

White Sands Missile Range
Unexploded Ordnance Hazards and Munitions
Management
Plan and Implementation Guide

February 22, 1999

Submitted by:

UXO Hazards and Munitions Management Team

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FOREWORD

The White Sands Missile Range is America's Range for the 21st Century. We provide to our valued customers quality test, evaluation, and technical services in support of current and future Department of Defense systems necessary for our Nation's defense. We are able to provide these quality services because the Range has unique resources, such as land and airspace; state of the art technical capabilities; and most importantly, a competent, dedicated, and professional workforce.

As Commanding General, it is my responsibility to provide for the safety, health, welfare, and morale of our civilian, military, and contractor personnel, as well as our customers, tenants, family members, and visitors. Since the White Sands Missile Range is a very active test range, a key part of this responsibility is to ensure that we have a comprehensive program in place to address the issues of unexploded ordnance hazards and responsible military munitions and waste military munitions management.

This document describes such a program and details the policies, procedures, and implementing actions necessary to enhance safety, increase our operational effectiveness, and ensure the continued viability of the White Sands Missile Range.

BG Harry D. Gatanas

Commanding General

White Sands Missile Range

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In October 1998, the Commanding General established the Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Hazards and Munitions Management (UHMM) Team for the purpose of developing an integrated, comprehensive plan to address the management of UXO hazards, military munitions, and waste military munitions (WMM) at White Sands Missile Range (White Sands or the Range).

The results of the planning and integration efforts are documented in the UXO Hazards and Munitions Management Plan and Implementation Guide. In addition, a historical record is being compiled to document completed actions. This document will be periodically updated to incorporate additional progress and will serve as the official record with regard to program status.

Specifically, the Plan defines White Sands policies and establishes organizational responsibilities. The Implementation Guide lays out actions yet to be completed to fully create and develop an integrated, structured UXO Hazards, Military Munitions, and WMM Program for White Sands Missile Range. The Guide addresses five key areas: Personnel and Public Safety; Range Access and Control; UXO Hazards, Military Munitions, and WMM Management (in terms of the Military Munitions and Range Rules); UXO Clearance Requirements and Technology; and Requirements (funding and resources). Associated with each action are the responsible organization and the planned completion date.

White Sands Missile Range

Unexploded Ordnance Hazards and Munitions Management Plan

1.0. Purpose. The purpose of this document is to define White Sands Missile Range policies and to assign responsibilities for the overall management of UXO hazards, military munitions, and WMM, in accordance with Department of Defense (DOD) and Army (DA) policies, instructions, directives, regulations, and guidance.

2.0. Scope. This UXO Hazards and Munitions Management Plan and its companion Implementation Guide apply to all persons working at, living on, and visiting White Sands Missile Range.

3.0. Policy.

3.1. White Sands policies are based on DOD Instruction (DODI) 6055.14, dated

23 January 1998, which defines UXO safety policy for all active and inactive ranges used by DOD. The DODI prescribes the minimum explosives safety precautions required to protect DOD personnel and the public from range UXO hazards. Consistent with peacetime and wartime operational requirements, it is DOD policy, under DOD Directive 6055.9, to enhance readiness by providing the maximum practicable

protection to operational capability, personnel, property, and the environment from the damaging effects of explosive mishaps. White Sands shall take the necessary steps to safeguard the long-term viability of its essential assets.

3.2. White Sands shall resolve conflicts between explosive safety and other requirements, ensuring that safety takes precedence.

3.3. White Sands shall provide the maximum practicable protection to personnel, property, and the environment from the damaging effects of accidental or deliberate explosions.

3.4. White Sands shall establish an outreach program to educate both range personnel and the surrounding public on the dangers of trespassing on the Range and the hazards associated with UXO.

3.5. White Sands shall notify both range personnel and the public, as appropriate, if any range operation presents a potential explosive hazard off the Range. This requirement shall include informing the public of any mishap, which could affect the local community, and may require additional precautions and/or restrictions.

3.6. White Sands shall respond promptly to protect personnel and property from any UXO hazard, resulting from range activities, in accordance with White Sands policies and procedures.

3.7. White Sands shall respond, in accordance with DOD's response authorities, under Title 10 United States Code (USC), Sections 172 and 2701, to releases or substantial threats of release of hazardous UXO constituents, when they pose an imminent and substantial threat to human health or the environment.

3.8. White Sands shall limit authorized access to the Range to the minimum number of personnel necessary to accomplish required testing, evaluation, training, and other range functions. Access for other activities (recreation, public visits, etc.) shall be permitted in designated areas; however, only after appropriate UXO orientation and training are received or orientation and escort are provided. Caution shall be observed at all times, regardless of location on the Range. Unauthorized access to the Range shall be prohibited. Unexploded ordnance warning signs to alert personnel (authorized and unauthorized) to potential hazards shall be posted as an additional safeguard.

3.9. White Sands shall assist DOD, to the extent possible, to ensure improved conventional munitions are used only on this or other test ranges (as opposed to training and operational ranges), unless necessary to National Defense Readiness.

