

DIRECTOR'S NOTE:

The Department of the Air Force is dedicated to protecting human health and the environment in the communities hosting our installations by **eliminating** PFAS-related health and exposure risks. Our team of subject matter experts is taking action to ensure and maintain safe drinking water **now** while continuing with a science-based approach for **long term** treatment and cleanup. To date, DAF has invested **\$98.9 million** in PFAS-related actions at Wurtsmith and we're going to continue pushing for smarter, more efficient ways to **accelerate cleanup**.

Kenny Johnson
Director, AFCEC Environmental Directorate

The Air Force remains committed to addressing PFAS at the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base with urgency and transparency. Through the BRAC program, we have accomplished treating approximately **2 million gallons of water** daily and are working with partners to design more systems that will bring our total daily groundwater treatment up to **3 million gallons** per day. We are proud of our achievements and also recognize the concerns of the Oscoda community. We are reinforcing our commitment to work with regulators, local leaders and the community to create **long-term solutions** at Wurtsmith.

Greg Gangnuss
Chief, BRAC Program Management Division

GET INVOLVED

There are several ways to get more information and make an impact at Former Wurtsmith Air Force Base

The Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) is a meeting place for the community, Air Force, and state agencies to discuss environmental cleanup actions.

AFCEC maintains a public record of restoration work and RAB meetings at the Oscoda Library and online in the AFCEC Administrative Record.

These records and information about upcoming public meetings can be found on the former Wurtsmith, AFB webpage.



Please scan QR code to be taken to the webpage.
<https://www.afcec.af.mil/Home/BRAC>

INFORMATION REPOSITORY

Robert J. Parks Library
6010 N. Skeel Ave, Oscoda, MI

AFIMSC Public Affairs

Tel: 1-866-725-7617
AFIMSC.PA.workflow@us.af.mil



Air Force Installation & Mission Support Center



**FORMER WURTSMITH
AIR FORCE BASE
PFAS ACTION
FACT SHEET
MAY 2025**

EFFECTIVE CLEAN UP THROUGH CERCLA

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act provides the DAF with the means necessary to define areas of responsibility, secure funding and address PFAS contamination with a consistent approach. Following these steps gets us from discovery to long term treatment solutions:

ASSESSMENT

Preliminary Assessment / Site Inspection
Reviews historical information and site visits with limited sampling to evaluate the presence or absence of contamination.

INVESTIGATION

Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study
Evaluates the nature and extent of contamination at a site and assesses potential threats to human health and the environment.

SOLUTION

Proposed Plan/ Record of Decision
Coordinates with regulators, recommends preferred remedy, presents proposed cleanup plan to public, issues ROD stating cleanup alternatives.

TREATMENT DESIGN

Remedial Design
Develops detailed cleanup plans necessary to implement the remedy selected in the ROD.

CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION

Remedial Action
Constructs final remedy and becomes operational.

MANAGEMENT

Long-Term Management, Oversight
Ensures site cleanup work continues and the cleanup remains effective.

Interim Remedial Actions are special actions that can be taken at any time during the CERCLA process to stabilize the site or operable unit and/or prevent further migration or degradation.

CURRENT AND PLANNED TREATMENT ACTIONS

The DAF is committed to a strategic, science-based approach to environmental remediation at the former Wurtsmith AFB. This section provides an overview of the ongoing and upcoming treatment actions being implemented to manage and remediate PFAS contaminants in 2025 and beyond.

