woods Hole Rd.  
Falmouth, MA 02540  
rhugus@meganet.net  
508-540-0254

The Massachusetts Army National Guard recently filed an environmental assessment for a proposed machine gun firing range at Camp Edwards, a 15,000 acre military base occupying large parts of Sandwich and Bourne on Cape Cod. Not surprisingly, the Army found itself innocent of any possible harm this range might pose to the people and environment around the base -- it came to a "finding of no significant impact." According to the Army, the range would require 170 acres to be clear cut, plus 29 more acres disturbed. In addition, a "surface danger zone" of 5,197 acres would be established roughly north of the range, presumably for stray bullets. The machine gun firing point is about a half mile west of Snake Pond, and 2/10th of a mile from a residential area around Snake Pond. According to the Army document, "peak usage would occur from May through June", including night firing from sundown to 2:00 AM, for up to 74 days per year.

Forestdale residents and quite a few people in the southern part of Sandwich and the northern part of Mashpee will be familiar with the sound of 50 caliber machine gun fire from the old days, when it was also considered okay to fire 155 mm Howitzer artillery shells which rattled windows everywhere on the Upper Cape, until the EPA called a halt to that practice in 1997. Apparently it's time to get ready for more sounds of warfare in our quiet residential area.

The Army environmental assessment is notable for the attention it pays to the needs of the Massachusetts National Guard and its indifference to the interests of people living around the base. Large sections of the assessment are devoted to arguing that the range is needed (their word in bold) for troop training, the importance of this training, and the idea that it can't reasonably be done elsewhere. The document couldn't avoid at least some mention of the immense damage this base caused historically in terms of pollution of the Sagamore lens of the aquifer which provides water for Falmouth, Mashpee, Sandwich, and Bourne. But it finds that the same activities which caused this damage before will not

do so today -- it claims groundwater won't be affected and people won't be bothered by the noise. It's as if the change of the name of the base from "Massachusetts Military Reservation" to zero-connotation "Joint Base Cape Cod" was done in order to erase the base's entire history.

The military is not only blind to the fact that a large population has grown up around the base since it was founded. They actually consider this to be "incompatible development" and an "encroachment" on their freedom to operate. These words are in the document. While many people are lucky to have a rental or a small fraction of an acre to live on, the local military has full use of 20,000 acres of unzoned land (Otis + Camp Edwards), armed checkpoints, and is now announcing that they "have taken measures to restrict encroachment in lands adjacent to the installation." The attitude here is that the public are intruding in their space. This is why in the '90s the Pentagon treated complaints about environmental pollution as first and foremost a public relations problem, an annoyance, and not a threat to the health and safety of the people they claimed to be protecting.

There is no mention in this 111 page document of why it is permissible to pump millions of rounds of lead bullets into the trees, vegetation, and ground. Lead is a heavy metal; not good for groundwater. Indeed, lead is already present in and has not been removed from the former firing range this project is to be sited on. At one time the military said they would prevent lead contamination by using "green munitions." Now they don't even bother with that pretense.

Should Cape residents be asked to sacrifice once again for the Army National Guard's training needs? There is no war abroad that provides a convincing argument for national security -- for quite some time the US has only been involved in wars of aggression. Nor would most like the idea of Guardsmen firing machine guns in the streets of American cities.

It has been twenty years since the height of protest against the harm caused by this military base when, because of its position at the top of the region's aquifer, groundwater plumes caused by dumped aviation fuel, cleaning solvents, and explosives were found to be contaminating one water supply well after another. It seems the Army is banking on local residents forgetting or not knowing about this history. Like before, it also hopes to sneak by without the public noticing. Unless you like to read legal notices in small print in the Cape Cod Times, you might never have heard about this shameful proposal. In a just world, this base would have been closed a long time ago.

**From:** [SHEILA HURTEAU](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Machine Gun Range  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 2:12:24 PM

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I would like to state my objection to the proposed machine gun range at Camp Edwards.

A project of this size is not compatible with Cape Cod. The loss of land and forests already is a major problem. This should be downsized or abandoned completely.

Driving 270 miles to VT is not exactly a hardship - it's 270 miles, not 27,000 miles. I hope this does not come to pass.

Sincerely,

Sheila Hurteau  
Orleans, MA

**From:** [judith johnson](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Machine Gun Range  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 5:51:31 PM

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I am writing in response to the August 8th Cape Cod Times article about the Massachusetts Army National Guard proposal to establish a Machine Gun Range at Camp Edwards, Joint Base Cape Cod.

