



**U.S. ARMY**

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# **Interim Risk Management at Munitions Response Sites: Army Installations and Formerly Used Defense Sites**



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**Department of the Army**

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# Topics

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- Army Environmental Mission**
- Scope of the Issue**
- What are the Risks?**
- What Can be Done?**
- Army Efforts to Date**
- Coordination With States & EPA**
- Challenges & Path Forward**



# Army Environmental Mission

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- ❑ Sustain the environment to enable the Army's mission now and provide for the future.
- ❑ Be an enabler for Army readiness for training, testing, and installation operations supporting the Soldier and Army mission with minimal restriction to operations.
- ❑ As the DoD Executive Agent for the Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) Program, the Army is committed to protecting human health and the environment and improving public safety by cleaning up environmental contamination at former military properties.





# Army Environmental Universe

- ❖ 13.5 million acres
  - ❖ 163 active installations
    - ❖ 10,725 active ranges
      - ❖ 1,327 environmental restoration sites on active installations
        - ❖ 318 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) installations with environmental restoration sites
          - ❖ 1,953 Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) with eligible environmental restoration projects





# Years of Training + Munitions =

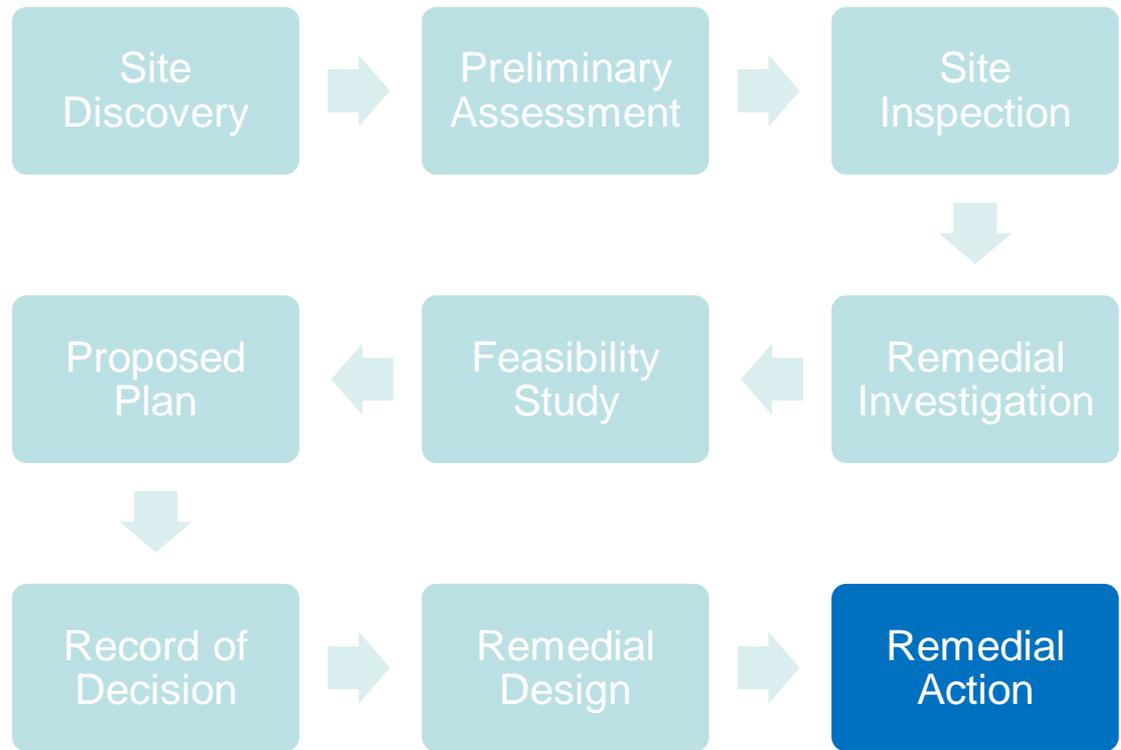
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- ❑ Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC) on Army installations and FUDS
  - Unexploded Ordnance (UXO), Discarded Military Munitions (DMM), and Munitions Constituents (MC)
- ❑ Areas on Army installations that are encumbered with munitions and are unavailable for MILCON
- ❑ Former training areas, now in the public domain, that may pose a risk to the public and impede desired land use

**These considerations, in part, led to the establishment of the Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) in 2002**



# MMRP Process Overview



## Complications

- Property outside of DoD control
- Change in Land Use
- Encroachment into potentially impacted areas by adjacent development
- Increased desire by community to reuse the property
- Multiple landowners with differing ideas for path forward





