

# **Community Relations Plan**

**Fort Taylor  
Monroe County, Florida**



**United States Army Corps of Engineers  
Jacksonville District  
Jacksonville, Florida 32207-0019**

**June 2019**

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## **1.0 Overview of Community Relations Plan**

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (the Corps) developed this Community Relations Plan to facilitate communication between those living, working, or visiting the Fort Taylor Formerly Used Defense Site and the nearby community and the Corps and to encourage community involvement in site activities. The Corps will utilize the activities outlined in this plan to ensure that the community is informed and provided opportunities to be involved.

This Community Relations Plan addresses the site's relationship to the community and the Corps (Section 2.0), provides a background of the community (Section 3.0), presents the Corps' community involvement program (Section 4.0), and provides a listing of available resources. The Corps drew upon several information sources to develop this plan, including community interviews and site files. The Corps will oversee the implementation of the community involvement activities outlined in this plan.

## **2.0 Site Description and History**

Across the country, the Department of Defense acquired properties, often during times of conflict, to use for military demonstrations, training, and testing. Once the military no longer needed the land, it was transferred to other entities. These Formerly Used Defense Sites can range from privately owned farms to national parks. They also include residential, educational, and industrial areas. The Department of Defense is committed to correcting environmental damage caused by its activities and created the Defense Environmental Restoration Program-Formerly Used Defense Sites to evaluate, and if necessary, remediate Formerly Used Defense Sites. The Corps is responsible for managing the Defense Environmental Restoration Program-Formerly Used Defense Sites on behalf of the Department of Defense.

### **2.1 Property History**

The military constructed Fort Taylor from 1845 to 1866 as a harbor defense site. The fort was originally offshore and connected to land via a bridge. During the Civil War, the fort served as a Union Army site guarding against Confederate ships, effectively preventing the Confederates from securing Key West. The military modernized the fort structure in 1898 and filled the original casemates with sand, Civil War-period ordnance, weapons, and empty projectiles. Additional ordnance and weapons were disposed of over the fort walls into the ocean. Modernization also included constructing two batteries, Battery Osceola and Battery Adair. The Army activated the batteries during World War I and World War II. Between conflicts, the military either placed the fort in caretaker status or used it to train National Guardsmen. In 1947, the military transferred Fort Taylor from the U.S. Army to the U.S. Navy, and the Navy used it as a salvage yard. Between 1947 and 1965, the U.S. Navy filled the water surrounding the fort with fill from the adjacent shipping channel. In 1973, the Secretary of the Interior designated Fort Taylor as a National Historic Landmark. In 1979, the federal government deeded a portion of the Navy's property, including the fort, to the State of Florida for the Fort Zachary Taylor Historic State Park.

### **2.1.1 Potential Contaminants**

Because of the military's historical use of the site, munitions could potentially be present within the Formerly Used Defense Site. Teams have recovered munitions during previous investigations, and soil samples collected during the Site Inspection had elevated levels of metals.

### **2.1.2 United States Army Corps of Engineers Involvement**

Shortly after the Formerly Used Defense Sites program began, the Corps visited the site and declared it eligible for the Formerly Used Defense Sites program in June 1991. The Corps completed a Site Inspection in 2008 to determine if munitions were potentially present. Please see Section 2.3.3 for more information about previous studies and investigations.

### **2.1.3 Community Reaction**

To date, no one has expressed concerns about the Fort Taylor Formerly Used Defense Site. The Corps will meet with the property owners and stakeholders periodically throughout the various phases of investigation to ensure any concerns are addressed.

## **2.2 Property Description and Location**

The Fort Taylor Formerly Used Defense Site is located in the City of Key West in Monroe County, Florida. The site is located on the western-most tip of Key West (Figure 1). The State of Florida owns the sites and manages it as the Fort Zachary Taylor Historic State Park and is a National Historic Landmark.



Figure 1: Site Location

The site is divided into three Munitions Response Sites: Munitions Response Site 01 Interior Fort and Casemates, Munitions Response Site 02 Artillery Ranges Land and Disposal Area, and Munitions Response Site 03 Artillery Ranges Water (Figure 2). During previous investigations, ordnance and other materials were found in rooms under fort walls within the Interior Fort and Casemates. In the Artillery Ranges Land and Disposal Area, several fused Civil War-era projectiles were found during a 1989 excavation of the moat, and in 2007, a fused 3-inch Parrott Rifle projectile was recovered on the walking trail near the moat. There have not been any reports of people finding munitions in the Artillery Ranges Water Munitions Response Site.



