



Charleston Maneuver Area Project and Artillery/Mortar Range, Range Safety Buffer Project

Project Numbers: J09AZ106701 and J09AZ106702

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Fact Sheet

2019

Overview

The Fort Huachuca Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) is located east of the active Fort Huachuca base. The site is managed by the Bureau of Land Management as part of the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has separated the FUDS into four project areas known as Munitions Response Sites or MRSs. A Remedial Action is being conducted at two MRSs: Charleston Maneuver Area, and the Artillery/Mortar Range, Range Safety Buffer Area.

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 Oct. 17, 1986. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the organization responsible for environmental remediation of these properties.

Since hazards from military munitions may remain, the U.S. 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 – immediately what you saw and where you saw it to (623) 434-4580.

History

In September 1943, the U.S. Army leased 3,220 acres of land from the Boquillas Land and Cattle Company, of which 179 acres was owned by the State of Arizona and leased to Boquillas. The acquired property became part of Fort Huachuca's East Artillery Range and was used for military training.

A portion of the leased land contained the ruins of the town of Charleston. The Army improved the ruins, which enabled infantry troops to practice combat training in an urban-like setting. Reports indicate the town

was used for simulated village and street fighting exercises, and a variety of rifle and artillery ranges were built in the vicinity of the town.

After World War II ended, the lease with Boquillas was terminated in July 1946, and the State of Arizona lease was terminated in June 1947; however, munitions from the military training remained. In 1951, the Army moved back into the fort, however, there is no indication that the Boquillas land was reacquired when the fort reopened.



Soldiers from Fort Huachuca assault the ghost town of Charleston, Arizona, by scaling cargo nets. Date unknown.

Source: Fort Huachuca Museum

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Site Investigation

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began investigating the Boquillas land in 1999 and determined it was eligible for the FUDS Program.

Between 1999 and 2016, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers performed numerous investigations at the site to determine what kind of munitions hazards may remain in the area and to estimate the quantity of munitions that may remain. The former Fort Huachuca property was divided into four MRSs, and remedial alternatives were identified for each area based on the findings of the investigations.

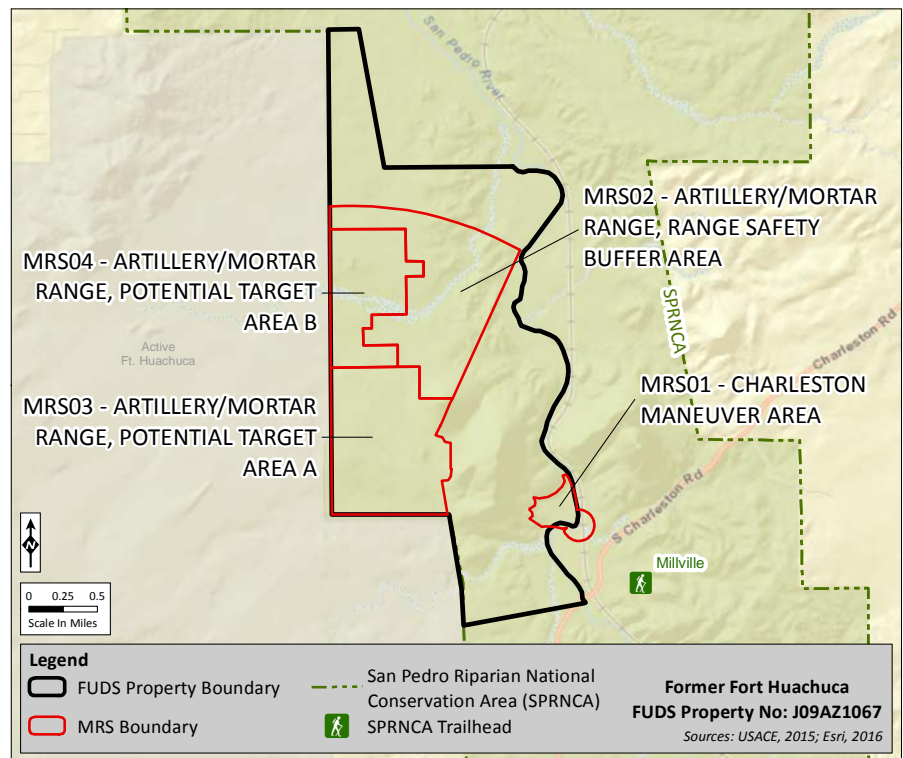
The 2016 and 2017 Decision Documents record the following U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' chosen remedial alternatives for each MRS:

- MRS01 and MRS02: Institutional controls to protect current and future users.
- MRS03: Digital geophysical mapping and surface/subsurface removal of munitions and explosives of concern with institutional controls.
- MRS04: Munitions and explosives of concern removal from the surface with institutional controls.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is implementing the institutional controls by installing warning signs in the project areas, updating current signs, and providing 3Rs of Explosives Safety education materials to BLM and other institutions in the community.

After the remedial actions are in place, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will schedule recurring reviews to evaluate if the institutional controls remain protective of human health and the environment.

Map of Fort Huachuca FUDS



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

immediately what you saw and where you saw it to BLM Law Enforcement by calling (623) 434-4580 or in case of an emergency call 911.



US Army Corps of Engineers
Los Angeles District

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. To learn more about the FUDS Program, visit www.fuds.mil.

