

DEPARTMENTS OF
EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION
AND
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES



STATE POLICE
TRAINING FACILITY RELOCATION PROJECT
CEPA SCOPING MEETING

June 5, 2018
Griswold High School
www.ct.gov/csprange

AGENDA

- Meeting Format
- Purpose of Meeting
- Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA) Process
- Project Purpose and Need
- Alternatives Previously Evaluated
- Griswold Site Alternatives
- Public Comments
- How to Submit Comments and Deadline
- Meeting Conclusion



MEETING FORMAT

- This meeting is part of the CEPA process, of which we are just starting.
- If you wish to speak, please sign up to do so.
- Public comment will be held at the end of this meeting
- All comments will be recorded and substantive comments will be addressed in the Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE)
- We hope to answer some basic questions. However as the design and CEPA evaluation are not yet completed, we will be unable to answer all of your questions at this time.

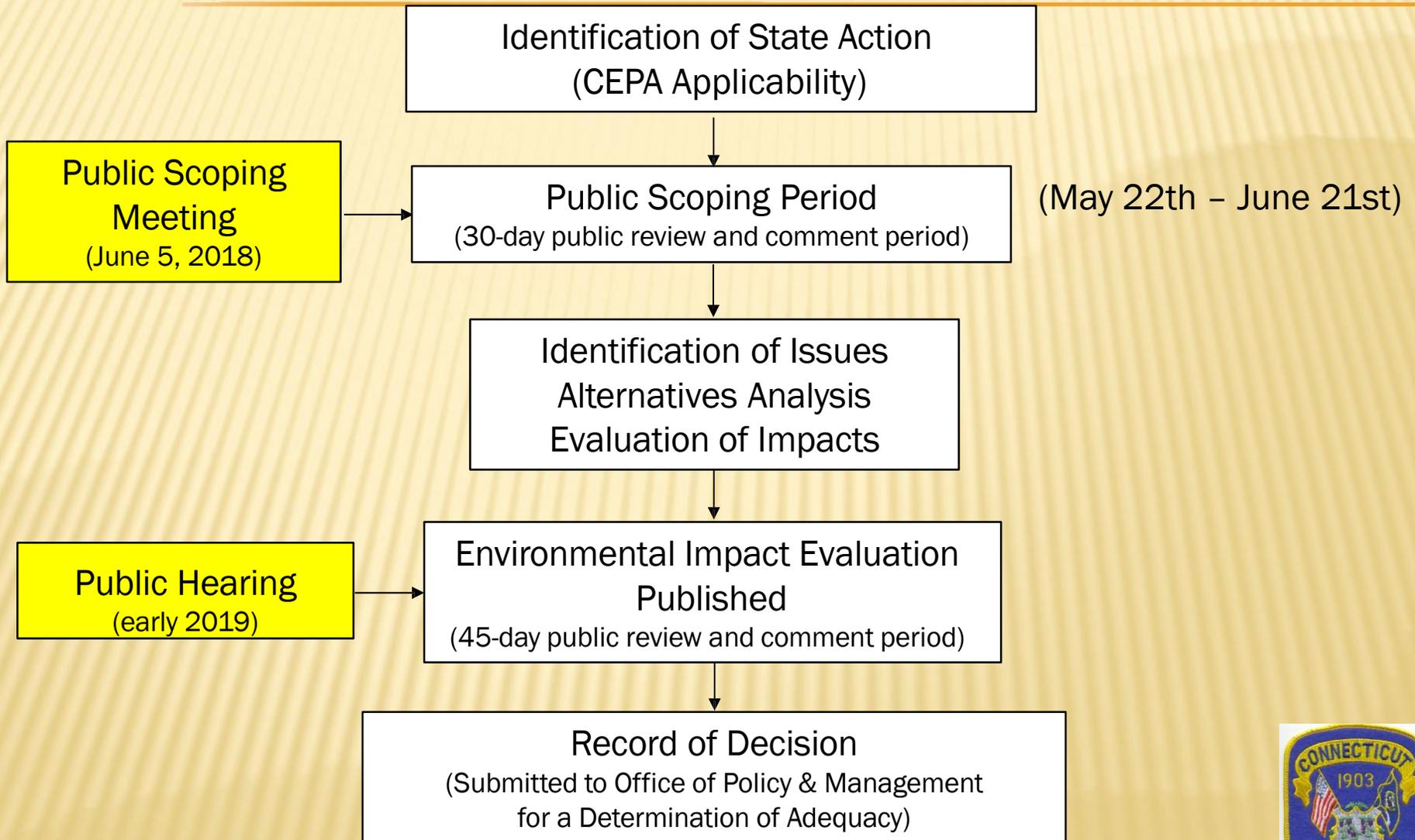


PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

- To inform you about our plans for the relocation of the State Police Firearms Training Facility
- Provide information on the environmental review process
- To hear your comments and concerns



Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA) Process



Record of Decision would be posted on Agency website



Environmental Impact Evaluation Overview

Resource areas typically explored in the EIE

- Noise
- Habitats
- Neighborhoods
- Traffic and parking
- Land use
- Socioeconomic factors
- Air quality
- Surface Water
- Wetlands
- Floodplains
- Groundwater
- Historic sites
- Archaeology
- Aesthetics
- Utilities
- Hazardous Materials
- Soils
- Energy use
- Consistency with State C&D Plan

Both beneficial and adverse impacts are evaluated

Impact response: avoid, minimize, mitigate

Alternatives are evaluated and compared



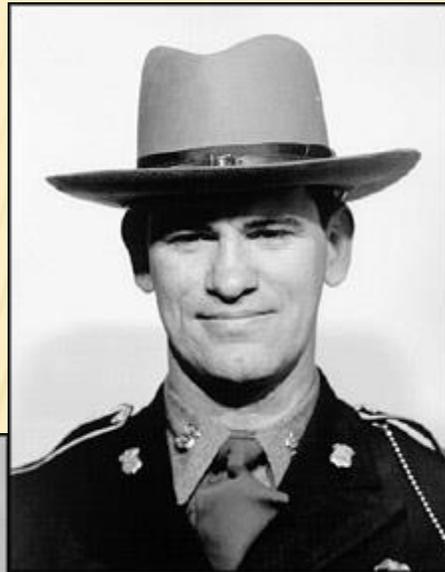
PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PROJECT



HISTORY OF THE CONNECTICUT STATE POLICE



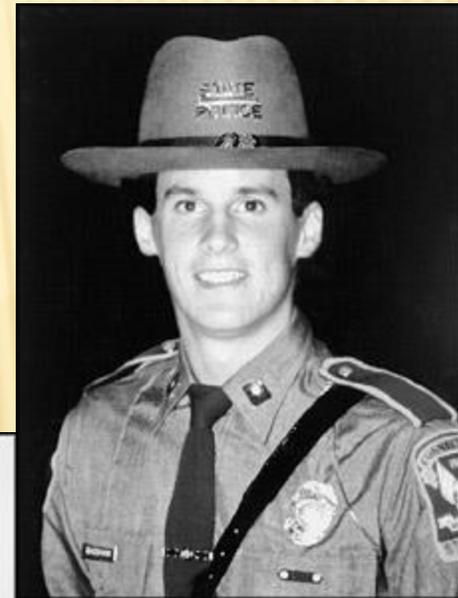
Tpr. Irving Nelson



Tpr. Ernest Morse



Tpr. Joseph Stoba



Tpr. Russell Bagshaw



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Started being used in the early 1900's. Buildings and other improvements occurred over the years; main structures were built prior to building codes/ floodplain standards

Temporary Classroom

Old Classroom (demolished)

Tower & Offices

Pistol Deck (42 lanes)

Rifle Range (30 lanes, approx.)



