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# News Release

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## Ordnance Recovery Action Completed

**Huntsville, Ala.** - Contracted workers from Tetra Tech-FW, Inc., recently completed the recovery and destruction of old target practice ordnance rounds found at a closed range site now located in the Mountain Longleaf National Wildlife Refuge. The land used to be part of the former U.S. Army installation, Ft. McClellan, Ala.

The work was performed in compliance with an Alabama Department of Environmental Management administrative order issued July 30, requiring the contractor to take remedial actions. Remedial actions began Thursday Aug 5 and were completed on Thursday, Aug 12.

Twenty-four 81 mm M43 A1TP practice munitions were recovered from the site, located in a relatively remote area with limited access that is fenced and locked.

“Although training rounds of that type are not designed to explode, there is always a chance that improper handling of a fuse by a trespasser could result in an injury,” said Dan Coberly, Public Affairs Officer for the Army Corps of Engineer’s Huntsville Center. “Not all the rounds were fused. To ensure complete safety, all of the items were destroyed. Whatever scrap remaining is then inspected, characterized and disposed of in an appropriate manner in accordance with state and federal rules.”

“Alabama Department of Environmental Management officials have worked closely and expeditiously with The Army Corps of Engineers and Tetra Tech-FW throughout the clean-up,” said

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Dan Copeland, the Center's Ordnance and Explosives Design Center Project Manager. "ADEM representatives were at the site observing the process and actions taken by Tetra Tech-FW workers. A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers unexploded ordnance safety specialist from the Huntsville Engineering and Support Center also observed the process, performed government quality assurance and determined that the work met acceptance criteria."

The contractor's site closure report will soon be delivered to ADEM as part of its agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers.

"We continue to work together with ADEM and our contractor to comply with all applicable state and federal laws and with the terms of the Administrative Order," said Coberly. "Our Engineer Support Center is committed to more than just compliance with the order. We are strongly committed to conducting thorough and safe operations at the Ft. McClellan site and at all of our other projects around the world."

The U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center in Huntsville conducts very specialized worldwide missions that require unique technical expertise in programs that are generally national or very broad in scope.

For more information, please contact Huntsville Center's Public Affairs Office, [256-895-1691](#) or [256-895-1693](#).