



## Overview

The Camp San Luis Obispo Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) is located approximately 5 miles northwest of the city of San Luis Obispo, California, and neighbors the California National Guard Range.

Munitions Response Site (MRS) 09 Rifle Grenade Range (1952) has been identified as having potential explosive hazards. MRS 09 comprises 26 acres in the northwest corner of the FUDS.

FUDS are properties that were formerly owned by, leased to or otherwise possessed by the Department of Defense and transferred from DOD control prior to 17 October 1986. The Army Corps of Engineers is the organization responsible for environmental remediation of these properties.

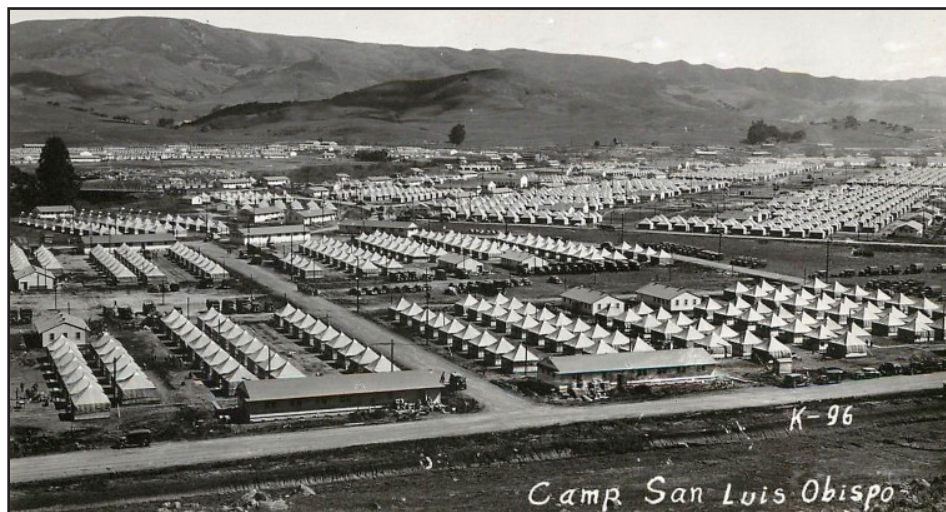
Since hazards from military munitions may remain at the sites, the Army Corps of Engineers encourages you to make safety a priority by following the **3Rs of Explosives Safety**:

**Recognize** – when you may have encountered a munition and that munitions are dangerous.

**Retreat** – do not approach, touch, move or disturb it, but carefully leave the area.

**Report** – call 911 and advise the police of what you saw and where you saw it.

## History



### **Camp San Luis Obispo in 1941**

Source: California Military Museum

In 1928, the California National Guard established Camp Merriam on 5,800 acres in San Luis Obispo County. The U.S. Army acquired use of the camp in 1940, and it was renamed Camp San Luis Obispo. Additional lands were annexed in the early 1940s, and the camp grew to 14,959 acres.

Camp San Luis Obispo was used from 1943 to 1946 for infantry division training. Historical records indicate there were a total of 27 ranges and 13 other training areas. These ranges supported small arms, artillery, grenade, mortar and rocket training.

Following World War II, the government returned a portion of the property to prior owners. The Army was planning to relinquish

the remaining property when the conflict in Korea began in 1950 and the camp was reactivated.

From 1951 to 1953, the Southwest Signal Corps Training Center was the chief occupant of the camp. In 1952, the camp supported small arms, hand grenade, rifle grenade and anti-tank rocket training on 18 ranges and 16 training areas.

In 1964, the U.S. Army conducted a munitions clearance on the range impact areas.

After the war, Camp San Luis Obispo was maintained in inactive status until 1965. The California National Guard retained 5,800 acres while the remaining property was transferred to various public and private entities.

# Site Investigation

Between 1986 and 1993, the Army Corps of Engineers prepared multiple Preliminary Assessments, which documented Camp San Luis Obispo's history and potential munition hazards.

