

Focus on: Spokane International Airport PFAS investigation

Site Assessment Report for PFAS

The [Site Assessment Report for PFAS](#)¹ provides information about the potential and known use of aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) at the Spokane International Airport (SIA). AFFF contains per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), which can quickly put out jet fuel fires, but last a long time in the environment and affect human health. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) required AFFF for equipment testing and firefighter preparation.

The report identifies areas that may be contaminated with PFAS, so they can be further investigated by taking soil and groundwater samples. SIA completed this work as required by the Enforcement Order (EO) the Washington Department of Ecology issued in March 2024.

Potential PFAS source areas

The report lists areas that could be PFAS sources where AFFF was stored or used, and areas where PFAS was previously found in groundwater, many of which are shown on Figure 1, Page 2.

- A. **Airplane crash that resulted in a fire, 1994**
- B. **Joint Fire Training Area and Military Burn Pit**, Air Force, SIA, and Air National Guard training with AFFF
- C. **Triangle Ramp training area**
- D. **Historical SIA Fire House**, previous AFFF storage and firefighting training area (also E on Figure 1)
- F. **Current SIA Fire House**, AFFF storage and firefighting training area (also G, J on Figure 1)
- H. **FAA inspections and testing** (Taxiway K)
- I. **Hanger 725**, AFFF storage

- K. **Field Maintenance Building**, AFFF storage and equipment maintenance
- L. **Air National Guard Operations Area**, previous AFFF firefighting training
- M. **Park Drive waste disposal area and Waste-to-Energy Plant borrow pit**, unknown source
- N. **Stormwater recovery area**, collects stormwater that may contain PFAS
- O. **Southeast area of business park**, no known AFFF activities in the area, further investigation needed

SIA will sample most of these areas for PFAS in groundwater and soil as part of the Preliminary PFAS Investigation, the next report required by the EO.

Site background

Ecology issued the EO requiring investigation and cleanup after receiving sample results that found PFAS in groundwater at SIA.

The Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) is Washington's environmental cleanup law. It provides requirements for contaminated site cleanup and sets standards that protect people and the environment. Ecology implements the [MTCA cleanup process](#).²

Related information

- **Ecology's SIA PFAS cleanup site page:**
<https://go.ecology.wa.gov/SIA-PFAS>
- **Join the West Plains PFAS updates email list:**
<https://go.ecology.wa.gov/WestPlainsPFASupdates>

Contact information

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ADA accessibility

To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-6831 or email at ecyadacoordinator@ecy.wa.gov, or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/Accessibility>. For Relay Service or TTY, call 711 or 877-833-6341.

¹<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/document/145583>

² <https://ecology.wa.gov/MTCA-process>

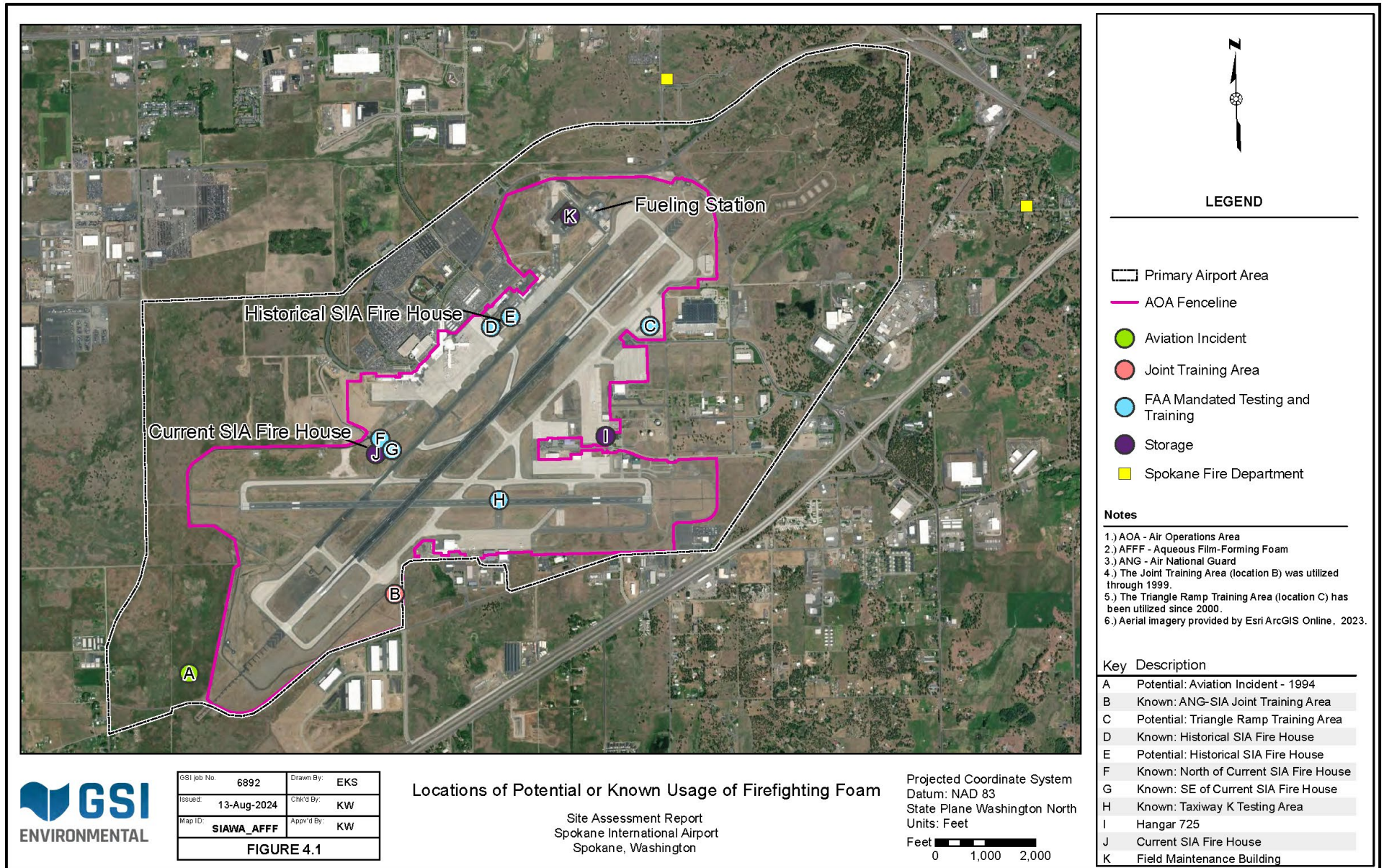


Figure 1. Areas that could be PFAS sources on SIA’s property. Note: This is Figure 4.1 in the Site Assessment Report for PFAS (figure by GSI Environmental).