

Defense Environmental Restoration Program
Formerly Used Defense Sites
Findings and Determination of Eligibility

Victorville Precision Bombing Range #2
Apple Valley, California
Site No. J09CA069600

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Beginning on 2 September 1942, the United States War Department acquired 440 acres fee and 200 acres transfer from the Department of the Interior for a total of 640 acres for use as a bombing range. The site was developed accordingly and became known as Victorville Precision Bombing Range #2.

2. The Army constructed a facility for the training and practice of pilots in the precision bombing of targets on the ground. Construction included the building and placement of the actual target (made of wood), fencing, grading of access road and target area, and paving. Precision Bombing Range #2 remained active until July of 1948.

3. The site was declared as surplus on 13 July 1948 and custody of 440 acres was assumed by the War Assets Administration on 3 September 1948. The remaining 200 acres formally public domain land, was transferred back to the Department of the Interior. The entire area has since been subdivided and sold to private interests. There are 114 individual land owners. However, much of the land is barren, with only a few single family ranches and dwellings. Two recently constructed homes indicate that development of this area will continue in the future.

DETERMINATION

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the site has been determined to have been formerly used by the Department of Defense. It is therefore eligible for the Defense Environmental Restoration Program - Formerly Used Defense Sites established under 10 USC 2701 et seq.

10 Sep 93
Date

for DEP H Col
MILTON HUNTER
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
Commanding

SITE SURVEY SUMMARY SHEET
FOR
DERP-FUDS SITE NO. J09CA069600
VICTORVILLE PRECISION BOMBING RANGE #2
1 SEPTEMBER 1992

SITE NAME: Victorville Precision Bombing Range #2

SITE LOCATION: This facility is located 26 miles southwest of Barstow and eight miles east of Victorville, California, in the County of San Bernardino, as Section 12 in Township 5 North, Range 3 West, San Bernardino Base and Meridian.

SITE HISTORY: In September of 1942, the United States Army acquired 640 acres of land. 440 of these acres were acquired from private landowners through a declaration of taking. The remaining 200 acres were withdrawn from public domain and jurisdiction transferred from the Department of the Interior to the War Department. Subsequent to acquisition of this land, the Department of Defense began preparing the land to establish a bombing site. A hexagonal target was created by clearing 900 feet in every direction and surrounding that area with three concentric circular rings of oil surfacing and placing a frame target in the center. The entire area was then surrounded by fencing. During the years that followed, the area was heavily bombed during practice maneuvers by the United States Air Force. In July of 1948, practice bombing maneuvers were no longer necessary and the acreage was declared as surplus. Custody of 440 of the total 640 acres was assumed by the War Assets administration in September of 1948. The remaining 200 acres, previously public domain land, was transferred back to the Department of the Interior. All the land has been subdivided and sold to private interests.

Currently, much of the land formerly associated with Victorville Precision Bombing range #2 is undeveloped, covered only with desert vegetation. There are a few ranches and single family developments, and access to them is provided by a small number of unpaved roads. Several new dwellings have been constructed, and it appears that development in this area will continue.

SITE VISIT: A site visit was conducted by Mr. Michael Marquis of NBS/Lowry Inc. on 17 January 1992, to determine potential projects under DERP-FUDS.

CATEGORY OF HAZARDS: OEW

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: OEW. Recommend that the Corps' Mandatory Center of Expertise (MCX) for OEW at the Huntsville Division investigate this area to verify that no unexploded ordnance remains at this site and make a determination that this site is clean of OEW.

AVAILABLE STUDIES AND REPORTS: None Identified

PA POC: Debra Castens, Los Angeles District (213) 894-2865

PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET
FOR
DERP-FUDS OEW PROJECT NO. J09CA069601
VICTORVILLE PRECISION BOMBING RANGE #2
SITE NO. J09CA069600
1 SEPTEMBER 1992

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This site was used as a bombing range by the United States Army. Heavy bombing resulted in OEW contamination.

