

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION
Southampton Press Western Edition

State of New York,

County of, Suffolk,

The undersigned is the authorized designee of **Southampton Press Western Edition**, a **Weekly** Newspaper published in **Suffolk County, New York**. I certify that the public notice, a printed copy of which is attached hereto, was printed and published in this newspaper on the following dates:

May 26, 2022

This newspaper has been designated by the County Clerk of **Suffolk** County, as a newspaper of record in this county, and as such, is eligible to publish such notices.



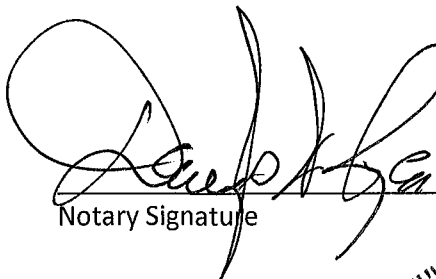
Signature

Eliot T. Putnam

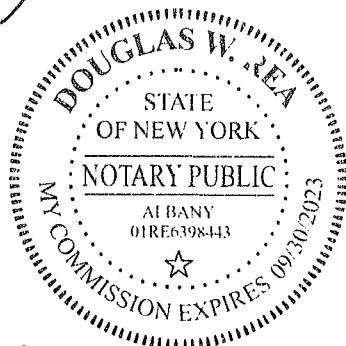
Printed Name

Subscribed and sworn to before me,

This 26 day of May 2022


Notary Signature

Notary Public Stamp



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PUBLIC NOTICE

**SUFFOLK COUNTY AAF BOMBING AND GUNNERY RANGE
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITE
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD ASSESSMENT**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is required to assess community interest in forming a restoration advisory board (RAB) at Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) every 2 years. USACE is investigating the former Suffolk County Army Airfield Bombing and Gunnery Range, located in Westhampton, New York, under the Defense Environmental Restoration Program for FUDS. Between 1943 and 1946, the former Suffolk County Army Airfield was used as a bombing and gunnery training range for fighter pilots and instructors. USACE is issuing this notice to assess public interest at this site and determine whether the formation of a RAB is appropriate.

A RAB is one of many methods USACE may use to facilitate public participation. Regardless of whether a RAB is formed, USACE will continue to involve the community in accordance with FUDS regulations. The RAB provides a collaborative forum for the community, government agencies, tribes, and property owners to discuss and identify the most efficient and productive means to restore the environment. A RAB should be established when the following requirements are satisfied:

A) There is sufficient and sustained community interest in a FUDS property, and

B) One of the following:

1. At least 50 citizens petition the installation for the creation of a RAB;
2. Federal, state, tribal, or local government representatives request the formation of a RAB; or
3. USACE determines the need for a RAB based on community responses to a solicitation for input, correspondence, media coverage, and other relevant information that show that there is sufficient and sustained community interest in the establishment and operation of a RAB.

The former Suffolk County Army Airfield Bombing and Gunnery Range site comprised over 9,000 acres; the munitions response site (MRS) investigation area is comprised of 4,297 acres. As a result of historical operations, the former Suffolk County Army Airfield Bombing and Gunnery Range MRS may contain environmental and safety concerns. The site was declared excess in 1945. Records indicate a surface clearance was conducted in 1946. Between June 1946 and September 1947, the site was transferred to and is currently owned by several private entities, the Town of Southampton, Suffolk County, and the State of New York. A Site Inspection was completed in 2009. A Remedial Investigation is underway. A project website has been established and can be accessed here:

<https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Projects-Topics/Suffolk-County-Army-Air-Field-Bombing-and-Gunnery-Range-FUDS/>

The USACE-New England District welcomes public feedback regarding community interest in establishing a RAB for the Suffolk County Army Airfield Bombing and Gunnery Range site. Inquiries or questions should be submitted within 30 days of this notice via email to NAERABFile@usace.army.mil or via mail to USACE c/o HydroGeoLogic, Inc., 3877 N. 7th Street, Suite 306, Phoenix, Arizona 85014. Within 60 days from publication of this notice, USACE will determine whether a RAB will be formed. Individuals who express interest will be notified via email or U.S. mail of USACE's determination.

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An Administrative Record file, which documents the rationale for all Remedial Action decisions, is maintained at the information repository located at the Westhampton Free Library, 7 Library Avenue, Westhampton Beach, NY and at the USACE-New England District located at 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA, 01742.