



Remedial Investigation Former Camp Breckinridge Range Complex No. 1 Munitions Response Site

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Introduction

This fact sheet describes the status of the ongoing investigation of the former Camp Breckinridge Range Complex No. 1 Munitions Response Site (MRS) East of Morganfield, Kentucky. Range Complex No. 1 MRS is a 20,766-acre area comprised of overlapping former ranges used from 1942-1962. It contained 33 former ranges (rifle, pistol, tank subcaliber, and machine gun small arms ranges, recoilless rifle ranges, grenade ranges, rocket ranges, demolition ranges, close combat ranges, and attack and assault courses) with direction of fire towards the center of the range complex. In addition, an 18-acre area of concern (the Mortar Round Site) is included because mortars were found in the area.



60mm and 81mm mortars found onsite in 2006.

Site History

Beginning in July 1942, the former Camp Breckinridge served as a troop training facility with a capacity for 30,000 troops and included several small arms, hand grenade, and mortar ranges in Morganfield, Kentucky. It was used again for troop training from 1948-1949 and 1950-1953. In 1955, the camp was partially reactivated to provide Annual Field Training Support for summer National Guardsmen and Army Reserve Unit training and Army Units Special Field Training. The camp was declared excess in 1962.

Formerly Used Defense Sites Program

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Louisville District manages the former Camp Breckinridge Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) project. Congress established the FUDS program in 1986 to address environmental concerns at properties that were previously under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Defense and owned by, leased to, or otherwise possessed by the United States at the time of actions leading to contamination by hazardous substances. By the Department of Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) policy, the FUDS program is limited to those real properties that were transferred from DoD control prior to 17 October 1986. USACE manages the FUDS program, which includes the Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) that addresses FUDS where military munitions may be present.

Investigation Area

Properties included in the investigation include areas in impact areas or where targets were located as well as properties within the range of weapons used (in safety fans or buffer areas). Individuals that own property within the investigation area are being sent Right of Entry request forms that, if signed and returned, will allow their properties to be investigated.

Previous Investigations

Archive Search Report (ASR) (1994). An archive search was performed to research and analyze munitions used and recent discoveries of unexploded ordnance (UXO) and explosive items at the MRS. The report documented 136 munitions, many of which were high explosive projectiles, discovered in and around the former Camp Breckinridge from 1989-1993. The ASR declared the potential for explosive hazards over the entire 20,766-acre MRS.

Site Inspection (SI) (2007). A SI was performed to identify whether UXO and explosive items could be present onsite. For the SI, visual examination of areas of the site for evidence of munitions, cratering, and other features was performed.

UXO and explosive items (two fuzed 60 millimeter [mm] mortars, two unfuzed 60mm mortars, and two unfuzed 81mm mortars) were discovered next to the Range Complex No. 1 MRS. Surface soil samples were also collected and analyzed for munitions constituents (MCs) throughout the MRS. No human health concerns associated with MC were identified. Lead and zinc in surface soil was determined to potentially pose a hazard to ecological receptors.

Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study

USACE is continuing investigation of the site under a remedial investigation (RI)/feasibility study (FS) to investigate the presence and extent of UXO and explosive items on the property within the MRS and if there is an unacceptable risk from explosive hazards, to develop appropriate remedial alternatives. Planned activities include geophysical mapping along regularly spaced transects (paths approximately 3-feet wide) across the site and placement of 100-ft by 100-ft grids that will be completely mapped using geophysical instruments which detect ferrous and nonferrous metals. The map produced provides the locations of subsurface anomalies that may potentially be UXO and explosive items. Selected anomalies will be investigated by hand digging. Excavations are typically dug from a few inches up to four feet. Any munitions items that are encountered will be safely and properly disposed. Soil sampling will be performed and sediment, surface water, and groundwater sampling may be performed, if necessary, to determine if a risk to human health and the environment exists. The fieldwork is tentatively planned to begin in October 2017 and is scheduled to go through March 2018. Investigation in agricultural areas may be delayed to minimize impacts to harvest schedules. Data collected in this field investigation will support the analysis and design of response and/or removal actions, if necessary.



Geophysical instrumentation: Geonics EM61-Mk2 (left), Geometrics Metal Mapper 2x2

Public Involvement and Rights of Entry

Public involvement is a key part of the investigation. Landowners that choose to participate will need to permit USACE personnel and subcontractors access to their properties on rights of entry permission forms. USACE will be collecting right of entries over the next month to help plan for fieldwork beginning in the fall.

For more information you may contact Katie Newton, Louisville District Public Affairs Office, at (502) 315-6773 or visit:

<https://lrl.usace.afpims.mil/Missions/Environmental/Camp-Breckinridge/>



Typical Anomaly investigation.

IF YOU SUSPECT THAT YOU HAVE FOUND MILITARY MUNITIONS - BE SAFE... FOLLOW THE “3 Rs”:

Recognize **RECOGNIZE** Recognize when you may have encountered a munition.

Retreat **RETREAT** Do not touch, move or disturb it, but carefully leave the area the way you entered.

Report **REPORT** Call 911! Immediately notify local law enforcement of what you saw and where you saw it.