PROJECT ELIGIBILITY: The property was formerly used by the Army. Any ordnance found would clearly be the result of DOD activities.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS: There are no policy considerations that affect the proposal of this project.

PROPOSED PROJECT: Recommend that the Corps' Mandatory Center of Expertise (MCX) for OEW at the Huntsville Division investigate this area to verify that no unexploded ordnance remains at this site and make a determination that this site is clean of OEW.

RAC FORM: Attached.

DISTRICT POC: Request that CEHND inform Ms. Debra Castens at (213) 894-2865 when a determination is made in regard to project status and scheduling.

PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET
FOR
DERP-FUDS OEW PROJECT NO. J09CA069601
VICTORVILLE PRECISION BOMBING RANGE #2
SITE NO. J09CA069600
1 SEPTEMBER 1992

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This site was used as a bombing range by the United States Army. Heavy bombing resulted in OEW contamination.

PROJECT ELIGIBILITY: The property was formerly used by the Army. Any ordnance found would clearly be the result of DOD activities.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS: There are no policy considerations that affect the proposal of this project.

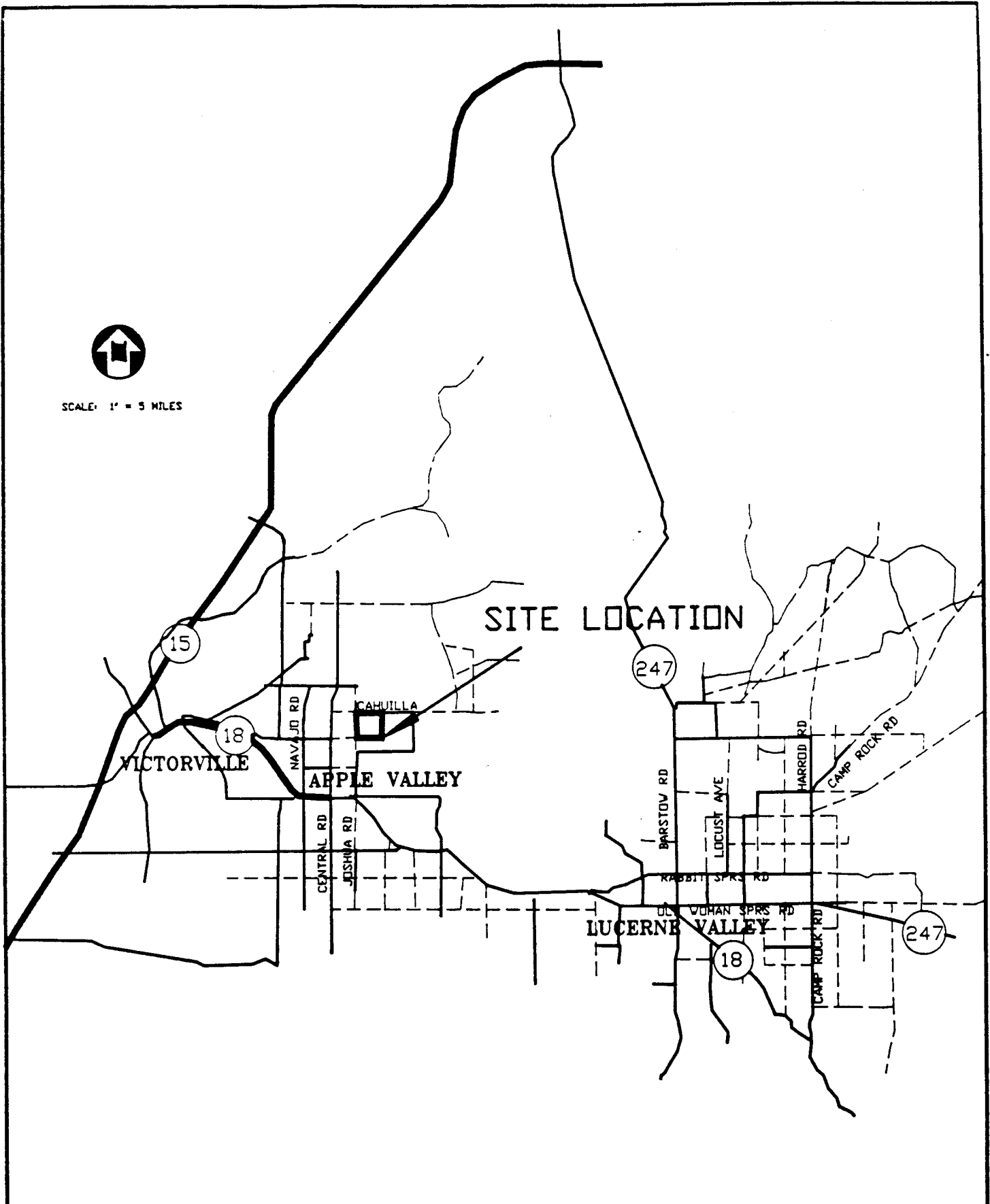
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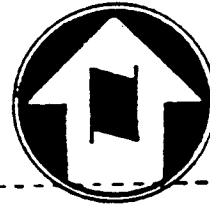
SCALE: 1" = 5 MILES