Figure 2: Munitions Response Sites

## 2.3 Property Inspections and Cleanup Activities

### 2.3.1 Known or Suspected Contamination

Prior to the Site Inspection, there were no known areas of concern. During the Site Inspection field visit, teams identified munitions within areas of the fort that are closed to the public. There is also the possibility that the metals and explosives that comprise munitions (known as munitions constituents) could impact the soil.

### **2.3.2 Nature of Threat**

Munitions, if present, could pose a potential risk to people who touch, pick up or otherwise disturb them. Munitions constituents could potentially impact people and the environment.

### **2.3.3 History of United States Army Corps of Engineers Inspections and Studies Conducted at the Site**

The previous inspections and studies conducted at Fort Taylor are listed in Table 1. Information and findings from each of these reports are summarized below.

Table 1: Previous Inspections and Studies at the Fort Taylor Formerly Used Defense Site

<b>Year Completed</b>	<b>Activity</b>
1991	Inventory Project Report
1996	Archives Search Report
2004	Archives Search Report Supplement
2008	Site Inspection Report
2014	Revised Inventory Project Report

#### **1991 Inventory Project Report (Initial)**

The Inventory Project Report, completed in June 1991, concluded that the site is eligible for the Formerly Used Defense Sites program.

#### **1996 Archives Search Report**

The Corps prepared an Archives Search Report in 1996. It included a review of all reports, newspaper articles, historical documents, and reference material pertaining to the use and history of Fort Taylor. The Archives Search Report team interviewed the park manager, a local historian, and an official from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service about historic and current practices at Fort Taylor and conducted a site visit on December 6, 1994. The Archives Search Report concluded there is the potential for munitions to be present within the Formerly Used Defense Site.

#### **2004 Archives Search Report Supplement**

The Corps prepared a Supplement to the 1996 Archives Search Report in 2004. This 2004 Supplement identified and re-evaluated the munitions response sites.

#### **2008 Site Inspection**

The Corps conducted a Site Inspection to determine whether Fort Taylor warranted further investigation under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. Based on historical documentation, the April 2008 Site Inspection field effort, the analytical results, and the qualitative reconnaissance conducted, the Corps determined a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study is warranted.

#### **2014 Revised Inventory Project Report**

The Corps revised the original Inventory Project Report in 2014 to establish three project areas (the Munitions Response Site described previously).

### 2.3.4 Lead Agency

The Corps is responsible for cleanup activities related to the military’s use of the site and is coordinating with the Florida Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Monroe County and other stakeholders.

## 3.0 Community Background

### 3.1 Community Profile

The population within Fort Zachary Taylor Historic Site is limited to staff and volunteers who live within the park. The census tract which includes the park (9725) also includes nearby areas and likely represents those who frequent the park. The table below presents data for the census tract compared to Monroe County, Florida, and the United States.

Table 2: Census Data for Site, County, State, and Country

Subject	United States		Florida		Monroe County		Census Tract 9725	
	Estimate	%	Estimate	%	Estimate	%	Estimate	%
Total population	321,004,407		20,278,447		76,745		1,120	
White	234,370,202	73.00	15,343,997	75.70	68,025	88.60	1,081	96.50
Black or African American	40,610,815	12.70	3,270,863	16.10	5,529	7.20	31	2.80
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	56,510,571	17.60	5,015,015	24.70	18,021	23.50	198	17.70
Median age (years)	37.8		41.8		46.7		42.3	
Owner-occupied housing units	75,833,135	63.80	4,868,827	64.80	17,724	58.70	187	41.00
Percent high school graduate or higher		87.30		87.60		91.20		96.70
Percent bachelor's degree or higher		30.90		28.50		31.80		48.60
In labor force	162,184,325	63.40	9,772,762	58.70	42,741	64.20	716	68.30
Armed Forces	1,024,855	0.40	55,075	0.30	1,326	2.00	131	12.50
Born in United States	273,082,894	85.10	15,438,189	76.10	61,029	79.50	820	73.20
Born outside United States	43,028,127	13.40	4,106,367	20.20	14,174	18.50	280	25.00
Language Spoken at Home								
English only	236,929,699	78.70	13,669,654	71.30	56,191	76.80	923	83.50
Language other than English	64,221,193	21.30	5,503,431	28.70	17,005	23.20	182	16.50
Speak English less than "very well"	25,654,421	8.50	2,271,001	11.80	6,931	9.50	69	6.20
Spanish	39,769,281	13.20	4,078,350	21.30	12,987	17.70	165	14.90
Speak English less than "very well"	16,357,882	5.40	1,762,502	9.20	5,724	7.80	64	5.80
Mean household income (\$)	81,283		72,993		91,157		110,339	
% Below Poverty Line								
All families		10.50		11.10		8.00		0.00
With related children under 18 years		16.70		18.20		14.10		0.00

