



FINAL

Operational Range Assessment Program Phase I Qualitative Assessment Report Barker Dam Local Training Area, Texas

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



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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 Barker Dam Local Training Area (LTA) 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.

Barker Dam LTA encompasses 1,636.30 acres of land and is located approximately 11 miles west of Houston, Texas in Harris County (ARID-GEO, 2007). Barker Dam LTA contains one operational range; a maneuver / training area encompassing 1,636.30 acres which is used for land navigation / compass course, common training tasks, patrolling, and platoon level tactical training. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers owns the land and leases it to the U.S. Army Reserves. Barker Dam LTA was established on 1 January 1990 as a weekend training facility for all military units located within a two-hour one-way commuting distance. During periods of heavy rainfall, training activities at the facility are limited due to the high water content of the soils. Additionally, no requests for training have been made since 2006.

Review of available records and information provided from Barker Dam LTA personnel indicates that the operational range at Barker Dam LTA has never been used for training involving live-fire or non-live-fire military munitions.

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.

Table ES-1: Summary of Findings and Conclusions for Barker Dam Local Training Area

Category	Total Number of Ranges and Acreage	Source(s)	Pathways(s)	Human and Ecological Receptors	Conclusions
Unlikely	1 operational range; 1,636.30 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 (no source identified).

ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

ARID-GEO	Army Range Inventory Database-Geodatabase
CSM	Conceptual Site Model
DoD	Department of Defense
LTA	Local Training Area
MCOC	Munitions Constituents of Concern
ORAP	Operational Range Assessment Program
TXARNG	Texas Army National Guard
U.S.	United States
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers



Operational Range Assessment Program
Phase I Qualitative Assessment
Barker Dam Local Training Area, TX

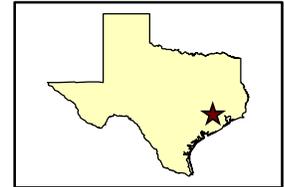
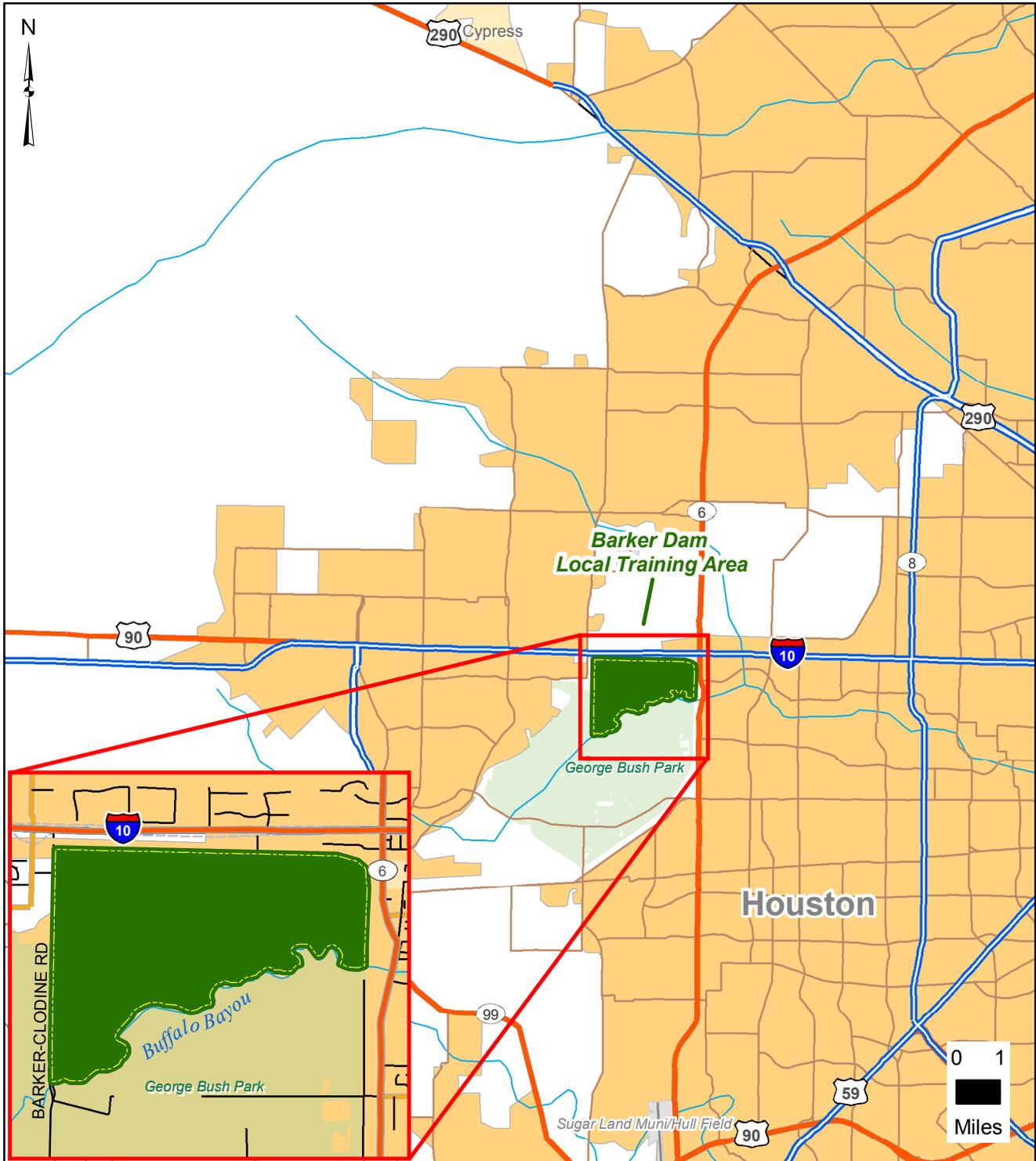


Figure 2-1
General Barker Dam Local Training Area Location and Operational Range Area



- | Installation Area | Transportation | Hydrology |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Installation Boundary | Limited Access | Rivers/Streams |
| Operational Use Area | Highway | |
| | Major Road | |
| | Local Road | |

Data Sources:
ARID-GEO 2007
ESRI StreetMap 2006

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