

RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)
PROJECT FACT SHEET
ORIGINAL DATE: 20 SEPTEMBER 1995
TAG REVIEW DATE: 5 FEBRUARY 1997

1. SITE NAME: Lewistown Pattern Bombing Range

SITE NUMBER: B08MT032500

LOCATION:

City: Winnett
County: Petroleum County
State: Montana

PROJECT NUMBER: B08MT032501

CATEGORY: OE

INPR RAC: 4

ASR RAC: 4

TAG RAC: 4

2. POC's:

GEO DISTRICT POC:

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ASR TAG REVIEW POC:

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3. SITE DESCRIPTION: Lewistown Pattern Bombing Range was situated on 2,401 acres near Winnett, Montana. The facility was located in Petroleum County, which is in the north central portion of the state. Military use began in February 1943. The basic mission of Lewistown Pattern Bombing Range was as a range

facility to provide additional bombing training for B-17 bomber crews. Practice and incendiary bombs were used on site, and there was no evidence found to indicate the use of High Explosive bombs. The site was placed on inactive status in October 1944 and relinquished in June 1945.

4. SITE HISTORY:

a. In February 1943, the Department of the Army acquired a total of 2,401 acres of real estate for use as the Lewistown Pattern Bombing Range. DOD use of the site continued until 1 November 1943, when the last units using the range were transferred to England. On 5 October 1944, the range was placed in inactive status and declared available for agricultural purposes. The land use permit was relinquished to the Department of Agriculture on 1 June 1945.

b. During World War II, units assigned to Lewistown Army Airfield used Lewistown Pattern Bombing Range for day and night training missions. The range was used by B-17 heavy bombardment aircraft crews during the second phase of their bombardment group training. This phase of training stressed teamwork among combat crew members. Bombing, gunnery and instrument flight missions were performed by full crews, who heavily relied on one another.

c. Historical documentation revealed the only DOD installed improvements constructed at the site were bombing targets, consisting of earthen berms built in concentric circles. Additionally three observation buildings were built around a target at the range for triangulating the location of the bombs dropped.

d. The B-17 Bomber was the primary aircraft stationed at Lewistown Army Airfield. The only type of ordnance known to have been used at the Lewistown Pattern Bombing Range was the M38A2 100 lb. Practice Bomb and the ANM54 4lb. Incendiary Bomb. No OE storage facilities were known to have existed at the range. Investigation of historical records did not reveal the use or storage of chemical warfare materials at the Lewistown Pattern Bombing Range or a certificate of ordnance dedudding.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Area A:	Size, Acres	Approximately 560
	Former Use:	Target Area
	Present Use:	Range land/grazing
	Probable End Use:	Same as Present Use
	Ordnance Presence:	Confirmed
	Type:	Bomb, 100 lb. Practice, M38A2, w/Spotting Charge, M1A1 and Bomb, Incendiary, 4 lb.

ANM54

Area B:	Size, Acres	1841 (Remainder of site)
	Former Use:	Safety Zone
	Present Use:	Range land/grazing
	Probable End Use:	Same as Present Use
	Ordnance Presence:	None

6. CURRENT STATUS: The Archives Search Report (ASR) for Lewistown Pattern Bombing Range was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, in September 1995.

7. STRATEGY: Area A: EE/CA
Area B: NOFA

8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS:

a. The ASR and HNC Safety both recommend an EE/CA for Area A. The types of ordnance identified as being associated with the site are 100 lb. practice bombs and 4 lb. incendiary bombs. The remains of these items were identified in and around the targets in the southwestern quarter of the site. The Technical Advisory Group (TAG) concurs with the recommendation for an EE/CA for Area A. No Further Action is recommended for the remainder of the site.

b. There are known Federally- and State-listed species occurring in the site area. 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.

9. SCHEDULE SUMMARY: EE/CA

10. FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY: For Official Use Only