

FOUR DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM

Caribou, Caswell, and Perham, Maine

Project Characteristics:

- *Long-term groundwater monitoring program*
- *Groundwater sampling from monitoring wells, residential drinking wells, and public supply wells*
- *Ensuring safety of drinking wells for property owners*

Woods Hole Group was contracted by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to complete various task orders related to the long-term monitoring program for the Four Defense Environmental Restoration Program in Caribou, Caswell, and Perham, Maine. This site falls under the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) program. These sites are NIKE LO-13 Control Site in Caswell, NIKE LO-13 Launch Site in Caswell, NIKE LO-58 Launch Site in Caribou, and Loring Communications Annex in Perham. All are former NIKE Missile launch and control sites where waste solvents were reportedly disposed to the ground. The USACE conducted monitoring to characterize the nature and extent of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the groundwater with the primary contaminant of concern being trichloroethylene (TCE). The USACE has been working with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP) to determine the steps to be taken for the site.

The Woods Hole Group monitored the site on behalf of the USACE between 2010 and 2012. The existing monitoring program involved collecting groundwater samples from select monitoring wells and public water supply wells on a quarterly basis. After each



sampling round, the Woods Hole Group issued the data in a sampling round report. In addition, notification letters with the results were sent to each respective residential and commercial property owner. One property has VOC concentrations in their groundwater that exceeded the State of Maine Maximum Exposure Guidelines (MEGs), and had carbon treatment systems installed to remove these contaminants. The Woods Hole Group oversaw the annual maintenance of these treatment systems and ensured proper function by analyzing samples before and after the filtration system.

In 2012, the Woods Hole Group provided recommendations to the USACE for optimizing the monitoring program based upon the results. These recommendations were implemented, which saw the scope of the monitoring reduced and three of the four sites were closed.



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