

FINAL

Operational Range Assessment Program Phase I Qualitative Assessment Report Hobbs, New Mexico U.S. Army Operational Range Assessment Program Qualitative Operational Range Assessments

Prepared for: U.S. Army Environmental Command and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Baltimore District



October 2008

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The United States (U.S.) Army is conducting qualitative assessments at operational ranges to meet the requirements of Department of Defense policy and to support the U.S. Army Sustainable Range Program. The operational range qualitative assessment (hereinafter referred to as Phase I Assessment) is the first phase of the U.S. Army Operational Range Assessment Program. This Phase I Assessment evaluates the operational range area at Hobbs to assess whether further investigation is needed to determine if potential munitions constituents of concern (MCOC) are or could be migrating off-range at levels that may pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. In conducting the Phase I Assessment, MCOC sources, potential off-range migration pathways, and potential off-range human and ecological receptors are evaluated as appropriate.

Hobbs encompasses 130.15 acres of land, located five miles northwest of the city of Hobbs in Lea County, New Mexico. Hobbs contains one operational range encompassing 130.15 acres, which consists of a light maneuver / training area. Hobbs was established on 20 July 1990 by the New Mexico Army National Guard (NMARNG) and has been used for weekend field training exercises (Army Range Inventory Database-Geodatabase, 2007). According to NMARNG personnel, the operational range at Hobbs has never been used for training involving live-fire or non-live-fire military munitions (NMARNG Natural and Cultural Manager, pers. comm.).

Installations with operational ranges where no munitions or only small caliber blanks have been utilized are categorized as Unlikely. That is, based on a review of available information, there is sufficient evidence to show that due to the lack of munitions use there are no known releases or source-receptor interactions that could present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. Ranges categorized as Unlikely are required to be re-evaluated at least every five years. Re-evaluation may occur sooner if significant changes (e.g., change in range operations or site conditions, regulatory changes) occur that affect determinations made during this Phase I Assessment. **Table ES-1** summarizes the Phase I Assessment findings.

Category	Total Number of Ranges and Acreage	Source(s)	Pathways(s)	Human and Ecological Receptors	Conclusions
Unlikely	1 operational range; 130.15 acres	No source—no current or historical use of live-fire military munitions	Not evaluated (no source identified)		Re-evaluate during the five- year review.

Table ES-1: Summary of Findings and Conclusions for Hobbs

ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

ARID-GEO	Army Range Inventory Database-Geodatabase
CSM	Conceptual Site Model
DoD	Department of Defense
ESRI	Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc.
MCOC	Munitions Constituents of Concern
NMARNG	New Mexico Army National Guard
ORAP	Operational Range Assessment Program
U.S.	United States
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers

