

**RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)
PROJECT FACT SHEET
AUGUST 1997**

**1st HNC REVISION: 23 OCTOBER 1997
2nd HNC REVISION: 16 JULY 1997
1st TAG REVIEW DATE: 3 FEBRUARY 1998
2nd TAG REVIEW DATE: 29 JULY 1998**

1. **SITE NAME:** Boardman Air Force Range

SITE NUMBER: F10OR016000

LOCATION:

City: Boardman
County: Morrow County
State: Oregon

PROJECT NUMBER: F10OR016001

CATEGORY: OE

INPR RAC: 2

ASR RAC: 3

TAG RAC: 3

2. **POC'S:**

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3. **SITE DESCRIPTION:** The former Boardman Air Force Range consisted of 95,985.51 acres of land, located 5 1/2 miles southwest of Boardman, Morrow County, Oregon. The range is a 12

mile by 12 mile square, which is bounded on the north by Interstate 84 and on the south by Immigrant Road, while the eastern and western boundaries are irrigated farmlands. The draft ASR states that the Department of the Navy currently owns the eastern half consisting of 46,722.07 acres, which it operates as an active bombing range. The Army Corps of Engineers owns 13.88 acres located in the northern section. The Portland General Electric Company is a minor property owner producing energy from a coal burning plant. Range. The Morrow Country Port Authority maintains the former airstrip and owns property along the northern boundary.

The State of Oregon owns the western half. They in turn lease a major portion to Boeing Agri-Industrial Company (BAC). BAC irrigates the soil for farming and operates a remote antenna range on the site with a primary mission of conducting tests for national security and public safety. The BAC's future testing schedule for the antenna range is currently unspecified. The future plans include expanding the irrigation to those areas that are currently being investigated in this report. Long-range plans are to develop the entire former BAC lease land into irrigated farmland.

A high wire mesh fence encircles both the Navy bombing range and the Boeing antenna test facility. Entry into these two areas is controlled at all times. The lower one-third segment of the bombing range is leased to local ranchers for livestock grazing. A 7 mile portion of the Oregon Trail traverses the extreme southern area of the former range.

The primary landscape feature is high plain desert with low lying vegetation. The site lies within the Columbia Basin. The northern half rises from the Columbia River at an elevation of 310 feet to a reasonably level plateau at 600 feet. The southern half located south of the Carty Reservoir is very hilly and rises to an altitude of 870 feet. Along the Columbia River, the average winter temperature is 37 F and the average summer temperature is 73 F. Precipitation between April and September averages two inches while seasonal snowfall averages nine inches along the Columbia River and 17 inches at higher elevations.

Surface water in the area consists of the Columbia River to the north, the Umatilla River to the northeast, the intermittent stream in Six-Mile Canyon, and lesser streams in the south which end in sediment and fractured rock. The Carty Reservoir was formed by damming the streams in Four-Mile and Six-Mile Canyon and obtaining additional water from a well and pipelines.

4. **SITE HISTORY:** A directive was issued in 1941 to acquire lands for the precision bombing range Boardman Air Force Range, initially known as Arlington Bombing Range. From 1941 to 1943, the War Department acquired 58,662.90 acres of fee; 37,320.31 acres of Public Domain Lands (PDL); and an easement for 2.30 acres. This totals 95,985.51 acres. From 1941 to 1945, The U.S. Army Air Corps used the range for precision bombing. Walla Walla Army Air Base used the site for air-to-ground gunnery practice. After World War II, the U.S. Army categorized the site as surplus land.

In 1948, the Air Force withdrew the lands from surplus and continued using the site as a precision bombing range until 1960. Between 1952 and 1956, the 57th Air Division, Fairchild Air Force Base, assumed the responsibility, control and utilization of the Boardman Range. The Department of Defense (DOD) improvements to the site consisted of approximately 20 buildings, a flight strip, gunnery range, and numerous target sites. The Air Force declared the entire site as excess on 11 August 1960.

