

**RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM  
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)  
PROJECT FACT SHEET  
ORIGINAL DATE: SEPTEMBER 1998  
TAG REVIEW DATE: 27 APRIL 1999**

1. **SITE NAME:** Walker Air Force Base,  
Small Arms Range Annex

**SITE NUMBER:** K06NM049200

**LOCATION:**

City: Roswell  
County: Chavez  
State: New Mexico

**PROJECT NUMBER:** K06NM049202

**CATEGORY:** OE

**INPR RAC:** 3

**ASR RAC:** 3

**TAG RAC:** 3

2. **POC's:**

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3. **SITE DESCRIPTION:** The former Walker AFB, Small Arms Range Annex consisted of approximately 1,522 acres and is located in Chaves County, New Mexico, 12 miles southwest of the city of Roswell. This FUDS is positioned on lands owned by the State of

New Mexico and descendants of the Brown Family. Mr. Jay Hollifield currently operates the Brown Brothers Ranch and has obtained the grazing rights to this land from the state.

4. **SITE HISTORY:** Walker Air Force Base was originally established in 1942 as Roswell Army Air Field (RAAF). While operating under control of the West Coast Air Corps Training Center, RAAF became an advanced flying school during the WWII era. The flying school was originally established with 24 practice or precision bombing ranges used in support of the RAAF mission. In 1947, the Army Air Corps began investigations into the establishment of an Ordnance Qualification (O.Q.) Range RAAF. A site was finally chosen and by 1950, the O.Q. Range included a small arms range and dive bombing targets. The O.Q. Range was deactivated in late 1955 and a need arose for a new small arms range. In October 1957, 1,522 acres of land was leased for this purpose and the area became known as Walker AFB, Small Arms Range Annex.

The Small Arms Range Annex must be considered in conjunction with the entire area formerly known as the O.Q. Range. Although the O.Q. function of the range had ceased prior to the acquisition of the annex, the use of the entire range as a practice bombing, rocket and strafing range continued. Rifle, Pistol and Grenade ranges were established on the property along with target identification, infiltration and compass courses. This land was also used by the 37<sup>th</sup> Munitions Squadron as a demolition area for unserviceable munitions.

This land was surplused in November 1963. A Certificate of Clearance was issued in 1964, which warned future users of the past usage of this site and urged them to notify the proper agencies of any suspected ordnance discoveries.

No documentary evidence has been recovered to indicate that CWM was ever associated with this site. However, since the area was used as an infiltration course, it is likely that training munitions such as tear gas grenades were used on this FUDS.

5. **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Entire Site:	Size, Acres:	Approximately 1,522
	Former Use:	Small Arms Range/ Demolition Pits
	Present Use:	Livestock Grazing
	Probable End Use:	Same as above
	Ordnance Presence:	Potential
	Type:	Small Arms, HE Bombs, Grenades and Rockets

6. **CURRENT STATUS:** The Archives Search Report (ASR) for Walker AFB, Small Arms Range Annex was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, in September 1998.

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 an EE/CA for this entire site as there is a potential for unexploded ordnance to be found especially in the area of the demolition pits. Because of surface soil conditions, the evidence collected as part of the archives search tasks, personal interviews and the actual site visit, one has to believe that there could be isolated OE remaining on this FUDS. Recommend that the main focus of any removal actions concentrate on the areas where demolition activities occurred. The attached RAC form was revised to delete the score for Riot Control Agents resulting in the RAC score changing from 2 to 3.

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