Please note that I am vehemently opposed to this proposal for many reasons, but most specifically for the environmental damage it will create.

As a long-time resident of the Cape, I am well aware of the issues we have been faced with concerning the use of land for anything detrimental to the groundwater table. On the base there still exists remediation efforts to clean groundwater and soil contamination from military operations, heavy equipment maintenance, airplane operations, and firing range training. Bordering towns were affected by all of this contamination to the point that many housing developments private wells were closed and testing wells drilled in their place. Many businesses and residences were provided bottled water or water filtration systems to protect against the dangerous contaminants in the water used for drinking, cooking, gardening, and bathing. All this has been done at great expense.

The damage to this environmentally sensitive area will take many more years to rectify. Impact to the loss of forestry and wild life from a new military development of this scale will be felt for generations to come.

It is my hope that a better use is found for training military forces which will better serve our communities, both environmentally and economically.

Judith Johnson

**From:** [PRISCILLA JONES](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Machine Gun Range on Cape, A Terrible Idea  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 12:49:07 PM

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To Mr. Driscoll:

The proposal by the Mass. Army National Guard to place on Joint Base Cape Cod a 199-acre machine gun range, plus 5,197 acres required to provide a Surface Danger Zone, is a terrible idea, a reaction which I presume you might anticipate from people living on Cape Cod. The Cape is a peninsula, known throughout the nation, for its beauty and special place in American history, and should be preserved for future generations. Scarring the Cape by removing 200 or more acres of trees for machine gun practice is a travesty, especially when technology is used more and more in warfare.

Massachusetts has thousands of rural acres that could be used for such a range -- if the Army insists on one. Cape Cod is not the place to conduct war simulations. Inviting hundreds of National Guardsmen to travel from all over Massachusetts to Cape Cod where entry relies on two bridges (even when new ones replace them) would be a traffic nightmare and greatly increase carbon monoxide emissions from the trucks used to get to the Cape. Pollution on Rt. 28 and Rt 6 is already bad during heat waves and would increase to a dangerous degree.

The army spent 6 or more years trying to clean up ammunition, etc.on Otis Air Force Base that was polluting water draining into plumes of the Cape's sole source aquifer, and now the plan is to continuously fire thousands of machine guns, with I am sure no way to guarantee that the aquifer will not be polluted again. The noise will affect surrounding neighborhoods, and a machine gun range will surely not be a way to advertise Cape Cod as a wonderful tourist destination.

Please withdraw this insane plan. The Cape played an important military and air force role in the past but it's time to change the base to better purposes. A decision to pursue this plan will lead to protests across the Cape and the Boston area and certainly lead to a withdrawal of support for any political leaders who support it, including Senator Markey, Joe Kennedy, and Gov. Baker.

Thank you for inviting reaction to the plan for the machine gun range.

Priscilla A. Jones

**From:** [Peter and Barbara](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] We Strongly Oppose the machine gun range  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 3:57:07 PM

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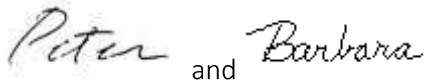
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Dear Mr. Driscoll,

We strongly oppose the proposed machine gun range at Camp Edwards on Cape Cod. Besides taking land which could be used for better purpose, it is a wasteful, anti-human thing to train people to kill others.

Respectfully,

 and

Peter Macara and  
Barbara Rushmore

[pmacara@capecod.net](mailto:pmacara@capecod.net) < Caution-mailto:pmacara@capecod.net >

[Caution-www.petermacara.net](http://www.petermacara.net) < Caution-http://www.petermacara.net/ >



Commenter

#83

**From:** [Pamela Mulveyhill](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] New/repurposed firing range  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 2:03:13 PM

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Mr. Driscoll

I am 100% IN FAVOUR OF the proposed range project.

I am a Disabled Vet, former member of the 102d, and live 1/2 mile from the Sandwich Gate entry & less than 10 houselots from the old road to the ranges. I love to hear troops training as I know that the more training troops have the safer they will be in real life situations.

Keep training!!

Pamela Mulveyhill  
106 Snake Pond Road  
Forestdale

**From:** [Pat Ob](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** Re: [Non-DoD Source] tweets for public comment  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 11:07:44 AM

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Mr Driscoll.  
Could you please outline the process of how this decision gets made?

Thank you  
Pat OBrien  
8579981170

On Thu, Aug 27, 2020 at 9:56 AM Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG (USA) <keith.j.driscoll.nfg@mail.mil < Caution-mailto:keith.j.driscoll.nfg@mail.mil > > wrote:

Your comments have been received and recorded.

