

**RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)
PROJECT FACT SHEET
MAY 1997
HNC REVISION: 11 JULY 1997
TAG REVIEW DATE: 28 JANUARY 1998**

1. SITE NAME: Bell Target

SITE NUMBER: I04FL089200

LOCATION:

City: N/A
County: Clay
State: Florida

PROJECT NUMBER: I04FL089201

CATEGORY: OE

INPR RAC: 4

ASR RAC: 3

TAG RAC: 5

2. POC's:

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ASR TECHNICAL REVIEWER:

Name: John R. Chapman, Jr.
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3. SITE DESCRIPTION:

The former Bell Target is located six miles southwest of the corporate boundary of Jacksonville, Florida. Located in parts of sections 9, 10, 15, and 16, Township 4 South, Range 24 East, the target consisted of three concentric circles laid out in approximately the center of one square mile of land. The U.S. Government owned 40 acres, and the other 600 acres were leased from two owners.

Currently, the site is owned by the State of Florida, 520 acres, for use as the Jennings Wildlife Management Area, and by D. F. Griffin, 120 acres, used for hay growing and hunting.

The site is predominantly covered with scrub brush and pine trees, with the west side broken up by tributaries of Yellow Water Creek.

4. SITE HISTORY:

Between completion of construction in 1943 and termination of leases on 31 March 1951, Bell Target was used as a practice dive bombing target by planes flying out of Cecil Field, which was located just north of the bomb target.

According to histories of Naval Air Station (NAS) Jacksonville and Cecil Field, the planes that may have been used to bomb Bell Target were SB2Us (Vought Vindicator scout/bomber), SB2As (Brewster Buccaneer dive bomber), SB2Cs (Curtiss Helldiver dive bomber), and SBDs (Douglas Dauntless scout/dive bomber). Documents and interviews also indicate that the bombs dropped on Bell Target were Mk 5, Mk 19, Mk 23, and Mk 43 miniature practice bombs. These bombs contained the rough equivalent of a 10 gauge shotgun shell for use as a spotting charge.

On 1 June 1948, Bell Target was slated to have its leases canceled upon activation of Camp Blanding Targets 1 and 2. This did not occur until 31 March 1951, when documents indicate that the leases for Bell Target were terminated and the land reverted to the original owners. A listing of real estate controlled by NAS Jacksonville for 1952 does not list Bell Target, while previous listings did, indicating that the termination of leases did occur.

The majority of the land where Bell Target was located, 520 acres, is now the Jennings Forest Wildlife Management Area owned by the State of Florida. A portion of the former target, 120 acres, is owned by Mr. D. F. Griffin.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Area A

Size, Acres:	40
Former Use:	Target Area
Present Use:	Wildlife Management Area
	Pasture/hunting
Probable End Use:	Same as Present
Ordnance Presence:	None
Type:	N/A

Area B

Size, Acres:	600
Former Use:	Buffer Zone
Present Use:	Wildlife Management Area
	Pasture/hunting
Probable End Use:	Same as Present
Ordnance Presence:	None
Type:	N/A

6. CURRENT STATUS:

The Draft Archives Search Report (ASR) was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, in May 1997.

7. STRATEGY: No Further Action (NOFA)

8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS: The Huntsville Center Technical Advisory Group reviewed this ASR and determined NOFA for this site. Though this site has the potential of having mini practice bombs subsurface, because of hazard probability being low, the potential is remote that the general public would encounter the OE. If site dynamics change, this site will need to be reevaluated for risk assessment. A revised Risk Assessment Code form is attached which reflects a score of 5.

There are known Federally- and State-listed species occurring in the site area, including the Gopher Tortoise, American Alligator, Black Creek Crayfish, and Hartwrightia and Bartram's Ixia plantlife. An on-site inspection by the appropriate federal and state personnel may be necessary to verify the presence, absence, or location of listed species, or natural communities.

9. SCHEDULE SUMMARY: NOFA

10. FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY: NOFA

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