Subject	United States		Florida		Monroe County		Census Tract 9725	
	Estimate	%	Estimate	%	Estimate	%	Estimate	%
With related children under 5 years only		16.20		17.00		10.70		0.00
No vehicles available	10,468,418	8.80	502,079	6.70	2,356	7.80	103	22.60
Computers and internet use								
Total households	118,825,921		7,510,882		30,198		456	
With a computer	103,614,074	87.20	6,614,563	88.10	26,818	88.80	442	96.90
With a broadband Internet subscription	92,813,615	78.10	5,903,370	78.60	23,424	77.60	398	87.30
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates								

### 3.2 History of Community Involvement

The Corps will meet with stakeholders throughout the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study and will conduct a number of public involvement activities, including interviewing park visitors and employees.

### 3.3 Key Community Concerns

No community concerns have been raised to date, but the Corps will continue to monitor the situation closely.

### 3.4 Response to Community Concerns

The Corps will continue public involvement activities and will respond should any concerns arise.

### 3.5 Summary of Communication Needs

The Corps will develop fact sheets and newspaper notices to share information about the project and will send a letter to the property owner. We will coordinate the State Park Service to ensure visitors to the area are familiar with the military's historic use of the site. The team will also evaluate the use of social media as a means of sharing information with the local community.

## 4.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM

The overall goal of the Corps' public involvement program is to promote two-way communication between citizens and the Corps and to provide opportunities for meaningful and active involvement by the community in the remedial action process. The Corps has implemented the community involvement activities described below.

### 4.1 The Plan

#### Issue 1: Keeping the Public Informed

##### Activity 1A: Designate a Corps public involvement coordinator

- Objective: To provide a primary liaison between the community and the Corps and to ensure prompt, accurate and consistent responses and information dissemination about the site

- Method: The Corps will designate a public affairs specialist to handle site inquiries and serve as a point of contact for community members. The public affairs specialist will work closely with the Corps' project manager.
- Timing: A public affairs specialist dedicated to Formerly Used Defense Site was designated at the initiation of the Remedial Investigation.

Activity 1B: Prepare and distribute site fact sheets and technical summaries

- Objective: To provide citizens with current, accurate, easy-to-read, easy-to-understand information about the Fort Taylor Formerly Used Defense Site
- Method: The Corps will mail a fact sheet along with a letter to the property owner and other stakeholders. In addition, copies will be available at the Information Repository, on the Internet, and in the park.
- Timing: The Corps has developed a fact sheet and Frequently Asked Questions and will revise and distribute them as necessary as the project progresses.

Activity 1C: Provide a toll-free telephone number for the community to contact the Corps

- Objective: To enable citizens to get the latest information available when they want it, rather than having to wait for a meeting or a fact sheet and without incurring any cost
- Method: The Corps will activate a toll-free number and publish it periodically in the local papers and in all fact sheets.
- Timing: The toll-free telephone line is currently operational (800.710.5184).

Activity 1D: Maintain a mailing list for the site

- Objective: To facilitate the distribution of site-specific information to everyone who needs or wants to be kept informed about the site
- Method: The Corps will create a mailing list that includes all identified stakeholders as well as all of the property owners within the boundaries of the Formerly Used Defense Site.
- Timing: The Corps is compiling the mailing list and will periodically review/revise it to keep it current.

Activity 1E: Establish and Maintain an Administrative Record file

- Objective: To provide residents with all documents and resources used by the project delivery team in reaching decisions about the site and restoration activities in a convenient location where residents can go to read and copy official documents and other pertinent information about the site
- Method: The Administrative Record file is a collection of site information. The Corps will work with a local contact to find a suitable location (known as an Information Repository) to house the Administrative Record. This repository will be accessible to the physically challenged, will have copier facilities, and will be available to residents during normal business hours and at least some evening and/or weekend hours. The Corps will provide at least two sets of the

Administrative Record file for the site, one at the Corps' Jacksonville, Florida office and one in the local Information Repository near the site.

- Timing: The Corps established the repository at the beginning of the remedial investigation phase and will update it periodically. The local repository at the Monroe County Public Library branch in Key West (700 Fleming Street).

Activity 1F: Provide project information on the internet

- Objective: To provide site and project information as well as general Formerly Used Defense Site information
- Method: Project and Formerly Used Defense Sites information can be found at [www.saj.usace.army.mil/FortTaylor](http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/FortTaylor).
- Timing: Project information is on the internet now.

