

**RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)
PROJECT FACT SHEET
JULY 1996
HNC REVISION: 27 FEBRUARY 1997
TAG REVIEW DATE: 6 MARCH 1997**

1. **SITE NAME:** Roswell PBR No. 13
SITE NUMBER: K06NM051600
LOCATION:
City: Roswell
County: Lea
State: New Mexico
PROJECT NUMBER: K06NM051601
CATEGORY: OE
INPR RAC: 4
ASR RAC: 4
TAG RAC: 4

2. **POC:**

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3. **SITE DESCRIPTION:** The former Roswell Practice Bombing Range No. 13 consisted of 640.00 acres of grazing land located approximately 53 miles southeast of the town of Roswell in Lea County, New Mexico. The site consists of flat to gently rolling grassland bearing sparse concentrations of several vegetation species.

4. **SITE HISTORY:** On 12 May 1942, the War Department directed the acquisition of 640.00 acres of state lands for the

establishment of Roswell Practice Bombing Range #13, based on the military necessity determined by the Commanding Officer, Roswell Army Air Field. Practice Bombing Range #13 was established for the duration in Section 14, Township 11 South, Range 33 East of Lea County, after leasehold interest was obtained from the State of New Mexico and a grazing leaseholder.

This range was one of numerous ranges established for Roswell Army Air Field (RAAF) to train bombardiers with the Norden bomb sights for the war effort. A main target was constructed and used for practice bombing, having a built-up earthen dyke/berm in the shape of a reverse swastika, approximately 1,000 feet in length. Combat targets of a non-permanent nature were also constructed. The main target berm contained a generator powered night lighting system for night bombing. Native caliche rock, whitewash, or lime was applied to all the targets for better night bombing visibility. Practice bombs of the M38A2 and the MK15MOD2/MOD4 100 pound sand and water filled varieties were the sole form of ordnance dropped on this range. These incorporated 3 pound black powder spotting charges or pyrotechnic spotting charges, respectively.

The closing of the bombardier school at RAAF occurred in December 1944. Then, on 18 June 1945, the Roswell Practice Bombing Range No. 13 was declared surplus. Transfer of the property back to the State of New Mexico and grazing lessor was completed on 30 June 1945.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Area	A
Size, Acres:	114.00
Former Usage:	Target Area
Present Usage:	Grazing Lands/Oil Industry
Probable End Usage:	Same as Present Use
Ordnance Presence:	Confirmed
Types:	Practice Bombs Debris
Area	B
Size, Acres:	526.00
Former Usage:	Buffer Zone
Present Usage:	Grazing Lands/Oil Industry
Probable End Usage:	Same as Present Use
Ordnance Presence:	Confirmed
Types:	Practice Bombs Debris
Area	C
Size, Acres:	296.00
Former Usage:	Buffer Zone (Additional Lands)

Present Usage: Grazing Lands/Oil Industry
Probable End Usage: Same as Present Use
Ordnance Presence: Confirmed
Types: Practice Bombs Debris

6. **CURRENT STATUS:** The Archives Search Report (ASR) was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District in July 1996.

7. **STRATEGY:**

Area A: EE/CA
Area B: EE/CA
Area C: EE/CA

8. **ISSUES AND CONCERNS:**

All of the areas of concern have confirmed ordnance. The appropriate geographical district should be notified that the additional 296 acres should be added to the INPR for this site. The Technical Advisory Group (TAG) recommended that there be an OE EE/CA performed on this site.

Several threatened and endangered species of wildlife may occur on site. Several species of poisonous snakes and arachnids frequent/reside on site, appropriate protective measures should be considered. Four wheel drive vehicles may be required for site access due to the condition of several unimproved access roads. Emergency medical response coordination for remote Lea County site locations is required through the County Sheriff prior to the dispatch of hospital emergency personnel. Personnel may be present on or in the vicinity of the former range due to nearby ranching and oil activity.

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

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