

DEPARTMENT of ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
and
DEPARTMENT of EMERGENCY SERVICES and PUBLIC PROTECTION



**Presentation to the Public Safety Committee
Connecticut State Police Firearms
Training Facility Relocation Project**

February 2, 2016

OPENING REMARKS

Commissioner Melody Currey, Department of Administrative Services

- *Jeff Beckham, Staff Counsel/Director of Communications*
- *Shane P. Mallory, Administrator, Leasing and Property Transfer*
- *Jeff Bolton, Supervising Environmental Analyst*

Commissioner Dora Schriro, Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection

- *Arielle Reich, Chief of Staff*
- *Scott DeVico, Legislative/Public Information Manager*
- *Colonel Brian Meraviglia*
- *Lieutenant Colonel Butch Hyatt, Office of Field Operations*
- *Major George F. Battle, Commanding Officer, CSP Office of Administrative Services*
- *Lt. Robert Palmer, Executive Officer, CSP Training Academy*
- *Lt Marc Petruzzi, Commanding Officer Troop H – Hartford/BIA*
- *Sgt. Pat Cauley, CSP Firearms Training Unit*



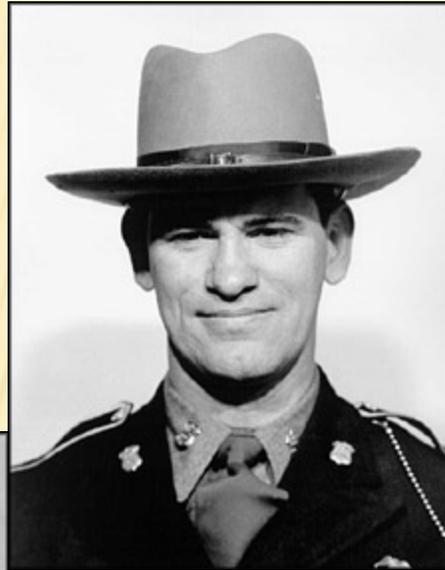
PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT



HISTORY OF THE CONNECTICUT STATE POLICE



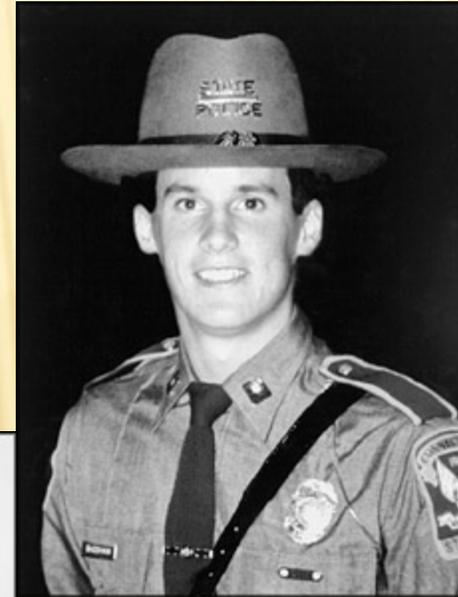
Tpr. Irving Nelson



Tpr. Ernest Morse



Tpr. Joseph Stoba



Tpr. Russell Bagshaw



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

CSP first used the current range in the early 1900s. Buildings were added and other improvements were made over the years; the main structures were built prior to building codes and floodplain standards were established.

**Temporary
Classroom Trailer**

**Old Classroom
(since demolished)**

**Tower and
Offices**

**Pistol Deck
(42 lanes)**

**Rifle Range
(approx. 30 lanes)**

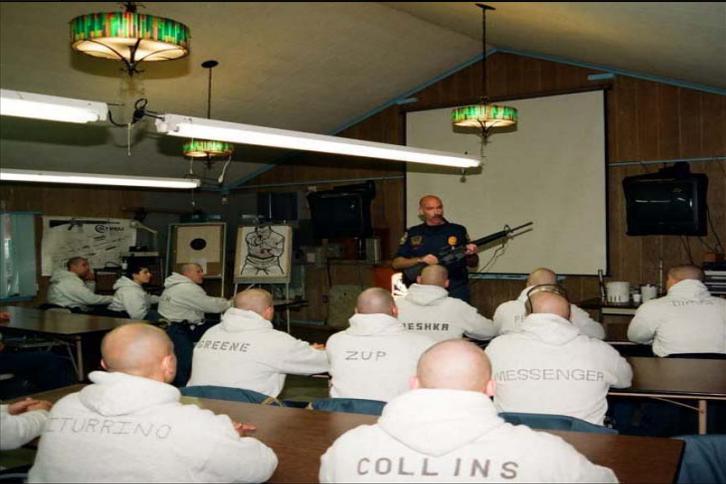


OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Training Building

1960's Classroom
(no longer used after
the 2007 flood)

Temporary Classroom
Trailers



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Multi-Purpose Building

(Photo circa 1990)



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Firearms Training



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Firearms Training



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Firearms Training



Example of Dynamic Training – Vehicle, Pistol, and Rifle



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Agency Usage

Connecticut State Police 80%

**Other Agencies (Federal, State,
Local) 20%**



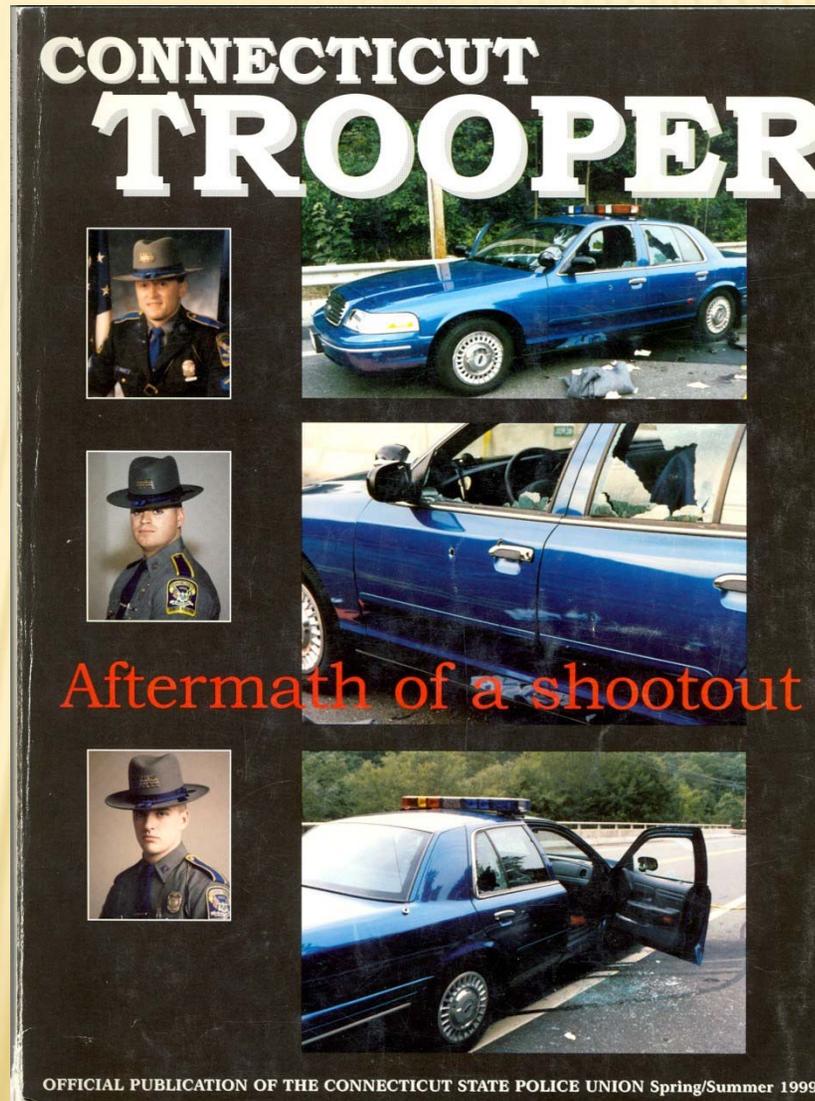
OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

The Need for Reality Based Training

Trooper James Reidy

Trooper Mark Pelletier

Trooper Michael Hogue



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

The Need for Reality Based Training

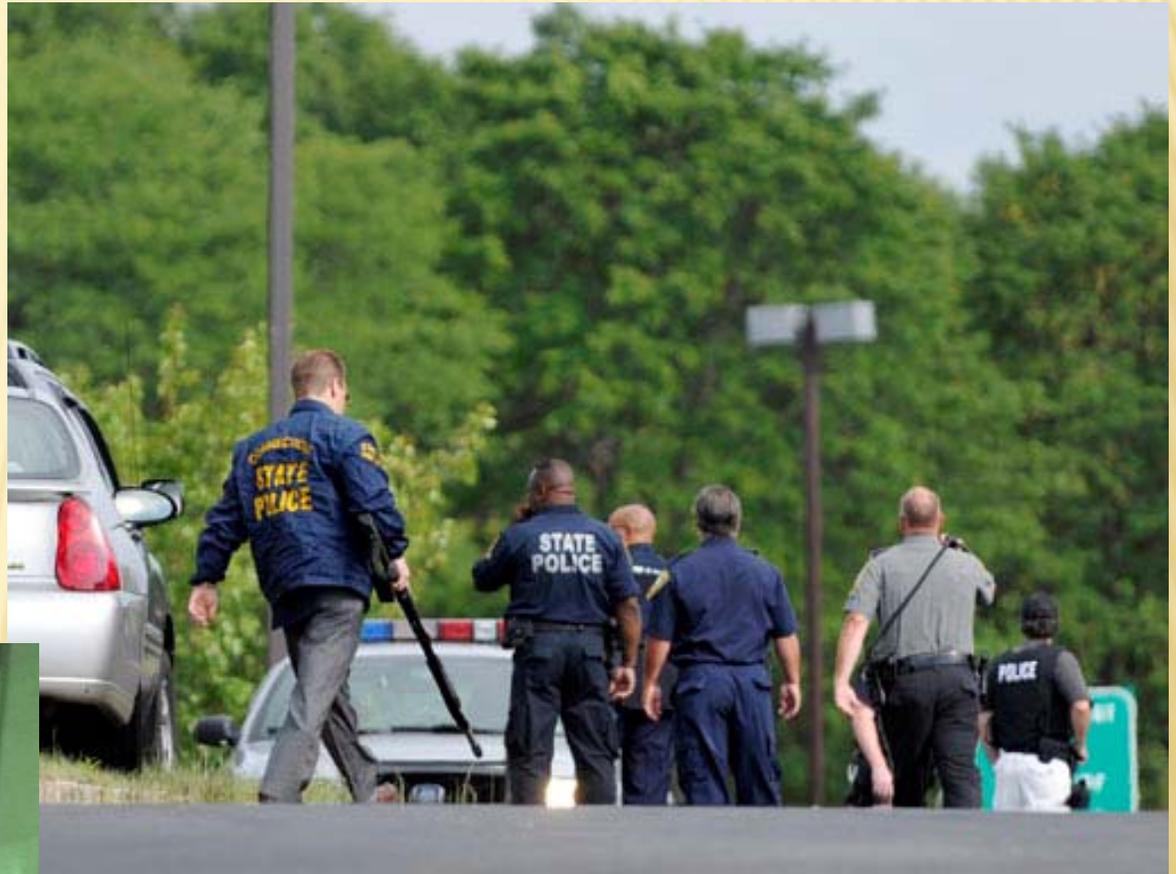


Westbrook, CT
April 8, 2013



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Active Shooter
Training



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

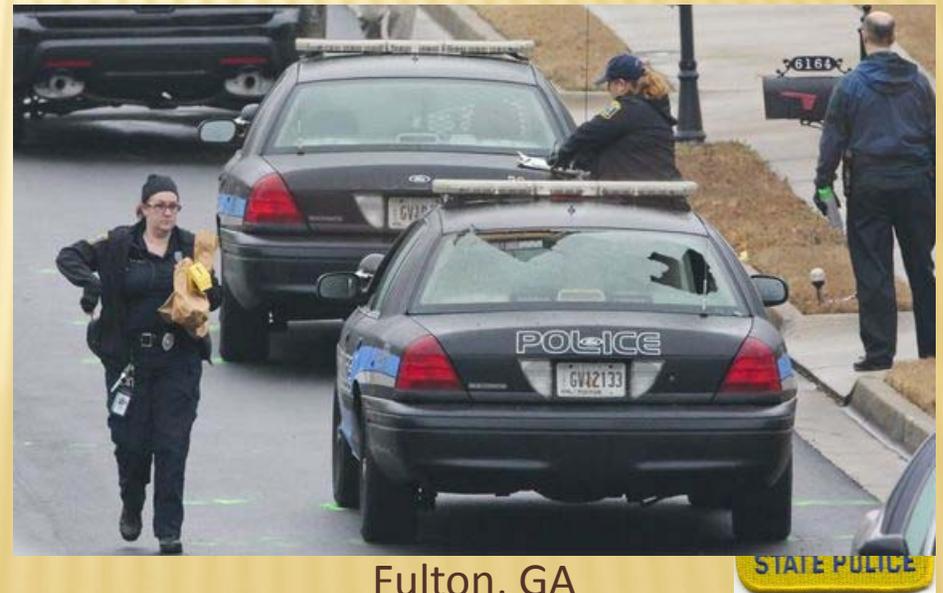
Emerging Threats



Philadelphia, PA



New York City, NY



Fulton, GA

OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Flooding: Located within the Farmington River Floodplains

Normal Conditions



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Flooding: Located within the Farmington River Floodplains

100 Year Floodplain Elevation



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Flooding: Located within the Farmington River Floodplains

Flooding 1984



Flooding 2006



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Flooding: Impact to Structures



Control Tower

Offices

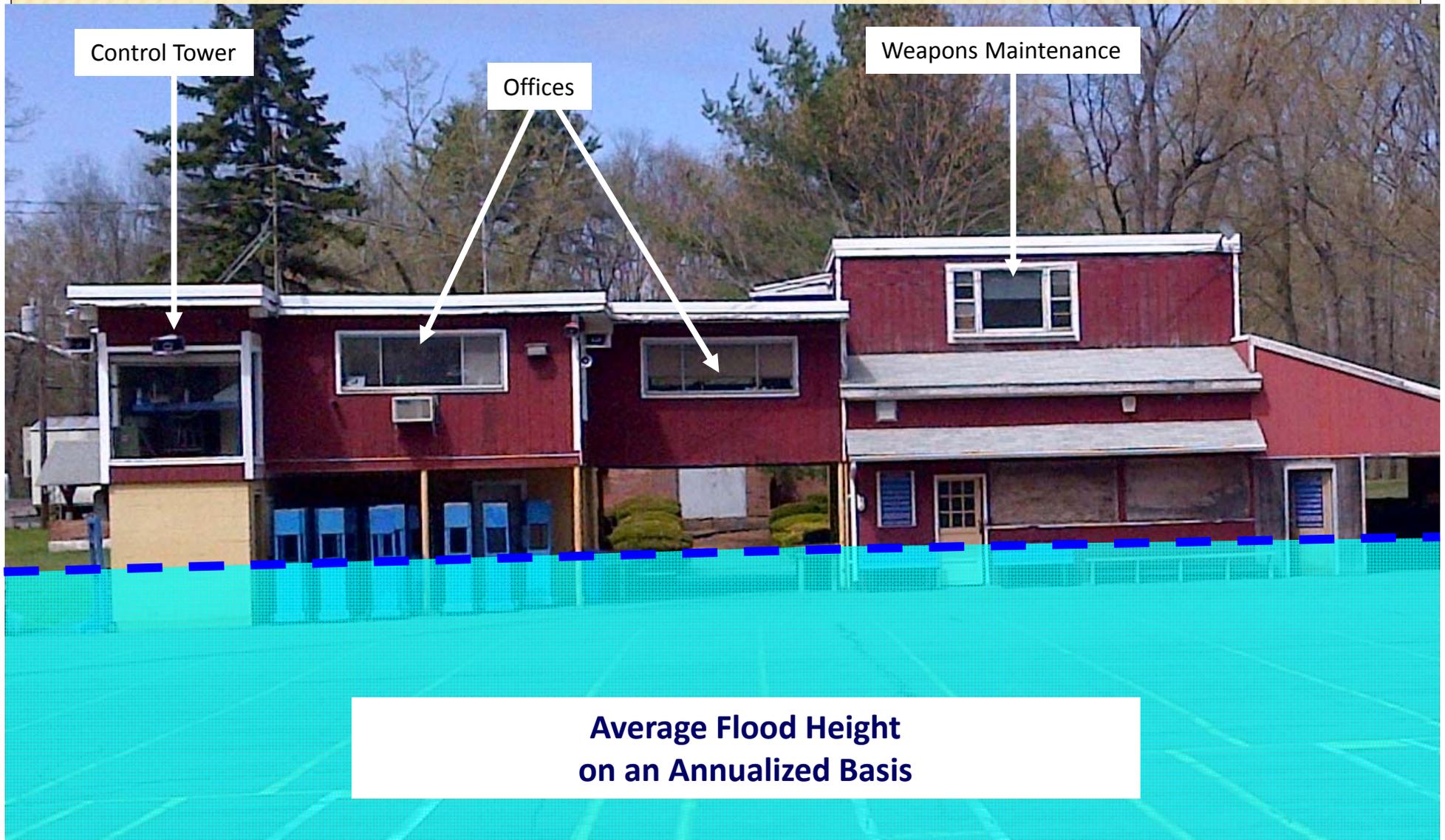
Weapons Maintenance

Storage Units

Pistol Deck (Range) under dry conditions

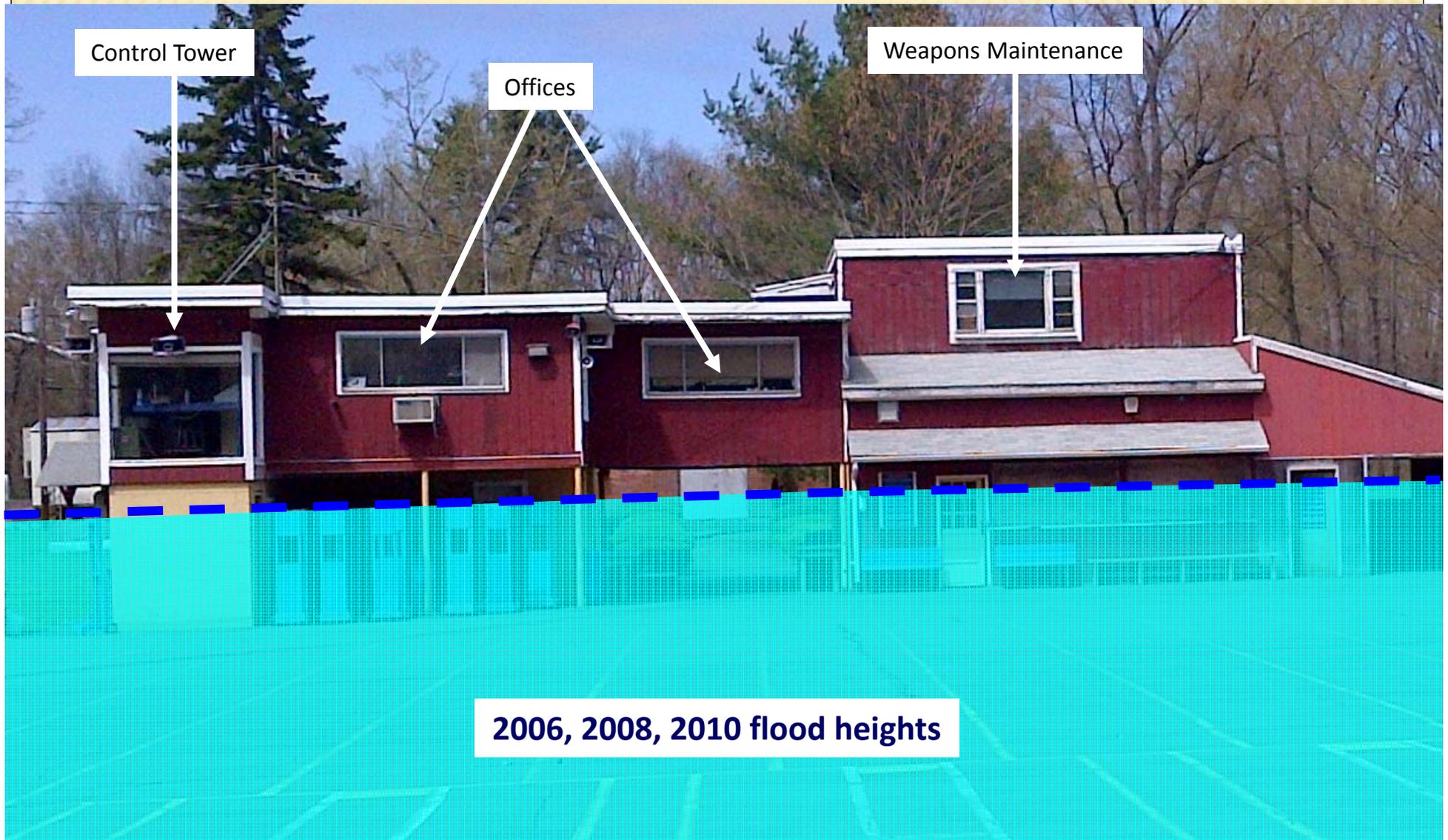
OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Flooding: Impact to Structures



