

**RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)
PROJECT FACT SHEET
ORIGINAL DATE: 19 MAY 1995
TAG REVIEW DATE: 24 JUNE 1997**

1. **SITE NAME:** Smoky Hill Air-to-Air Gunnery Range

SITE NUMBER: B07KS027400

LOCATION:
City: Gove
County: Gove, Logan, Lane and Scott
State: Kansas

PROJECT NUMBER: B07KS027401

CATEGORY: OE

INPR RAC: 4

ASR RAC: 3

TAG RAC: 3 (NOFA)

2. **POC'S:**

GEO DISTRICT POC:

Name: Robert Dworkin
Office: CEMRO-MD-HB
Phone: 402-221-7716

TECHNICAL MANAGER:

Name: Karl Blankinship
Office: CEHND-OE-DG
Phone: 256-895-1548

GEO DIVISION POC:

Name: David Nusz
Office: CEMRD-PM-H
Phone: 402-697-2523

HEADQUARTERS POC:

Name: Sara Goodwin
Office: CEMP-RF
Phone: 202-761-5223

SUPPORT DISTRICT (ASR) POC:

Name: Rochelle Ross
Office: CELMS-PM-M
Phone: 314-331-8784

ASR TAG REVIEW POC:

Name: C. Fredrick Girard
Office: SIOAC-ESL
Phone: 815-273-8849

3. **SITE DESCRIPTION:** The Smoky Hill Air to Air Gunnery Range encompassed approximately 218,384 acres. The majority of the range was in the southwest quarter of Gove County, but it extended to the west into Logan County, and to the south into Scott and Lane Counties. The terrain varies from rolling hills to steep canyons. Near where the Smoky Hill river crosses the Logan/Gove county line, numerous large formations of fossil laden chalk rise from the plain. These are referred to the Chalk Mountains--supposedly one of the targets.

4. **SITE HISTORY:** The Army Air Force acquired this land in 1943. Aircraft primarily from Smoky Hill Army Air Field (now Schilling Air Force Base) used the air space above the ground for gunnery practice, shooting at targets towed behind other planes. A clearance certificate dated 16

September 1947 stated, "all decontamination at Smoky Hill ATA Gunnery Range, Kansas, has been completed..." Several locals have found .50 caliber shells, bullets, and cartridges, and 20mm casings and cartridges; although all documentation found states that only .50 caliber machine guns were used over the site. Apparently, the 20mm was a British round which was being tested on this range. Also found by local fossil hunters, have been cannon ball fragments dating back to the 1800's.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Size, Acres:	Approximately 218,384
Former Use:	Air-to-Air Gunnery Range
Present Use:	Grazing and agricultural purposes
Probable End Use:	Same as above
Ordnance Presence:	Confirmed
Type:	.50 caliber and 20mm rounds

6. CURRENT STATUS: The Archive Search Report for Smoky Hill Air-to-Air Gunnery Range was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, in April 1995.

7. STRATEGY: NOFA

8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS: The CEHNC Technical Advisory Group recommends no further action (NOFA) for this entire area since it is impossible to determine exactly where the airplanes fired from or to during air-to-air practice firings. Many .50 caliber and a few British 20mm cartridges, shells and links have been found throughout the area by farmers and fossil hunters. The remoteness, current use and the ammunition items involved present very little hazard to the public. Landowners should notify local authorities if any rounds are discovered.

9. SCHEDULE SUMMARY: NOFA

10. FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY: NOFA

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