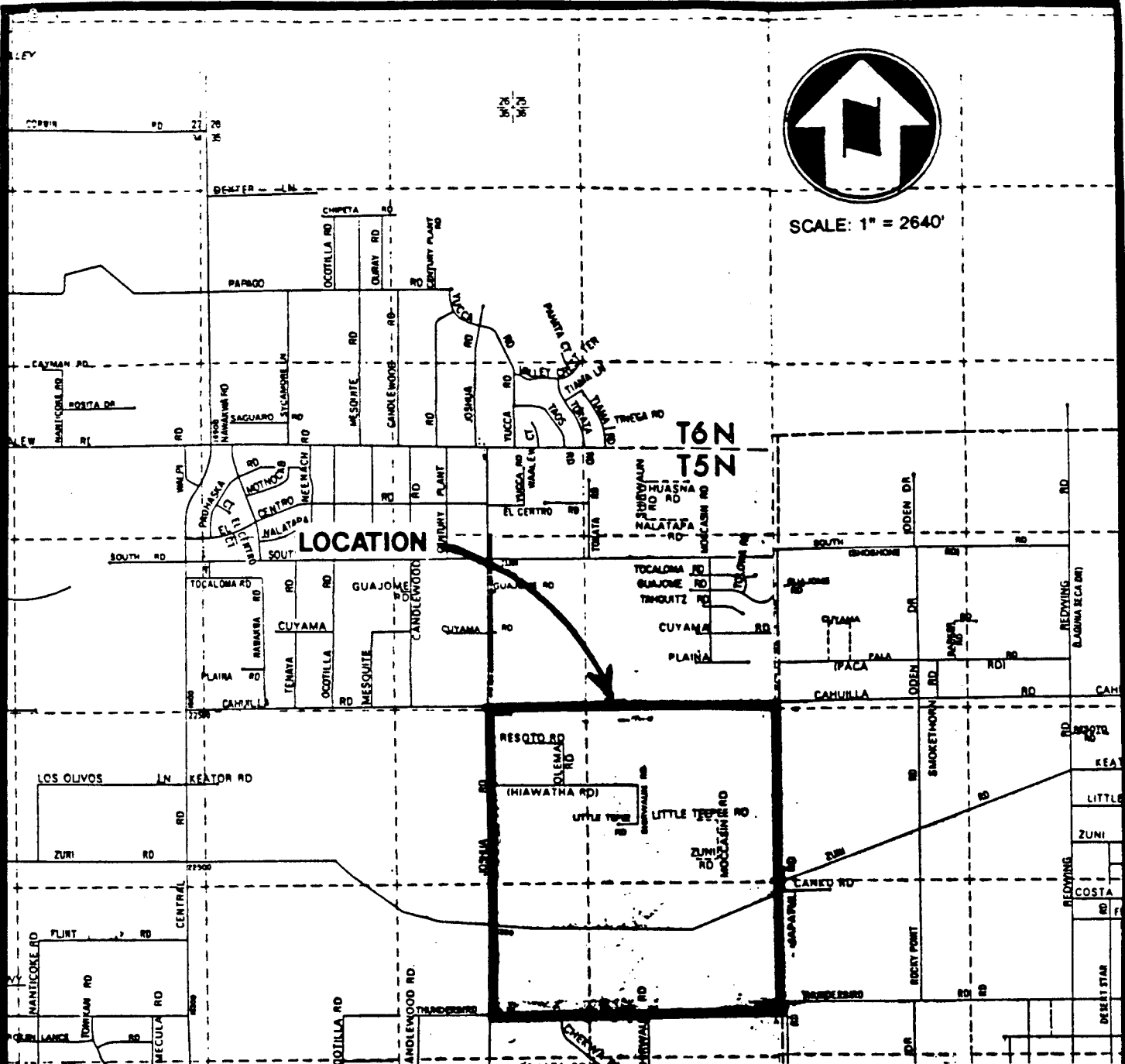
SITE LOCATION MAP

VICTORVILLE PRECISION BOMBING RANGE #2
APPLE VALLEY, CALIFORNIA
SITE NO. J09CA069600

SOURCE: AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



SCALE: 1" = 2640'



VICINITY MAP

VICTORVILLE PRECISION BOMBING RANGE #2

APPLE VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

SITE NO. J09CA069600

SOURCE: 1992 SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY THOMAS GUIDE

10 Jul 1992

Previous editions obsolete

RISK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES FOR
ORDNANCE AND EXPLOSIVE WASTE (OEW) SITES

Site Name VICTOREVILLE PRECISION BOMBING RANGE #2
Site Location APPLE VALLEY, CA.
DERP Project # JO9CA069600

Rater's Name CPT. H. MARUK
Organization LOS ANGELES DISTRICT
RAC 5

OEW RISK ASSESSMENT:

This risk assessment procedure was developed in accordance with MIL-STD 882B and AR 385-10.

The OEW risk assessment is based upon documented evidence consisting of records searches, reports of Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) detachment actions, and field observations, interviews, and