



Rhode Island Naval Auxiliary Landing Field

Facility and Location

Between December 28, 1942 and June 25, 1943, 631 acres of land were acquired at Charlestown to serve as an outlying auxiliary field under the control of Quonset Point Naval Air Station. The field was commissioned on January 1, 1943 and soon thereafter student pilots began learning aircraft carrier takeoff and landing techniques. Gunnery and bombing skills were also honed with student pilots utilizing their .30 caliber and .50 caliber machine guns, 20mm cannon, and several types of practice bombs on various coastal and island targets. On November 12, 1969, the first of five land transfers took place, deeding various parcels to the city of Charlestown and to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. All lands formerly utilized by the Navy were completely transferred by June 18, 1982.

Media Sampled and Findings

Groundwater — In 2008, one of five samples detected perchlorate at 0.19 ppb.

Appropriate Actions

Not Applicable. All samples were below the EPA and DoD Preliminary Remediation Goal of 15 ppb.