Thank you.

**From:** Pat Ob <patob777@gmail.com < Caution-mailto:patob777@gmail.com > >  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 26, 2020 3:06 PM  
**To:** Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG (USA) <keith.j.driscoll.nfg@mail.mil < Caution-mailto:keith.j.driscoll.nfg@mail.mil > >  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] tweets for public comment

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on the planned machine gun range Camp Edward

**From:** [O'Neill MD, Mary-Amanda](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Machine gun range  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 12:24:46 PM

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Dear Mr. Driscoll,

With all due respect to national guardsmen, whom I hold in very high regard & have the utmost respect & gratitude for, a machine gun range at Otis seems like a terrible idea, given the proximity to campgrounds, an elementary school and bordering neighborhoods.

Thank you,

Dr. O'Neill

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This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential, and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error contact the Help Desk for Cape Cod Healthcare.

[Helpdesk@CapeCodHealth.org](mailto:Helpdesk@CapeCodHealth.org)

**From:** [franpennell@comcast.net](mailto:franpennell@comcast.net)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](mailto:Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG (USA))  
**Cc:** [franpennell@comcast.net](mailto:franpennell@comcast.net)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] FW: STOP THE creation of the SURFACE DANGER ZONE  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 12:22:02 PM

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Dear Mr. Driscoll – I am alarmed about the recently proposed creation of a Surface Danger Zone which will destroy even more land on our pristine Cape Cod. As a resident of Mashpee, we have already suffered from the existence of this base in the past – with polluted water, excessive noise and air pollution. Do you not remember the goals set forth in the Camp Edwards web site introduction! We are going backwards, not forward. PLEASE fight this proposal. NONE of this is good for the Cape and local residents living near this site. We deserve better as we have already suffered living with this base in our back yard. The Cape is NO PLACE for expansion and further destruction of our environment. As the website says – Camp Edwards will: *Demonstrate leadership in environmental protection and improvement, Minimize adverse natural environment; Support a pollution prevention program by reusing and recycling materials, and reducing hazardous waste generation; Manage all Camp Edwards lands and natural and cultural resources, and restore areas contaminated by past activities.*

**You need to stand firm in stopping this project. This project is regressive and unwarranted. We cannot be the military's guinea pigs any longer!!**  
**Fran Pennell - Mashpee homeowner**

***“The Massachusetts National Guard and Camp Edwards are committed to environmental stewardship”***

### **COPY -WEB SITE of Camp Edwards**

Camp Edwards is located on the 22,000-acre Joint Base Cape Cod on Upper Cape Cod. JBCC is an expansive, secure campus easily accessible from major centers in the Northeast, including Boston, Providence, Portland, Manchester, Albany, Hartford, and New York City. Camp Edwards is the largest training area in the Northeast. Its 15,000-acre training area hosts units from Massachusetts and throughout the region.

In addition to Camp Edwards, JBCC is also home to Coast Guard Air Station Cape Cod, Otis Air National Guard Base, and other federal and state agencies. These organizations comprise individual capabilities that accomplish Department of Defense (DOD) and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) objectives.

### **Environmental Info/Policies**

Environmental protection is no longer the province of a few technical experts. It requires Soldiers to prevent environmental problems by caring for those resources entrusted to them by the American people. This responsibility includes financial, material, and environmental stewardship. UH-1 Helicopters flying over Camp Edwards

Environmental stewardship is the wise use and responsible management of environmental resources, and is a natural outgrowth of the military's mission as a protector of U.S. national security. The Massachusetts National Guard has the following goals for environmental stewardship:

- *Demonstrate leadership in environmental protection and improvement.*
  
- *Assure that consideration of the natural and cultural environment is an integral part of decision-making.*
  
- *Minimize adverse natural environment and human health impacts while maximizing readiness and strategic preparedness.*
  
- *Initiate aggressive awareness actions to ensure compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local environmental laws.*
  
- *Support a pollution prevention program by reusing and recycling materials, and reducing hazardous waste generation.*
  
- *Manage all Camp Edwards lands and natural and cultural resources, and restore areas contaminated by past activities.*

The Massachusetts National Guard and Camp Edwards are committed to environmental stewardship. Everyone, from the Adjutant General to the newest recruit, every civilian employee, as well as every non-military organization that uses Camp Edwards' lands, must apply sound environmental stewardship to their area of responsibility. Why? Because we all want to have a safe environment to train in, but more importantly, we want to pass along a safe and protected environment for future generations.

