



UTAH NATIONAL GUARD MUNITIONS REVIEW

News of the MMRP project at Camp Williams, Utah

August 2010

Repository holds information for MMRP project



The Camp Williams Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) has an information repository where all project-related documents are available for public viewing. This repository is open to the public and is located at the Riverton City Library.

Riverton City Library
12877 S 1830 W
Riverton, UT 84065

The Camp Williams MMRP repository primarily contains technical reports, which provide detailed information about the sites involved in the MMRP. These reports also provide information about the investigation methods and results.

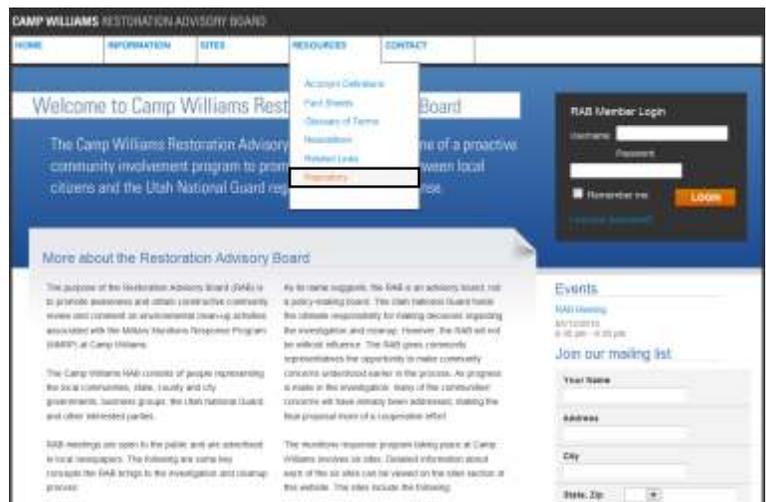
The information repository also includes the Community Relations Plan, which outlines the community outreach efforts planned during the MMRP. There is also a miscellaneous project document binder that

holds all fact sheets, newsletters, and restoration advisory board meeting minutes.

Physical repositories are required under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process. Electronic repositories are not required under CERCLA, but the Utah National Guard has made one available for the community to use.

“We would like community members to have access to as much project information as possible,” said Robert Price of the Utah National Guard. “For this reason, we also decided to create an electronic information repository. We understand that many community members live a far distance from the Riverton Library and we hope that the electronic repository will make it more convenient to search for project-related information.”

The online repository can be accessed by going to the project Web site, www.campwilliamsrab.org, and clicking on the section labeled “RESOURCES” The link to the online repository is located in the “RESOURCES” section as shown in the picture below. J



Site Inspection fieldwork complete



The cool, cloudy days of April found a three-man crew wandering the hillsides south of Camp Williams. To the untrained eye, it may have appeared the men were out for a casual hike in the hills. In reality, there was nothing casual about their hike, they were following a predetermined search pattern and using highly specialized equipment to find traces of old munitions.

This three man crew was comprised of specially trained, munitions-detection specialists who were investigating these two areas as part of the Military Munitions Response Program, or MMRP, taking place at six sites near the Camp Williams Boundary. The MMRP is a federal program aimed at eliminating the risk old munitions may pose to human health and the environment.

The crew was working to determine if any munitions were present at the Southeast Area and Southwest Area Munitions Response Sites, which are located near the southern Camp Williams boundary. The crew walked along predetermined paths with handheld metal detectors and GPS equipment to observe and record any munitions or munitions-related debris that was present.

These two sites are currently in the Site Inspection stage of the investigation process, an earlier stage than the other four sites, which are undergoing a more thorough Remedial Investigation. The delay for the Southeast Area and Southwest Area Munitions Response Sites is due to a missing After-Action Report, which was discovered during the fact-finding stages of

the MMRP.

In 1991, the Utah National Guard (UTNG) conducted Operation Clean Sweep, a visual search of the surface to identify if munitions were present on transferring lands. “Following Operation Clean Sweep, a report called the After-Action Report was written,” said Robert Price, the MMRP technical lead for the Utah National Guard. “This report described Operation Clean Sweep and outlined the items that were found.”

According to Price, the After-Action Report showed that some munitions were discovered during the third and final phase of Operation Clean Sweep. The areas investigated in the third phase are now designated as the Southeast Area, the Southwest Area, and the Wood Hollow Training Area Munitions Response Sites. These sites were referenced in the report as a single area of investigation, with no differentiation between the sites.

Investigators know munitions were discovered at Wood Hollow, but because the three sites were reported together as one area of investigation, it was unclear if munitions were present at the other sites in this phase of the investigation. This uncertainty led investigators to add the Southeast Area and the Southwest Area to the MMRP investigation.

