

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Community Interest Assessment for the Cheyenne Mountain Space Force Station, Colorado Springs, Co.

The U.S. Air Force (USAF), as the lead agency, is conducting an assessment to gauge community interest in establishing a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) to share progress of the environmental remediation activities being conducted at Cheyenne Mountain Space Force Station. Cheyenne Mountain SFS is located within El Paso County, Colorado, in the western portion of the city of Colorado Springs. The USAF began evaluating environmental contamination at Cheyenne Mountain in the 1980's and remedial activities will continue until remedial goals have been achieved. Contamination remains within the boundaries of Cheyenne Mountain SFS and does not present a risk to the public. If you are interested in learning more about Cheyenne Mountain's environmental restoration projects and having the opportunity to give your input to the base and regulatory agencies on the management of cleanup projects, please contact the Air Force POC listed below by 11 April 2023, to indicate interest.

Questions or requests for information can be submitted to: AFCEE. CZOM.ColoradoPFAS@us.af.mil or to Space Base Delta 1 Public Affairs at 719-556-5185

Background:

A spill in 1982 resulted in 50-80 gallons of lubrication oil bypassing an oil water separator which allowed the oil to reach a receiving stream. Cleanup actions over two days resulted in oils reaching less than 2 parts per million and the oil water separator being replaced. Follow-up through the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (known as CERCLA) process over the years resulted in zero hazard and no-further action required from the EPA.

No further CERCLA actions took place at CMSFS until 2019 when investigation into historic use of aqueous film forming foam (or AFFF, a type of firefighting substance which was used on high-hazard flammable liquid fires) was investigated. In 2019 the Air Force completed a Site Inspection (SI) with input provided by the Colorado Department of Health and Environment, which studied 4 areas on CMSFS that had historic or suspected use of AFFF. At the time all results were under 2018 EPA Regional Screening Levels (RSL) for Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (or PFOS, a chemical found in AFFF) of 126 µg/kg for soil. In 2022 the EPA published new RSLs, as a result, two surface soil samples measured above the RSL of 13 µg/kg at 26 µg/kg and 32 µg/kg. A Remedial Investigation (RI) to determine the exact nature and extent of contamination is the next planned step. The two samples were derived from a former spray nozzle test area near the fire training area. There is no affected ground water, drinking water or surface water from this site.

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