On 22 November 1960, the Air Force transferred 58,372.90 acres fee and 2.30 acres easement to the Department of the Navy, 37,320.31 acres to the Department of Interior, and 290 acres to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE). The initial transfer divided the range into a checkerboard pattern that was not conducive for use as a modern bombing range. After several years of negotiating with the State of Oregon, a decision was reached to split the former range into two halves. The draft ASR states that the Navy consolidated its operation on the eastern 47,722.07 acre half, which they are currently utilizing as a high speed aerial bombing range; the INPR states that the Navy currently uses 37,320.31 acres Public Domain Lands (PDL). The western half of the site ultimately ended up being jointly owned by the State of Oregon, Portland General Electric, and Morrow County. The 290 acres controlled by the COE was eventually decreased to 13.88 acres with the remaining 276.12 acres being transferred to the State of Oregon.

5. **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

AREA A

Size, Acres:	46.00
Former Use:	Target No. 1 Impact
Present Use:	Reservoir Landscape
Probable End Use:	Reservoir Landscape

Ordnance Presence: **None**
Type: Not Applicable

AREA B

Size, Acres: 1,106.00
Former Use: Target No. 1 Safety Zone
Present Use: Reservoir and pasture
Probable End Use: Reservoir and pasture
Ordnance Presence: **None**
Type: Not Applicable

AREA C

Size, Acres: 357.00
Former Use: Target No. 2 Impact
Present Use: Pasture
Probable End Use: Irrigated farms
Ordnance Presence: **Confirmed**
Type: Practice Bomb, 100 lb, M38A2;
Incendiary Bomb, AN-M52(2 lb) and
AN-M52A2(4 lb); Practice Rocket,
Subcaliber, Mk 6 (SCAR), Inert

AREA D

Size, Acres: 795.00
Former Use: Target No. 2 Safety Zone
Present Use: Pasture
Probable End Use: Irrigated farms
Ordnance Presence: **Potential**
Type: Practice Bomb, 100 lb, M38A2;
Incendiary Bomb, AN-M52(2 lb) and
AN-M52A2(4 lb); Practice Rocket,
Subcaliber, Mk 6 (SCAR), Inert

AREA E

Size, Acres: 305.00
Former Use: INPR site No. 1 Impact
Present Use: Restricted Area
Probable End Use: Restricted Area
Ordnance Presence: **Confirmed**
Type: Practice Bombs: 100 lb, M38A2;3 lb,
Mk 23;25 lb, BDU 33, Mk 76;56 lb,
Mk 89;nuclear, BDU 10

AREA F

Size, Acres: 618.00
Former Use: INPR site No. 1 Impact Safety Zone
Present Use: Restricted Area

Probable End Use: Restricted Area
Ordnance Presence: **Potential**
Type: Practice Bombs: 100 lb, M38A2;3 lb,
Mk 23;25 lb, BDU 33, Mk 76;56 lb,
Mk 89;nuclear, BDU 10

AREA G

Size, Acres: 118.00
Former Use: Carty Reservoir Impact
Present Use: Pasture
Probable End Use: Pasture
Ordnance Presence: **Confirmed**
Type: Practice Bombs: 100 lb, M38A2;3 lb,
Mk 23;100 lb, M75. Bomb, Target
Marker, M84

AREA H

Size, Acres: 1,034.00
Former Use: Carty Reservoir Safety Zone
Present Use: Pasture and Wilderness Area
Probable End Use: Pasture and Wilderness Area
Ordnance Presence: **Potential**
Type: Practice Bombs: 100 lb, M38A2;3 lb,
Mk 23;100 lb, M75. Bomb, Target
Marker, M84

AREA I

Size, Acres: 157.00
Former Use: Demolition Pits
Present Use: Restricted Area
Probable End Use: Restricted Area
Ordnance Presence: **Confirmed**
Type: Medium/large caliber, explosive
bombs, practice bombs, secondary
explosives