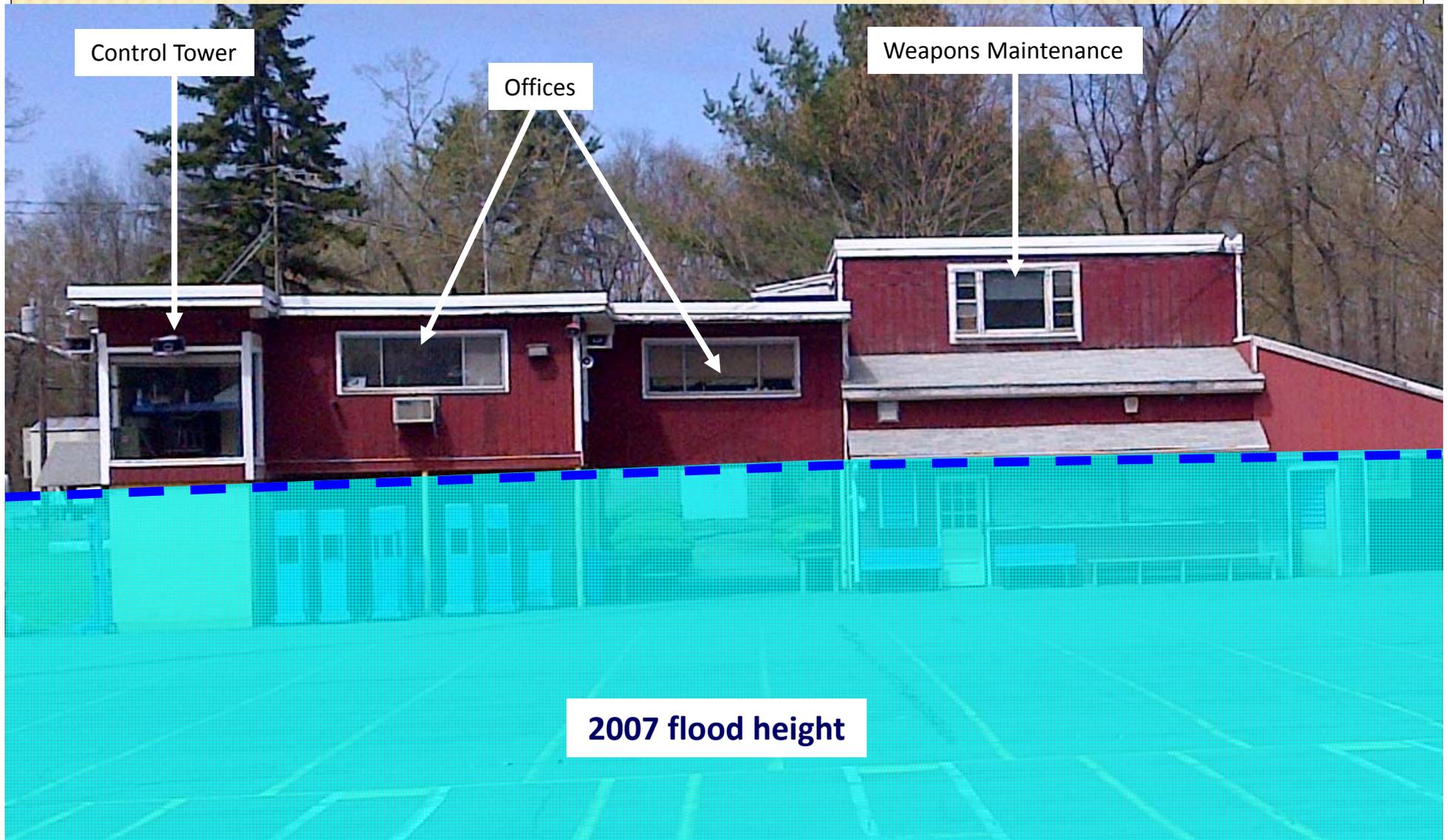
OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Flooding: Impact to Structures



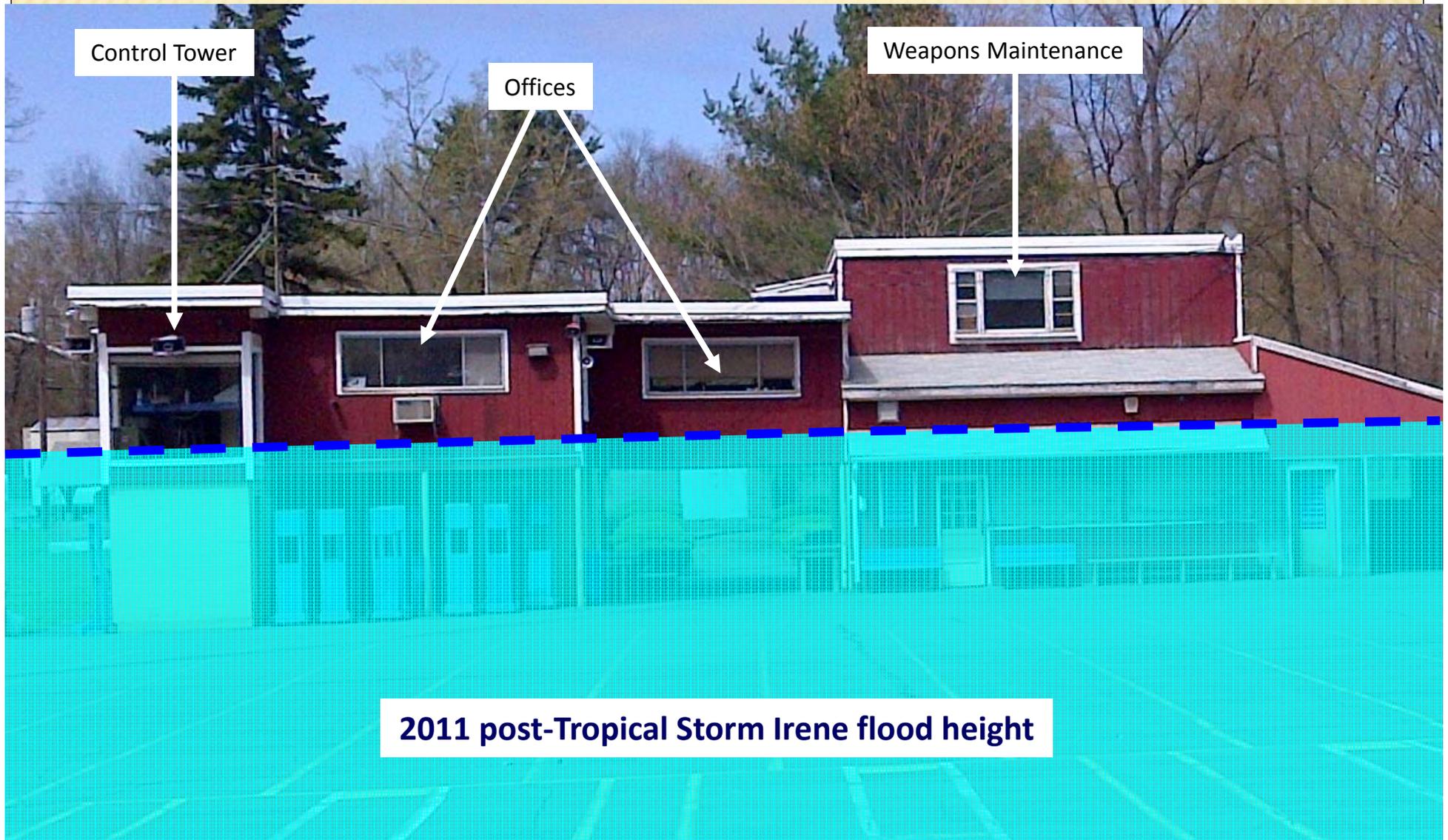
OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Flooding: Impact to Structures



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Flooding: Impact to Structures



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Flooding: Impact to Structures

Spring 2007 Flood

- Training building sustained significant flood damage; it has not been used since.
- Flooding reached the office floor in the multi-purpose building
- Storage areas of the multi-purpose building were completely submerged; ammunition and other supplies were destroyed.



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Flooding: Impact to Structures



Classroom Building

April 2013



Jan. 2016

1960's Classroom Now Demolished



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Flooding: Impact to Structures

Post-Tropical Storm Irene 2011



Temporary Classroom Trailer

OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Financial losses caused by Tropical Storm Irene (2011)

Some examples of losses were:

- Damaged Ammunition, rendered unusable: \$28,000
- Damaged Target Control System, replacement cost: \$110,000
- Damaged Computerized Firearms Simulator, not replaced: \$110,000

Total loss from Tropical Storm Irene: \$300,000



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Examples of Current Conditions



Side berm integrity issues



Continuous water damage



Port-o-lets used since 2007



Recently installed sink (first time since 2007)



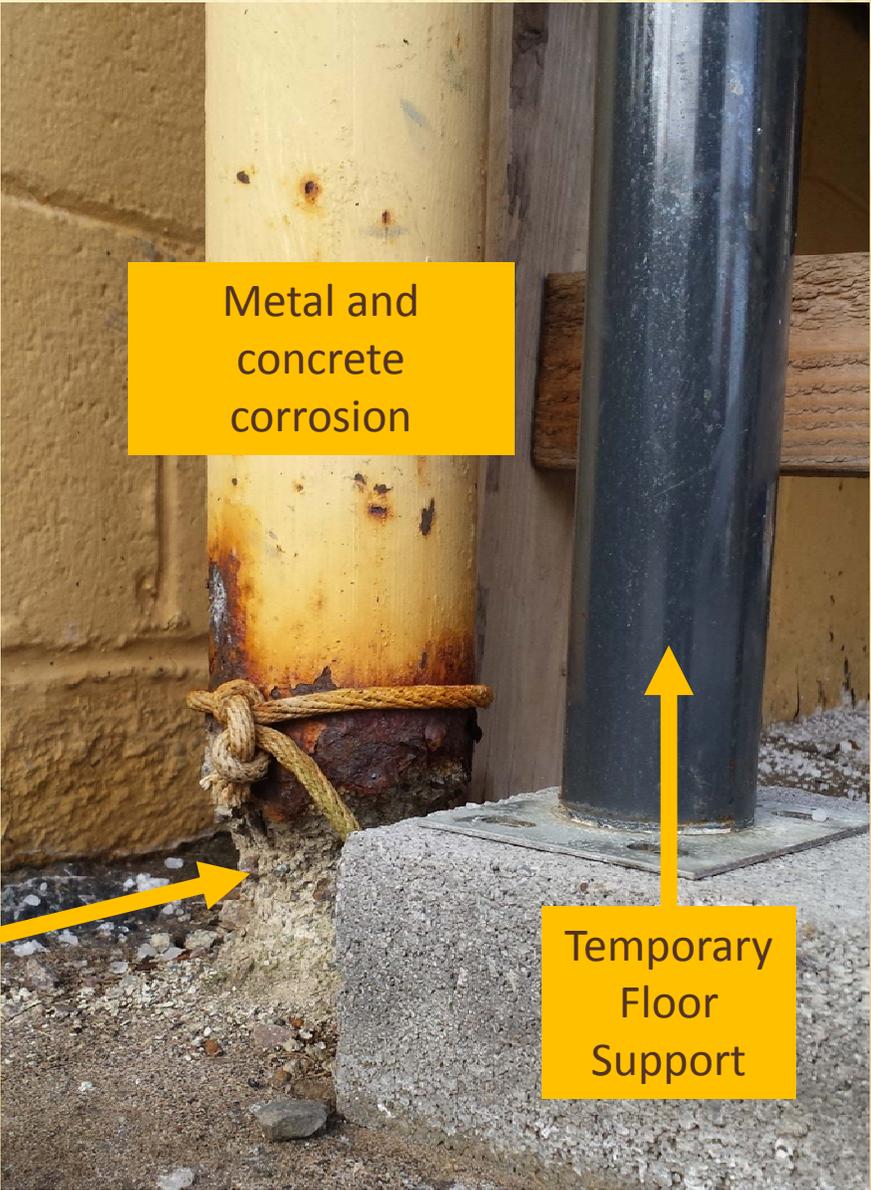
OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Examples of Current Conditions



**FIREARMS
SAFETY RULES**

1. TREAT EVERY GUN AS IF IT WERE LOADED
2. KEEP THE Muzzle POINTED IN SAFE DIRECTION
3. KEEP THE ACTION OPEN WHEN NOT IN USE
4. KNOW YOUR GUN AND AMMUNITION
5. BE SURE OF YOUR TARGET AND BACKSTOP
6. KEEP SAFETY ON AND FINGER OFF TRIGGER UNTIL READY TO FIRE
7. OBEY INSTANTLY ALL RANGE LINE COMMANDS



Metal and
concrete
corrosion

Temporary
Floor
Support

OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Examples of Current Conditions



Rifle Range Overhang
Columns and Roof
Deterioration



Rifle Range Storage
Area (no longer used)



OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

The Purpose of the Project

To develop a sustainable and resilient critical facility in order to *maintain* and *improve* a core function of the Connecticut State Police.