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Training Building

(demolished fall 2015)

(Photo Circa 1990)



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Multi-Purpose
Building
(Photo Circa 1990)



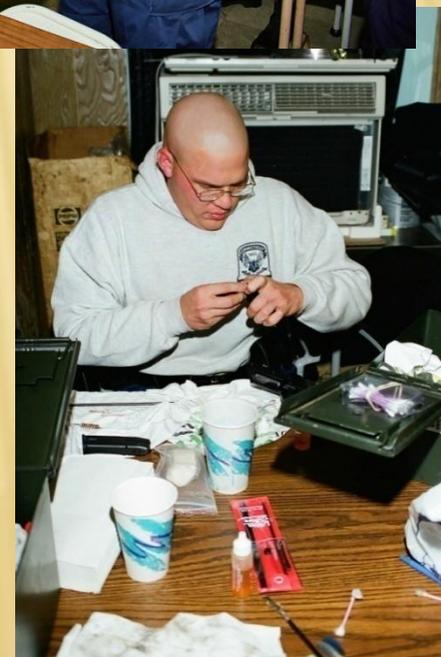
OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Firearms Training



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Continuing Education



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Agency Usage

**Connecticut State Police
Usage 80%**

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



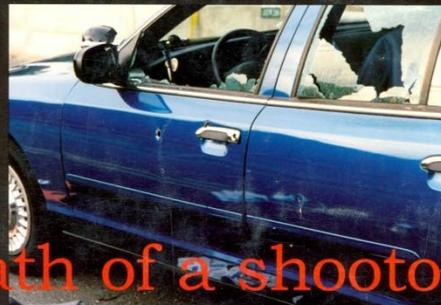
OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

The Need for Reality Based Training

Trooper James Reidy



Trooper Mark Pelletier



Aftermath of a shootout

Trooper Michael Hoague

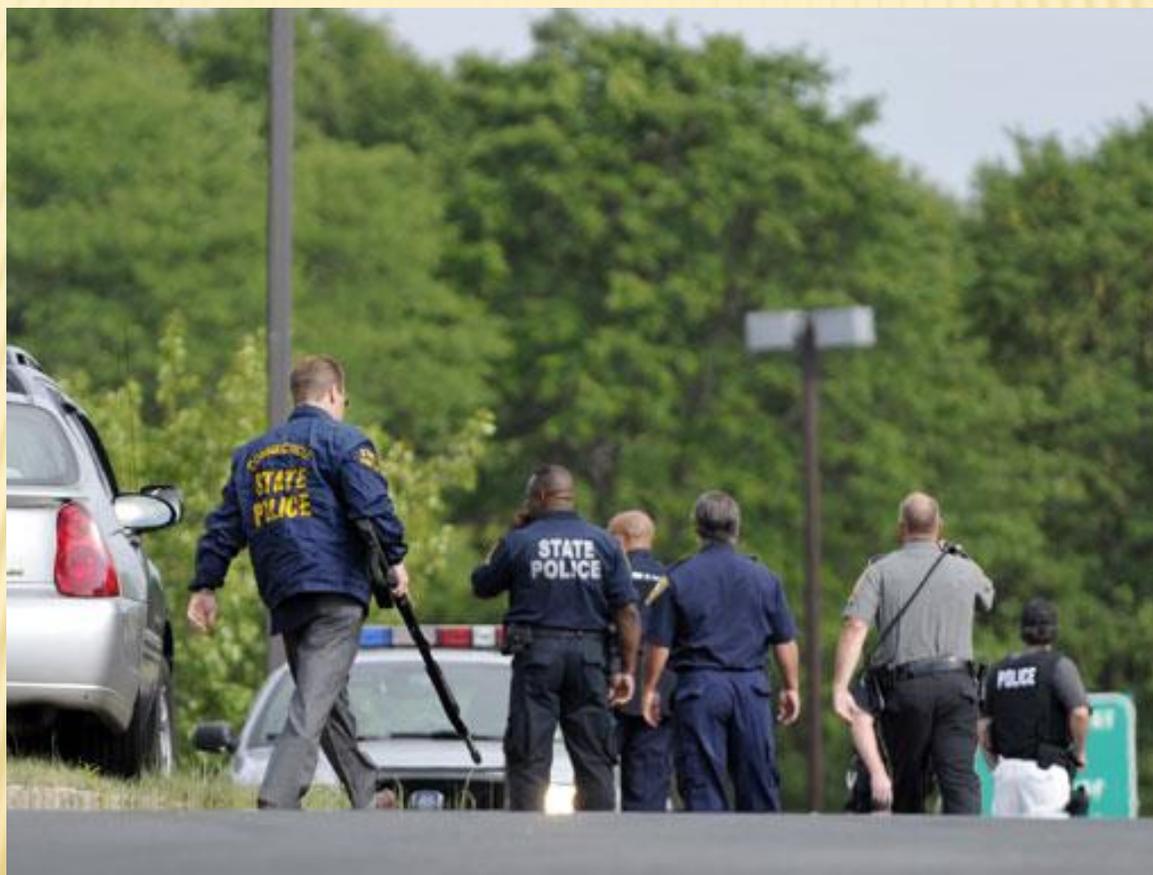


OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CONNECTICUT STATE POLICE UNION Spring/Summer 1999



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Active Shooter Training



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Dynamic Use of Force Training



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Flooding: Located within the Farmington River Floodplains



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Flooding: Located within the Farmington River Floodplains

100-YR Floodplain Elevation



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Flooding

1984



2006



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Flooding: Impacts to Structures



Control Tower

Offices

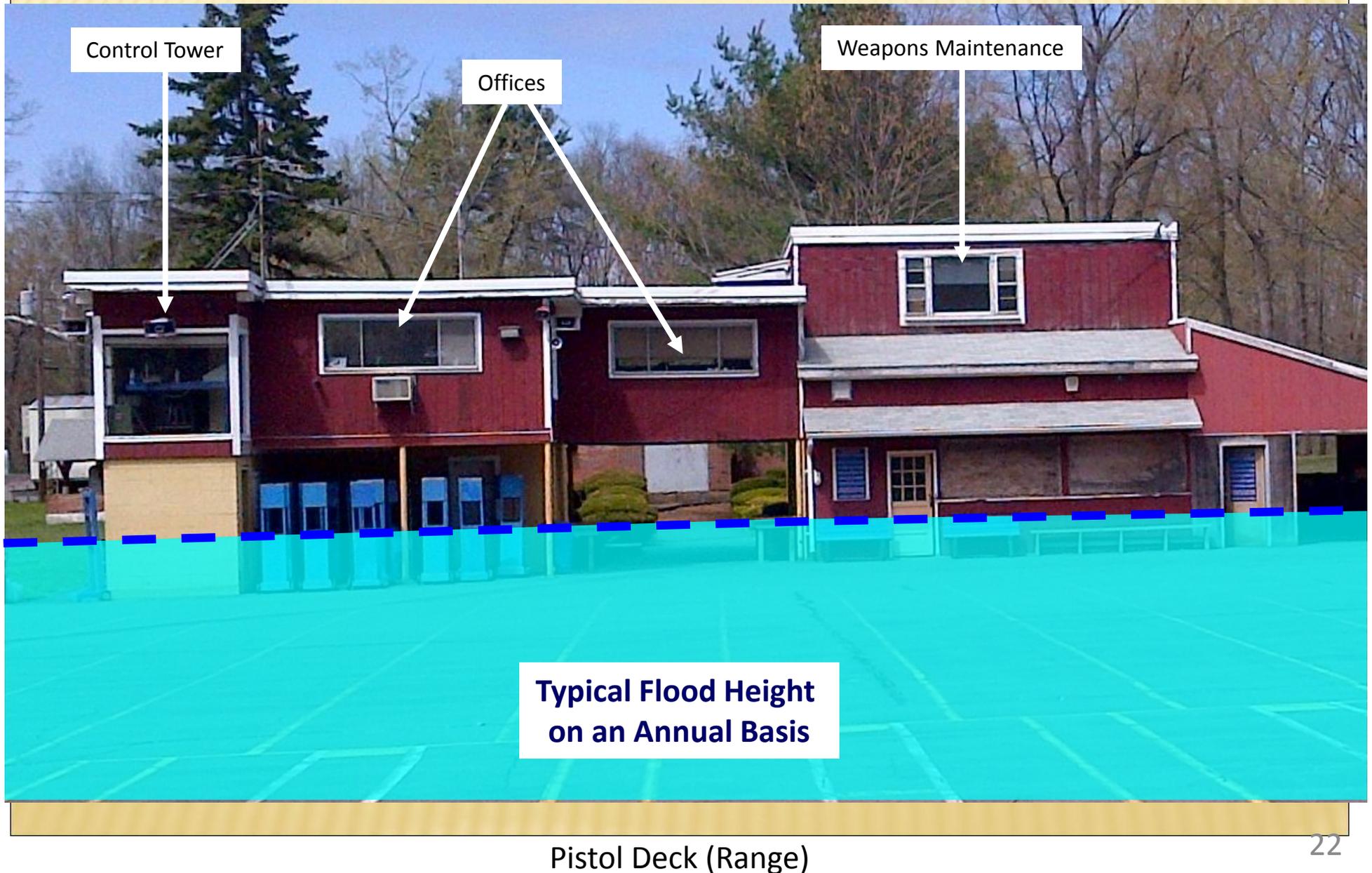
Weapons Maintenance

Storage Units

Pistol Deck (Range)

OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Flooding: Impacts to Structures



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Flooding: Impacts to Structures



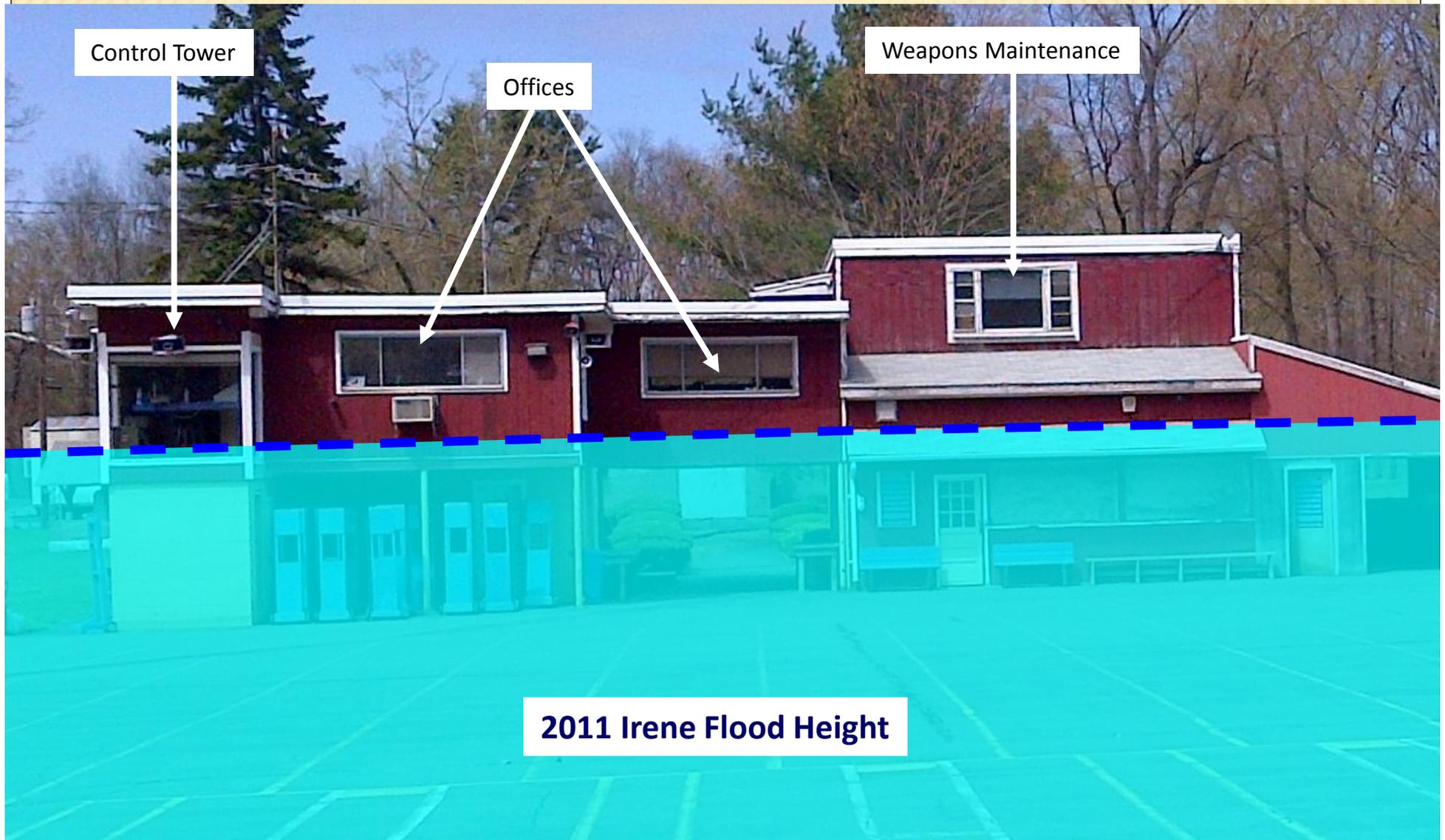
OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Flooding: Impacts on Structures



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Flooding: Impacts on Structures



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY



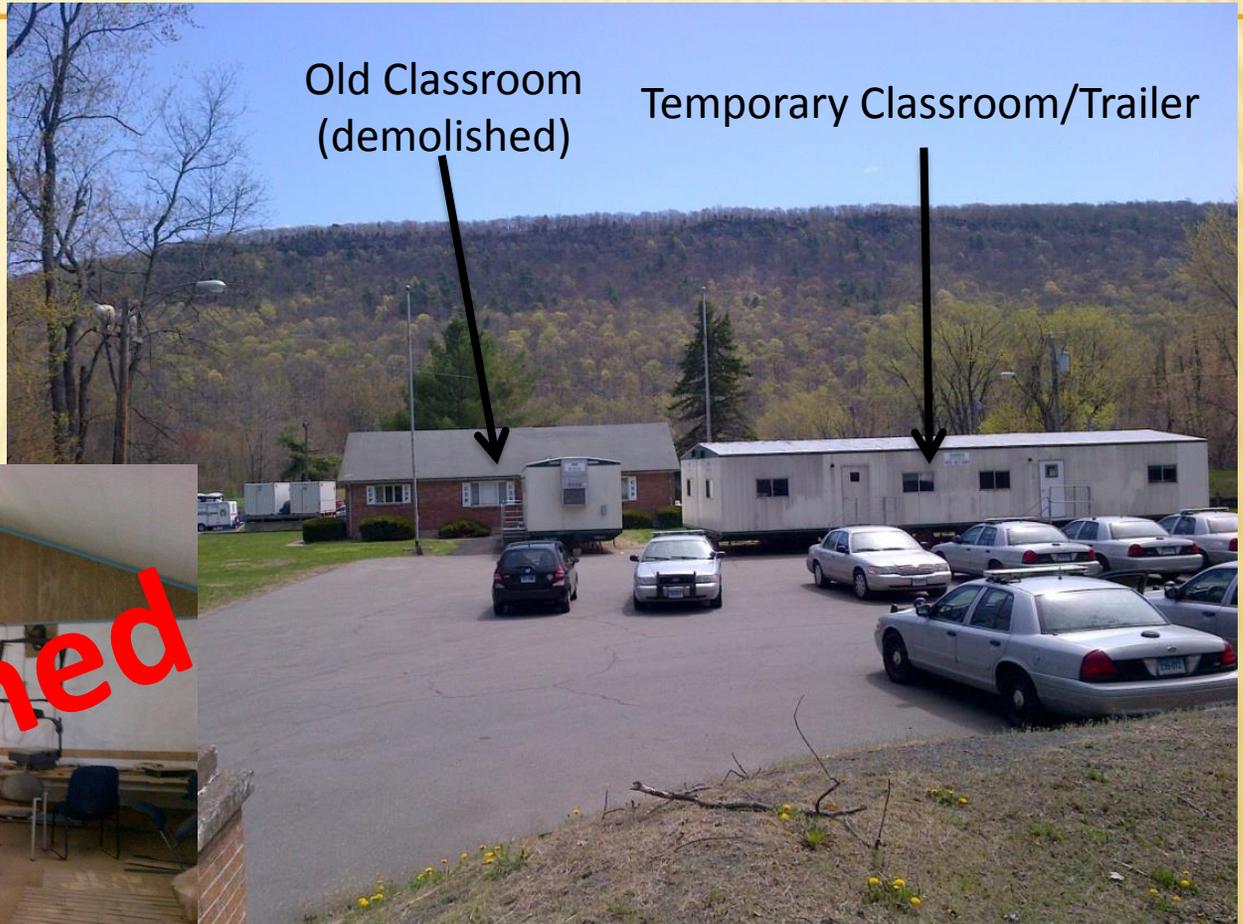
Spring 2007 Flood

- Training building had significant flood damage – 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



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Training Building
Photo Taken
April 2013