AREA J

Size, Acres: 8,335.00
Former Use: Gunnery Range Safety Fan
Present Use: Pasture
Probable End Use: Irrigated Farms
Ordnance Presence: **None**
Type: Not Applicable

AREA K

Size, Acres: 1,693.00
Former Use: Boardman Airstrip

Present Use: Morrow Airstrip
Probable End Use: Morrow Airstrip
Ordnance Presence: **None**
Type: Not Applicable

AREA L

Size, Acres: 2,313.00
Former Use: Trace Testing Range
Present Use: Pasture
Probable End Use: Irrigated Farms
Ordnance Presence: **None**
Type: Not Applicable

AREA M

Size, Acres: 31,372.56
Former Use: All remaining lands
Present Use: Pasture
Probable End Use: Pasture, Irrigated Farms and
Wilderness
Ordnance Presence: **None**
Type: Not Applicable

AREA N

Size, Acres: 47,722.07
Former Use: Part of Boardman Air Force Range
Present Use: Navy Bombing Range
Probable End Use: Navy Bombing Range (Not FUDS
Eligible)

AREA O

Size, Acres: 13.88
Former Use: Part of Boardman Air Force Range
Present Use: Owned by the U.S. Army Corps of
Engineers
Probable End Use: Ownership by the U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers (Not FUDS Eligible)

6. **CURRENT STATUS:** The Archives Search Report (ASR) for Boardman Air Force Range was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, in August 1997.

7. **STRATEGY:**

AREA A: RAC 5;NOFA
AREA B: RAC 5;NOFA
AREA C: RAC 3;EE/CA
AREA D: RAC 3;EE/CA
AREA E: RAC 4;EE/CA

AREA F: RAC 4;EE/CA
AREA G: RAC 4;EE/CA
AREA H: RAC 4;EE/CA
AREA I: RAC 3;EE/CA
AREA J: RAC 5;NOFA
AREA K: RAC 5;NOFA
AREA L: RAC 5;NOFA
AREA M: RAC 5;NOFA
AREA N: Navy Bombing Range (Not FUDS Eligible)
AREA O: Owned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
(Not FUDS Eligible)

8. **ISSUES AND CONCERNS:** The Huntsville Center Technical Advisory Group (TAG) met and discussed this ASR again on 29 July 1998 and determined that a strategy of EE/CA applies for Areas C, D, E, F, G, H, and I. NOFA applies for A, B, J, K, L, and M. Areas N and O are not FUDS eligible because of present use by the Department of Defense. Areas D, F, and H are safety zones totaling 2,447 acres for target impacts in Areas C, E, and G, respectively. An interview indicated that bombing runs from medium to high altitudes occurred and it is possible that the bombs could have overshot the targets. The specifics of each FUDS eligible area is addressed below. The ASR provides topographical and location information for each area.

Reason for second TAG: The reason for bringing this site before the TAG a second time is to address the comments made during the quality assurance check of the first post TAG fact sheet: (1) The ASR and Fact Sheet stated that Areas E, F, G and H were RAC 4 while the TAG minutes stated that these areas were RAC 3. **A copy of the revised minutes was provided which was in agreement with the ASR and Fact Sheet.** (2) There was no RAC form filled out for the entire site. **Bill McPherson filled out a RAC form with a score of 3 for the entire site.** (3) No reply from the ASR Support District to the site reviewer Form 7 comments had been received. **The ASR writer furnished corrected copies of pages 20 and 24 with the requested changes to paragraphs 6e(2) and 6k(1), respectively.** Other than this paragraph, no other part of the body of this fact sheet has been changed from the first edition. **HNC Safety Comments:** Safety agreed with the conclusions and recommendations of the ASR, and with the assigned RAC score.

Area A, Target No. 1 Impact, 46.00 acres--NOFA: The Site Inspection (SI) team saw no evidence that this location was ever actually used as a target. Witnesses stated that small arms

cartridge cases, as well as one 40mm cartridge case, were found. Also, the INPR states that a 3 lb practice bomb was found, but this could not be verified by the SI team or with those interviewed.