In other words, to create a facility that can support the firearm training needs for the Connecticut State Police for today, and the seeable future.



OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

The Need for the Project

- ❑ The existing facilities and site are not sustainable.
- ❑ Each flooding disrupts training schedule.
- ❑ Each flood event results in financial costs. *Estimated average cost per flood event is \$30,000; the highest to date was \$400,000.*
- ❑ Flooding events have increased in number and intensity over time.



OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

The Need for the Project

Examples of the impact of flooding on Trooper Firearms training:

- Last minute cancellations of training result in disrupted certification and recertification schedules.
- Extended delays between training sessions.
- To compensate for loss time, training programs have been condensed, thereby adversely affecting training level of Troopers across the state.



OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Project Description

- ❑ To relocate the existing Firearms Training Facility and Program from its current location to a suitable site.
- ❑ The proposed project is to develop a firearms training facility that meet current and future training for Connecticut State Police.
- ❑ While the design cannot be initiated until an actual site is selected, the major elements associated with this relocation project are these:



OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Project Description

- Up to approximately 55,000 gross square feet multipurpose training building(s).

Main space uses multipurpose training building(s):

- *classrooms to hold up to approximately 100 troopers*
- *firearms simulator and open area training rooms*
- *indoor active-shooter training*
- *gun cleaning and smithing*
- *staff offices and file storage room*
- *storage vaults*
- *recruit/staff kitchen and dining area*
- *reloading area*
- *bathrooms with lockers and showers*
- *storage areas (i.e., garage, target storage)*



OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Project Description

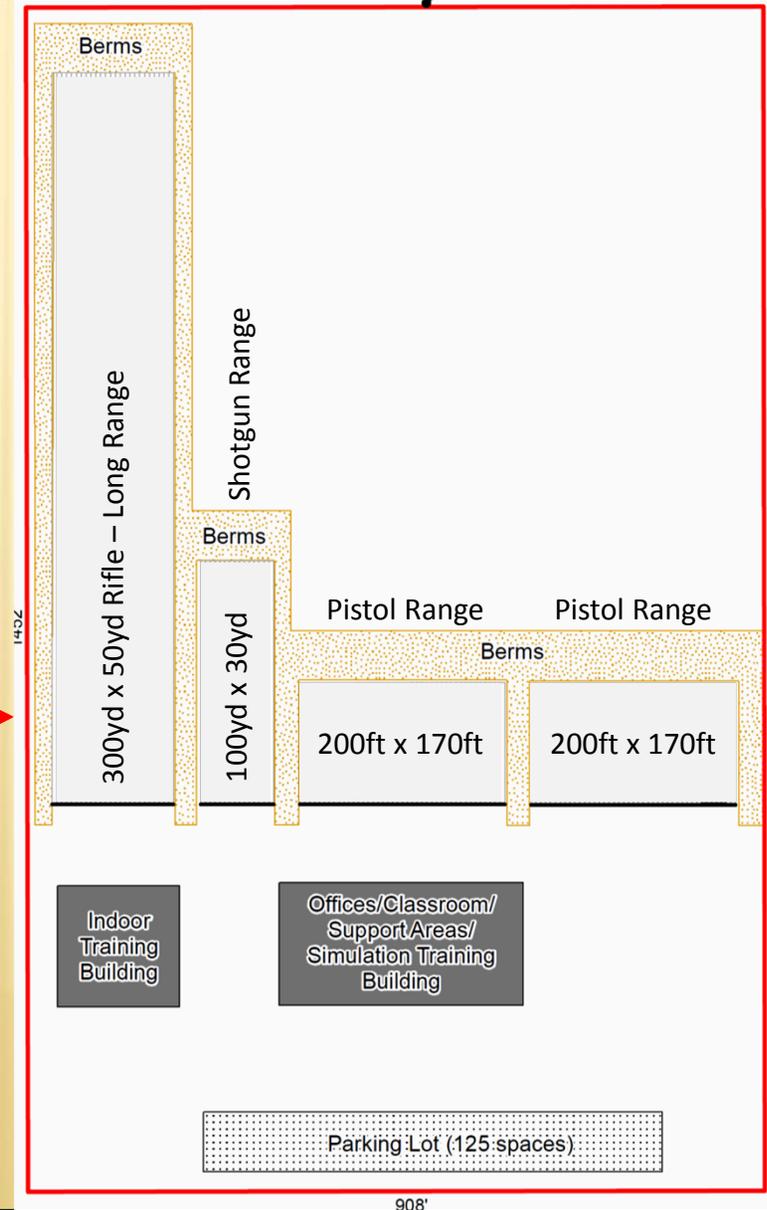
- 2 Range Control Buildings with elevated tower (~1 story high)
- 1 Qualifying Pistol Range (approximately 200ft x 170ft)
- 1 Active Shooter Training Range (approximately 200ft x 170ft)
- 1 Rifle Range (approximately 300yd x 50yd)
- 1 Shotgun Range (approximately 100yd x 30yd)
- Up to 125 parking spaces
- Well and septic systems, telecom and electrical utilities



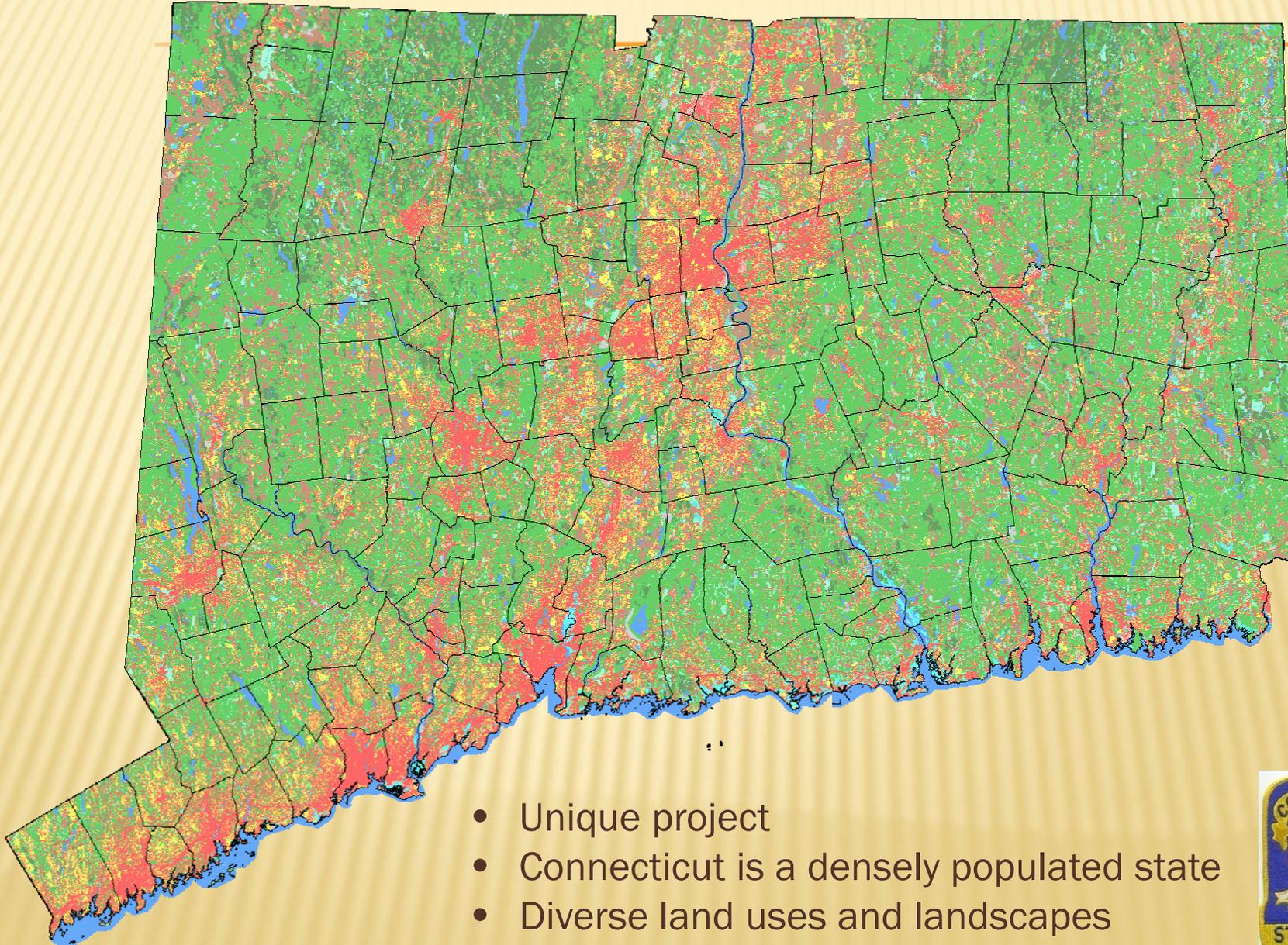
OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Project Conceptual Layout

- ❑ Open ranges (2 pistol, shotgun/rifle, long rifle)
- ❑ Offices/Classroom Building
- ❑ Indoor Training Building
- ❑ Total area = 30 acres (as represented in the red rectangle)



SITE SELECTION PROCESS



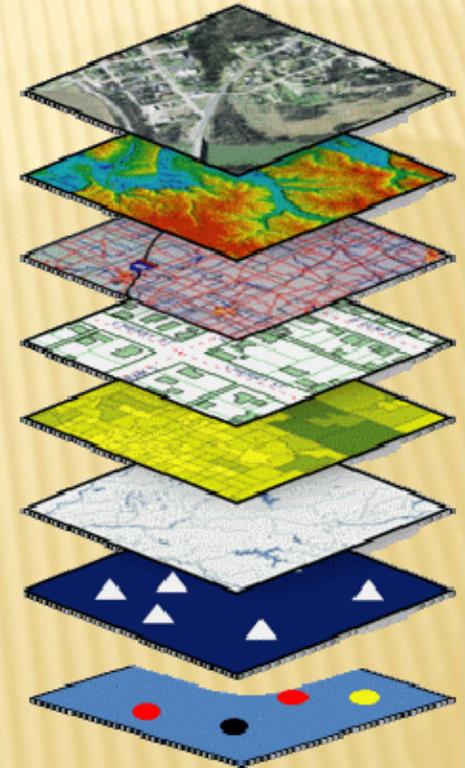
- Unique project
- Connecticut is a densely populated state
- Diverse land uses and landscapes



SITE SELECTION PROCESS

Goals

- ❑ The goals of the site selection process were to find sites that would meet the purpose and need of the project and could be acquired and developed, to the extent possible, without major constraints.
 - This would mean searching across the state, involving over a million mapped parcels, plus using aerial photos to review areas with no parcel data.
- ❑ This significant effort would rely on GIS analysis and assessment and using available statewide GIS data and resources.