measurements. These data are used to assess the risk involved based upon the hazards identified at the site. The risk assessment is composed of two factors, hazard severity and hazard probability.

Any field activities should be made with the assistance of qualified EOD personnel.

Part I. Hazard Severity. Hazard severity categories are defined to provide a qualitative measure of the worst credible mishap resulting from personnel exposure to various types and quantities of unexploded ordnance items.

TYPE OF ORDNANCE

A. Conventional Ordnance and Ammunition

	<u>YES</u> VALUE	<u>NO</u> VALUE	VALUE
Small Arms (.22 cal - .50 cal)	1	0	<u>0</u>
Medium/Large Caliber (20 mm and larger)	10	0	<u>0</u>
Bombs, Explosive	10	0	<u>0</u>
Bombs, Practice (w/spotting charges)	6	0	<u>0</u>
Grenades, Hand and Rifle, Explosive	10	0	<u>0</u>
Grenades, Practice (w/spotting charges)	4	0	<u>0</u>
Landmines, Explosive	10	0	<u>0</u>
Landmines, Practice (w/spotting charges)	4	0	<u>0</u>
Rockets, Guided Missiles, Explosive	10	0	<u>0</u>
Detonators, Blasting Caps	6	0	<u>0</u>

Conventional Ordnance and Ammunition Value (Maximum of 10).