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Flooding

Irene 2011 Flood



OVERVIEW OF THE EXISTING FACILITY

Financial Losses Due to Tropical Storm Irene (2011)

- ❑ Ammunition: Damaged and rendered unusable - \$28,000 +
- ❑ Target Control System - \$110,000 +
- ❑ Computerized Firearms Simulator - \$110,000

**Total Loss from Storm
\$300,000 +**



OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

The Purpose of the Project

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



OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

The Need for the Project

- Current facilities and site are not sustainable.
- Each flooding disrupts training schedule. and results in financial costs. *Estimated average cost per flood event \$30,000; highest \$400,000*
- Flooding events have increased in number and intensity.
- Training needs for Troopers continue to change



OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

The Need for the Project (continued)

Some examples of the negative effects on Trooper Firearms training due to flooding:

- ❑ *Last minute cancellations of training result in disrupted certification schedules.*
- ❑ *Extended delays between training sessions.*
- ❑ *Reduced rifle and pistol training programs in order to compensate for the lost time.*

**ADVERSELY AFFECTING THE TRAINING
LEVEL OF TROOPERS ACROSS THE STATE.**



OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

Project Description

- ❑ To relocate the existing Firearms Training Facility and Program from Simsbury to a new site.
- ❑ The proposed project is to develop a state of the art firearms training facility that will allow for the most up to date training for the Connecticut State Police.
- ❑ While the initial design has not been initiated, the following are major elements associated with this relocation project:



OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

Project Description (continued)

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

Main space uses:

- ❑ *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 PROJECT

Project Description (continued)

- Range Control Tower(s)
- 2 Qualifying Pistol Ranges (approximately 200 ft x 170 ft)
- 1 Rifle Range (approximately 300 yd x 50 yd)
- 1 Rifle/Shotgun Range (approximately 100 yd x 30 yd)
- Sim Training structure and facility for low light training
- Approximately 125 parking spaces
- Site access improvements
- Well and septic systems, telecom, and electrical utilities

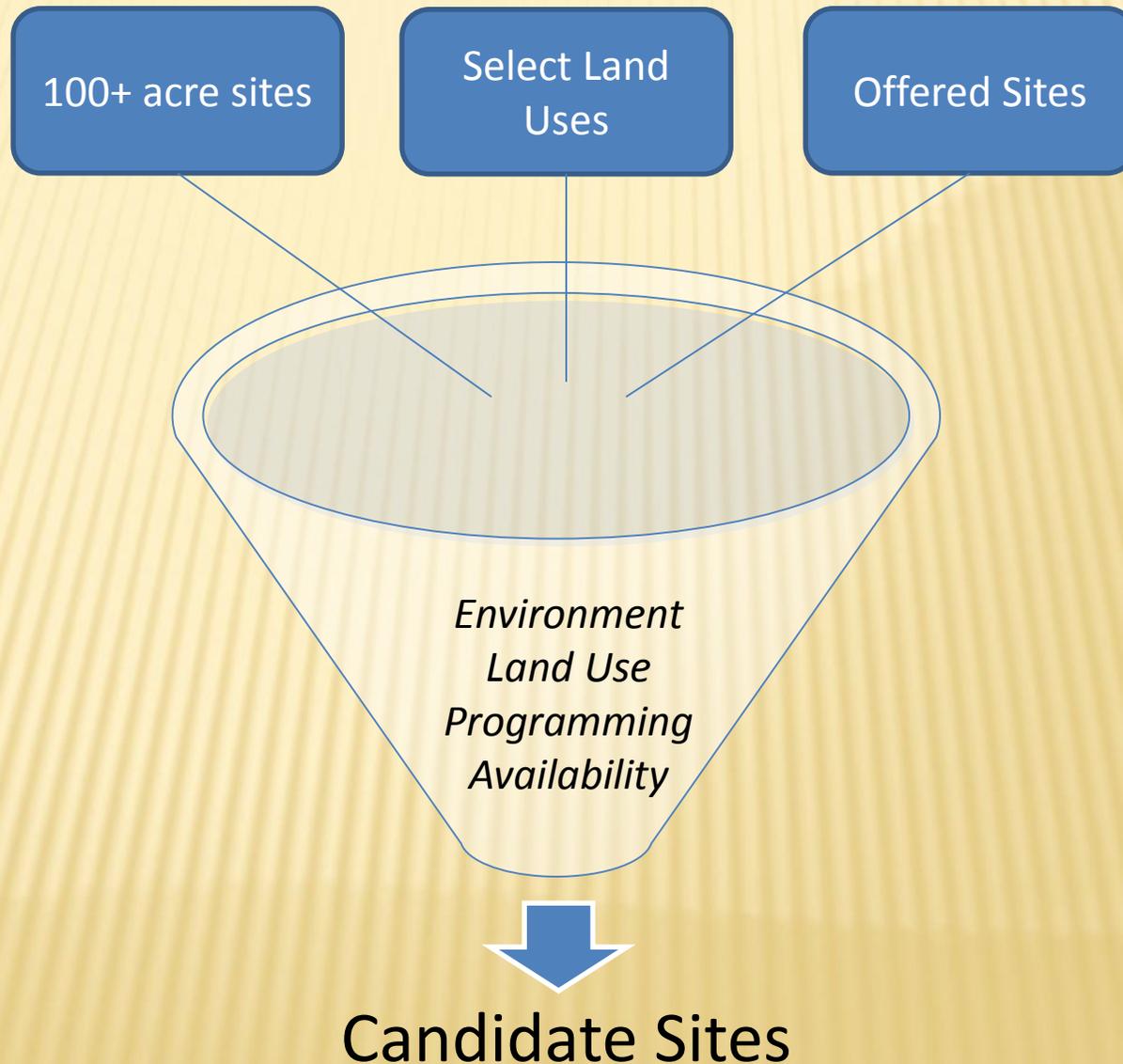


CEPA Alternatives

“alternatives to the proposed action, including the alternative of not proceeding with the proposed action [No Build] and, in the case of a proposed facility, a list of all the sites controlled by or reasonably available to the sponsoring agency that would meet the stated purpose of such facility...”



Site Screening Process



Primary Factors Considered in Site Screening/Evaluation Process

- Availability
- Ability to meet Program Needs
- Proximity to:
 - Residences
 - Schools
 - Nursing homes
 - Places of worship
 - Historic sites
- On-Site Resources
 - Wetlands
 - Floodplains
 - Rare Species and Critical Habitats
 - Water supply watersheds
 - Aquifer Protection Areas
 - Farmland soils



Select Land Uses

- Military Facilities
- Existing outdoor gun ranges/sportsmen's clubs
- Quarries/Mines/Sand & Gravel Pits
- Brownfields
- State-owned land (not DEEP)
- Inactive/Underutilized Airports
- Landfills



Select Land Uses - Military Facilities

- ❑ Stone's Ranch and Camp Niantic
 - No ranges
 - Lack of space to construct

- ❑ East Haven Rifle Range
 - Built for weapon function and accuracy only
 - No capacity for dynamic training
 - Unable to support additional development
 - Baffling limits both access and exposure to weather
 - Simulated distance for long guns
 - Limited Availability
 - Daily Fees for Use