Issue 2: Provide Adequate and Meaningful Opportunities for Community Involvement

Activity 2A: Hold public meetings and special events

- Objective: To update the community on site developments and address community questions, concerns, ideas and comments
- Method: Community meetings and other related activities, as necessary, will be hosted at appropriate times. The Corps will schedule, prepare for and attend all announced meetings. The Corps will provide at least a two-week notice of scheduled meetings.
- Timing: The Corps will host a public availability session in the park July 30, 2019, and will provide other opportunities to coordinate directly with the public based as necessary. A public meeting will be held when the Proposed Plan is ready.

Activity 2B: Solicit interest in a Restoration Advisory Board

- Objective: To provide citizens with a meaningful way to become actively involved and to provide the project delivery team with a viable means of learning citizen concerns and attitudes
- Method: The Corps will solicit interest in a Restoration Advisory Board and will provide support as appropriate to facilitate its formation. If formed, the Corps will provide administrative support, and the Corps' project manager will serve as co-chair along with a representative elected from among the community representatives on the board.
- Timing: The Corps began soliciting interest in forming a Restoration Advisory Board in May 2018 and will continue through August 16, 2019.

Activity 2C: Make informal visits to community

- Objective: To help keep community members informed about the site while providing the Corps with feedback about site activities and the community's opinions

- Method: The Corps will establish a presence in the community through informal visits.
- Timing: The Corps will make periodic visits to the site throughout the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study phase, as necessary.

#### Activity 2D: Solicit comments during a public comment period

- Objective: The objective is to give community members an opportunity to review and comment on various Corps documents, especially the Proposed Plan. The review period provides an opportunity for the citizens to have meaningful involvement in the process while giving the project delivery team valuable information from the community.
- Method: The Corps will announce each comment period separately, if necessary. Announcements will appear in local newspapers and fact sheets. Information on the duration and how and where to submit comments will be included. The Corps will seek comments on the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study recommendations along with the potential remedies.
- Timing: A Public Comment Period will be held for the Proposed Plan after the fieldwork is complete and the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study report is finalized.

#### Activity 2E: Prepare and issue a Responsiveness Summary

- Objective: To summarize comments received during comment periods, to document how the Corps has considered those comments during the decision-making process and to provide responses to major comments
- Method: The Corps will prepare a Responsiveness Summary as a section of the Decision Document. The Responsiveness Summary will include four sections: 1. Overview; 2. Background on Community Involvement; 3. Summary of Comments Received and the Corps' Responses; 4. Remedial Design/Remedial Action Concerns. All information, both technical and nontechnical, will be conveyed in a manner that is easily understood.
- Timing: The Responsiveness Summary will be included in the Decision Document which is prepared after the Proposed Plan public comment period.

#### Activity 2F: Revise the Community Relations Plan

- Objective: To identify and address community needs, issues or concerns regarding the site or the cleanup remedy that are not currently addressed in this Community Relations Plan
- Method: The revised plan will update the previous version.
- Timing: The Corps will revise the plan as community concern warrants or at least every three years until the site is closed out.

## 4.2 Projected Schedule for Community Involvement Activities

Activity	Time Frame
Designate a Corps community involvement coordinator	Complete
Prepare and distribute site fact sheets and technical summaries	Complete and as required throughout the phase of work
Provide a toll-free number	Currently in operation
Maintain a mailing list for the site	Ongoing
Maintain Administrative Record	Ongoing
Provide site and Formerly Used Defense Site information on the internet	Ongoing, update as needed
Conduct special events	July 30, 2019 and as needed
Hold public meetings	As needed throughout phase of work
Solicit interest in a Restoration Advisory Board	underway
Make informal visits to community	As needed
Solicit comments during a public comment period	As needed and required
Prepare and issue a Responsiveness Summary	Following public comment period
Revise the Community Relations Plan	As needed

## 5.0 REFERENCES

The Florida Senate. [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

Florida House of Representatives. [www.myfloridahouse.gov](http://www.myfloridahouse.gov)

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United States Army Corps of Engineers, 2004, Archives Search Report Supplement, Fort Taylor, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District.

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United States Army Corps of Engineers. Public Participation Requirements for Defense Environmental Restoration Program Engineer Pamphlet 200-3-1. September 30, 2011

United States Census. <https://factfinder.census.gov>



US Army Corps  
of Engineers.