0

B. Pyrotechnics (For munitions not described above.)

	<u>YES</u> VALUE	<u>NO</u> VALUE	VALUE
Munition (Container) Containing White Phosphorus or other Pyrophoric Material (i.e., Spontaneously Flammable)	10	0	<u>0</u>
Munition Containing A Flame or Incendiary Material (i.e., Napalm, Triethylaluminum Metal Incendiaries)	6	0	<u>0</u>
Flares, Signals, Simulators	4	0	<u>0</u>
Pyrotechnics Value (Maximum of 10).			<u>0</u>

C. Bulk High Explosives (Bulk explosives not an integral part of conventional ordnance; uncontainerized.)

	<u>YES</u> VALUE	<u>NO</u> VALUE	VALUE
Primary or Initiating Explosives (Lead Styphnate, Lead Azide, Nitroglycerin, Mercury Azide, Mercury Fulminate, Tetracene, etc.)	10	0	<u>0</u>
Demolition Charges	10	0	<u>0</u>
Booster, Bursting or Fuze Explosives (PETN, Compositions A, B, C, Teteryl, TNT, RDX, HMX, HBX, Black Powder, etc.)	8	0	<u>0</u>
Military Dynamite	6	0	<u>0</u>
Less Sensitive Explosives (Ammonium Nitrate, Explosive D, etc.)	3	0	<u>0</u>
High Explosives Value (Maximum Value of 10)			<u>0</u>

D. Propellants

	<u>YES</u> VALUE	<u>NO</u> VALUE	VALUE
Solid or Liquid Propellants	6	0	<u>0</u>

E. Radiological/Chemical Agent/Weapons

	<u>YES</u> VALUE	<u>NO</u> VALUE	VALUE
Toxic Chemical Agents (Choking, Nerve, Blood, Blister)	25	0	<u>0</u>
Radiological	15	0	<u>0</u>
Riot Control and Miscellaneous (Vomiting, Tear, etc.)	5	0	<u>0</u>

Radiological/Chemical Agent/Weapons Value (Maximum 25).

Total Ordnance and Explosive Waste Characteristics Value (Total = A + B + C + D + E with a Maximum value of 61).
Apply this value to Table 1 to determine Hazard Severity Category.

TABLE 1

HAZARD SEVERITY

Description	Category	Value
CATASTROPHIC	I	≥ 21
CRITICAL	II	$\geq 13 < 21$
MARGINAL	III	$\geq 5 < 13$
NEGLIGIBLE	IV	$\geq 1 < 5$
NONE		0

* Apply Hazard Severity Category to Table 3.

Part II. Hazard Probability. The probability that a hazard has been or will be created due to the presence and other rated factors of unexploded ordnance or explosive materials on a formerly used DOD site.

AREA, EXTENT, ACCESSIBILITY OF CONTAMINATION

A. Locations of Contamination

	<u>YES</u> VALUE	<u>NO</u> VALUE	VALUE
On the surface	5	0	<u>0</u>
Within Tanks, Pipes, Vessels or Other confined locations.	4	0	<u>0</u>
Inside walls, ceilings, or other parts of Buildings or Structures.	3	0	<u>0</u>
Subsurface	2	0	<u>0</u>
Value for location of UXO. (Maximum Value of 5).			<u>0</u>

B. Distance to nearest inhabited locations or structures likely to be at risk from OEW site (roads, parks, playgrounds, and buildings).

<u>Distance to Nearest Target</u>	VALUE
Less than 1250 feet	5
1250 feet to 0.5 miles	4
0.5 miles to 1.0 mile	3
1.0 mile to 2.0 miles	2
Over 2 miles	1
Distance to Persons Value (Maximum Value of 5).	<u>N/A</u>

C. Numbers and types of Buildings within a 2 mile radius measured from the hazardous area, not the installation boundary.

