

**RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM  
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)  
PROJECT FACT SHEET  
ORIGINAL DATE: JUNE 1994  
TAG REVIEW DATE: 24/25 JUNE 1997**

**1. SITE NAME:** Weldon Springs Ordnance Works  
(Weldon Springs Chemical Plant)

**SITE NUMBER:** B07MO017800

**LOCATION:**

Town: Weldon Springs  
County: Saint Charles  
State: Missouri

**PROJECT NUMBER:** B07MO017800

**CATEGORY:** OE

**INPR RAC:** 5

**ASR RAC:** 5

**TAG RAC:** 3 (NOFA)

**2. POC'S:**

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**3. SITE DESCRIPTION:** The former Weldon Springs Ordnance Works, including the Weldon Springs Chemical Plant, is located in St. Charles County, Missouri. Several hundred parcels of land with a total acreage of 17,232 acres were obtained. Almost 90% of the

land was under cultivation prior to the Army acquisition. The three small towns of Howell, Hamburg and Toonerville were permanently displaced.

#### **4. SITE HISTORY:**

a. The Department of the Army acquired the property in late 1940 and early 1941 for the construction of a TNT and DNT explosives production facility. The facility included 1,038 buildings, with 180 buildings being used for the TNT manufacturing. The explosives magazine area contained 100 igloos. Production reached it's peak in the summer of 1942 when 1,080,000 pounds of TNT and 400,000 pounds of DNT were produced in a twenty-four hour workday. Production ceased in January 1944, but was resumed in October 1944 only to close again in August 1945. The Weldon Springs Ordnance Works property, buildings and other structures were declared surplus in April 1946.

b. By 1949, approximately 6,900 acres in the north and northeastern portion of the site had been transferred to the state of Missouri and became the August A. Busch Memorial Wildlife Area. 7,920 acres were transferred to the University of Missouri and a small portion was transferred to the Saint Charles County School District and the remaining 2,063 acres was retained by the Department of the Army as part of the National Plant Reserve. Approximately 205 acres of this land was transferred to the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) and the remaining 1,858 acres was designated as the Weldon Springs U.S. Army Reserve Training Area. In 1956, the AEC started construction of the Weldon Spring Chemical Plant on the 205 acres and was given an additional 15 acres for AEC waste storage. Considerable explosive decontamination was required prior to construction of the AEC facilities and most of the TNT process buildings were found unsuitable for AEC use and were removed. A 8.63 acre quarry which had been used by the Army for disposal of explosive waste was transferred to the AEC during this time period.

c. Between 1958 and 1964, 16,000 tons of uranium materials were processed per year. This mass processing strained equipment, raffinate disposal facilities and other general "housekeeping" activities. Four raffinate pits, which were located on 50 acres, were required to handle the large quantities of waste. The AEC closed the facility in December 1966.

d. In June 1967 the former AEC site was chosen to produce herbicide Orange. Decontamination started, but cost over-runs and decreased requirements for herbicide Orange forced cancellation of the project in January 1969. Agent Orange was never produced at this site.

e. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District, and the Department of Energy have initiated various studies and remediation procedures. The U.S. Army maintains an information office on site. Mr. Karl Dauble, retired colonel, Army Medical Corps, acts as the site coordinator.

## 5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Area A: Size, Acres: Approximately 6900  
Former Usage: Ordnance Plant Lands  
Present Usage: Busch Memorial Wildlife Area  
Probable End Usage: Same as Above  
Ordnance Presence: None

Area B: Size, Acres: Approximately 7920  
Former Usage: Ordnance Plant Lands  
Present Usage: University of Missouri,  
Agricultural Station  
Probable End Usage: Same as Above  
Ordnance Presence: None

Area C: Size, Acres: Approximately 1843  
Former Usage: Ordnance Plant Lands  
Present Usage: U.S.A.R. Training Area  
Probable End Usage: Same as Above  
Ordnance Presence: This area is not eligible  
for clean-up as it is still  
owned by Ft. Leonard Wood

Area D: Size, Acres: 220  
Former Usage: Ordnance/Uranium Plant  
Present Usage: DOE Clean-up Site  
Probable End Usage: Unknown  
Ordnance Presence: TNT/DNT nuggets, TNT-  
contaminated soil and Uranium  
Residue

6. **CURRENT STATUS:** The Archives Search Report for Weldon Springs Ordnance Works was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, in June 1994.

7. **STRATEGY:** Entire Site: NOFA

## 8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS:

a. The TAG recommends that NOFA be taken by CEHNC on this FUDS in light of the upcoming OE removal action which is approved and to be carried out by the Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District and the remediation process to be carried out by DOE.

TNT/DNT nuggets will be removed along with TNT-contaminated soil over the 10% concentration which, by U.S. Environmental Center (USAEC) definition, makes it explosive. Until this is accomplished the RAC score must remain a 3 (see attached revised RAC form).

b. No evidence was found that any chemical warfare agents or munitions were used, stored or manufactured at this site.

c. Areas used for the manufacture and storage of TNT and DNT have been extensively studied and identified. Most of the original manufacturing area is within the boundaries of the Weldon Springs Training Area, which is still under DOD control.

**9. SCHEDULED SUMMARY:** NOFA

**10. FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY:** NA NOFA