



Camp Roberts, California

January 2019

Background

The Department of Defense (DoD) uses and manages operational ranges to support national security objectives and maintain the high state of operational readiness essential to its mission requirements. The Department conducts non-regulatory, proactive, and comprehensive operational range assessments (ORAs) to support the long-term sustainability of these ranges while protecting human health and the environment. The purpose of an ORA is to determine if there is a release or substantial threat of a release of munitions constituents (MC) from an operational range to an off-range area that exceeds an applicable regulatory standard or creates a potential unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

The Army National Guard (ARNG) ORA effort was developed to address DoD requirements detailed in DoD Directive 4715.11 (10 May 2004) and DoD Instruction 4715.14 (15 November 2018). The overall objective of the ORA is to assess operational ranges/range complexes to determine if an off-range MC release or substantial threat of an off-range MC release exists; if an off-range MC release exists, does it exceed an applicable regulatory reporting standard; and if an MC release or substantial threat of a release exists, determine whether it creates a potentially unacceptable risk to off-range human health or the environment.

Installation Overview

Camp Roberts is located in central California (CA), between the towns of Bradley and San Miguel, and approximately 127 miles southeast of San Jose, CA. The installation is divided into two sections by State Highway 101. Established in 1940, Camp Roberts served as a training site and a POW camp during World War II. Control of the site was transferred to the California Army National Guard (CAARNG). Today the installation provides year-round training for the CAARNG and the California State Military Reserves, as well as active and reserve forces from the different service branches.

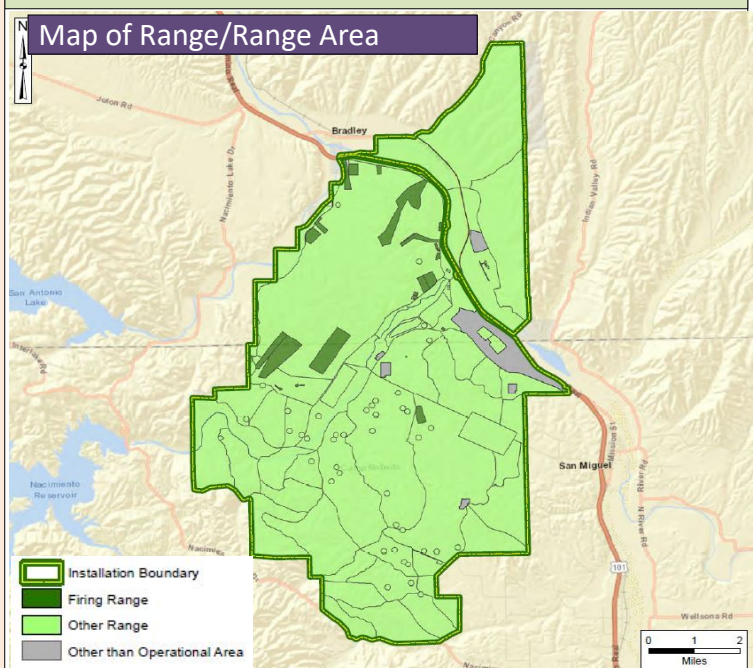
Camp Roberts' operational footprint is currently comprised of 116 operational ranges totaling approximately 42,062 acres. The installation's ranges include: 16 small arms range 5 large arms range, 38

Operational Range Assessment Findings (01/2019)

The 2018 Camp Roberts Periodic Review determined that MC were unlikely to migrate off-range at levels that pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

Next Step

The installation's operational ranges should be placed into the Periodic Review cycle to be re-assessed in five years.



Installation Overview (continued)

firing points, 46 maneuver and training areas, 9 military ranges and two demolition ranges. All live-fire ranges and firing points are located south of State Highway 101.

Previous ORA Investigations

The 2008 Phase I ORA evaluated 166 operational ranges identified at Camp Roberts. During the assessment, 139 operational ranges were categorized as Unlikely due to a limited source of MC. However, 29 operational ranges were categorized as Inconclusive due to a potential source-pathway-receptor interaction. The 29 Inconclusive operational ranges were recommended for further evaluation through a Phase II ORA.

Based on the recommendations of the 2008 Phase I, a Phase II ORA was conducted from 2012-2013. As part of this investigation surface water and sediment samples were collected from drainages that flow to the Salina, San Antonio and Nacimiento rivers. All samples were analyzed for metals and explosives. No explosives or metals were detected in surface water or sediment at concentrations that exceeded associated project action levels (PALs). Based on the results, the investigation determined that no MC were migrating off range at concentrations that posed an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. As such, the Inconclusive operational ranges were re-categorized as Unlikely and Camp Roberts operational ranges were entered into the periodic review cycle.

Periodic Review (2018)

A Periodic Review was conducted at Camp Roberts in 2018 to collect additional information and perform a visual survey of site conditions to confirm the findings of the Phase I and Phase II Assessments.

The Periodic Review determined that munition expenditures had increased at Camp Roberts since 2013. However, no other aspects of the Camp Roberts' sources, pathways, or receptors have changed.

As such, based on the BMPs in place and previous sampling results, the Periodic Review concluded that MC are not migrating off-range at concentrations that pose unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

For more information on Camp Roberts, contact <https://calguard.ca.gov/contact-us/>
For more information on the DoD Operational Range Assessment Program visit <https://www.denix.osd.mil/orap/home/>