



North Carolina Duck Target Facility

Facility and Location

Former Duck Target Facility is located along the Outer Banks of North Carolina. The site was acquired by condemnation in April 1941 by the Navy. It was used as a bombing and rocket target range from 1941 to 1965. All structures were removed prior to excessing the facility in 1972. The General Services Administration transferred the site to the Army (Civil Works) in April 1973. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Waterways Experimental Station has used the site as a field research facility since 1973.

The Range Complex No. 1 Munitions Response Site (MRS) consists of 459 land acres and 7,743 tidal water acres which comprise two overlapping sub-ranges: the bombing target range and the rocket target range. Munitions suspected to have been used on the site include small arms ammunition, high explosive and incendiary cartridge rounds, miniature practice bombs, and 2.25 inch practice rockets.

Recoveries of thousands of pounds of munitions debris including numerous munitions and explosives of concern (MEC) items which had a potential explosive component have happened since the site was closed for practice bombing. Numerous reported findings of MEC have occurred over the years since closure. Most of these findings have been the result of USACE sponsored environmental studies or removal actions which have placed the Duck Target Facility in the Long Term Management Program and recurring reviews are conducted approximately every five years for the site.

Media Sampled and Findings

Groundwater — In 2009, one of three samples detected perchlorate at 0.29 ppb.

Surface Water — In 2009, one sample detected perchlorate at 0.02 ppb.

Appropriate Actions

Not Applicable. All samples were below the EPA and DoD Preliminary Remediation Goal of 15 ppb.