

Julie Shumway

My current job is with Environmental Protection with a Coast Salish tribe but before this I was a Project Manager for many years in a DoD lab where I specialized in AFFF projects. I feel I have a bit of knowledge in the subject.

While several of the compounds currently used in AFFF (over 5,000) are unknown in what they actually do it's known what PFAS / PFOA do. To simplify things they mix very well with water to create a blanket over oil based fires to smother them. While I strongly believe the compounds needs to be phased out of every day life use as lubricants I'm not necessarily anti-AFFF. Currently there is a strong argument showing Best Management Practices in case of oil based emergencies. A clean up utilizing a double gac system and disposal has worked.

As far as how to dispose of AFFF it is not listed in RCRA but should still be solidified and shipped to a non- hazardous waste landfill which accepts this types of waste. Injection is the worst idea! Thermal destruction would be the second choice.