



Nebraska McCook Air-to-Ground Gunnery Range

Facility and Location

The 7,941 acres comprising McCook Air-to-Ground (ATG) Gunnery Range were originally acquired use by Scottsbluff Army Airfield (AAF). The range was transferred to McCook AAF in 1944. McCook AAF was located in Red Willow County, about 12 miles northwest of the city of McCook. The ATG gunnery range, which was located about 6.5 miles north of Morrill in Sioux County and was strictly used for ATG machine gun practice by pilots stationed at McCook AAF.

McCook AAF was originally established as a satellite facility to Kearney AAF. During World War II, the Army used McCook AAF for B-17, B-24, and B-29 training. McCook ATG Gunnery Range was active during the 1940s with aerial gunnery beginning in 1942 and continuing until 1945. Historical research does not indicate the presence of bombs; however, .50 caliber rounds were fired during aircrew training flights. A Certificate of Clearance, dated November 19, 1945, was issued certifying the range to be "reasonably free of unexploded missiles."

Media Sampled and Findings

Drinking Water — In 2008, six of six samples detected perchlorate from 0.41 to 1.53 ppb.

Appropriate Actions

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