**From:** [Ken Russell](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] NO to Machine Gun Range  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 11:25:08 AM

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Dear Mr. Driscoll,

I wish to register my strong opposition to the proposed machine gun range.

The Army National Guard placing a machine gun range atop Cape Cod's *only* aquifer would endanger Cape Cod's many residents, tourists, and significantly impact our sensitive wildlife habitat.

This would be a serious mistake on many levels, and would harmt he people and environment of Cape Cod.

Thank you,

Ken

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ken@cavedraw.com < Caution-  
<https://gml.cloud/v3.2/lt/f49ef880e87811ea9314fdd3e6dc7f7d/S2VpdGguSi5EcmlzY29sbC5uZmdAbWFpbC5taWx8fGh0dHA6Ly9tYWlscG86a2VuQGNhdmVkcmlF3LmNvbQ> >

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**From:** [pbsans@comcast.net](mailto:pbsans@comcast.net)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Machine gun range on Cape Cod  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 11:17:43 AM

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The Cape is an inappropriate place for this planned range for many reasons. We are no longer an isolated community as we were when Camp Edwards was active. Over 200,000 people live here year round. Destroying our limited remaining forest for a passe use of land is ridiculous. Why is this facility not being placed in mid or western Mass where there would be less disruption to fewer people. The cleanup of Otis took many years and now you want to start polluting and raping the land again.

TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE!!!

Peter & Brenda Sansone  
Mashpee, Mass.

**From:** [Mariann Scannell](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Machine gun training at Otis  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 1:04:29 PM

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Are you for real? There is absolutely no credible reason for this. This move only encourages men to go out and purchase the guns. Just what we need in society today. OY!!!! Pathetic!

*So many books-so little time.*



**From:** [Carol Schopfer](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Machine Gun Range  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 11:42:44 AM

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As a Mashpee resident I am totally opposed to Army National Guard's proposal for the "Construction and Operation of a Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range at Camp Edwards, Joint Base, Cape Cod."

The proposed range would comprise 199 acres plus the 5,197 acres required to accommodate the Surface Danger Zone, covering close to 5,400 acres in total. Will a multi-purpose machine gun range at Camp Edwards fit with your image of Cape Cod's future?

We cannot let you do this to Cape Cod!  
Carol and Kevin Schopfer

**From:** [Kathi Shaffer](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Kathi Shaffer](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Proposed machine gun range at Jt Base Cape Cod  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 3:02:05 PM

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Commenter  
#91

Hello,

We are stunned to learn of the plans to locate a machine gun range at the Cape Cod base. I have two primary reasons to oppose it:

1. At a time when climate change is roiling our planet -- witness Hurricane Laura in the Gulf and the out-of-control wildfires in the Western states -- your plans include clearing 170 acres of forest and and disrupting nearly 200 acres of land. The proposal calls for 5,000 acres. Our planet is crying out for more trees, more green space to help purify the air, not fewer!
2. The United States needs more funding for domestic, social problems, not more military facilities and weapons. Our schools need proper ventilation systems to protect students, our citizens need access to health care when they need it, our cities require more funding to manage drug addiction, domestic abuse, affordable housing and more. We do NOT need more military facilities!

I sincerely hope the people behind this plan have the moral conscience to reconsider this proposal.

If you would like further comment, please reply to this email. Thank you.

Kathleen and Michael Shaffer  
Falmouth, MA

**From:** [Shuman Kathleen](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Military machine gun range  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 1:23:27 PM

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Commenter  
#92

Please don't put a Military machine gun range on Otis. There are too many surrounding homes, schools, businesses that would be adversely affected by this. There are so many

concerns about our safety and environment please don't add to the problem. When I first moved to Marstons Mills in the late 1970s you would think bombs were being dropped

in our attic from the shooting practice at Otis. after so many complaints AND found pollution they practiced with rubber bullets. If the military needs a p[lace to practice please

please find a secluded place where humans won't be adversely affected!

Thank you,

Kathleen Shuman  
Marstons Mills, MA

Commenter

#93

Good day Sir,

I have lived on Cape Cod for 30 yrs now...I moved here for the peaceful nature,big skies,National Seashore and to live a quiet life..

That said,I am absolutely opposed to a "Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range" at Camp Edwards,or anywhere else on Cape Cod.

I realize that during WWII and the Cold War there was reason to have a military presence here.

Times have changed and Cape Cod is one of the few places remaining as an escape from the everyday world..

