

**FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)  
PROJECT FACT SHEET**

**JUNE 1995**

**HNC REVISION: 18 JUNE 1997  
TAG REVIEW DATE: 25 June 1997**

**1. SITE NAME:** Mount Campbell Rifle Range

**SITE NUMBER:** J09CA087600

**LOCATION:**

City: Fresno  
County: Fresno County  
State: California

**PROJECT NUMBER:** J09CA087603

**CATEGORY:** OE

**INPR RAC:** 4

**ASR RAC:** 4

**TAG RAC:** 4

**2. POC's:**

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**ASR TAG REVIEW POC:**

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**3. SITE DESCRIPTION:** According to the INPR, the former Campbell Mountain Rifle Range consisted of 210 acres 26 miles east of the City of Fresno in Fresno County, California. Historical documents indicate that the acreage of the site was 653.225 acres. The site lies adjacent to the south and southeast side of the Campbell Mountain, four miles north of Central Road and four miles east of Winkler on California Highway 180, Kings Canyon Road. The site is currently undeveloped grassland used as cattle pasture with restricted access. The owner of the property is the D. W. Ketscher Trust.

The site is located in the western foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains at the southeast base of Campbell Mountain which rises to 1752 feet Net Deodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD). The range was oriented so that firing was southeast to northwest in the direction of the mountain. Campbell Mountain is a large three square mile feature rising some 1300 feet above the flat to rolling surrounding area. The elevation of the rifle range varies in elevation from 420-500 NGVD. Runoff from the southeast side of the mountain can flow through the site as shallow sheet flow. Site topography is steep, averaging about 4% for runoff through and around the site. Surface runoff from the rifle range flows southeast and enters Wahtoke Creek about 1/2 mile away and 30 feet lower in elevation. This creek flows into the Kings River which flows into the San Joaquin River. The San Joaquin is the main drainage course for the San Joaquin Valley.

The climate is wet and mild in the winter and hot and dry in the summer with temperatures well in excess of 100° occurring on a regular basis. Nearly 90% of precipitation occurs in the period from November to April. Little rainfall falls from May through October.

**4. SITE HISTORY:** The INPR states that on 1 June 1943, the Department of War acquired 210.00 lease acres that composed the Mt. Campbell Rifle Range, a.k.a. Campbell Mountain Rifle Range of the U.S. Army Service Center (ASC). The FDE continues: "Total acreage acquired was 210.00 (the historical files list 653.20 lease acres but the current audit list 210.00) for subject site. Historical files acreage of 653.225 will be discussed in the Issues and Concerns, para 8.

During the WWII period, troops fired from 100, 300, and 500 yard firing points at an earth mound. These weapons included the Enfield Rifle, .50 caliber machine gun, and the .45 caliber pistol. Using units included the Western Signal Aviation Unit Training Center at Camp Pinedale, CA, Hammer AAF and the Army Service Training Center, Fresno Fairgrounds, CA. Site improvements included a target area consisting of an earth mound supported by a concrete retaining wall and a small wood frame building next to the wall.

After WWII, members of the 185th California Army National Guard Infantry Unit, Fresno, CA, used the range for weekend training. The 217th Air Transportation Aircraft Repair Battalion of the California Army National Guard also fired at the range. Small arms training for these troops included the M1 Rifle, .38 Caliber Pistol and the .45 Caliber Pistol. It is thought that troops of the 185th also fired the 3.5-inch M29A2 practice rocket. Other organizations also coordinated use of the site with the 185th National Guard: Air and Army Reserve, the Air National Guard, Marine Corps, and perhaps even local civilian law enforcement agencies.

The INPR states that the lease for the 210 acres was terminated on 30 June 1978. Records do not indicate any restrictions, clauses or restoration provisions.

**5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Size, Acres:	210 per INPR;653.225 per historical records
Former Use:	Small Arms and Practice Rocket Range
Present Use:	Undeveloped grassland used as cattle pasture
Probable End Use:	Undeveloped grassland used as cattle pasture
Ordnance Presence:	Confirmed
Type:	Rocket, Practice, 3.5", M29A2

**6. CURRENT STATUS:** The Archives Search Report for Mount Campbell Rifle Range was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St Louis District, in June 1995.

**7. STRATEGY:** RAC 4;EE/CA

**8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS:** The CEHNC Technical Advisory Group (TAG) recommended a strategy of EE/CA, RAC 4 for the 653.225 acres of the site described in the historical records to include the 210 acres listed in the INPR. The site survey team findings are that only lead bullets are potentially present at the rifle range and that only metal remnants of the Rocket, Practice, 3.5", M29A2 are present on the side of the mountain. One round thought to be a white phosphorus (WP) round was never confirmed to be WP). A reinspection of 3.5" rocket debris at the site in April 1995 confirmed that only practice debris was present. The ASR recommendation is that emphasis of an EE/CA be given to that part of the side of the mountain where debris was located. A TAG recommendation of EE/CA, RAC 4 for the entire site was, in part, because of the various units which have used the site since WWII. Documentation was not found which fully describes what training was conducted by these units.

**Site Acreage:** The INPR defines the site acreage as 210 acres, stating that this is the current audit list acreage. However, the INPR acknowledges that historical files indicate an acreage of 653.20 acres: (1)The document at Appendix C6 of ASR Findings is a copy of the Realty Control File Summary (ENG FORM 1603) which indicates that 653.2 total lease acres were rented for \$1,764 per year for the Mt. Campbell Rifle Range. (2)A second document at Appendix C4 states that 653.225 acres were occupied under a Declaration of Taking filed in December 1943.

**OE Site Survey Findings:** The concentration of rocket remnants was found on the side of the mountain between the pieces of timber which the site survey team stated might have been targets. This area is shaded blue on ASR Map-3 and Map-4. While Mr. Schwalbe's Team does not specify the number of acres, Mr. Moore, states in the Hammer Army Airfield ASR that the area where rockets were found was one acre with and the estimated extent of the impact area being 10 acres. The ASR indicates that this is the same area first discovered by Mr. Moore's Team in December 1993 and verified by Mr. Schwalbe's Team in April 1995 during the conduct of the ASR. The ASR recommendation at para 3.2 of the Conclusions and Recommendations is: "Consideration should be given to having an UXO contractor remove munitions debris remaining

from National Guard practice using 3.5-inch M29A2 training rockets. This ordnance debris remains on the surface and beneath the ground surface in and near the surrounding area delineated by blue shading on Maps M-3 and M-4. GPS coordinates utilizing the Trimble Scout hand-held GPS instrument are presented on Figure 4 as a guide for the cleanup and supplemental investigations of area using magnometer (magnetometer) or other means....As previously mentioned “No Further Action” seems the appropriate (strategy) for small arms generated OEW on the 210 acre rifle range.” An EE/CA would also investigate for other possible OE left by units that trained at the site where no documentation regarding training was found.

**Natural Resources:** Federally and State threatened species occur within the site area and are listed in para 4.5 on pages 4-4 through 4-5 of the ASR Findings. 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 ASR did not indicate if historical/ cultural resources were found to be present at the site. Any intrusive measures taken within the area will require oversight by the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) and/or other like organizations.

**9. SCHEDULE SUMMARY:**

<u>Phase</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Orig.</u>	<u>Sch.</u>	<u>Actual</u>
EE/CA							

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