ONGOING TREATMENT ACTIONS:

Site FT002; operational 2015, expanded 2022

- Treating an average of **535,846 gallons** per day
- Prevents PFAS impacted groundwater from reaching Clark's Marsh by employing a pump and treat system

Site FT002 Soil Removal; completed 2021

- Removed **24,780 tons** of PFAS impacted soil

Central Treatment System; operational 2018

- Treating an average of **288,502 gallons** per day
- Prevents PFAS impacted groundwater from reaching Van Etten Creek by employing pump and treat technology

Van Etten Lake at Ken Ratliff Memorial Park Treatment System; operational 2022

- Treating an average of **670,037 gallons** per day
- Protects recreational waters and the surrounding ecosystem from PFAS impacts

Mission Pump and Treat System; operational 2019

- Treating an average of **252,010 gallons** per day
- Employs ion-exchange technology for efficient PFAS removal before discharging treated water

Alert Aircraft Area System, operational 2025

- Expected to treat **300,000 gallons** per day
- Uses 5 extraction wells to manage high PFAS concentrations near Van Etten Lake

FUTURE TREATMENT ACTIONS:

Upcoming interim actions are expected to treat more than **700,000 gallons** of water per day once operational.

Defense Reutilization Marketing Office; 2026

Landfill 030/031; 2026

3-Pipes; 2025

Waste Water Treatment Plant; 2025

PRE-DESIGN vs. DATA GAP INVESTIGATIONS

At Wurtsmith, we are conducting both **pre-design** and **data gap investigations** to ensure a comprehensive approach to PFAS remediation.

While both efforts involve data collection, they serve **different purposes** and are conducted separately.

A **pre-design investigation** is a targeted study under CERCLA to support an Interim Remedial Action. This investigation **gathers location-specific data** to ensure interim systems are placed where they will capture the most contaminated groundwater.

Here's an example: After community members raised concerns about the appropriate design and implementation of the Alert Aircraft Area IRA, the critical process analysis team recommended a **pre-design investigation** to **confirm the effectiveness** of the planned treatment systems.



The Alert Aircraft Area IRA uses three granular activated carbon vessels that treat 320,000 gallons of water per day.

(Courtesy Photo)

A **data gap investigation** is part of the broader Remedial Investigation to **identify missing information** needed to fully understand PFAS contamination across the entire base.

For example, after community members suggested that more soil data was needed north of the airport taxiway due to historical sludge spreading, we added this area to the **data gap investigation**.

Both investigations follow a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) to ensure data integrity and contribute to the overall data collection.



KEY

--- Installation Boundary

▲ Extraction Well

OPERATIONAL TREATMENT SYSTEMS & Capture Zones:

● FT002 PTS

● CTS 1

● MPTS

● Van Etten Lake at Ken Ratliff Memorial Park IRA

● AAA

PLANNED IRAs:

● LF030/031

● DRMO

● Three Pipes

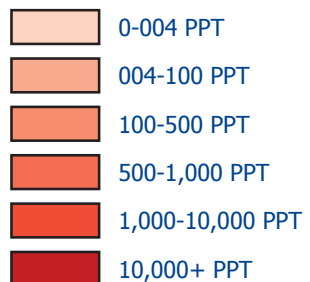
● Waste Water Treatment Plant

SOIL REMOVAL:

● FT002 Soil Removal

PFOS Concentrations

in parts per trillion (PPT)



This 2022 interim remedial action at site FT002 is a \$4.7 million project expanding the system with six new groundwater extraction wells to target PFAS migration.

2015

320,605 GALLONS/DAY

Fire Training Area 002 (FT002)

2018

288,502 GALLONS/DAY

Central Treatment System 1 (CTS1)

2019

252,010 GALLONS/DAY

Mission Treatment System (MPTS)

2021

24,780 TONS OF SOIL

PFAS Impacted Soil Removal at FT002

2022

+215,241 GALLONS/DAY

increases system to **535,846 gallons/day**. FT002 expansion at Clarks Marsh

2022

670,037 GALLONS/DAY

Van Etten Lake at Ken Ratliff Memorial Park IRA

2025

320,000 GALLONS/DAY

Alert Aircraft Area (AAA)

2026

500,000 GALLONS/DAY

Landfill 030/031 (LF030/031)

2026

200,000 GALLONS/DAY

Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO)

2,000,000+ GALLONS TREATED EACH DAY