We need to respect and preserve the unique character of this place called Cape Cod.

There are many other locations

on the "Mainland" for a Range.

Please consider both the Yearrounders and the multitudes of folks who vacation on Cape Cod before any final decisions are made.

This is a very special place.

Please help keep it that way.

Thank you,

Andrew Simon

Provincetown

**From:** [Barbara Spillane](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Fwd: Gun Range  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 10:59:27 AM

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Commenter  
#94

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

From: Barbara Spillane <[moodybog@comcast.net](mailto:moodybog@comcast.net)>  
To: "Keith.J.Driscoll.nfg@mail.mil" <[Keith.J.Driscoll.nfg@mail.mil](mailto:Keith.J.Driscoll.nfg@mail.mil)>, Noel Spillane <[noelatthebog@comcast.net](mailto:noelatthebog@comcast.net)>  
Date: 08/27/2020 10:52 AM  
Subject: Gun Range

Dear Sir,

We are strongly opposed to the accommodation of a Machine gun range on Camp Edwards. This project is totally incompatible with the serene environment which we enjoy as residents on the Cape. The noise, traffic and loss of the natural environment is burdensome to all in the surrounding area. A project of this nature is unacceptable.

Barbara and Noel Spillane  
Marstons Mills

**From:** [Susan Starkey](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Machine Gun Range: Public Comments from S. Starkey  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 4:18:48 PM

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To: Keith J. Driscoll

I was quite surprised to learn of this proposed \$11 Million plan for the construction and operation of a multi-purpose machine gun range at Camp Edwards, Joint Base Cape Cod. We do not have a current military operation on Cape Cod and so I cannot fathom the reason for opening a machine gun range here. As I understand it, this range is SOLELY for training the MASS Army National Guardsmen/women so they don't need to drive a few hours to an existing range in Vermont.

Actually, I am stunned that the initial environmental impact statement shows "No Significant Impact." This finding for the Environmental, Cultural, and Socioeconomic Assessment comes in spite of the fact that the construction will require up to 171 acres of forested land to be cleared and replaced with grassland for the approximate 199 acres used for the range.

The negative impacts that I, as a layperson and resident within Barnstable County can immediately see are:

- a. Destruction of 171 acres of forested land reduces our Cape's land from sequestering carbon and therefore further add to the CO2 emissions that are causing rises in temperature and extreme weather.
- b. A more detailed assessment would be needed to ensure that spent bullets and use of the land will not further pollute our groundwater (like the fire retardant used by the Fire Training site in Barnstable).

The Cape Cod Climate Change Collaborative has studied a somewhat related issue: assessing whether it's worth it to destroy forested lands in order to build solar arrays- and found that it is far more important to our environment and the health of our economy to retain all the woodlands we still have available. Surely if even the grave need to build solar is not a reason to cut down trees we have no reason to build a machine gun range. Let us save the \$11 million and save our precious renewable resources.

Sincerely,

Susan Starkey, Co-Chair of Faith Communities Environmental Network (FCEN)

Every day we have a choice. We can take the easier road, the more cynical road, which is a road sometimes based on a dream of a past that never was, fear of each other, distancing and blame, or we can take the much more difficult path, the road of transformation, transcendence, compassion, and love, but also accountability and justice.

- Jacqueline Novogratz, author of a Moral Manifesto

**From:** [Cyle Thomas](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source]  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 2:14:28 PM

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Dear Mr Driscoll,

I recently read an article in the Cape Cod times regarding the Army National Guard's proposal for the "Construction and Operation of a Multi - Purpose Machine Gun Range at Camp Edwards, Joint Base, Cape Cod.", as it was quoted. I am conflicted on the need for such a gun range, and wonder if it can be constructed somewhere else in Massachusetts where it would receive more support.

I wish I understood more about what measures are needed to protect our safety. I fear that I don't have enough information to make a strong informed decision on these matters, but I would like to support the members and voices of my community at this time.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my position.

--

Cyle Cabral Thomas  
of Provincetown MA

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< #DAB4FAD8-2DD7-40BB-A1B8-4E2AA1F9FDF2 >

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**From:** [Steve Waller](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] no new shooting range at Cape Edwards  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 12:57:39 PM

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Dear Mr Driscoll,

My wife and I are retired Air Force officers, with 56 years of service between us. We recently heard that the Mass Army National Guard wants to clear-cut nearly 200 acres at Camp Edwards for another shooting range, and that alternative ranges are on Ft Drum or near Burlington, Vermont. We believe that such redundancy is senseless, and a waste of taxpayer dollars. The plan is flawed and should be abandoned, in the interests of stewardship of our rare wooded environment on Cape Cod and to reduce wasted expense to the taxpayers.