# Implications of Time Lag?



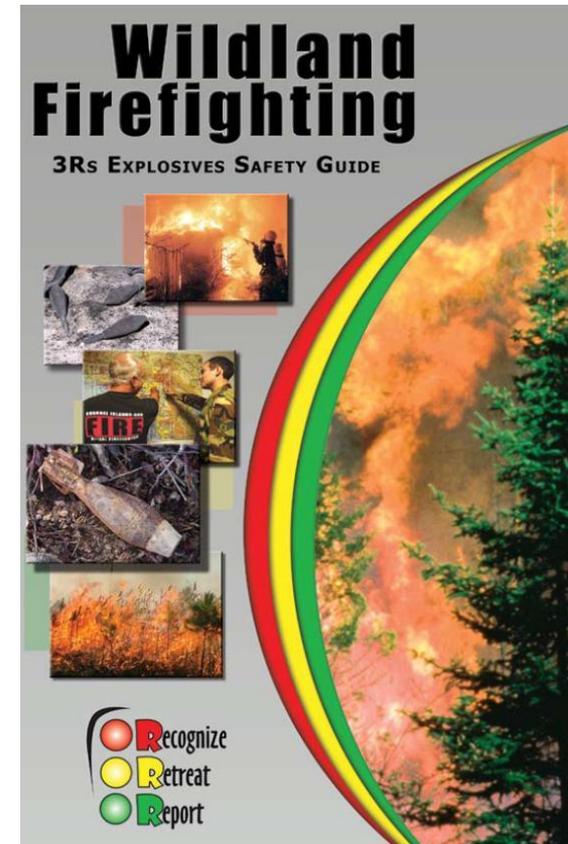
Potential risk to the Army soldiers, their families, civilian employees, our contractors, and the public.





# What Can Be Done to Mitigate Risks?

- Land use controls, engineering controls, institutional controls
- Explosives emergency support
- Notifications to local government and potentially affected landowners
- Community education and outreach
- Construction support
- Wildland firefighting support



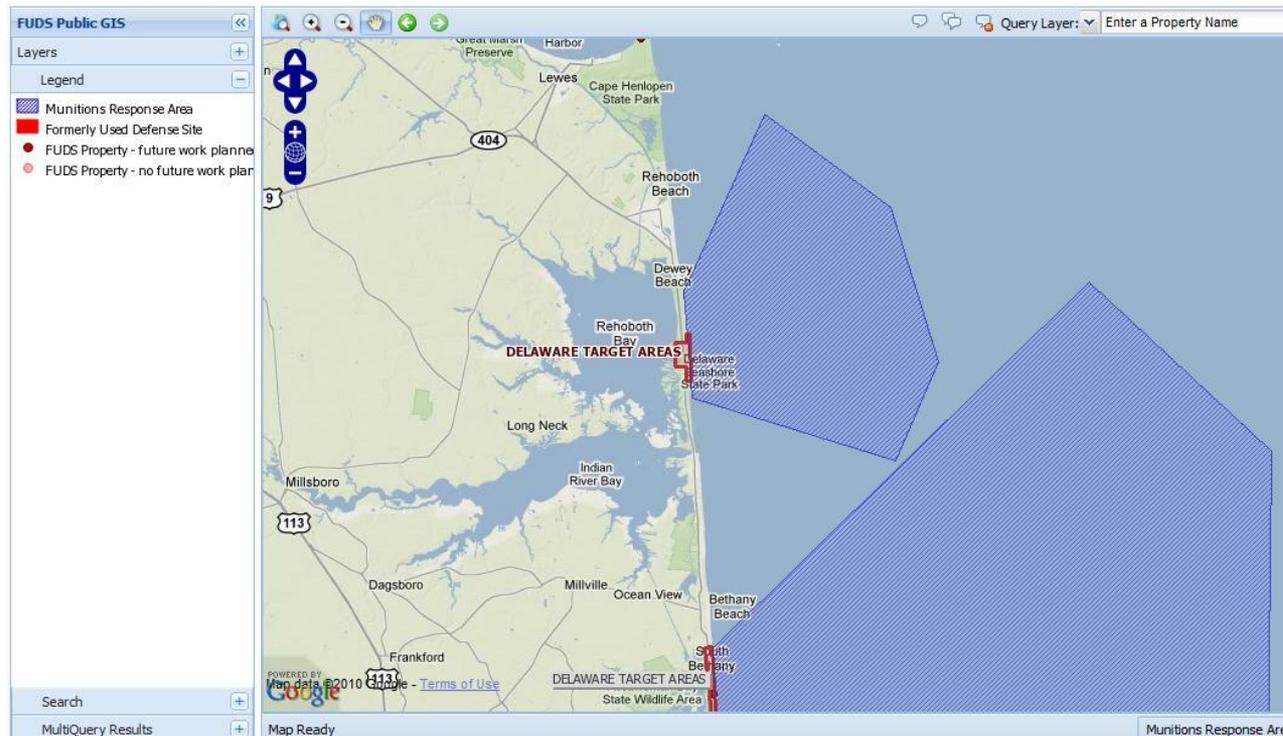
**A word of caution: each site potentially impacted by munitions is unique. There is no “one size fits all” approach!**