## APPENDIX A: COMMUNITY SURVEY

### Fort Taylor Formerly Used Defense Site Community Interview Questionnaire

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is doing a study at Fort Zachary Taylor to determine if there are any impacts associated with the military's previous training activities. We are conducting this interview to understand your concerns and information needs related to the Formerly Used Defense Site. Please help us by taking a few moments to answer the questions below. Thank you!

Do you live or work near Fort Zachary Taylor? If so for how long?

How often do you visit the park? Daily, Weekly, Monthly?

Do you have any concerns about the site?

Have any of your friends or neighbors expressed interest or concerns about the Corps' investigation? If so, what are their concerns?

What do you think the community would want to know about the site?

Would you like to be added to a mailing list to receive fact sheets and other general information about our investigation? If so, please provide a mailing or email address.

What is the best method for sharing information with you?

How do you normally receive your information about important issues?

What are the most popular newspaper, television station and radio station in the area?

Are there local radio or television talk shows or local civic/service organizations that may be a good means of sharing information with the community?

Is there anything else you would like to mention that we have not talked about?

## APPENDIX B: MEDIA CONTACTS

### Television Stations:

Station	Channel	Address	Telephone
WPBT - PBS	2	14901 NE 20 <sup>th</sup> Avenue North Miami, Florida 33181	305.949.8321
WSBS – IND	3	527 Southard Street Key West, Florida 33040	305.293.8070
WFOR - CBS	4	18 Terrace Miami, Florida 33172	305.639.4436
WTVJ – NBC	6	15000 SW 27 <sup>th</sup> Street Miramar, Florida 33027	305.379.6666
WSVN - FOX	7	Sunbeam Television Corporation 1401 79 <sup>th</sup> Street Causeway Miami, Florida 33141	305.751.6692
WPLG – ABC	10	900 SE 3rd Avenue Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316	954.364.2500
WRMD – Telemundo	49	4107 West Spruce Street Suite 250 Tampa, Florida 33607	813.319.4949
Univision	62	9405 NW 41st Street Doral, Florida 33178	305.471.3900

### Newspapers:

Name	Address	Telephone
Key West Citizen	3420 Northside Drive Key West, Florida 33040	305.292.7777
Key West Keynoter	2720A N Roosevelt Boulevard Key West, Florida 33040	305.296.6989
Key West the Newspaper	1214 Newton Street Key West, Florida 33040	305.304.6882

**Radio Stations:**

<b>Station</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Format</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Telephone</b>
WJIR	90.9 FM	Religious	1209 United Street Key West, Florida 33040	305.294.9547
WKWM	91.5 FM	Public Radio	Marathon, Florida 33050	305.995.1717
WEOW	92.7 FM	Top 40	5450 Macdonald Avenue Suite 10 Key West, Florida 33040	305.296.7511
WAIL	99.5 FM	Classic Rock		
WKEY	93.7 FM	Classic Hits	P.O. Box 500940 Marathon, Florida 33050	305.395.7537
WHNJ	95.7 FM	Religious	P.O. Box 177 Big Pine Key, Florida 33043	305.872.5434
WAVK	97.7 FM	Adult Contemporary	11399 Overseas Highway Marathon, Florida 33050	305.872.9100
WCNK	98.7 FM	Country	30336 Overseas Highway Big Pine Key, Florida 33043	305.872.9100
WWUS	104.1 FM	Classic Hits		
WKYZ	101.7 FM	Adult Alternative	951 Caroline Street #202 Key West, Florida 33040	305.294.1017
WPIK	102.5 FM	Spanish	P.O. Box 420249 Summerland Key, Florida 33042	305.745.9988
WXKW	104.9 FM	Alternative	610 Duval Street Key West, Florida 33040	305.735.4023
WIIS	106.9 FM	Alternative	1075 Duval Street, C17 Key West, Florida 33040	305.296.1069
WMFM	107.9 FM	Spanish Tropical	1001 Ponce De Leon Boulevard Coral Gables, Florida 33134	305.529.0006

## **APPENDIX C: POTENTIAL MEETING LOCATIONS**

### **Florida Keys Eco-Discovery Center**

Nancy Foster Florida Keys Environmental Complex

35 East Quay Road

Key West, FL 33040

Telephone: 305-809-4750

## Appendix D: Public Involvement Tools

### FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES | Fort Taylor

#### Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study



June 2019

#### DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM FOR FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES

Across the country, the Department of Defense acquired properties, often during times of war, to use for military training, testing and demonstrations. When no longer needed, many of these properties were cleaned up according to the best practices available at the time and then transferred to other owners such as private individuals or other government entities. These Formerly Used Defense Sites range from privately owned farms to national parks. They also include residential, industrial and educational properties. The Department of Defense is committed to protecting people and the environment and improving public safety by cleaning up these sites if hazards from the former military operations remain. The Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites was established to evaluate and, if necessary, to remediate Formerly Used Defense Sites. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) manages the program on behalf of the Department of Defense.