We have shared our thoughts with Senators Markey and Warren, Congressman Keating, state senator Cyr, and state rep Crocker.

Thanks.

Steve Waller  
Colonel, USAF (retired)  
Centerville, MA

Patriotism is supporting your country all the time and your government when it deserves it.

Mark Twain



**From:** [nrwigley@verizon.net](mailto:nrwigley@verizon.net)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Fwd: Against cutting forest  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 7:57:15 PM

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

From: nrwigley@verizon.net  
To: nrwigley@verizon.net <nrwigley@verizon.net>  
Sent: Thu, Aug 27, 2020 7:54 pm  
Subject: Against cutting forest

August 27, 2020

To: Keith J. Driscoll

In response to the Cape Cod Times article entitled: "Machine gun range proposed for Camp Edwards" this is to ask that you please count me as being very much against destroying forest where indicated for any reason.

I have been teaching Forest Ecology to students on the upper Cape for the past several years. There is a saying "we can't protect what we don't understand". The field lessons for these students give them a better understanding. They are the future stewards of the environment. I hope that adults at this time, can make good decisions to protect the forest that we are fortunate enough to have. Forests are necessary for human survival, they provide oxygen allowing all living animals to exist and they are places where people can connect with nature which is so therapeutic at this difficult time and importantly a place for wildlife to exist.

Do the right thing - - leave the land as it is. Please count me in with those who strongly oppose any destruction of forest land on Camp Edwards/Joint Base for any reason.

Nancy Wigley Certified Master Naturalist  
Instructor of Forest Ecology and Salt Marsh

Ecology

Commenter

#99

**From:** [Carol Wright](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Camp Edwards proposed machine gun range  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 11:23:54 AM

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Please register my vote in opposition of this proposal. Please confirm this email.  
Carol51wright@comcast.net

Carol A. Wright  
49 Ruggles Rd  
Orleans, Ma. 02653

Sent from my iPad

Commenter

#100

**From:** [Carol Wright](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Proposal of machine gun range  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 11:26:11 AM

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I am opposed to this project, please register my vote against it.

Gordon L. Wright  
49 Ruggles Road  
Orleans, Ma. 02653

Please confirm receipt of this email. Thank you.  
Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Alan](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Comments on the proposed gun range  
**Date:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 11:56:50 AM

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While I totally support our Guard, like everything in today's world given the Guard already has an option in VT it would seem this new machine gun range is a "nice to have" but not a "must have" option (more on this below). Additionally in the description provided today in the CC Times it was unclear whether this range will be ONLY for use by the Guard for their "weapons qualification" and would never permit any public use or for qualification of any type of assault weapons or ammunition by the public. In the interest of transparency, I am fine with hunters owning guns but I want tougher gun laws, a national data base, and a return to the ban on assault weapons and ammunition that is unneeded for hunting.

It appears that many of the environmental issues have been considered but have not yet been specifically and transparently discussed. That needs to happen and the tradeoffs agreed to by all sides.

My biggest question is where does the funding for this range come from given the huge need for the current unanticipated money needed as a result of covid19 ie testing, protective gear, equipment to reopen schools safely, etc etc and thus shouldn't the Guard just continue to use VT for now? Of course, the cost to use VT also needs to be compared to the cost of this new range. If the cost of the new range is greater then why do it all but especially now? Also since all money comes from us the taxpayers the question should always be asked is this a nice to have or a must have?

Since the CC Times noted a request for comments these are mine.

Alan Young  
Harwich MA

**From:** [Kathy Joffe](#)  
**To:** [Driscoll, Keith J NFG NG MAANG \(USA\)](#)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Machine Gun Range on JBCC  
**Date:** Friday, August 28, 2020 1:56:33 PM

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Commenter  
#102

Dear Mr. Driscoll,

I would like to express my disapproval of a machine gun range being built on JBCC. Cape Cod is a very fragile environment and more so during these times of climate change. This proposed range would require deforestation of 170.5 additional acres of forested land! Residents are further concerned about fired bullets contaminating our water sources. Lead contamination of water up there has been an ongoing issue for years.

Mr. Driscoll, please help preserve the environment of Cape Cod during these ecological tenuous times!

Thank you.  
Kathleen M. Joffe  
64 Randolph Street  
Falmouth, MA 02536

Sent from my iPad