Select Land Uses - DOC Facilities & Private Ranges

DOC Facilities

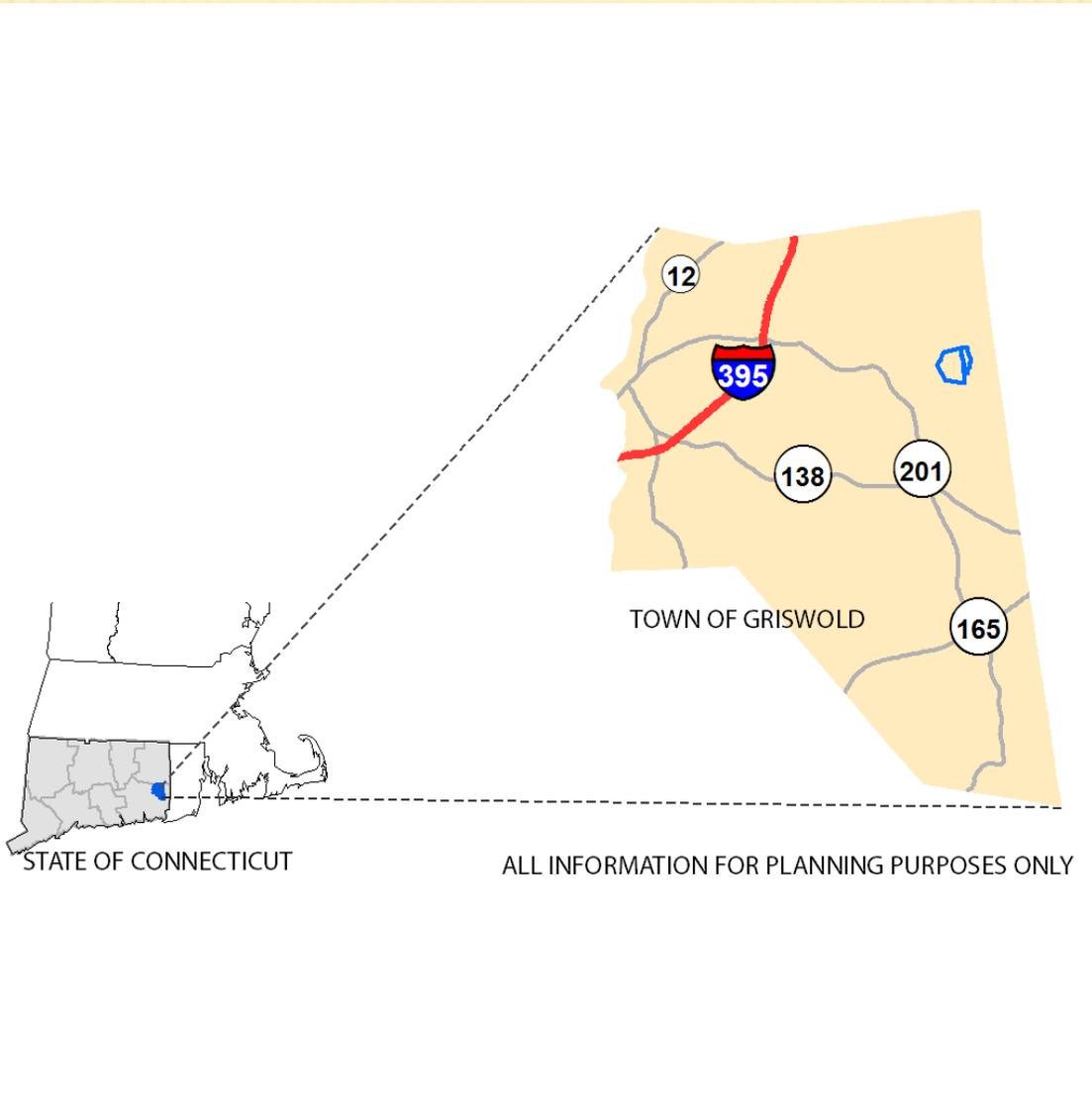
- Cheshire and Enfield
- Limited size
- Unable to expand
- Existing limitation on hours of use
- Indoor (Cheshire) cannot support training regimen

Private Ranges/Gun Clubs

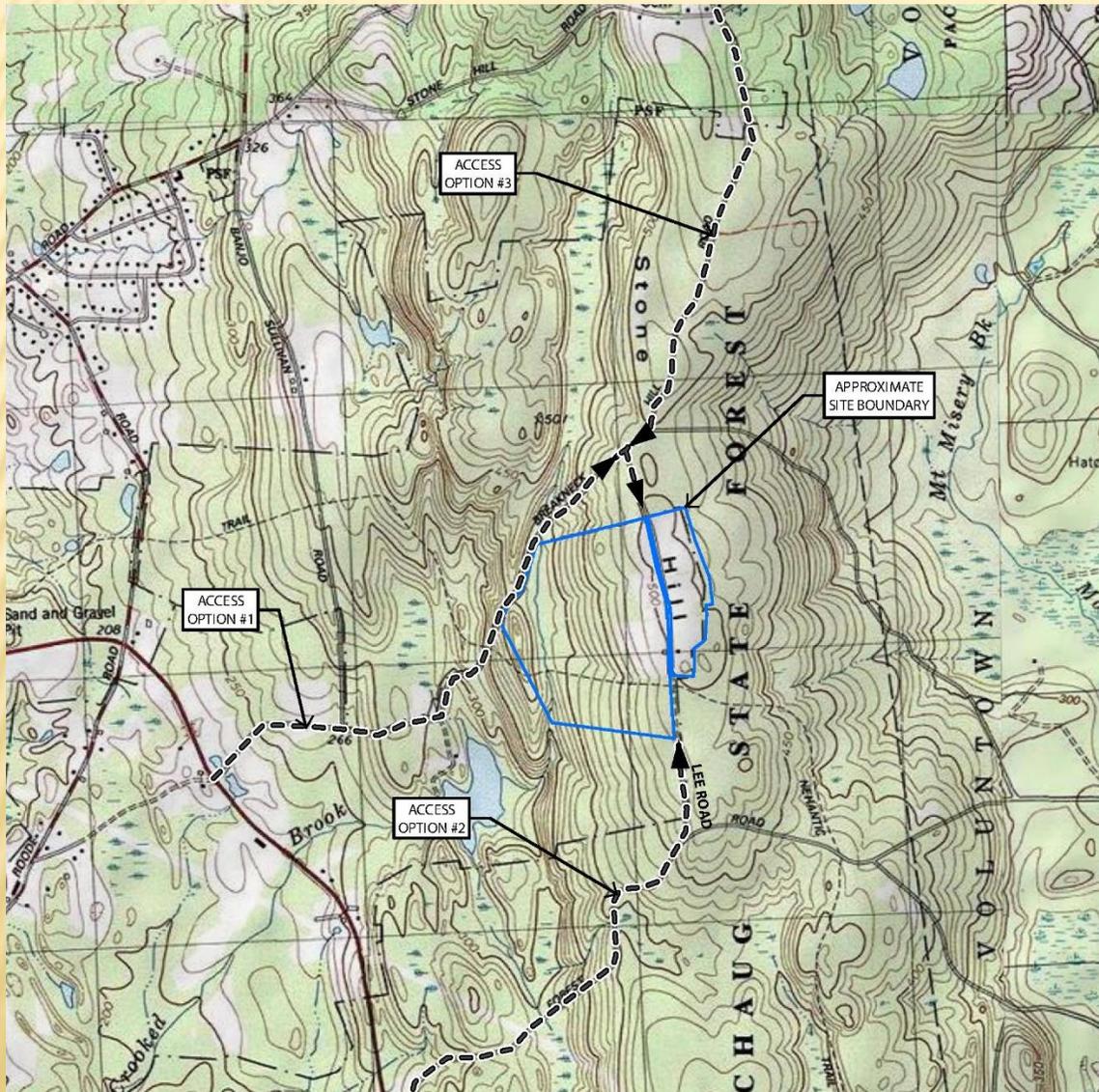
- Too Small
- Unwilling Sellers
- Inability to support training regimen