# Army Efforts to Date

## Formerly Used Defense Sites

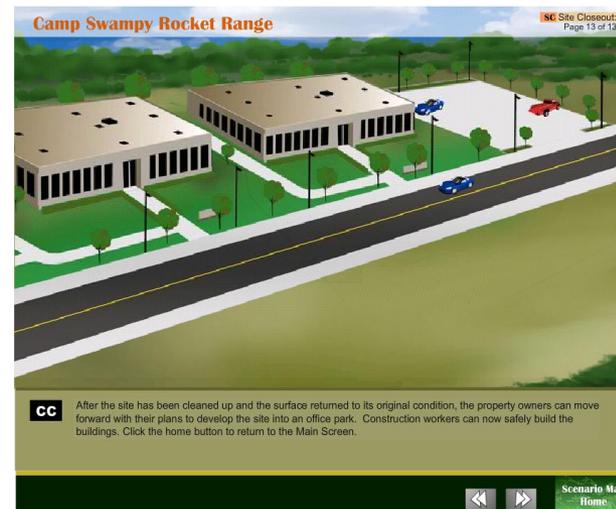
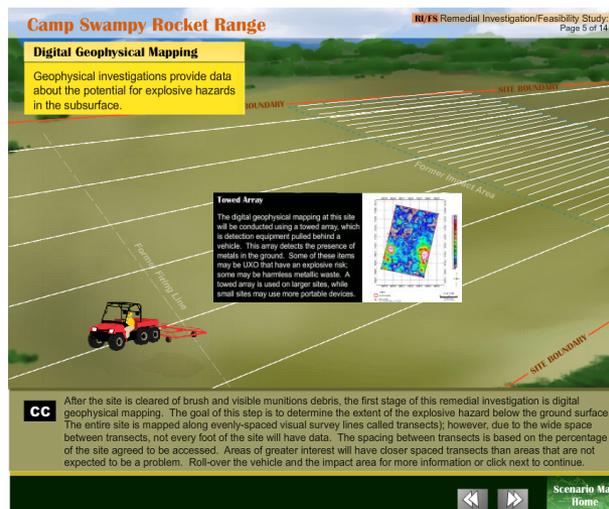
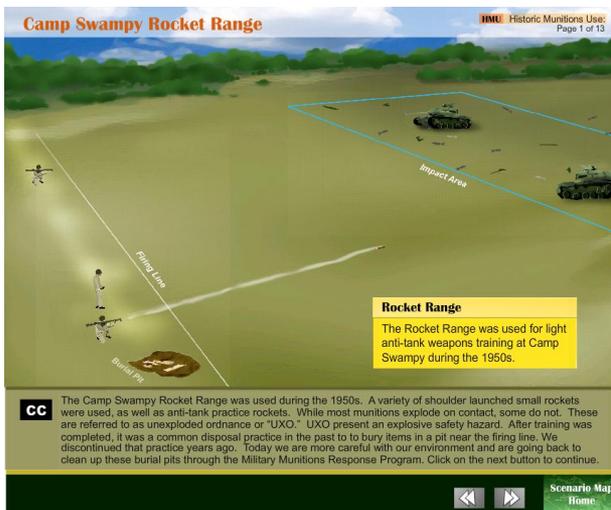
- Annual National Association of Counties Conference & Exposition Outreach
- Explosives safety awareness outreach and educational materials
- Protocol to initiate phased notification program
- Inventory made available to the public





# Army Efforts to Date

- ❑ Active and Army National Guard Installations
  - Developing Land Use Control (LUC) Plans at 59 installations
  - Preparing to execute Non-Time-Critical Removal Actions (NTCRAs)
  - Creating a web-based “visual presentation” to depict risk management efforts for MRS scenarios most commonly found in the Army inventory





# Coordination With States & EPA

- Army participates in the State-Led Munitions Response Forum (SMRF), including the Risk Management sub-group
  - Interim risk management issue paper under development
  - Intended to educate state officials and explain the need for funding and implementation of interim risk management efforts

Association of State and Territorial  
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**TO:** State Federal Facilities Manager

**FROM:** State Representatives - State-led Munitions Response Forum

**DATE:** April 7, 2009

**RE:** Formation of the State-led Munitions Response Forum

As you may know, States are at the forefront of dealing with sites contaminated by military munitions in our communities and, as the Department of Defense (DOD) continues developing the Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP), States will face even more challenges at munitions sites. There are several thousand military munitions response sites in the nation that are known to contain or suspected to contain military munitions, such as unexploded ordnance, discarded military munitions, or munitions constituents (i.e., the explosive compounds) in the surrounding soil or water media. A large number, over half of these sites have been transferred into private ownership or are in areas open to the public, or are scheduled to be transferred into private ownership.



# Challenges & Path Forward

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- ❑ Variability in local law enforcement capabilities, protocols, and reporting mechanisms
- ❑ Notifications multi-layered, complex, costly
- ❑ Properties change hands and result in use that is incompatible with site conditions
- ❑ Army cannot establish or enforce controls on non-DoD property
- ❑ Funding the necessary efforts, particularly for FUDS, is difficult
- ❑ Role of States and local officials on non-DoD property still not fully defined

**Continued partnership between Army & our stakeholders is essential to success.**



# Questions?

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