

RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)
PROJECT FACT SHEET
MARCH 1996

HNC REVISION: 8 OCTOBER 1997
TAG REVIEW DATE: 4 NOVEMBER 1997

1. **SITE NAME:** Carlsbad Precision Bombing Range No. 19

SITE NUMBER: K06NM036400

LOCATION:

City: Carlsbad
County: Eddy County
State: New Mexico

PROJECT NUMBER: K06NM036401

CATEGORY: OE

INPR RAC: 4

ASR RAC: 4

TAG RAC: 4

2. **POC'S:**

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRICT:

Name: Cheryl Buckel
Office: CESP-PP-M
Phone: 505-342-3208

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION:

Name: Anthony L. Mei
Office: CESP-PM-R
Phone: 415-977-8247

HEADQUARTERS POC:

Name: Mohinder K. Saini
Office: CEMP-RF
Phone: 202-761-1594

ASR/INPR TEAM LEADER:

Name: Richard L. Pike
Office: CEHNC-OE-DC-D
Phone: 256-895-1559

ASR SUPPORT DISTRICT:

Name: William K. James
Office: CELMS-PM-M
Phone: 314-331-8843

ASR TECHNICAL REVIEWER:

Name: Thomas M. Meekma
Office: SIOAC-ESL
Phone: 815-273-8739

3. **SITE DESCRIPTION:** The former Carlsbad Precision Bombing Range No. 19 consisted of 640 acres located 38 miles southeast of Carlsbad, Eddy County, New Mexico in section 26, township 26 south, range 31 east of the New Mexico Principal Meridian. The site is readily accessible from the south side of the section

from a county road that runs east to west. The land is owned by the Department of the Interior (DOI) and leases the land to Mr. Gary Clark under Phantom Banks, Lease agreement Number 7040 of the Federal Grazing Program.

The general terrain of the area is relatively flat with small hills and low mountains. The area supports desert shrub land consisting of low brush and grass used for grazing and pasture land. Numerous oil/gas pumping rigs and oil/water separator tanks are in the vicinity of the site acreage. Natural storm water drainage occurs through draws and gullies that are dry in times of no precipitation. All drainage eventually flows into the Pecos River which flows south southeast into Texas into the Rio Grande River at the International Amistad Reservoir. Summer temperatures are hot. In winter, sub-freezing temperatures are tempered by considerable warming during the day. Much of the annual rainfall occurs from June through September and the least precipitation occurs in winter. The elevation of the site is approximately 3,150 feet.

4. SITE HISTORY: The War Department acquired the site, which totaled 640 acres, from the Department of Interior (DOI) by Public Land Order (PLO) #186, 11 October 1943, and by Lease and Suspension Agreement. This land was designated as Precision Bombing Range No. 19 and used by the Carlsbad Army Airfield as an auxiliary precision bombing range facility from 1943 to 1945 to train pilots and bombardiers. Documents of record do not mention improvements at the site by the Government. Photographs dated 1944 and 1957 show a bombing target 2,000 feet in diameter with five concentric rings around the target center as well as a rectangular feature aligned northwest to southeast, a square southwest of center, and another circle northwest of center, none of which is visible at ground level today.

On 15 November 1945, the Department of Defense declared this site surplus to the mission. The Lease and Suspension Agreement was terminated, PLO 186 was revoked by PLO 530 dated 24 November 1948, and the site was returned to the DOI. A statement of clearance was made in a letter, dated 12 November 1947: "All harmful elements, on the land as a result of military use, which are reasonably possible to detect have been removed or neutralized and the land is considered safe for normal use."

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Size, Acres:	640
Former Use:	Precision Bombing Range
Present Use:	Grazing
Probable End Use:	Grazing
Ordinance Presence:	Confirmed

Type: Practice bombs; sand-filled (100 lb., M38A2), concrete (100 lb., M85) and 100 lb. incendiary AN-M47 series-- most likely sand or water filled

6. CURRENT STATUS: The draft Archives Search Report (ASR) for Carlsbad Precision Bombing Range No. 19 was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St Louis District, in March 1996 with changes submitted September 1997.

7. STRATEGY: RAC 4;EE/CA

8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS: The Huntsville Technical Advisory Group reviewed this ASR and a strategy of EE/CA, RAC 4 applies. The site inspection team found pieces of scrap metal from M38A2 practice bombs, spotting charges, tail fins, M85 concrete practice bombs and AN-M47 incendiary bombs (probably water or sand filled) scattered over a wide area of the site. No energetic materials were found. Also, during research, historical photographs were found identifying five concentric rings located at the northeast part of the section of land identified as the site. The potential for subsurface OE exists.

HNC Safety Comments: He agreed with the strategy of EE/CA but stated that RAC 4 and not RAC 3 would be a more appropriate RAC Score, given that there was only a remote likelihood that M47 Series 100-lb incendiary bombs were not sand-filled for use at this practice range. St. Louis District agreed with the safety comments and furnished the following replacement pages(attached) for the ASR which need to be changed out before the ASR is finalized: 4-2, 4-3, 6-1, and 7-1 in the Findings and 2-1, 2-3, 3-1 and the RAC form for the Conclusions and Recommendations. These changed pages also corrected the number of the bombing range in paragraph 4.2.

Clearance at the Site: Paragraph 4.1.4 of the Findings states: "A 1947 decontamination certificate issued by the Bureau of Land Management that pertains to all CAAF ranges, states that all harmful elements, on the land as a result of military use, which are reasonably possible to detect have been removed or neutralized and the land is considered safe for normal use."

CWM: The ASR states: "Based on the investigation of historical records reviewed, the results of the site survey and interviews, there is no evidence of the use, storage, or disposal of Chemical Warfare Materials occurred at Carlsbad Bombing Range No. 19."

Natural Resources: Federally and State threatened species occur within the site area and are listed in ASR Findings, pages 3-4

through 3-5, paragraph 3.5. 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 and/or other like organizations.

Filename: NM036401.DOC
Directory: C:\Program Files\Adobe\Acrobat
4.0\Acrobat\plug_ins\OpenAll\Transform\temp
Template: D:\Program Files\Templates\Normal.dot
Title: RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
Subject:
Author: SMCAC-ESM
Keywords:
Comments:
Creation Date: 02/28/00 4:20 PM
Change Number: 2
Last Saved On: 02/28/00 4:20 PM
Last Saved By: a0pmmjgb
Total Editing Time: 0 Minutes
Last Printed On: 02/28/00 5:00 PM
As of Last Complete Printing
Number of Pages: 4
Number of Words: 1,045
Number of Characters: 5,516