Proposed Project Location



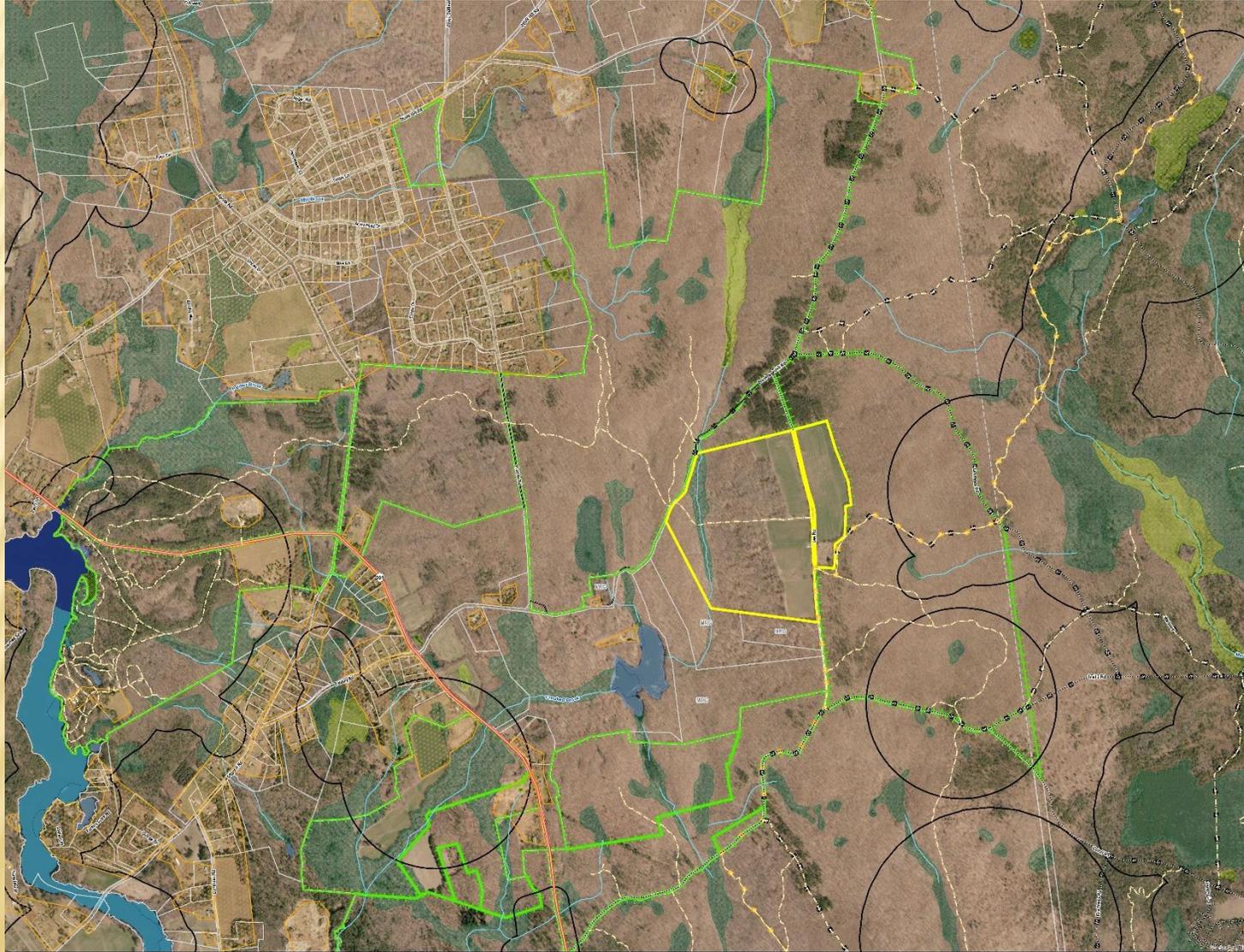
Proposed Project Location



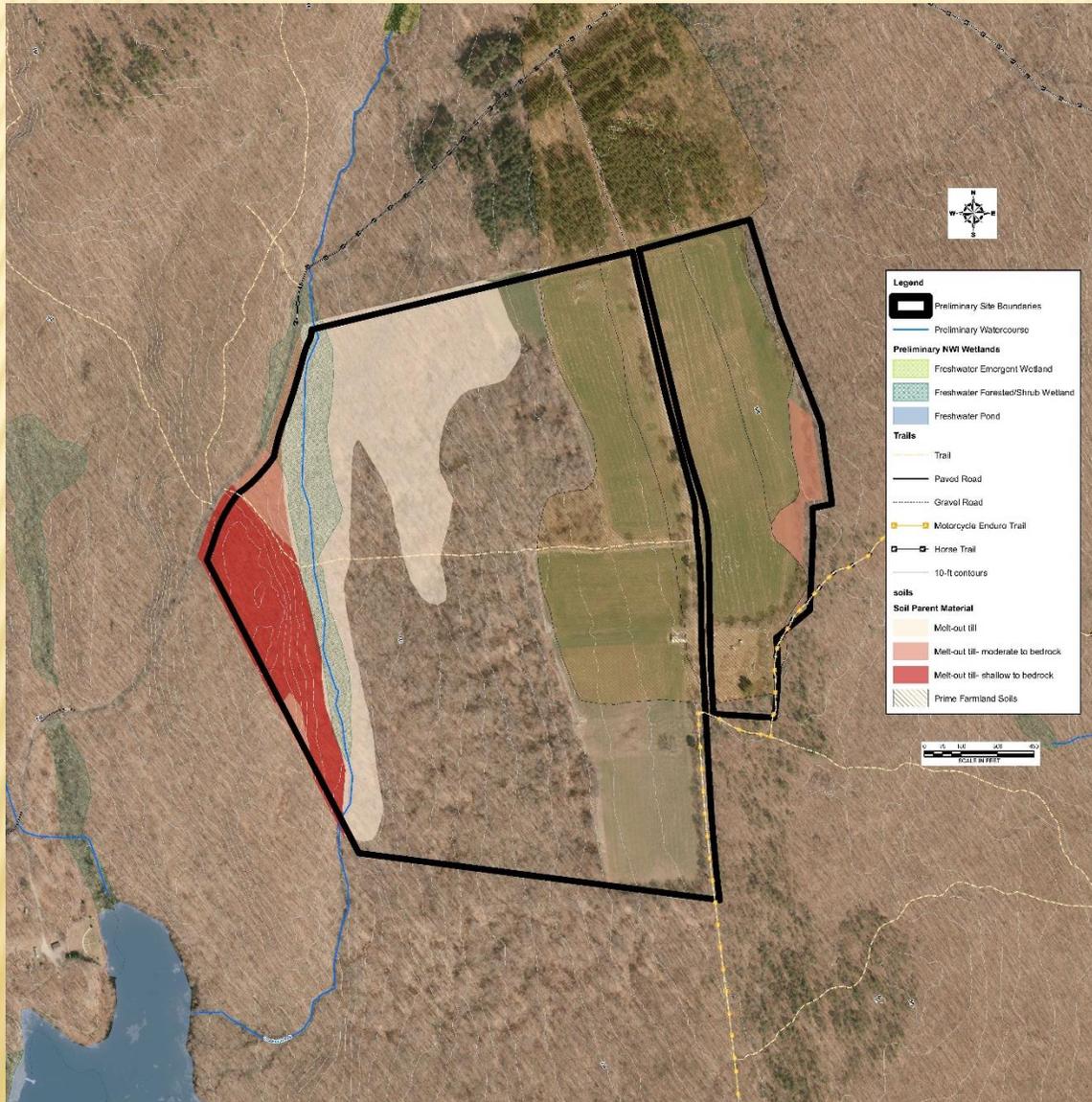
- Stone Hill ridge line
- Vacant home and barn
- Access from Breakneck Hill Rd.
- Access from Trail #2
- Adjacent to Pachaug State Forest
- Adjacent to Mystic Rod & Gun Club



Site Environs



Environmental Resources



- Forests
- Perennial Stream
- Prime Farmland Soils
- Recreation Trails
- Shallow Bedrock