Congress passed the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, also known as Superfund, in 1980 and the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act in 1986. These laws give the Corps the authority for certain cleanup activities and dictate the process we must follow. The Corps conducts investigations to determine the potential risk to people and the environment from the military's use of the property. Public involvement and community participation are important components of the process. We partner with stakeholders throughout the process, including congressional representatives, state and local governments, regulatory and environmental agencies, and affected property owners.

#### BACKGROUND

Fort Zachary Taylor, in Key West, Florida has provided harbor defense in four wars: The Civil War, Spanish-American War, World War I, and World War II. Construction of the fort began in 1845 with various expansions and modernizations of the fort and weapons occurring until the Army deactivated it in 1947. In the lead up to the Spanish-American War, batteries and new weapons were added. During World War II, 5-inch anti-aircraft guns were positioned within the fort. With the end of World War II, the harbor defense system was considered obsolete, and the Army transferred the property to the Navy.



The Formerly Used Defense site comprises 51.32 acres that were deeded to the State of Florida in 1979. Fort Zachary Taylor is a federally designated National Historic Landmark, and the Florida Division of Recreation and Parks preserves the fort and operates the Fort Zachary Taylor Historic State Park.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATIONS

Over the years, the Corps has conducted a number of investigations of the Fort Taylor Formerly Used Defense Site, and the Corps divided the area into three projects: Interior Fort and Casemates, Artillery Ranges Land and Disposal Area, and Artillery Ranges Water. While conducting fieldwork for the Site Inspection, which was completed in 2008, teams found munitions within the casemates in areas not open to the public. Therefore, the Site Inspection recommended a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study. The purpose of a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study is to determine if anything remains in the area from the military's training, and if so, in what amounts and locations.

## FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES | Fort Taylor

The fieldwork will include searching for munitions and collecting environmental samples to test for metals and explosive compounds. The Corps' contractor will use a digital metal detector to locate buried metallic objects on land and in the water. Then technicians will analyze the data to create maps showing the location and amount of buried metal. These are called density maps. The density maps will indicate where crews need to place "grids" (square or rectangular areas of various sizes such as 25' x 25' or 50' x 50'). Crews will dig up the metallic objects in the grids to determine if they present a potential hazard.

The Remedial Investigation will encompass approximately 40 acres on land within the park as well as 99,977 acres in the ocean offshore from the park. You may see crews on land or in boats using digital metal detectors or other equipment to search for potential munitions. Teams will establish a safety zone around where they are digging, so access to some areas may be temporarily limited during the investigation. The fieldwork is being carefully coordinated with park staff, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and other state and federal agencies to protect the environment and historic/archeological features.

Once the fieldwork is complete, the team will analyze the data, draft a report and make recommendations. The results will be summarized in a document called a Proposed Plan which will present the alternatives for addressing what, if anything, remains on the site. The alternatives can range from no further action being necessary, educating the public about the site, or conducting a removal action to remove any remaining munitions. When the Proposed Plan is ready, the Corps will present it at a public meeting, and the public will have at least 30 days to review and submit comments on the plan.



### SAFETY FIRST: Remember the 3Rs

Because of how the military used the site, there could potentially be buried munitions. These could be dangerous and may not be easily recognizable. Never touch, move or disturb something you think may be a munition. Remember the 3Rs.

**RECOGNIZE** - The item you found could be dangerous.

**RETREAT** - Do not touch it in any way, and leave the area.

**REPORT** - Call 911 immediately.

**Recognize** **Retreat** **Report**

### For More Information

Contact:  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District  
Toll-Free 800.710.5184  
FUDS.Florida@usace.army.mil  
www.saj.usace.army.mil

Visit:  
Project documents can be viewed at:  
**Monroe County Library**  
700 Fleming Street, Key West  
Telephone: 305.295.3368



US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

## FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES | Fort Taylor

REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY STUDY



JUNE 2019

### Why is the US Army Corps of Engineers investigating Fort Taylor?

Fort Taylor, a Formerly Used Defense Site, was utilized for coastal defense beginning in 1845. By the end of World War II, the fort and the gun batteries were obsolete, and the Army deactivated it. The Corps manages the Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites at properties across the country, and the Corps investigates these sites to determine if the military left anything behind. If so, the Corps determines what appropriate action should be taken.