SITE SELECTION PROCESS

Goals

- ❑ In order to achieve the siting goals, a narrowing and automated process was initiated by developing some generalized criteria.

- ❑ Identify parcels in Connecticut 100 acres or larger and State owned property over 30 acres.

- ❑ Identify land use areas that offer reuse opportunities:
 - Existing outdoor gun ranges/sportsmen's clubs land
 - Quarries/Mines/Sand & Gravel Pits
 - Brownfields
 - State-owned land (not DEEP)
 - Inactive/Underutilized Airports
 - Closed Landfills

- ❑ Unsolicited Sites (*sites submitted by willing land owners*)



SITE SELECTION PROCESS

Exclusionary Evaluation Criteria

- ❑ Sites with one or more of these characteristics were excluded from consideration:
 - Not available (i.e., not a willing seller)
 - Protected open space
 - Contain less than 30 acres of land unencumbered by wetlands and floodplains
 - Located less than 1/2 mile from a school
 - Located less than 1/2 mile from a nursing home
 - Contain a significant portion of land under the Department of Agriculture's Farmland Preservation Program



SITE SELECTION PROCESS

Discretionary Evaluation Categories

- ❑ Sites not excluded were further evaluated on a discretionary basis. Meaning, just because a site contained or was within a distance from a resource, did not automatically eliminate the site.

- ❑ The discretionary criteria can be lumped into three board categories:
 - Environmental Resources
 - Socioeconomic Resources
 - Agency Program Considerations



SITE SELECTION PROCESS

Discretionary Evaluation Categories

Environmental Resource Considerations

- Wetlands
- Watercourses
- FEMA Floodplains
- State/Federally-Protected Species Habitat (Natural Diversity Database Areas or NDDDB)
- Aquifer Protection Areas
- Water Supply Watersheds
- Farmland Soils



SITE SELECTION PROCESS

Discretionary Evaluation Categories

Socioeconomic Resource Considerations

- Environmental Justice Communities

- Location of the following areas relative to the site:
 - Residences
 - Places of Worship
 - Cemeteries
 - Hospitals
 - Schools
 - Daycare Centers
 - Recreational Areas
 - Historical Areas



SITE SELECTION PROCESS

Project Timeline and Steps Taken

- ❑ June 2013, a statewide search was initiated. The approach was proactive vs. reactive. In addition to State owned property, private property from willing sellers were to be considered.
- ❑ Summer of 2013, land owners were offering their sites (unsolicited)
 - The Ruby Road Site in Willington and the East Windsor Site were offered in the summer of 2013, as well as others.

JOURNAL INQUIRER / WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2013 3

Willington land offered for state police firing range

By Ed Jacovino

the Connecticut State Police had Willington, north of Route 74. It cov- emails to the state Department of he said.
abandoned plans to build the range are 225.0 acres and is appraised at Emergency Services and Public "It's just such a beautiful piece of

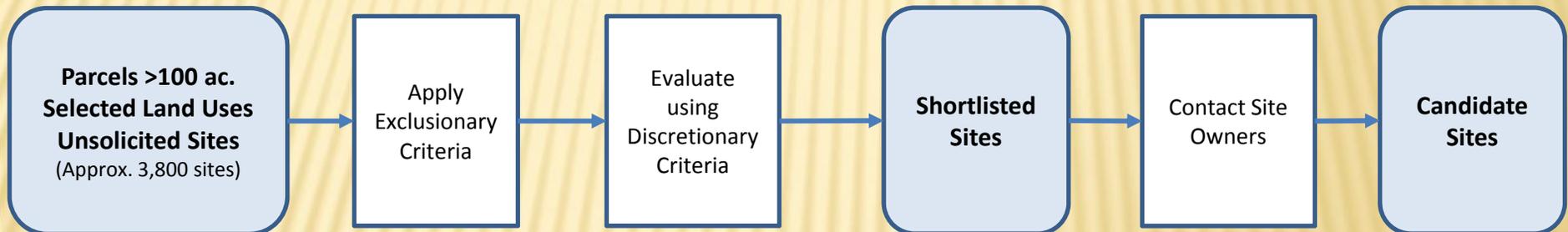
Journal Inquirer – June 19, 2013



SITE SELECTION PROCESS

Project Timeline and Steps Taken

- ❑ DAS and DESPP with their consultant developed generalized criteria. Our consultant further refined criteria and developed weighting factors for ranking.
- ❑ The consultant was able to develop a ranking of parcels in order to bring the volume of sites to a more manageable number in order to conduct individualized site analysis. Below is a diagram showing the basic steps.



- ❑ We started with 3,800+ parcels (sites); after exclusionary criteria, 1,650 sites remained; after discretionary criteria ~ 1,110 sites were ranked.
- ❑ Based on ranking a “Tier 1” list was created (136 sites).



SITE SELECTION PROCESS

Project Timeline and Steps Taken

- ❑ DAS reviewed Tier 1 sites in further detail to look at such issues as parcel configuration (shape), topography, access points into the property, “buildable” areas, adjacent land uses, existing use of the property, available “buffer” space, ownership verification, etc.
- ❑ Of the Tier 1 Sites, 33 were jointly reviewed by DESPP and DAS staff. Sites with favorable review were “shortlisted” and efforts were made to contact the land owners. Numerous efforts were made to reach property owners. The majority declined or could not be reached after several attempts. Those who were interested were told about the State’s processes and the proposed project.
- ❑ DESPP and DAS wanted to review more sites, so the consultant submitted “Tier 2” sites (15), for-sale properties (23), and eventually “Tier 3” sites (8). Each list went through the same process as the Tier 1 sites.



SITE SELECTION PROCESS

Project Timeline and Steps Taken

- ❑ Early in 2014, DESPP and DAS staff toured the CT National Guard East Haven Rifle Range. It was determined that this facility did not meet State Police needs.
- ❑ Mid-to-late 2014 there were four “Candidate Sites.”
- ❑ Late 2014, one property was withdrawn by the owner because it was under contract; three sites continued forward (2 in Willington and 1 in East Windsor).
- ❑ Early 2015, DAS met with the three land owners to explain the CEPA and land acquisition processes.
- ❑ In the spring of 2015, DESPP and DAS met with the First Selectman of Willington and East Windsor to discuss the project, the public participation process, CEPA, and the public meetings.



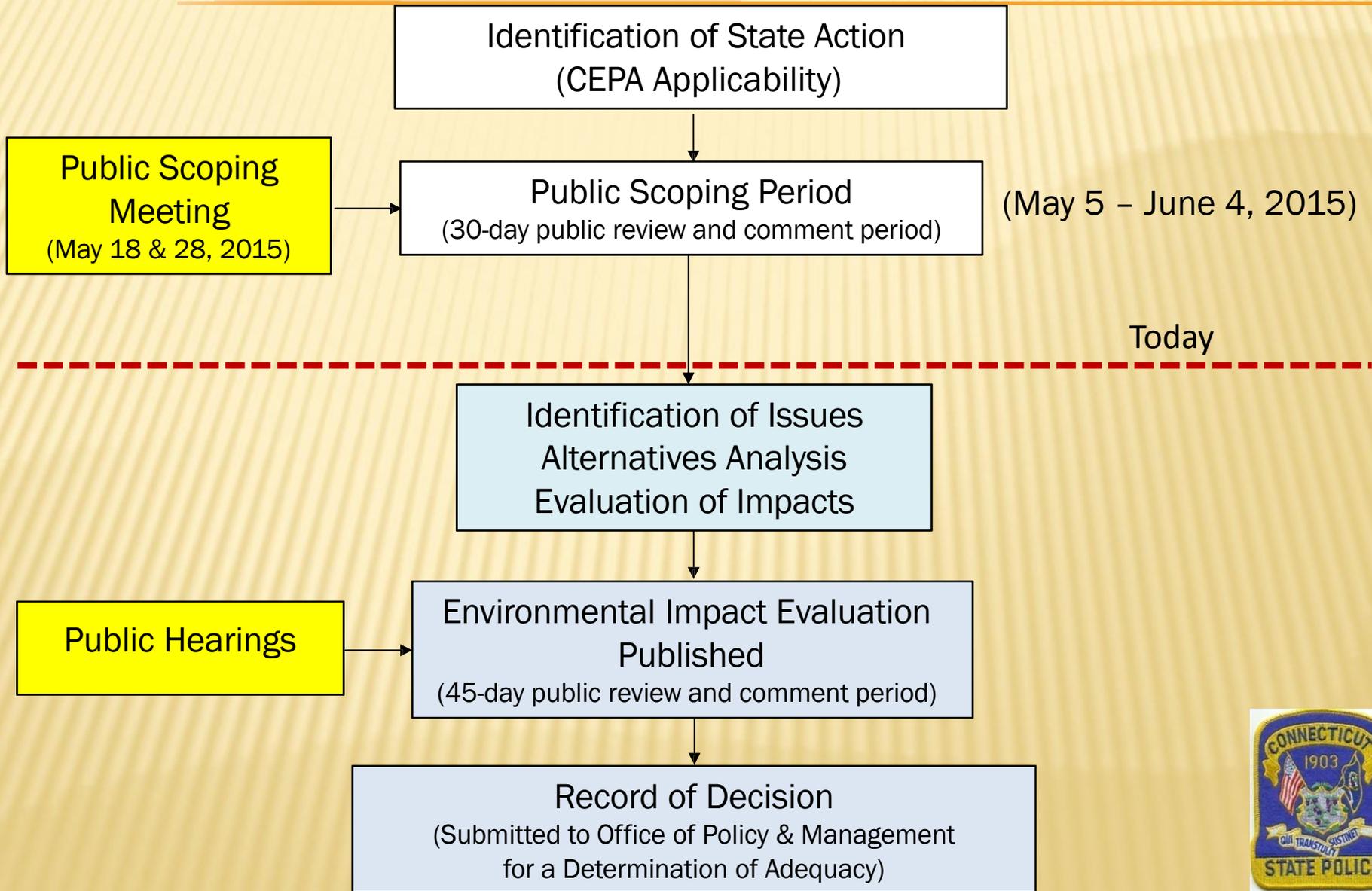
SITE SELECTION PROCESS

Project Timeline and Steps Taken

- ❑ On May 5, 2015, the CEPA Public Scoping Notice was published.
- ❑ On May 18, 2015, the East Windsor Public Scoping Meeting was held.
- ❑ On May 28, 2015, the Willington Public Scoping Meeting was held.
- ❑ On June 1, 2015, the owner of the Eldredge Mills Rd. site in Willington withdrew their property from further consideration.
- ❑ Additional unsolicited properties have been submitted since the public meetings and continue to be accepted for consideration.
- ❑ During June-July 2015, DESPP and DAS reviewed Connecticut Police Academy in Meriden in greater detail.
- ❑ In July 2015, DESPP toured the DOC Cheshire Range facilities.
- ❑ In August 2015, DESPP again toured East Haven Rifle Range.



Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA) Process



SITE SELECTION PROCESS

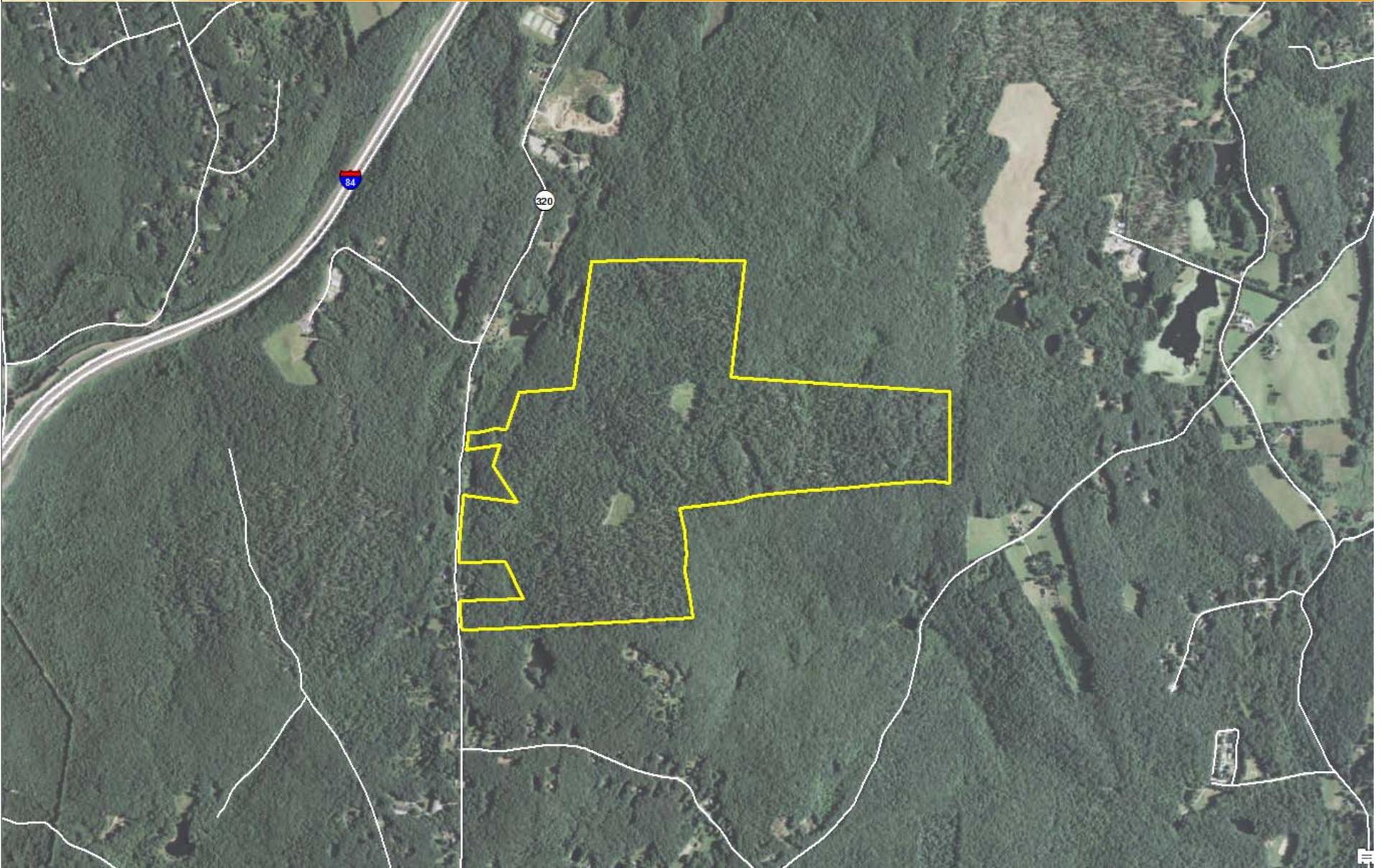
Current Sites

- Willington at Ruby Road
- East Windsor at Windsorville Road



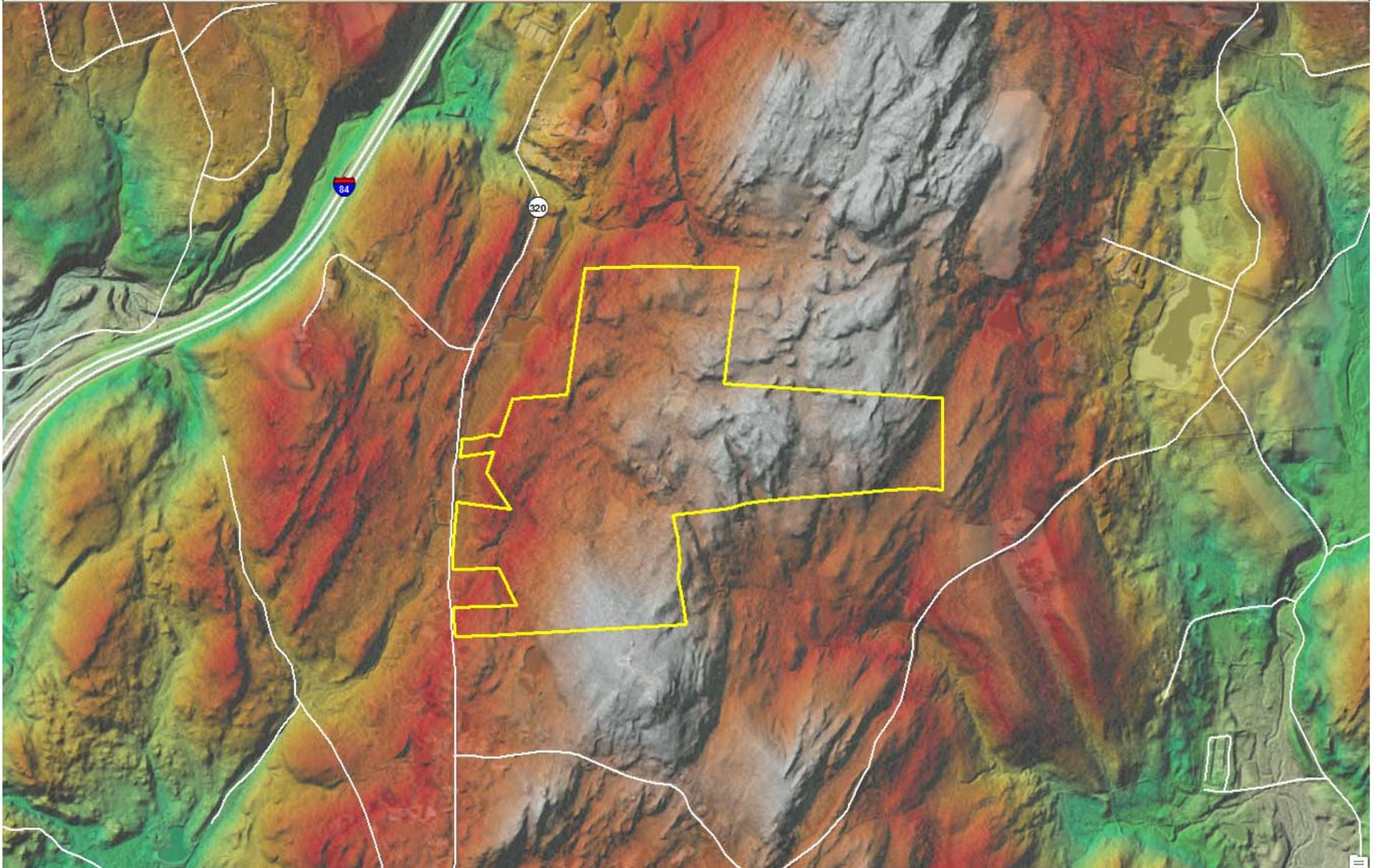
SITE SELECTION PROCESS

Willington – Ruby Road Site



SITE SELECTION PROCESS

Willington – Ruby Road Site



SITE SELECTION PROCESS

East Windsor – Windsorville Road Site



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aergrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