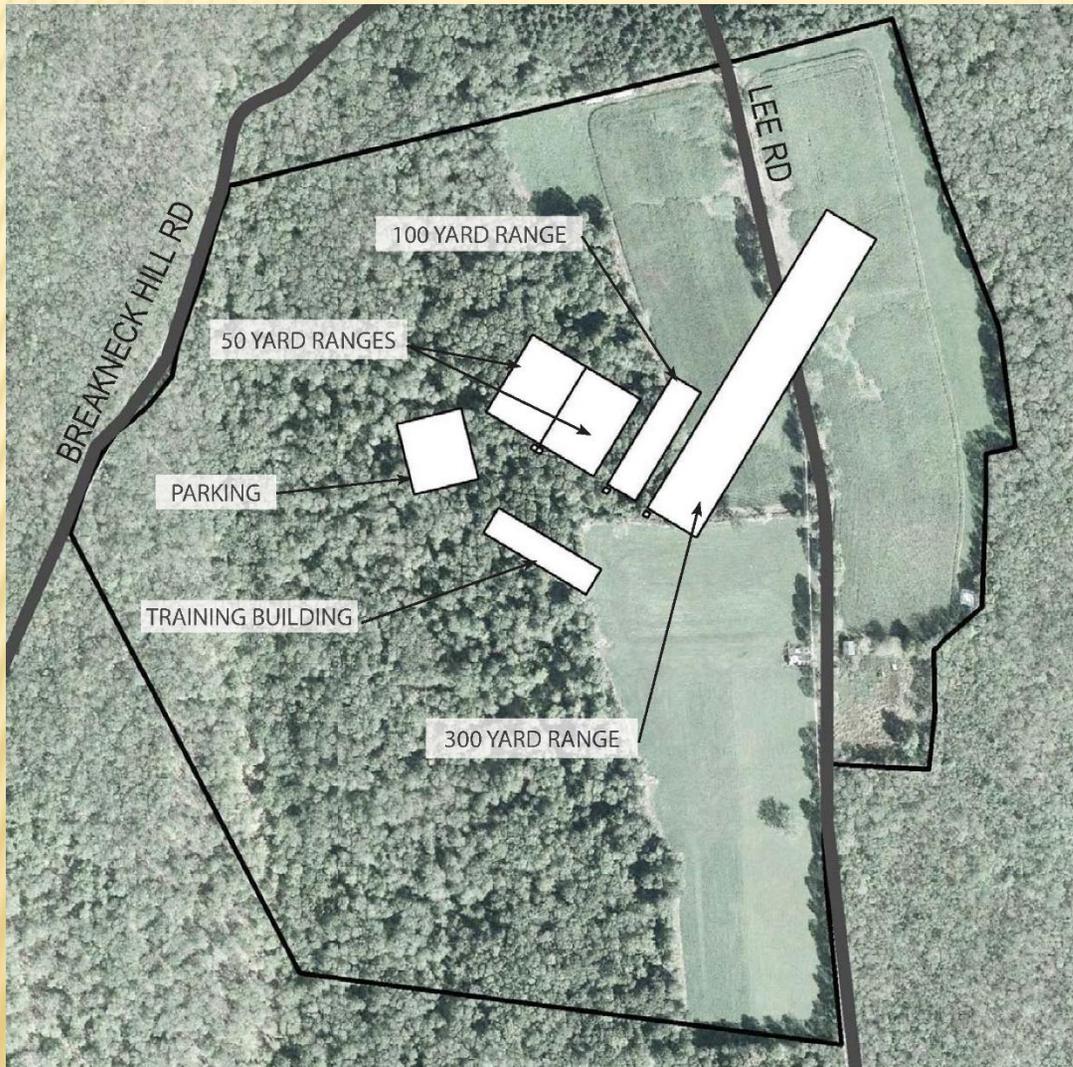


No-Build Alternative

- ❑ Maintain firearms training in Simsbury
- ❑ Continued flooding of facility
 - Property damage
 - Loss of use
- ❑ Continued struggles to meet training needs



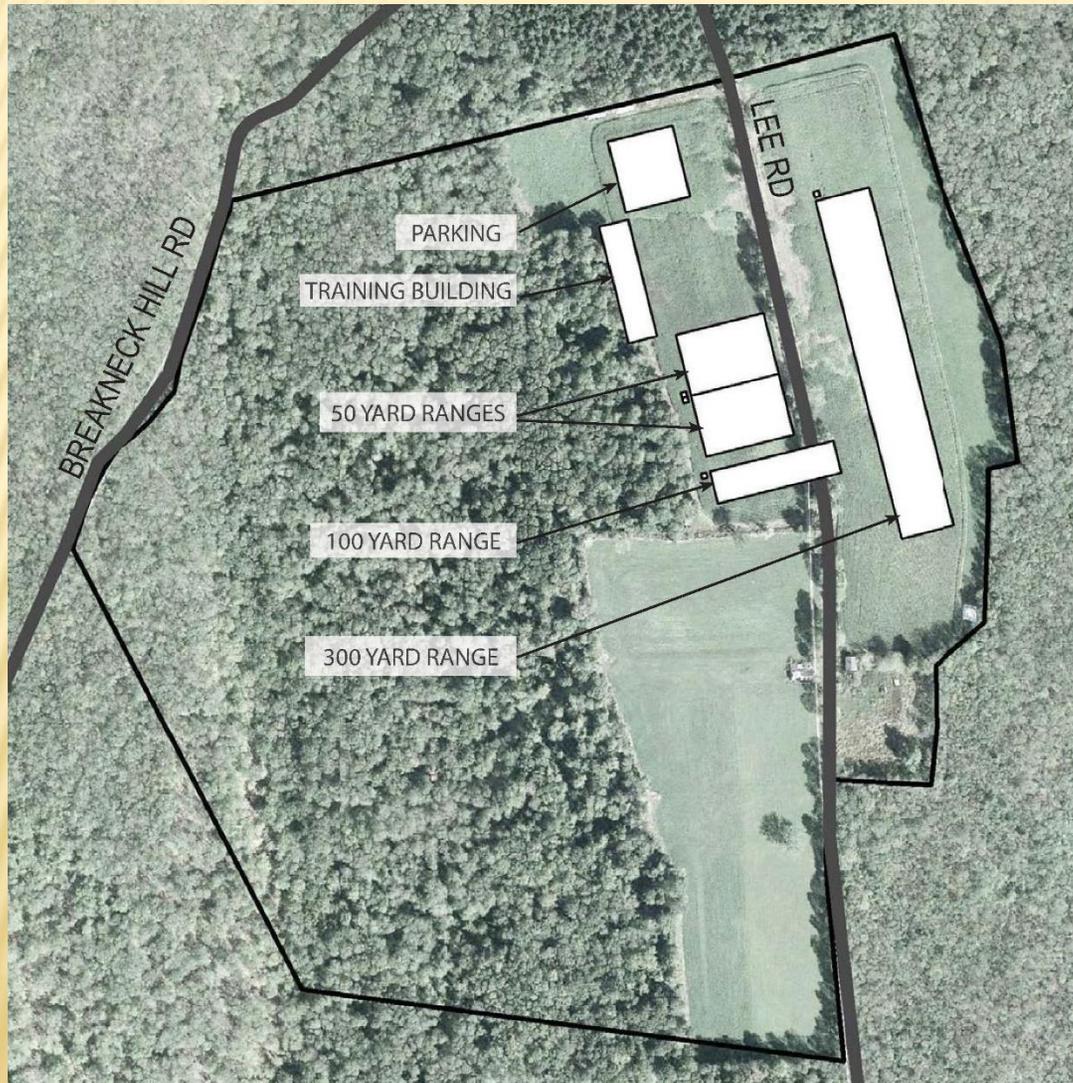
Alternative Concept #1



- ❑ Access from Breakneck Hill Rd. or Trail #2
- ❑ Centered on the Site
- ❑ Facility in fields and woodlands
- ❑ Northeastward firing direction for all ranges