Although investigations and clearance activities were conducted on the Camp San Luis Obispo FUDS in the 1990s, Rifle Grenade Range (1952) was not identified as a potential project area until the 2006 Historical Records Review. The purpose of the review was to identify areas of munitions use and fill historical data gaps. During the review of records, Rifle Grenade Range (1952) was identified as an area of concern.

During the 2007 Site Inspection, the Army Corps of Engineers observed one munitions and explosives of concern item, a target area and munitions debris in the Rifle Grenade Range (1952) area of concern. Based on the findings, the Army Corps of Engineers recommended the area be retained for further evaluation and be classified as an MRS.

In 2013, a Project Realignment and Delineation was completed for Camp San Luis Obispo. The document designates Rifle Grenade Range (1952) as MRS 09 consisting of 26 acres.

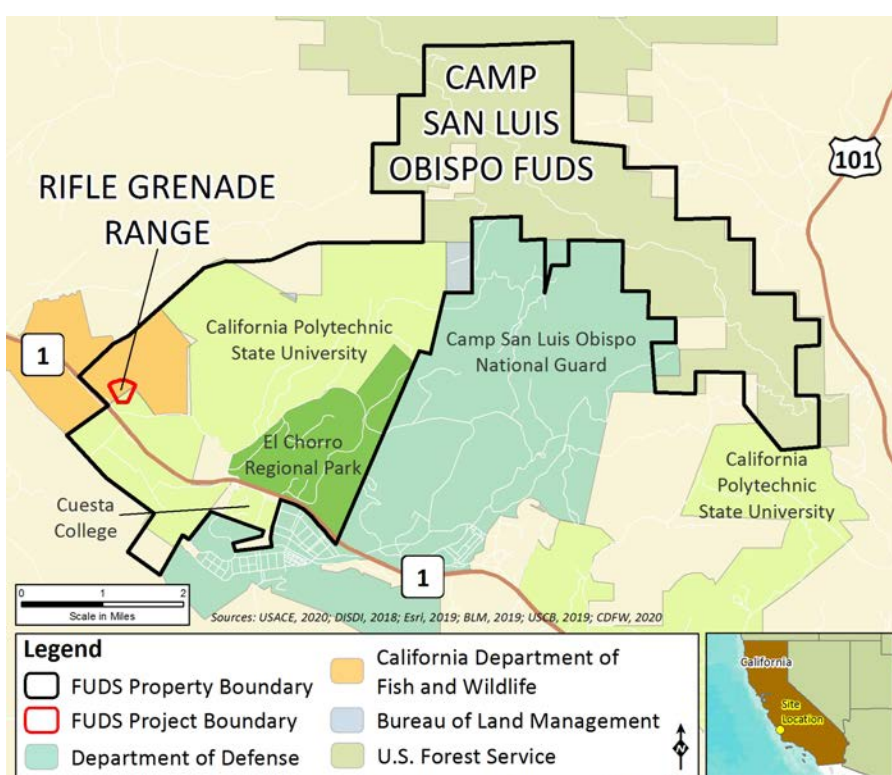
The Army Corps of Engineers is conducting a Remedial



**Rifle Grenade at MRS 09, May 2007**  
Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Investigation of MRS 09 to evaluate the nature and extent of munitions hazards that may remain. Based on the results of the investigation, Remedial Alternatives to address the potential hazards may be developed and presented to the community for public comment in a Proposed Plan.

## Map of Camp San Luis Obispo



## Follow the 3Rs of Explosives Safety

Hazards from military munitions may still remain within the former camp. Protect yourself by following the 3Rs of Explosives Safety:

### Recognize

when you may have encountered a munition and that munitions are dangerous.

### Retreat

do not approach, touch, move or disturb it, but carefully leave the area.

### Report

call 911 and advise police of what you saw and where you saw it.



US Army Corps of Engineers.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District Public Affairs Office at 213-452-3921 or [publicaffairs.spl@usace.army.mil](mailto:publicaffairs.spl@usace.army.mil). To learn more about Camp San Luis Obispo, visit [www.spl.usace.army.mil](http://www.spl.usace.army.mil).