SITE SELECTION PROCESS

East Windsor – Windsorville Road Site



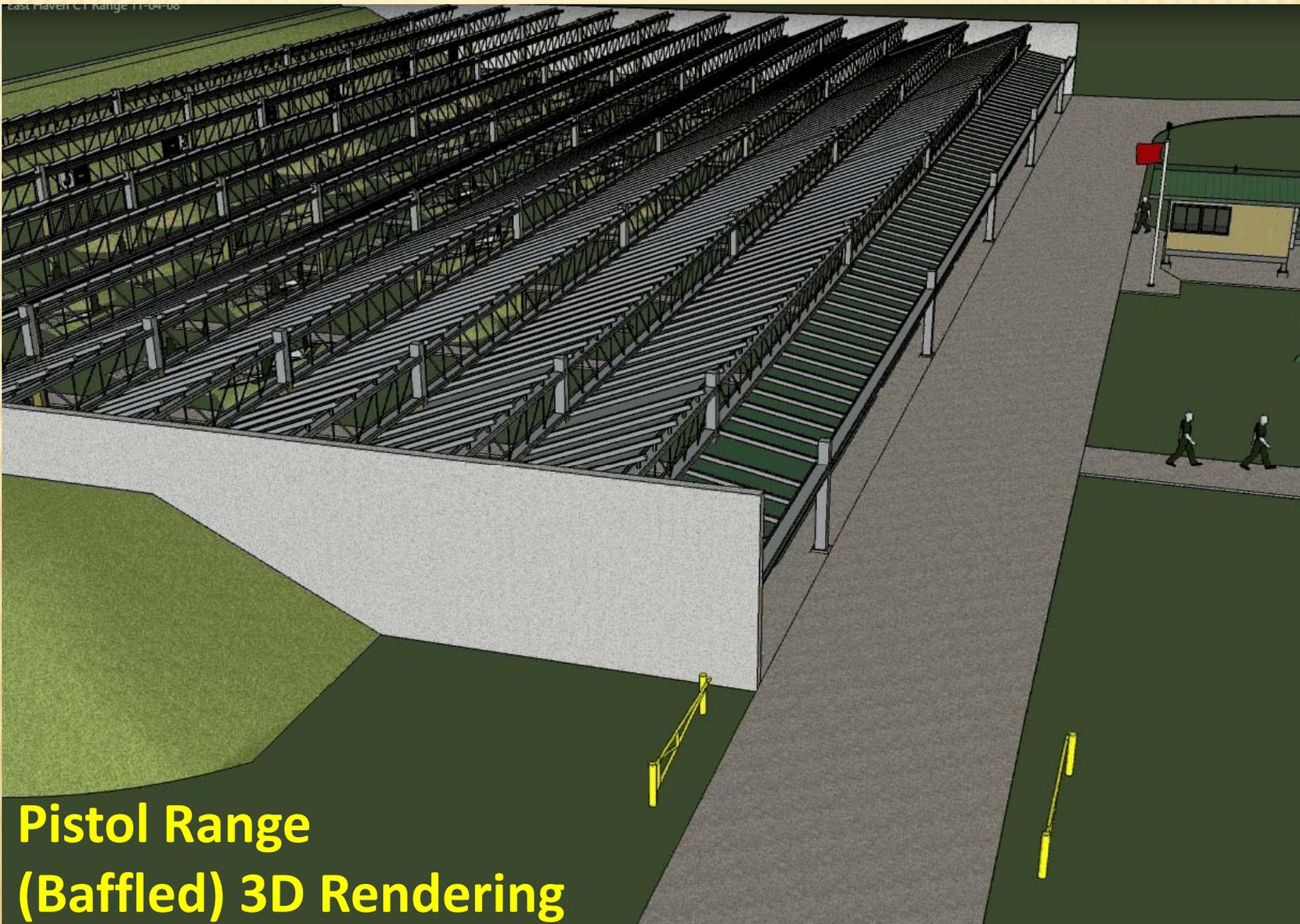
OTHER SITES

Connecticut Police Academy in Meriden



OTHER SITES

East Haven – CTANG Rifle Range Site



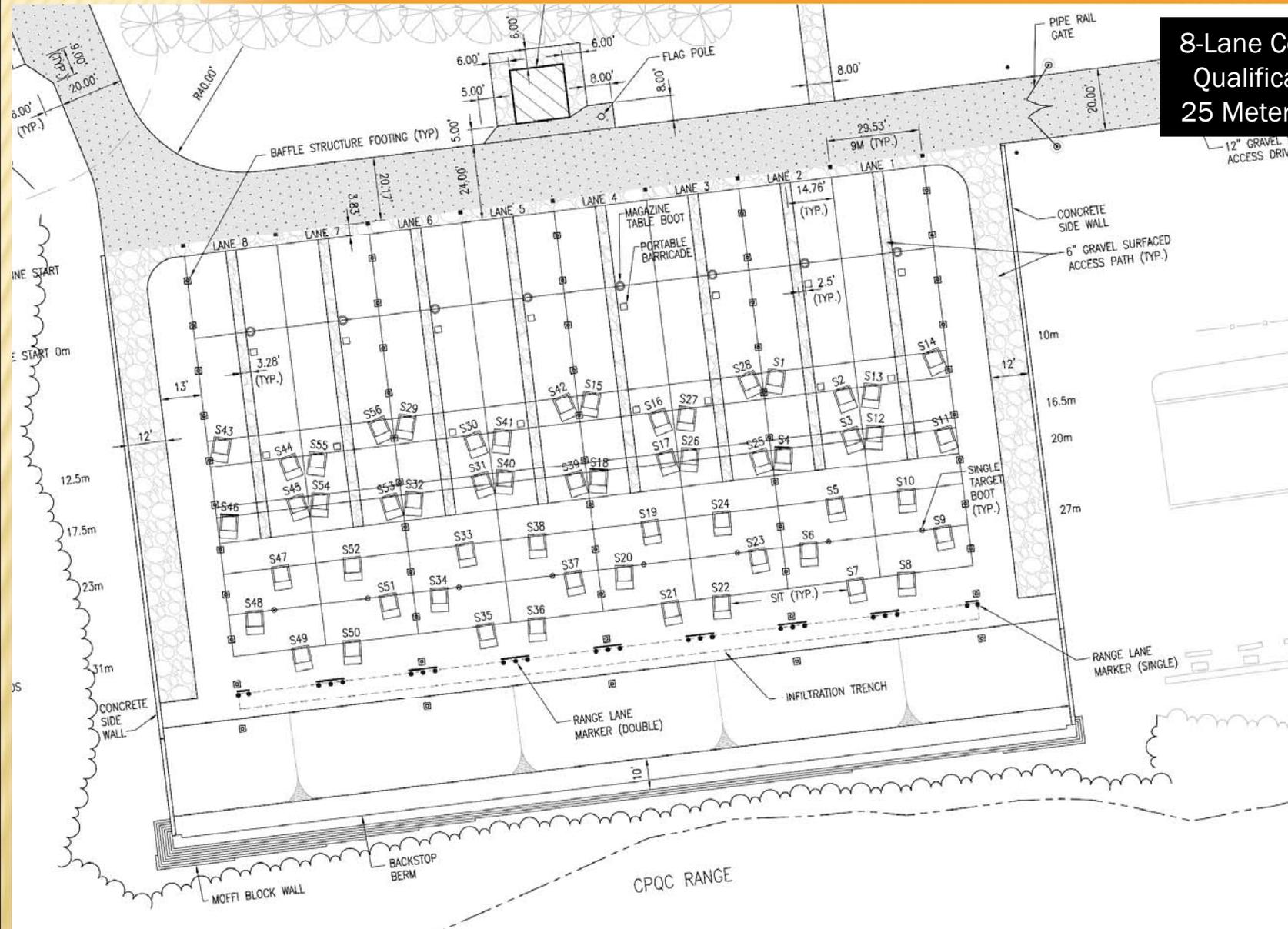
**Pistol Range
(Baffled) 3D Rendering**



OTHER SITES

East Haven – CTANG Rifle Range Site

8-Lane Combat Pistol Qualification Course
25 Meter Zero Range



OTHER SITES

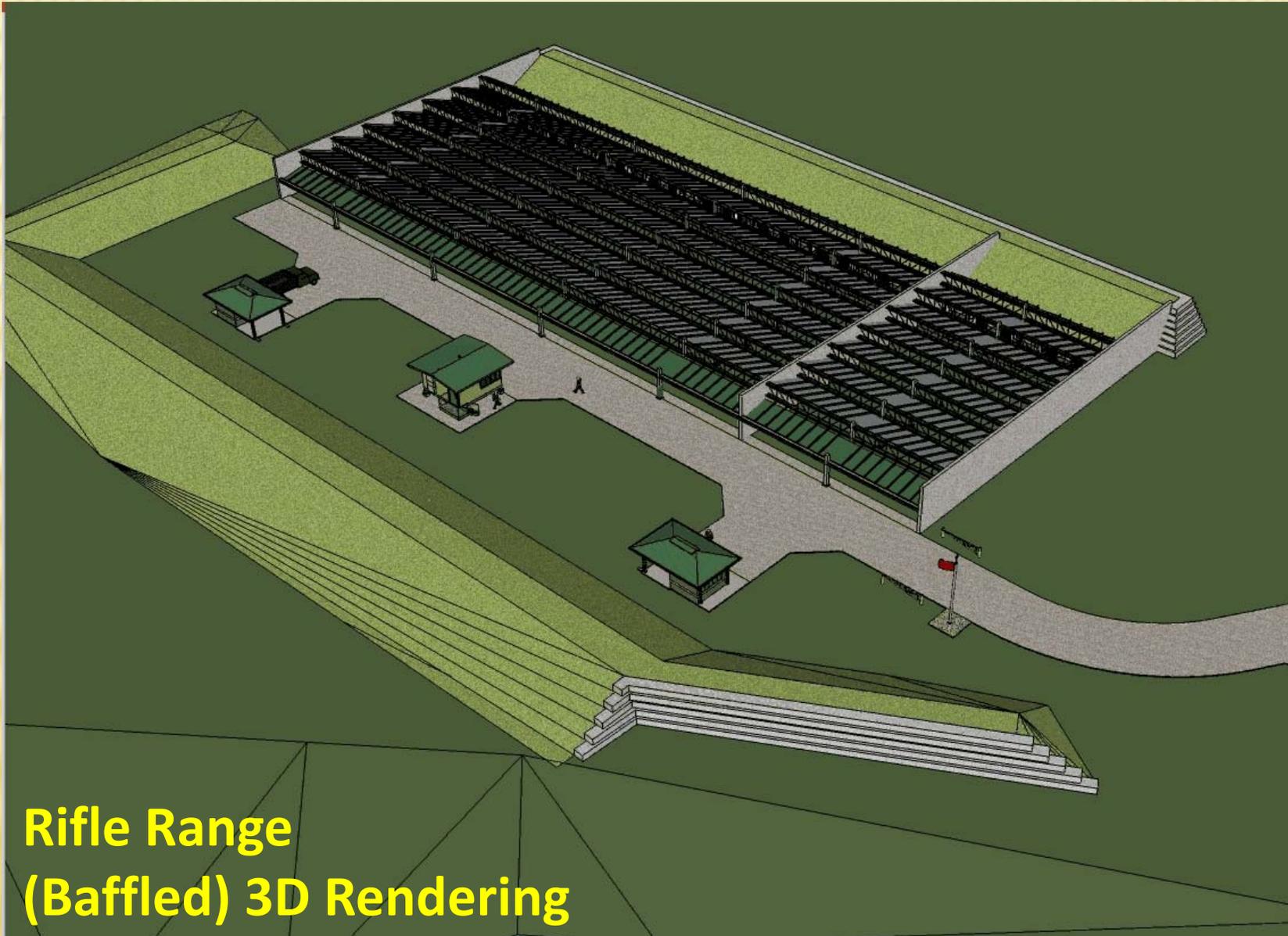
East Haven – CTANG Rifle Range Site



Pistol Range
(Baffled)

