



MARCH 2018

BACKGROUND

Across the country, the Department of Defense acquired properties, often during times of war, to use for military training, testing and demonstrations. When 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 and urban areas. They also include residential, industrial and educational properties. There are more than 9,000 Formerly Used Defense Sites throughout the country. Some of these sites have little or no environmental risks, but others have known hazards.

MUNITIONS RESPONSE SITE PRIORITIZATION PROTOCOL PROCESS

The Army created the Military Munitions Response Program to address the potential hazards if munitions remain on Formerly Used Defense Sites and other properties used by the Department of Defense. The program encompasses more than 3,300 project areas within these Formerly Used Defense Sites, covering 28 million acres with some of the sites dating to the 18th century. Most of them are from World Wars I and II and the Korean conflict.

To help prioritize restoration activities across the country, the Department of Defense created the Munitions Response Site Prioritization Protocol. A Munitions Response Site is a specific area within a Formerly Used Defense Site.

The Protocol has three modules to evaluate the unique hazards posed by munitions and the materials inside of them



(known as munitions constituents). The three modules are Explosive Hazard Evaluation, Chemical Warfare Material Hazard Evaluation and Health Hazard Evaluation. These modules evaluate the potential hazard, how readily accessible the hazard is to people and the environment and the potential impact on people and the environment.

Each module is scored from 38 to 100 and is assigned a rating from G (lowest) to A (highest). Besides the letter ratings, there are three other possible outcomes of scoring for each module – evaluation pending (insufficient data are available to score the site), no longer required (a response has already been completed or this risk is minimal), or no known or suspected hazard. Each site is then assigned a number between one and eight indicating a relative priority

with one being the highest potential hazard and eight as the lowest potential hazard. The priority number does not have an assigned action. In other words, one does not signify a need for immediate removal, and eight does not mean

FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES

no action is required. After a site is given a priority rating, it must be “sequenced” for response action.

SEQUENCING

Sequencing refers to the process of determining which project will be addressed first. The sequencing for response action is based on the site’s relative risk. In general, a Munitions Response Site that presents a greater risk to people or the environment will be addressed before a site that presents a lower risk. Factors such as local land use needs, community interest, funding and available technology may also influence the sequencing. The priority is reviewed at least annually and will be revised to reflect any new information.



PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

No two projects are ever quite the same. The one constant is the need for strong partnerships among the US Army Corps of Engineers, regulatory agencies, and stakeholders and the active involvement of those living or working on the Formerly Used Defense Site.

The Department of Defense believes that a proactive public involvement program will facilitate the munitions response process and help ensure the protection of people and the environment. Involving the public, local and state governments, and regulators in the process of developing the prioritization and sequencing is an effective way to identify and address environmental and safety concerns of those living and working in and around the impacted area. Anyone wishing to comment on the prioritization, sequencing or seeking more information on the process is encouraged to contact the Corps by calling 800-710-5184 or emailing FUDS.Florida@usace.army.mil.

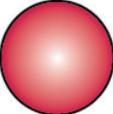
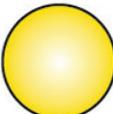
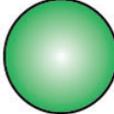
SAFETY FIRST

If you are on a Formerly Used Defense Site, it is vitally important, in the unlikely event that potential munitions are encountered, to follow the simple 3Rs of explosives safety: Recognize, Retreat, Report.

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



US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

FUDS.Florida@usace.army.mil

800-710-5184 (Toll Free)

www.saj.usace.army.mil



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