3.10. White Sands shall establish and maintain a repository for permanent records of:

- a. All expenditures of ammunition and explosives (types, quantities, locations, and estimated dud rates).
- b. All mishaps attributed to UXO, which have resulted from range activities, in accordance with DODI 6055.7.
- c. All explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) actions or UXO clearance

operations.

d. All areas containing known or suspected UXO.

d.

e. Other pertinent data necessary to ensure an integrated approach to range

master planning, which considers UXO hazards in the siting of new facilities, construction activities, real estate disposition, and other land-use activities.

3.11. White Sands shall safely clear UXO from the Range consistent with the range mission.

3.12. White Sands shall perform a risk assessment in preparation for range clearance operations. At a minimum, the risk assessment shall include the number of personnel involved, types of ordnance anticipated to be encountered and/or recovered, support requirements, expected levels of contamination on the Range, and rationale for clearance.

3.13. White Sands shall conduct clearance of UXO and other explosive ordnance or materials before leasing, selling, transferring, or changing the use of range land, in accordance with DOD direction.

4. Responsibilities.

4.1. **All Organizations and Persons operating at White Sands** shall:

a. Ensure employees, family members, and sponsored-visitors are provided UXO hazards orientation and training and comply with all UXO hazards-related policies and procedures.

b. Limit authorized access to the Range to the minimum number of personnel necessary to accomplish required testing, evaluation, training, and other range functions and comply with all range access and control policies and procedures.

c. Inform the White Sands Command Group of any UXO, military munitions, and/or WMM-related incident and provide support in implementing the White Sands Outreach Program, as necessary, in such an event.

d. Ensure that customers conducting activities on the Range are made aware of

other UXO hazards, military munitions, and WMM management requirements, policies, and procedures, such as render safe and recovery operations, range residue policies, scrap disposition, reporting requirements, allowable impact areas, etc.

e. Restrict the establishment of new munitions impact areas, unless essential for National Defense Readiness.

f. Restrict the use of improved conventional munitions to established range impact areas.

4.2. The National Range Operations Directorate (NR-O) shall:

- a. Ensure that designated impact areas are rendered safe and cleared of UXO, to the extent practicable, as part of normal range (after-test) operations.
- b. Respond promptly to protect personnel and property from any UXO hazard, resulting from range activity, in accordance with established White Sands policies and procedures.
- c. Respond, in accordance with DOD's response authorities, to releases or substantial threats of hazardous UXO constituents, when they pose an imminent and substantial threat to human health or the environment.
- d. Collect, enter in to the range repository, and manage data relative to EOD incidents, UXO clearance operations, and other required information, described in paragraph 3.10.
- e. Safely clear UXO, as part of normal, post-test, render-safe operations prior to recovery.
- f. Develop and implement an annual plan, which identifies additional wide-area UXO range clearance requirements. The plan shall include the number of personnel involved, types of ordnance anticipated to be encountered and/or recovered, support requirements, expected levels of contamination on the Range, and rationale for clearance.
- g. Maintain the range-wide communications system to facilitate timely notification and response in the event of an UXO hazard or other accident.

4.3. The National Range Environment and Safety Directorate (NR-ES) shall:

- a. Ensure that UXO hazards are adequately addressed in the White Sands Missile Range Command Safety Program articulated in WSMR Regulation 385-18.
- b. Respond promptly to protect personnel and property from any UXO hazard, resulting from range activity, in accordance with established White Sands policies and procedures. The NR-ES shall provide emergency medical, safety, and environmental support in the White Sands north-range area to ensure efficient and effective response to UXO-related incidents. The NR-ES shall assist McAfee Health Clinic in providing emergency medical support and provide safety and environmental support in the White Sands south-range area.
- c. Respond, in accordance with DOD's response authorities, to releases or substantial threats of hazardous UXO constituents, when they pose an imminent and substantial threat to human health or the environment.
- d. Collect, enter in the range repository, and manage environmental and specific safety-related data in support of the Range UXO, Military Munitions, and WMM Program.

4.4. The National Range Support Directorate (NR-S) shall:

- a. Develop and implement an annual program for the inspection, maintenance, and replacement of range physical controls, such as warning signs, fencing, and other access controls.
- b. Develop and implement a Scrap Metal Accumulation Program and Accumulation Point to ensure

range residue is certified as free of explosives and recycled and/or disposed of properly.

c. Develop an abatement plan for the existing scrap yard.

d. Collect, enter in to the range repository, and manage data related to facilities and other infrastructure in support of the Range UXO, Military Munitions, and WMM Program.

e. Coordinate with other range organizations before leasing, selling, transferring, or changing the use of real estate owned, leased, or used by White Sands to ensure that UXO clearance operations are conducted, if required.

4.5. The National Range Development Directorate (NR-D) shall:

a. Improve/modernize range-wide emergency and operations communications systems, as required, to ensure timely notification and response in the event of an UXO hazard or other incident. Ensure that these development efforts are included in the White Sands Investment Plan.

b. Develop the range repository system necessary to maintain permanent records of UXO, ammunition, and explosive expenditures, hazards, and other required data.