Number of Buildings	VALUE
0	0
1 to 5	1
6 to 10	2
11 to 15	3
16 to 25	4
26 and over	5
Number of Buildings Value (Maximum Value of 5).	<u>N/A</u>

D. Types of Buildings (within a 2 mile radius)

	VALUE
Educational, Child Care, etc.	5
Residential, Hospitals, Hotels, etc.	5
Commercial, Shopping Centers, etc.	5
Industrial Warehouse, etc.	4
Agricultural, Forestry, etc.	3
Detention, Correctional	2
Military	1
No Buildings	0

Types of Buildings Value (Maximum Value of 5).

N/A

E. Accessibility to site refers to access by humans to ordnance and explosive wastes. Use the following guidance:

Barrier	Assigned Value
A 24-hour surveillance system (e.g., television monitoring or surveillance by guards or facility personnel) which continuously monitors and controls entry onto the facility;	0

or

Barrier	Assigned Value
An artificial or natural barrier (e.g., a fence combined with a cliff), which completely surrounds the facility; and a means to control entry, at all times, through the gates or other entrances to the facility (e.g., an attendant, television monitors, locked entrances, or controlled roadway access to the facility).	0

Isolated site	1
Security guard, but no barrier	2
A barrier, (any kind of fence) but no separate means to control entry	3
Barriers do not completely surround the facility	3
No barrier or security system	5

Accessibility Value (Maximum Value of 5).

0

F. Site Dynamics - This deals with site conditions that are subject to change in the future, but may be stable at the present. Examples would be excessive soil erosion by beaches or streams, increasing land development that could reduce distances from the site to inhabited areas or otherwise increase accessibility.

	VALUE
None Anticipated	0
Expected	5
(Maximum Value of 5)	<u>0</u>
Total value for hazard probability.	
Sum of Values A through F.	<u>0</u>
(Not to exceed 30).	

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Apply this value to Hazard Probability Table 2 to determine Hazard Probability Level.

TABLE 2

HAZARD PROBABILITY

Description	Level	Value
FREQUENT	A	≥27
PROBABLE	B	≥21 <27
OCCASIONAL	C	≥15 <21
REMOTE	D	≥ 8 <15
IMPROBABLE	E	<8

* Apply Hazard Probability Level to Table 3.

Part III. Risk Assessment. The risk assessment value for this site is determined using the following Table 3. Enter with the results of the hazard probability and hazard severity values.

TABLE 3

Probability Level		FREQUENT A	PROBABLE B	OCCASIONAL C	REMOTE D	IMPROBABLE E
Severity Category:						
CATASTROPHIC	I	1	1	2	3	4
CRITICAL	II	1	2	3	4	5
MARGINAL	III	2	3	4	4	5
NEGLIGIBLE	IV	3	4	4	5	5

RISK ASSESSMENT CODE (RAC)

- RAC 1 Imminent Hazard - Emergency action required to mitigate the hazard or protect personnel (i.e., Fencing, physical barrier, guards, etc.).
- RAC 2 Action required to mitigate hazard or protect personnel. Initial project phase--phased EECA.
- RAC 3 Action required to evaluate potential threat to personnel. Initial project phase--Archives search and site investigation.
- RAC 4 Action required to evaluate potential threat to personnel. Initial project phase--Archives search.
- RAC 5** No action required.

NOTE: Other phases may be considered depending on individual site conditions.

Justification. In narrative form, summarize the documented evidence that supports this risk assessment.

SITE VISIT ^{WAS} CONDUCTED BY CPT. H. MARWIA AND KEVIN MCGLINCHEY ON 29 SEP 93. THERE WAS NO VISUAL EVIDENCE OF SURFACE UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE OR D.O.D. RELATED ITEMS. THE AREA IS DEVELOPED WITH APPROXIMATELY 25-30 DWELLINGS, RANCHES, UTILITY POLES, UNDERGROUND CABLE LINES, WATER WELLS, AND UNPAVED ROAD NETWORKS. BASED ON THE ABOVE MENTIONED FINDINGS, A RAC 5 IS DEEMED APPROPRIATE, BUT SINCE THE SITE WAS USED AS A BOMBING RANGE THE PRESENCE OF UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE CANNOT BE RULED OUT.