

Reference sheet

Historical Inventory Regarding PFAS

Time of assignment

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Client

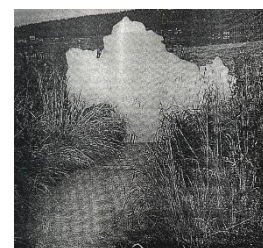
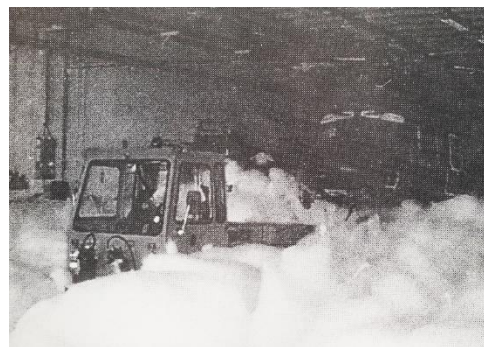
The Swedish Armed Forces

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Historical Inventory Regarding PFAS, Former Boden Helicopter Base

NIRAS, commissioned by the Environmental Assessment Unit of the Swedish Armed Forces, conducted a historical survey at the former Boden helicopter base. The survey covered the entire former operational area of the Armed Forces and surrounding areas. Previous investigations within the project area had detected PFAS, particularly at former fire training sites. The purpose of this historical survey was to review past and present activities to understand operations at documented source areas and identify any additional potential PFAS sources. Information was mainly gathered through interviews with former employees and current municipal fire service staff, site visits, review of materials in the Swedish War Archive, examination of previous investigations and descriptions of activities, studies of historical and current aerial photos, and information from the national contaminated site-database and the municipal fire service.

In addition to the previously known source areas, new information was identified about buildings and activities that could have caused PFAS contamination. This included hangars, garages, rescue stations, etc., related to fire services of both the Armed Forces and municipal fire-fighting training site. The survey revealed several potential sources of PFAS contamination within the surveyed area. For example, two hangars were foam-filled multiple times, foam cannons on rescue vehicles were test-fired, foam handling was conducted, helicopter crashes occurred, mass relocations were performed during renovations, and fire-fighting exercises and operations were carried out by the municipal fire service.