“During the Site Inspections, nonhazardous munitions debris was discovered at each of the sites,” said Price. “The presence of munitions debris indicates a possibility of light military training taking place at some point prior to the land transfer of 1991.”

Some of the items discovered during the Site Inspection are outlined in the table below. All of the items discovered during the Site Inspection are non-hazardous, which means they do not pose an explosive hazard or risk to human health or the environment. “The presence of munitions debris at the Southeast

Southwest Area Munitions Response Site	Southeast Area Munitions Response Site
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Old rifle grenade canister■ Artillery fragment■ 5.56mm blanks, expended■ Mounting bracket for trip flare	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Protective covers for the rotating bands on 8-inch projectiles■ Communication wire■ Empty fuse container

Area and Southwest Area Munitions Response Sites makes us believe that these sites warrant further investigation to determine the nature and extent of contamination,” said Price. “For this reason, we have recommended that these sites undergo a Remedial Investigation.”

A report outlining the findings of the Site Inspection has been written and sent to the Utah Department of Environmental Quality. Following approval of the report, a decision will be made for these two sites. If these sites are moved to the Remedial Investigation phase, another three-man crew may be at these sites again as early as this fall. J

Items discovered during Site Inspection fieldwork



Artillery fragment found at the Southwest Area Munitions Response Site. This fragment is most likely from an 155mm artillery shell.



The green band around this artillery shell is called a rotating band. Protective covers were placed around the rotating bands to protect them during transport.



Protective covers for the rotating bands on 8-inch projectiles found at the Southeast Area Munitions Response Site.



Old rifle grenade canister found at the Southwest Area Munitions Response Site.



Empty fuze container found at the Southeast Area Munitions Response Site.

Understanding the acronyms



FBI, CDC, FDA, SSA, IRS, TSA. Acronyms are as common to government agencies as pepperoni on pizza. To make things more confusing, each agency usually has a whole different set of acronyms for use in their specific programs. If you have ever flipped through a government report, or visited a government Web site you may have noticed that it can be like looking at a bowl of alphabet soup; it is a mixture of letters that make little or no sense to the untrained eye.

Like most government programs, the Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) also has its own set of commonly used acronyms. “We try to stay away from using acronyms with the public as much as possible, but there are a few acronyms that are commonly used in the MMRP,” said Robert Price of the Utah National Guard. “We'd like to name a few of the most common acronyms and provide the definitions to help community members understand the MMRP more fully.”

Some commonly used acronyms and their definitions are provided below. **J**

CERCLA: Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

Also known as Superfund. Originally signed into law by President Jimmy Carter on Dec. 11, 1980, the Act was amended and reauthorized in 1986. CERCLA provides a framework for cleanup of hazardous-waste sites. The MMRP is utilizing the CERCLA process in its cleanup.

DMM: Discarded Military Munitions

Military munitions that have been abandoned without proper disposal or removed from storage in a military magazine or other storage area for the purpose of disposal.

MC: Munitions constituents

Any materials originating from unexploded ordnance, discarded military munitions, or other military munitions,

including explosive and nonexplosive materials.

MD: Munitions Debris

Remnants of military munitions after they have functioned as designed. Examples may be fins, fragments, or casings.

MEC: Munitions and explosives of concern (commonly pronounced “meck”)

Military munitions that may pose unique explosive safety risks or an explosive hazard.

MMRP: Military Munitions Response Program

A program created in 2001 by Congress to address munitions and explosives of concern located on range lands that are no longer operational. The MMRP involves an investigation and if needed, removal and remedial actions to address: explosive safety, safety and human health, and environmental risks

MRS: Munitions Response Site

Location that was owned by, leased to, or otherwise possessed or used by the Department of Defense, but is no longer used by the military, but is known or suspected to contain munitions and explosives of concern, or to have been used as a site for past military training.

RAB: Restoration Advisory Board

An advisory board consisting of representatives from local governments, communities, and other interested parties. The RAB is designed to act as a forum for the exchange of information between Camp Williams and the local community regarding MMRP activities.

RI: Remedial Investigation

A stage of the CERCLA process where the nature and extent of contamination is characterized. The RI serves as the means for collecting data to characterize site conditions, determine the nature of the contaminants, and assess risk to human health and the environment. A Remedial Investigation is completed after a Site Inspection.

SI: Site Inspection

A stage of the CERCLA process where a limited on-site investigation is conducted to find out whether there is contamination or potential contamination present at a site. A Site Inspection is completed before a Remedial Investigation.

UXO: Unexploded ordnance

Military munitions that have been primed, fused, armed, or otherwise prepared for action; have been fired, dropped, launched, projected, or placed in such a manner as to constitute a hazard to operations, installations, personnel, or material; and remain unexploded either by malfunction, design, or any other cause.