



## Johns Pond Update - May 2005

### *Information on the Recreational Use of Johns Pond*

Based on available data through May 2005, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) has determined that **Johns Pond is safe for swimming, wading, boating, and catch-and-release fishing.**

Contamination from the Storm Drain-5 (SD-5) and Chemical Spill-10 (CS-10) groundwater plumes has been found to be upwelling into the bottom sediments of two areas in the northwest portion of Johns Pond. **No plume-related contaminants have been detected in surface water samples collected from the pond.**

- AFCEE collects and analyzes pond water samples from Johns Pond twice a year as part of a regular monitoring program. Testing from the beach areas occurred in May 2005. No plume-related contaminants were detected in the surface water of Johns Pond in 2005 during this sampling.
- The Mashpee Board of Health routinely performs bacterial sampling from recreational swimming areas during summer months in order to make sure they remain safe for swimming.

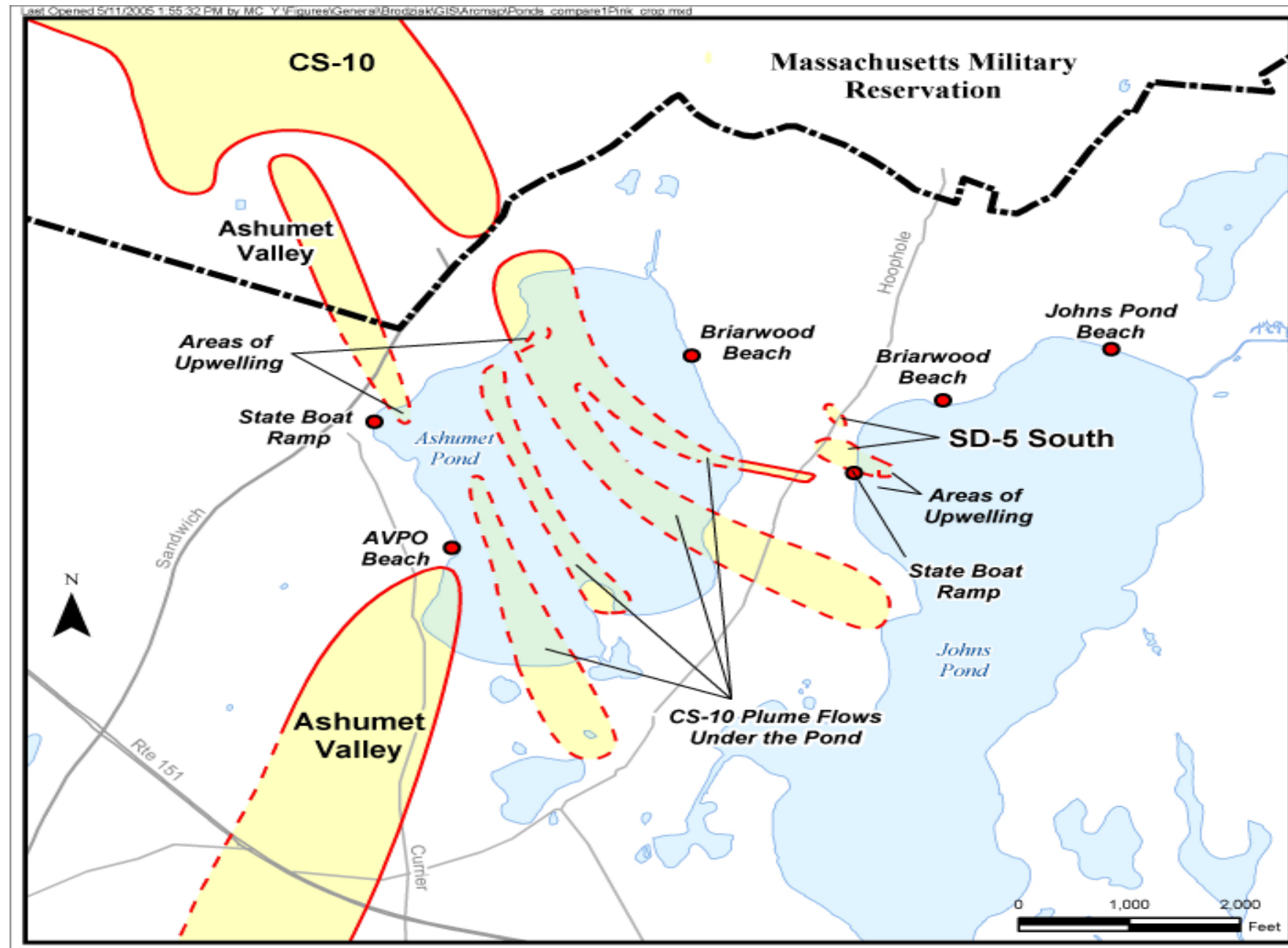
### **Fish Consumption Advisory (mercury):**

MDPH has issued a Public Health Fish Consumption Advisory for Johns Pond due to mercury levels in fish. This advisory includes a number of ponds in the Commonwealth and is **not related to any contamination from the Massachusetts Military Reservation.**

The advisory states:

- Children younger than 12 years, pregnant women, nursing mothers, and women of child-bearing age who may become pregnant should not eat any fish caught in Johns Pond.
- The general public should not eat any smallmouth bass caught in Johns Pond and limit consumption of all other fish from the pond to two meals per month.

According to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the fish consumption advisory does not apply to any stocked trout species.



Plume outlines based on Final SD-5 2003 Annual SPEIM Report, Draft CS-10 2004 Annual SPEIM Report, and Final Ashumet Valley Axial 2003 Annual SPEIM Report.

## For More Information

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The Massachusetts Department of Public Health issued a 2005 fact sheet on the "Recreational Use Of Water Bodies On Or Near The Massachusetts Military Reservation (MMR)."

For a copy of this fact sheet and/or fish advisory, visit [www.mmr.org](http://www.mmr.org), stop by the local Board of Health, or call one of the telephone numbers listed above.