Area B, Target No. 1 Safety Zone, 1,106.00 acres--NOFA: Forty percent of this area is covered by Carty Reservoir and includes a dam. The soil was moved for construction of a power plant. The SI team saw no evidence of OE.

Area C, Target No. 2 Impact, 357.00 acres--EE/CA: The SI team found concentric circles of 200 and 400 yards with an automobile at center. The team found OE debris to 325 yards from center.

Area D, Target No. 2 Safety Zone, 795.00 acres--EE/CA: The SI team found a scrap dump 400 yards west where EOD had carried out disposal operations on four 75mm heat, M66 projectiles which appeared to have been inert loaded. There is no evidence showing that these items were used at the site and it is thought that somebody carried them there. The team saw no other evidence of OE.

Area E, INPR Site No. 1 Impact, 305.00 acres--EE/CA: This area was located through use of an aerial photograph; no historical documents were found. The concentric circles on the photograph are not visible at the site. The SI team found bomb bodies in this area.

Area F, INPR Site No. 1 Impact Safety Zone, 618.00 acres--EE/CA: The SI team found heavy metal fragments from high explosives, but saw no craters. It is thought that these fragments are left over from demolition activities, or that since there is vehicle debris nearby, that proximity fuzes may have been used. These fragments were found one mile away from Area I.

Area G, Carty Reservoir Impact, 118.00 acres--EE/CA: Location of this area was determined from an aerial photograph, not historical documents. The SI team saw the area littered with ordnance debris and it was the one area where the team found suspected live OE, an intact, fuzed M75/84 bomb.

Area H, Carty Reservoir Safety Zone, 1,034.00 acres--EE/CA: Forty percent of this area is under the Carty Reservoir. Neither the SI team nor the owners saw evidence of OE at this location. The draft ASR states that there is the possibility of live ordnance in the reservoir.

Area I, Demolition Pits, 157.00 acres-EE/CA: Demolition activities were carried out at this location as evidenced by blow holes and OE debris. The fragment found furthest from the pit was from a 100 lb General Purpose bomb.

Area J, Gunnery Range Safety Fan, 8,335.00 acres-NOFA: The evidence is that only 20mm practice was used in this area to fire at target drones. No OE remnants were noted.

Area K, Boardman Airstrip, 1,693.00 acres-NOFA: One ammunition storage building no longer exists. There is only a pile of rubble at the building location. No OE was observed.

Area L, Trace Testing Range, 2,313.00 acres-NOFA: This area was identified in several documents. The SI team saw no evidence that the land had been used as a range. Ammunition used would have been small arms ammunition.

Area M, All remaining lands, 31,372.56 acres-NOFA: The SI team performed random sampling inspection of this area with no OE observed.

Area Sweep: The owners stated that on 18 October 1989, the EOD Ordnance Detachment conducted an area sweep in which OE hazards were cited as associated with dropped practice bombs: black powder, white phosphorous, and for Area C only, incendiary bombs with thermate mixtures and magnesium alloy bodies.

Right-of-Entry for Areas A, B, E, F, G, H and I: Coordination is necessary with the landowners of these areas. These landowners were unwilling to allow the Site Inspection Team on the property without the presence of a company employee.

Natural Resources: Federally and State threatened species occur within the site area and are listed in ASR Findings, pages 8-9, paragraph 3f and Table 3-2. An on-site inspection by appropriate State and Federal personnel may be necessary to verify the presence, absence or location of listed species, or natural communities.

Historical Resources: The Oregon State Historic Preservation Office has labeled the seven-mile portion of the Oregon Trail which crosses the site at the southern edge "a high potential segment". Any intrusive measures taken within the area will require oversight by the State Historical Preservation Office and/or other like organizations.

9. **SCHEDULE SUMMARY:** EE/CA

10. **FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY:** For Official Use Only