OTHER SITES

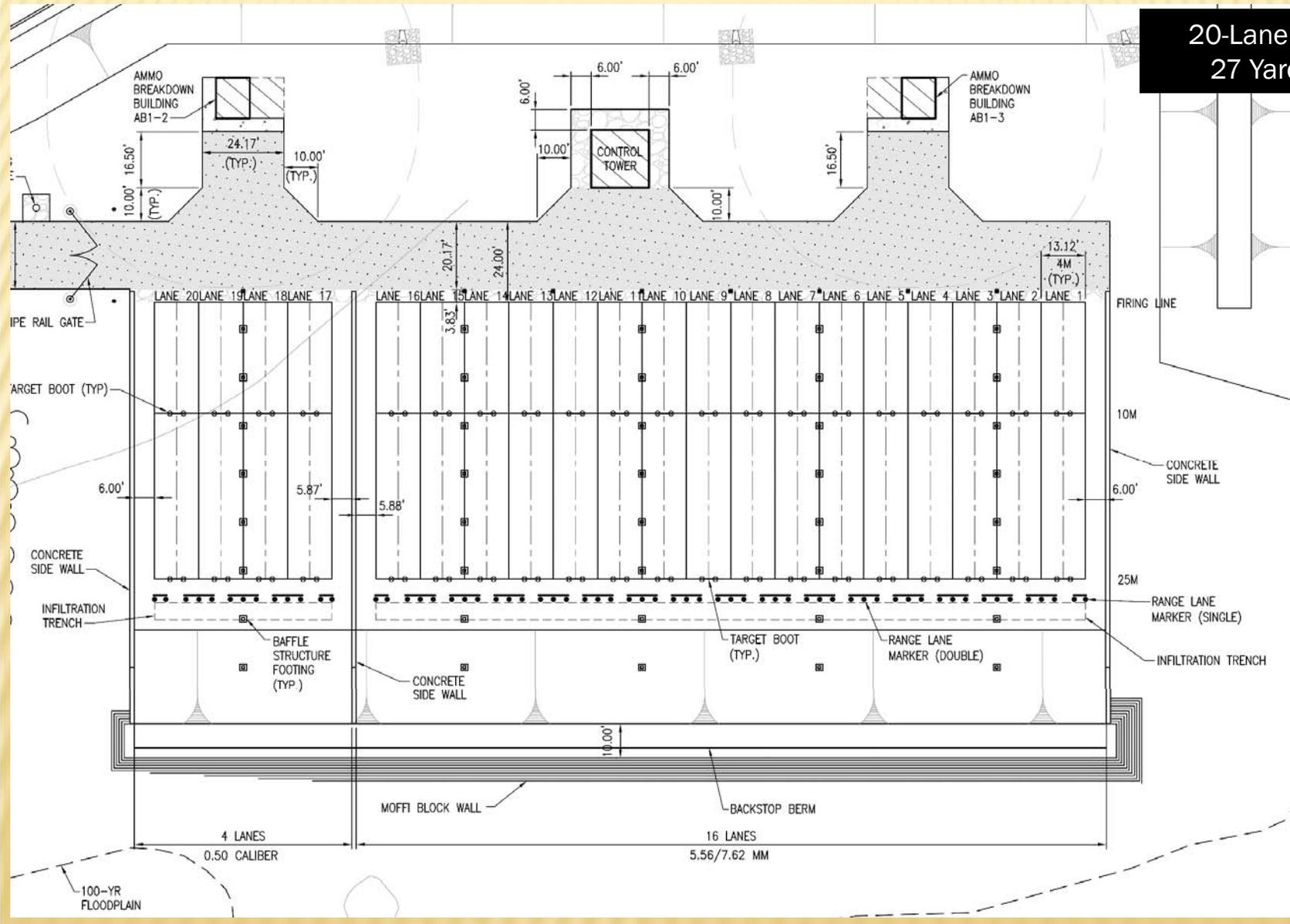
East Haven – CTANG Rifle Range Site



OTHER SITES

East Haven – CTANG Rifle Range Site

20-Lane Rifle Range
27 Yards in Length



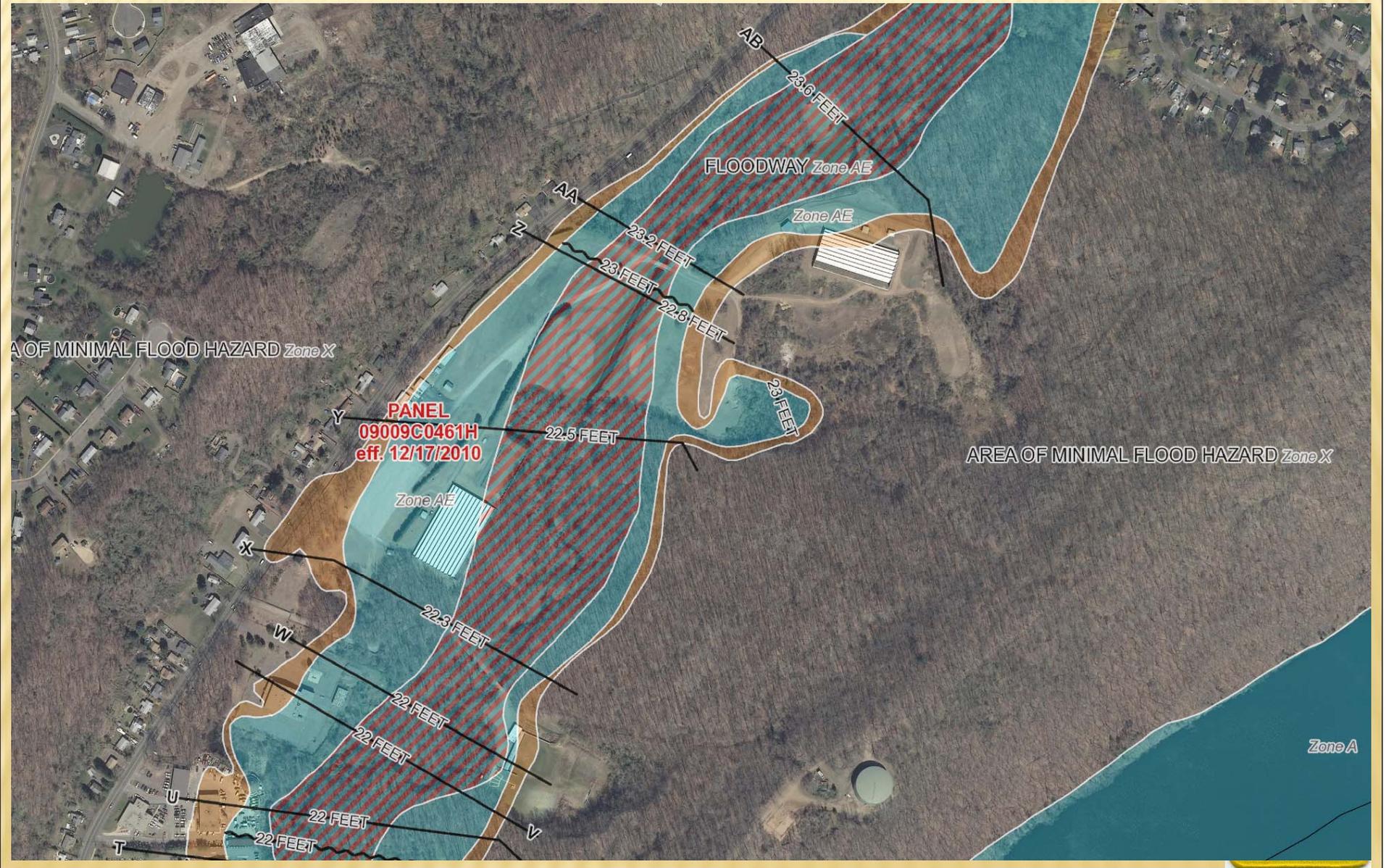
OTHER SITES

East Haven – CTANG Rifle Range Site



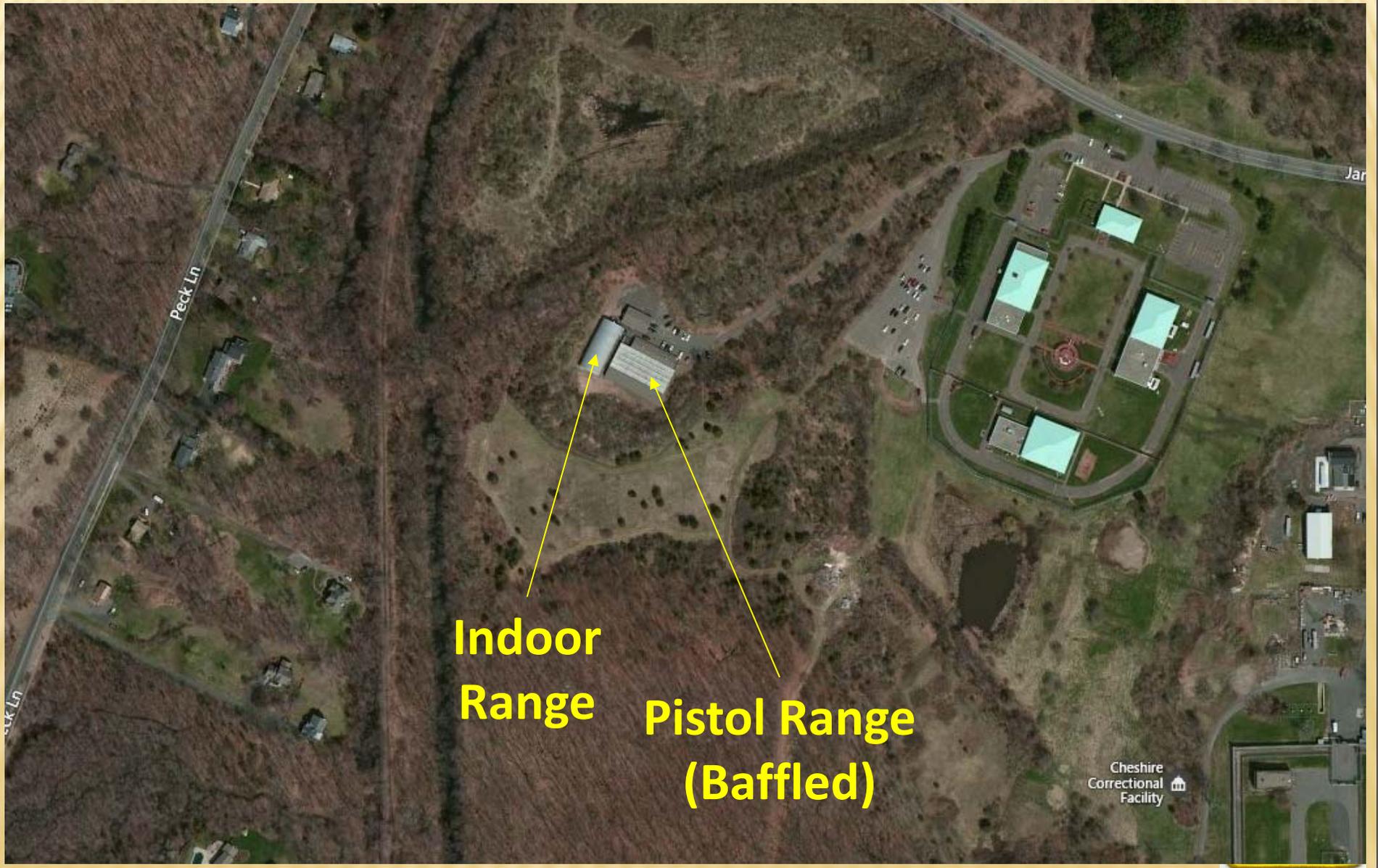
OTHER SITES

East Haven – CTANG Rifle Range Site



OTHER SITES

Cheshire – DOC Ranges



**Indoor
Range**

**Pistol Range
(Baffled)**

Cheshire
Correctional
Facility

OTHER SITES

Cheshire – DOC Ranges



Indoor Pistol Range

OTHER SITES

Cheshire – DOC Ranges



Baffled Pistol Range

Partners for a Safer Connecticut