### How did the military use the area?

The Army used Fort Taylor for harbor defense. During the Civil War, a number of cannons were placed around the fort. The fort was modernized prior to the Spanish-American War, and the weapons were updated and modernized over the years. It is possible the military fired at targets in the ocean during training activities. In 1947, the Army deactivated the fort, and by 1979, the federal government deeded the property to the State of Florida to use as a state park.

### Why are you here now?

We do not have evidence of a known problem at Fort Taylor, but to ensure your safety, we evaluate all Formerly Used Defense Sites. The Jacksonville District has the fourth largest inventory of these sites in the nation and currently has the funding available to study this and many other sites in Florida, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. We are doing a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study to determine what may be present from the military's use, in what amounts and where.

### When will the work be completed?

The fieldwork for the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study is scheduled to be completed in 2020. Once the fieldwork is complete, the team will evaluate the data and draft a report. It will form the basis of a Proposed Plan, which summarizes the recommended alternatives to address what may be found. The public will have an opportunity to review and comment on the Proposed Plan.

### Where will the Corps search?

The Corps will search in several areas of the park as well as in the ocean offshore from the park. We will coordinate with the park to limit any inconvenience to the public while the work is under way.

### Will you be closing any areas of the park?

No. People will need to stay away from the teams while they work, and you may be asked to stay out of an area for a few hours to allow them to work.

### What are you doing to ensure you don't damage the environment, including sensitive habitats and nesting areas?

The Corps is working in conjunction with the park staff, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and other state and federal agencies to ensure protection of the environment. In addition, fieldwork is being planned to avoid nesting areas and sensitive habitats.

### Are the park and drinking water safe?

The park and surrounding waters are safe for recreational use, and drinking water is also safe.

### What should I do if I see something unusual?

While it is unlikely the public would encounter munitions in the public areas of Fort Taylor, we encourage you to remember and practice the 3Rs of explosives safety. If you find a suspicious object, **Recognize** you may have found munitions, and munitions are dangerous. **Retreat** without touching or moving the object, noting its location. **Report** your finding to local law enforcement by dialing 911.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

#### Contact:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District  
Toll-Free 800.710.5184  
FUDS.Florida@usace.army.mil  
www.saj.usace.army.mil

#### Visit:

Project documents can be viewed at:  
**Monroe County Library**  
700 Fleming Street, Key West  
Telephone: 305.295.3368





## Fort Taylor Formerly Used Defense Site Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is conducting a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study of the Fort Taylor Formerly Used Defense Site. The military controlled the property from 1845 until they deeded the property to the state in 1979. The site is now the Fort Zachary Taylor Historic Park. The Corps is conducting the current investigation to determine if anything remains from the military's training. This notice is to let you know:

- ▶ We are conducting a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study.
- ▶ Project documents used to determine the appropriate response action (known as the Administrative Record) are available for review at the Monroe County Library (700 Fleming Street, Key West) and at [www.saj.usace.army.mil/FortTaylor](http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/FortTaylor).
- ▶ We are soliciting interest in a Restoration Advisory Board.

It is important for the public to participate in the remedial process, so the Corps is considering establishing a Restoration Advisory Board. These boards include people from the community and government. They review and comment on plans and technical documents related to environmental studies and restoration activities. Members serve as voluntary liaisons between the community and the Corps and receive no compensation.

If you are interested in serving or wish to comment on the Administrative Record file, please call 800.710.5184 or email [FUDS.Florida@usace.army.mil](mailto:FUDS.Florida@usace.army.mil). Submit written comments to USACE, ATTN: PM-M Frank Araico, 701 San Marco Blvd., Jacksonville, FL 32207. Please submit your comments by August 16, 2019.

We will be in the Fort Zachary Taylor Historic State Park Tuesday, July 30, 2019, from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm to talk with anyone interested in our investigation.

For More Information:

**Visit:** Fort Zachary Taylor Historic State Park July 30, 2019 or  
[www.saj.usace.army.mil/FortTaylor](http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/FortTaylor)

**Call:** 800.710.5184 **Email:** [FUDS.Florida@usace.army.mil](mailto:FUDS.Florida@usace.army.mil)

## **Appendix E: Stakeholders List**

### **United States Army Corps of Engineers**

Mr. Frank Araico  
Project Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
701 San Marco Boulevard  
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Telephone: 904.232.1804  
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Ms. Rebecca Terry  
Contracting Officer's Representative  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
4820 University Square  
Huntsville, Alabama 35816  
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Mr. Richy F. Rosado  
Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
701 San Marco Boulevard  
Jacksonville, Florida 32207  
Telephone: 904.232.1106  
Email: Rick.F.Rosado@usace.army.mil