4.6. The National Range Materiel Test Directorate (NR-MT) shall:

a. Conduct range clearance operations in support of submunition testing activities.

Coordinate clearance operations with NR-O.

b. Collect, enter in to the range repository, and manage UXO expenditures and other data, described in paragraph 3.10.

c. Develop and implement an annual plan, which identifies UXO range clearance requirements for impact areas under its control for submunition testing activities. Coordinate with NR-O.

4.7. The National Range Applied Technology Directorate (NR-AT) shall collect, enter in to the range repository, and manage data in support of the Range UXO, Military Munitions, and WMM Program.

4.8. The Resource and Management Services Directorate (RM) shall:

a. Ensure that all Memorandums of Agreement (MOAs), Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs), and Support Agreements (SAs) include UXO hazards orientation and training, range access and control, active range clearance, and other requirements identified in this Plan and Guide, which may apply.

b. Ensure funding requirements related to UXO hazards, military munitions, and WMM management at

White Sands are contained in the White Sands budget and/or Investment Plan.

4.9. The Garrison Command (GC) shall:

- a. Ensure proper response to protect personnel and property from any UXO hazard resulting from range activity.
- b. Ensure proper response, in accordance with DOD's response authorities, to releases or substantial threats of release of hazardous UXO constituents when they pose an imminent and substantial threat to human health or the environment.

4.9.1. The Law Enforcement and Security Directorate (SD) shall:

- a. Develop and enforce appropriate range security and range access measures to limit authorized access to the Range to the minimum number of personnel necessary to accomplish required testing, evaluation, training, and other range functions, to include hunting and other recreational activities. The SD shall prohibit unauthorized access to the Range.
- b. Provide appropriate security and UXO/Range Hazards Cards to personnel requiring access to the Range, in accordance with established policies and procedures.
- c. Provide the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to coordinate emergency response team actions to ensure quick response in the event of an UXO-related incident and to conduct medical casualty exercises on a quarterly basis to ensure readiness of all support elements.
- d. Coordinate aerial medevac support to ensure quick response in the event of an UXO-related incident.
- e. Develop and maintain current Disaster Control Plans to ensure timely response in the event of an UXO-related incident.

4.9.2. The Public Affairs Office (PAO) shall:

- a. Inform the public of any releases or substantial threats of release of hazardous UXO constituents, to include precautions and/or restrictions, when they pose an imminent and substantial threat to human health or the environment.
- b. Implement the White Sands Outreach Program, in coordination with other range organizations, to educate the surrounding public on the dangers of trespassing on the Range and the hazards associated with UXO.

3. The Directorate of Community Activities and Housing (CA) shall:

- a. Ensure that all private organizations functioning at White Sands comply with UXO-related safety orientation and training and range access and control policies and procedures.
- b. Develop range recreational-use programs, which include safety issues related to UXO hazards.

4.10. McAfee Health Center (MHC) shall:

- a. Provide emergency medical support personnel and ground medevac support in the White Sands south-

range area to ensure efficient and effective response to UXO-related incidents.

- b. Serve as Medical Director for White Sands Missile Range.
- c. Conduct periodic Medevac exercises to insure quick response in the event of a UXO related incident.

4.11. **The White Sands Division, Army Materiel Command Acquisition Center (STEAA-WS),** shall:

- a. Ensure that all contracts include requirements for UXO hazards orientation and training.
- b. Ensure that all contracts include requirements for range access and control.

5.0. Implementation.

5.1. Implementation of the White Sands UHMM Plan will be accomplished through specific actions detailed in the Implementation Guide. A White Sands UHMM Review Team, consisting of representatives from the Office of the Inspector General (IG), NR, NR-O, NR-ES, NR-S, NR-D, NR-MT, NR-AT, and GC, will be responsible for oversight. The Directors,

NR-O and NR-ES, will serve as the Steering Committee for the UHMM Review Team and will provide guidance, as required. The UHMM Review Team shall:

- a. Identify additional actions necessary to reduce the risk of UXO hazards on the Range.
 - b. Ensure the Management Plan and Implementation Guide remain consistent with DOD and DA guidance.
 - c. Ensure that actions identified in the Implementation Guide are completed or otherwise resolved.
- a. Report to the White Sands Commander, at least once a quarter, about the level of compliance with the Management Plan and status of Implementation Guide completion.
 - b. Disseminate results of the quarterly or other reviews to all White Sands directorates and tenants.

5.2. The DODI 6055.14, upon which these policies are based, will be cancelled and portions absorbed into a new DODI 4715 or other pertinent documents. After receipt of a published DODI 4715 from higher headquarters, the White Sands UHMM Review Team shall review DODI 4715 and any other new guidance and revise this document and the Implementation Guide, if required, within one month of receipt. The Team shall also conduct periodic reviews for possible new guidance and revise this document and the Implementation Guide, as necessary.