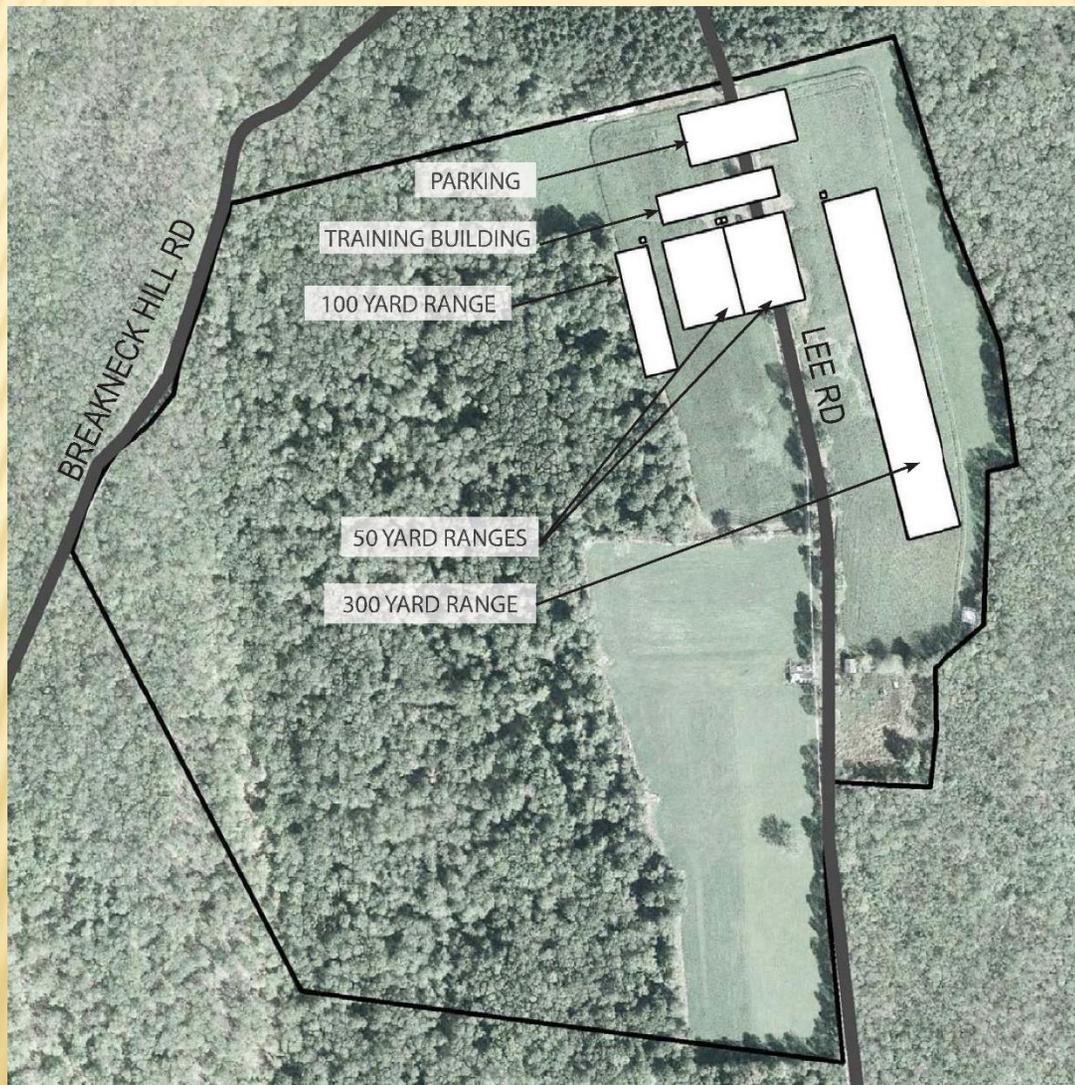
Alternative Concept #2



- ❑ Access from Breakneck Hill Rd. or Trail #2
- ❑ Northcentral portion of Site
- ❑ Facility primarily in fields
- ❑ Eastward firing direction for all ranges except 300 yd rifle range (southward)



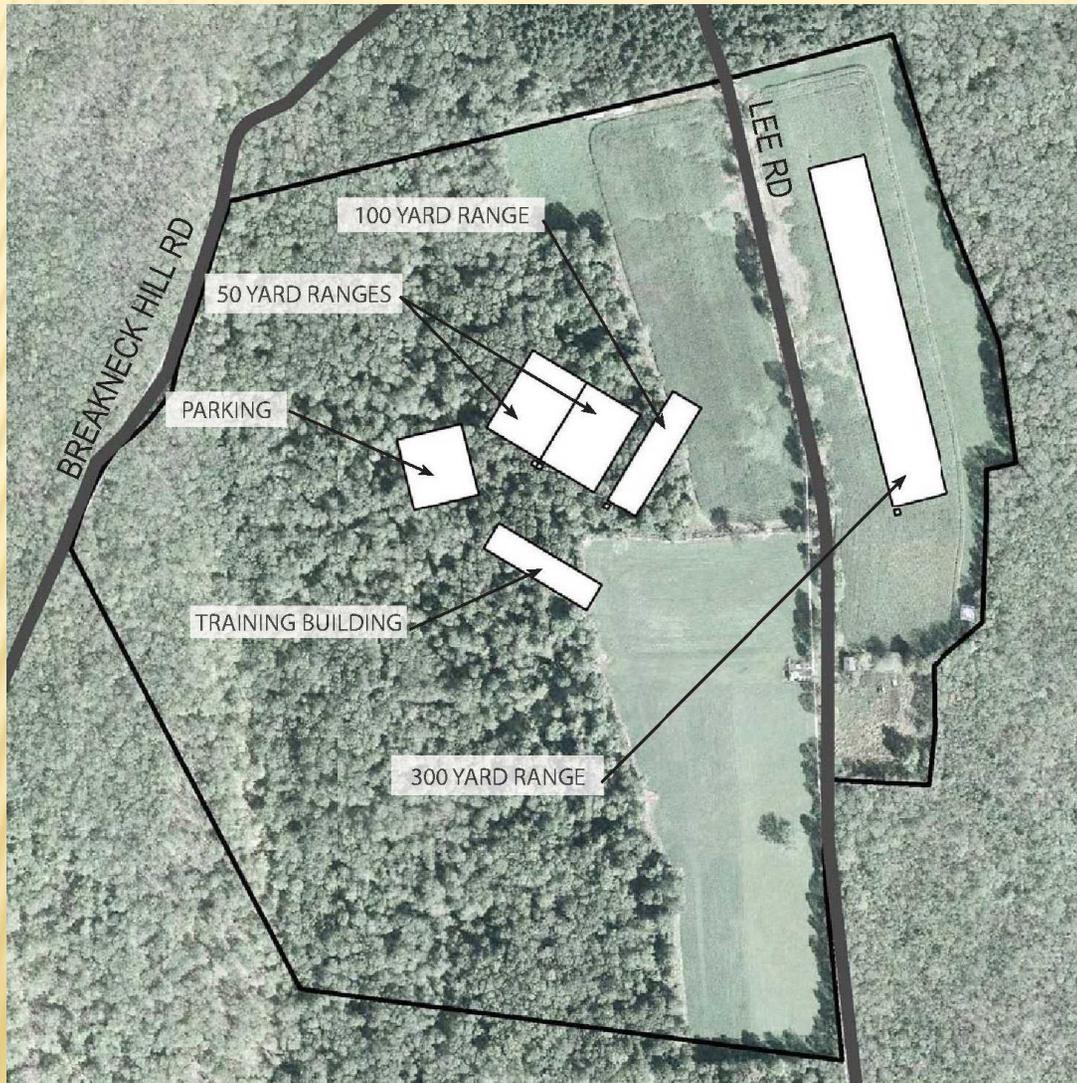
Alternative Concept #3



- ❑ Access from Breakneck Hill Rd. or Trail #2
- ❑ Northcentral portion of Site
- ❑ Facility in fields primarily
- ❑ Southward firing direction for all ranges



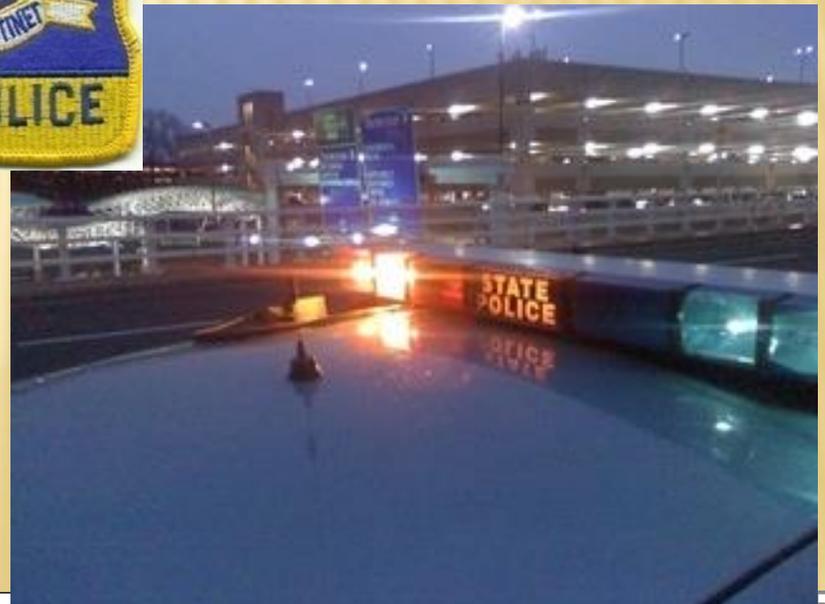
Alternative Concept #4



- ❑ Access from Breakneck Hill Rd. or Trail #2
- ❑ Centered on the Site
- ❑ Most facility elements in woodlands
- ❑ Northward firing direction for all ranges except 300 yd rifle range (southward)



Partners for a Safer Connecticut



Public Comments

- Please sign up to speak if you wish
- State your name
- Limit comments to 3 minutes; after everyone has had a chance to speak, those who wish to speak again may do so for an additional 2 minutes.
- The Public Meeting will conclude after public comments.



How to Submit Comments and Comments Deadline

The public comment period for this project ends
June 21, 2018 at the close of business
(or post-marked)

Written comments are to be sent to:

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Glastonbury, Connecticut 06033

Fax: (860) 652-8590

Email: csptesting@gza.com