### **Regulators and Other Agency Stakeholders**

Mr. John Winters  
DoD, Brownfields and CERCLA Programs  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
2600 Blair Stone Road MS 4535  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400  
Telephone: 850.245.8999  
Email: John.Winters @dep.state.fl.us

Mr. Anthony Knott  
Park Manager  
Fort Zachary Taylor Historic State Park  
601 Howard England Way  
Key West, Florida 33040  
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Email: Anthony.Knott@dep.state.fl.us

Mr. William M. Stanton  
Cultural Resources Section Supervisor  
Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
Telephone: 850.245.3110  
Email: William.Stanton@FloridaDEP.gov

Mr. Matthew Lawrence,  
Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration  
33 E. Quay Road  
Key West, Florida 33040  
Telephone: 305.434.9383  
Email: Matthew.Lawrence@noaa.gov

Mr. Jason Aldridge  
Florida Department of State  
Florida Division of Historical Resources  
500 South Bronough Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250  
Telephone: 850.245.6344  
Email: Jason.Aldridge@dos.myflorida.com

Ms. Lisa Gregg,  
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation  
Commission  
620 South Meridian Street, Mailbox 4B3  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1600  
Telephone: 850.617.9621  
Email: Lisa.Gregg@myfwc.com

Mr. Dan Clark  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Florida Keys National Wildlife Refuges Complex  
28950 Watson Boulevard

MSTC Greg Bergstrom  
U.S. Coast Guard Sector Key West  
Waterways Management Division  
100 Trumbo Road.

Big Pine Key, Florida 33043  
Telephone: 305.872.2239 x 209  
Email: Daniel\_Clark@fws.gov

Key West, Florida 33040  
Telephone: 305.292.8772  
Email: SKWWaterways@uscg.mil

Mr. Edward Russell  
Naval Air Station Key West  
P.O. Box 9007 A  
Key West, Florida  
Telephone: 305.797.4461  
Email: Edward.O.Russell@navy.mil

**City, County, and Other Local Stakeholders**

Craig Cates, Mayor  
City Hall  
1300 White Street  
Key West, Florida 33040  
Telephone: 305.809.3840  
Email: CCates@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

Michael Davila, Fire Chief  
Key West Fire Department  
1600 N. Roosevelt Boulevard  
Key West, Florida 33040  
Telephone: 305.809.3937  
Email: MDavila@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

Donald J. Lee, Jr., Chief of Police  
Key West Police Department  
1604 Roosevelt Boulevard  
Key West, Florida 33040  
Telephone: 305.809.1042  
Email: DLee@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

Sheriff Rick Ramsay  
Monroe County Sheriff's Office  
5525 College Road  
Key West, Florida 33040  
Telephone: 305.292.7001  
Email: RRamsay@keysso.net

Jimmy Weekley  
City Commissioner, District 1  
City of Key West  
1300 White Street  
Key West, Florida 33040  
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Email: JWeekley@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

Mr. Kevin Wilson  
Monroe County  
1100 Simonton Street  
Key West, Florida 33040  
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Email: Wilson-Kevin@monroecounty-fl.gov

Mr. Steve McAlearney  
City of Key West  
1300 White Street  
Key West, Florida 33040  
Telephone: 305.809.3747  
Email: smcalearney@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

**State of Florida**

Senator Anitere Flores  
State Senate District 39  
111401 SW 40th Street, Suite 465  
Miami, Florida 33165  
Telephone: 305.222.4117

Representative Holly Raschein  
State House District 120  
Suite 10, 99198 Overseas Highway  
Key Largo, Florida 32399-1300  
Telephone: 305.453.1202

Capitol Office:  
404 Senate Office Building  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100  
Telephone: 850.487.5039

Capitol Office:  
209 House Office Building  
402 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300  
Telephone: 850.717.5120

**Federal**

Senator Rick Scott  
801 North Florida Avenue Suite 421  
Tampa, Florida 33602  
Telephone: 813.225.7040

Senator Marco Rubio  
8669 NW 36th Street, Suite 110  
Doral, Florida 33166  
Telephone: 305.418.8553

Congressman Carlos Curbelo  
26th District of Florida  
1100 Simonton Street, Suite 1-213  
Key West, Florida 33040  
Telephone: 305.292.4485

Washington, DC Office:  
B3 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
Telephone: 202.224.5274

Washington, DC Office:  
284 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
Telephone: 202.224.3041

Washington, DC Office:  
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Washington, DC 20515  
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