

**RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)
PROJECT FACT SHEET
ORIGINAL DATE: 1 MARCH 1999
TAG REVIEW DATE: 27 APRIL 1999**

1. **SITE NAME:** Southern Shores Target

SITE NUMBER: I04NC108500

LOCATION:

City: Nags Head
County: Dare
State: North Carolina

PROJECT NUMBER: I04NC108501

CATEGORY: OE

INPR RAC: 1

ASR RAC: 2

TAG RAC: 1

2. **POC's:**

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRICT:

Name: Glen McIntosh
Office: CESAW-PM-C
Phone: (910) 251-4671

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION:

Name: Sharon Taylor
Office: CESAD-PM-M
Phone: (404) 562-5212

HEADQUARTERS:

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

ASR/INPR TEAM:

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

ASR SUPPORT DISTRICT:

Name: R.R. Hance
Office: CEMVS-ED-P
Phone: (314) 331-8784

ASR TECHNICAL REVIEWER:

Name: C. Fredrick Girard
Office: SIOAC-ESL
Phone: (918) 420-8849

3. **SITE DESCRIPTION:** Southern Shores Target consisted of approximately 50 acres and was located near the town of Southern Shores in Dare County, North Carolina.

4. **SITE HISTORY:** Little information directly concerning the Navy's activities at the Southern Shores Target was found during

research. The Navy operated seven air stations in the vicinity, five in North Carolina and two in Virginia. The most significant of these stations was at Norfolk, VA. Originally, a small seaplane and kite balloon base, NAS Norfolk became the command center for all naval aerial activity in the Atlantic during World War II. The addition of auxiliary air stations throughout the war relieved the congestion at Norfolk. The largest of these auxiliary stations was at Oceana, VA, which housed a variety of fighter, dive bomber, and torpedo bomber squadrons during the war. The North Carolina auxiliary station at Manteo also trained the same three types of units, including VF-17, the most accomplished naval fighter squadron of the war. NAS Edenton also trained squadrons that may have used the area's bombing and gunnery ranges. The other stations in the area were seaplane and blimp bases.

The Inventory Project Report (INPR) for the Southern Shores Target, compiled by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District (NC), covers an area of approximately 50 acres on what is now the town of Southern Shores. The INPR contends that the site was used as a **bombing, strafing and rocket target** in the early 1940's, and the Navy's use of the property ceased in 1945 when the land was returned to its former owners. The size of the site and the date of acquisition could not be verified, but in September 1945, the Navy requested that the lease of the land be renegotiated in order that the site could continue to be used as a **rocket range**. According to local resident David Stick, however, the site began to be developed by his father around 1946.

The target's location in the INPR and the location uncovered in historical documents do not match exactly, but they are close. According to the INPR, the site for the target was at 36°06.581'N and 75°43.417"W. A 1945 document numbers the target #29 and places it at 36°06.8"N and 75°43.8"W.

No information was found during the research regarding the specific types of ordnance used. Target #29 is listed as a land rocket range in the historical documentation, and an undetermined type of ordnance was found at the location provided in the INPR. No references to the use of chemicals beside **smoke bombs** was found during the research.

No documentation regarding certificates of clearance was found during research. However, according to an interview with the Dare County Emergency Management Office, the Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) from Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Cherry Point, NC conducted a thorough walk through after some ordnance items were found during construction. And an interview with a long

time resident recalled the area being thoroughly swept prior to development.

In the 1990's, EOD personnel from MCAS Cherry Point have responded to several incidents around the town of Duck, but the Marines have also been to Kill Devil Hills, Corolla, and Manteo. The ordnance found on these trips includes: MK 76 Practice Bombs, 2.75" Practice Rocket Warheads, 60mm Practice Mortars, MK 23 MOD 1 Practice Bombs, 5" Practice Rocket Warheads, 20mm Projectiles, 2.75" HE Rockets, a Practice Tiny Tim Missile, a MK 26 Salute Round, BDU-33's and one 100-lb GP HE Bomb (old style).

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Size Acres:	Approximately 50 (Entire Site)
Former Use:	Bombing, Strafing and Rocket Target
Present Use:	Private Residences
Probable End Use:	Same
Ordnance Presence:	Potential
Type:	Practice and Smoke Bombs, Rockets and Small Arms Ammunition

6. CURRENT STATUS: The Archives Search Report (ASR) for the Southern Shores Target was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, in January 1999.

7. STRATEGY: Entire Site: EE/CA

8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS: The Huntsville Center Technical Advisory Group met and discussed this ASR on 27 April 1999 and determined EE/CA for the entire site. Rockets and Smoke Bombs are not included in the ASR RAC form so a revised RAC form is attached reflecting a score of 1. During construction of a new home, contractors uncovered an undetermined number of munitions. The report identified the Navy as being the responders. It also states that the Navy had conducted a sweep of the surrounding area. The U.S. Marine Corps EOD Team at MCAS, Cherry Point was contacted, but no one currently assigned could recall the incident. Also, no records pertaining to this incident were available. Speculation is that the items recovered were miniature practice bombs, however this has not been confirmed. According to local law enforcement, Emergency Management Office personnel, and a few town officials, this is the only incident of this nature. The area is an established subdivision with new homes still being constructed. **A removal action may be more cost effective than an EE/CA.**

There are known Federally- and State-listed species occurring in the site area. An on-site inspection by the appropriate federal and state 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

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