

**RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES
PROJECT FACT SHEET
ORIGINAL DATE: 26 JANUARY 1996
TAG REVIEW DATE: 5 FEBRUARY 1997**

1. SITE NAME: Roswell Army Air Field
Precision Bombing Range (PBR) No. 14

SITE NUMBER: K06NM051700

LOCATION:

City: N/A
County: Lea
State: New Mexico

PROJECT NUMBER: K06NM051701

CATEGORY: OE

INPR RAC: 3

ASR RAC: 4

TAG RAC: 4

2. POC's:

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GEO DIVISION POC:
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HEADQUARTERS POC:
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SUPPORT DISTRICT (ASR) POC:
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ASR TAG REVIEW POC:
Name: C. Fredrick Girard
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3. SITE DESCRIPTION: The former Roswell PBR No. 14 is located in Lea County, New Mexico, approximately 56 miles southeast of Roswell. The site, consisting of 640 acres, is further located at Section 11, Township 13 South, Range 33 East of the New Mexico Principal Meridian. The one square mile tract is gently sloping

terrain, with sparse vegetation. It is currently owned by the State of New Mexico and is utilized as public grazing lands.

4. SITE HISTORY:

a. PBR No. 14 was one of over thirty bombing or gunnery ranges affiliated with Roswell Army Air Field during World War II. The 640 acre bombing range was used to train student bombardiers in day and night tactical bomber training. The bombardiers used M-38 practice bombs which contained 80 pounds of dry sand and a spotting charge. There is no indication in historical documentation or personal interviews that chemicals of any kind were used on the target site.

b. It was used for both day and night target practice. The Army constructed triangulation towers and berms measuring six feet high and 15 feet wide at the base. The berms, constructed of rock, gravel, and lime, formed the bombing targets. They also protected the wiring for the lights used to outline the targets for night bombing. Practice targets included the silhouettes of a battleship, an oil refinery, a square with an X in it, a small rectangle, and five concentric rings of approximately 200, 400, 600, 1000 and 2800 feet diameter containing a circle with cross hairs and a swastika. The flat, rocky grazing land was then circled with fencing in a 1,000 foot radius from the target center. Today, the tower and fencing are gone, but some of the berms remain along with a great deal of residue from the dropped practice bombs.

c. The bombing range was released by the War Department in June 1945 and the land reverted back to the State of New Mexico. A Certificate of Clearance has not been located for this site. The property is still owned by the State and is leased to local ranchers for sheep and cattle grazing.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Area:	Size, Acres:	640
	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

6. CURRENT STATUS: The Archives Search Report (ASR) for Roswell PBR No. 14 was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, in December 1995.

7. STRATEGY: Target Area: EE/CA

8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS:

a. The original INPR was assigned a RAC 4. It was then raised to a RAC 3 after an initial assessment of the site dated 18 April 1994 was submitted. The site was reassessed on 25 March 1996 and a RAC 5/NOFA was recommended. Since the same M38A2, 100 lb. Practice Bombs w/Spotting Charge, M1A1, were dropped on this site as were dropped and many other Roswell PBRs, the potential for continued OE contamination remains. The TAG disagreed with HNC Safety's recommendation of RAC 5/NOFA and determined that the site remain a RAC 4 and that an EE/CA be performed for the entire 640 acre 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