

**FINAL
OPERATIONAL RANGE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
PHASE I QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT REPORT
WALKER FIELD AIRPORT
GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO**

APRIL 2008

Prepared for:

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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 Walker Field Airport 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.

Walker Field Airport encompasses 25 acres in Mesa County, Colorado. The installation is located approximately four miles north of downtown Grand Junction on property owned by the Colorado Public Airport Authority; it is adjacent to the Grand Junction Regional Airport (formerly the Walker Field Airport). The property serves as an airport buffer zone. According to the Army Range Inventory Database-Geodatabase from 2005, one miscellaneous training range encompasses the entire site. Training conducted at Walker Field Airport was limited to radio relay training exercises. Currently, the Colorado Army National Guard (COARNG) does not utilize Walker Field Airport for training activities because the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has expired. The COARNG may renew the MOU in the future.

A review of available records and background data, as well as an interview with COARNG personnel, indicated that the range at Walker Field Airport has never been used for training involving military munitions (live-fire or non-live-fire). Because training activities do not involve, and historically have not involved, the use of military munitions, there are no potential sources of MCOC. Therefore, potential off-range migration pathways and potential off-range human and ecological receptors were not evaluated, and the range at Walker Field Airport is categorized as Unlikely.

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 Walker Field Airport

Category	Total Number of Ranges and Acreage	Source(s)	Pathway(s)	Human and Ecological Receptors	Conclusions
Unlikely	One operational range; 25 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.

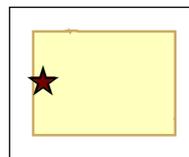
ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

ARID-GEO	Army Range Inventory Database-Geodatabase
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
COARNG	Colorado Army National Guard
CSM	Conceptual Site Model
DoD	Department of Defense
MCOC	Munitions Constituent of Concern
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
OHV	Off-Highway-Vehicle
ORAP	Operational Range Assessment Program
U.S.	United States
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers

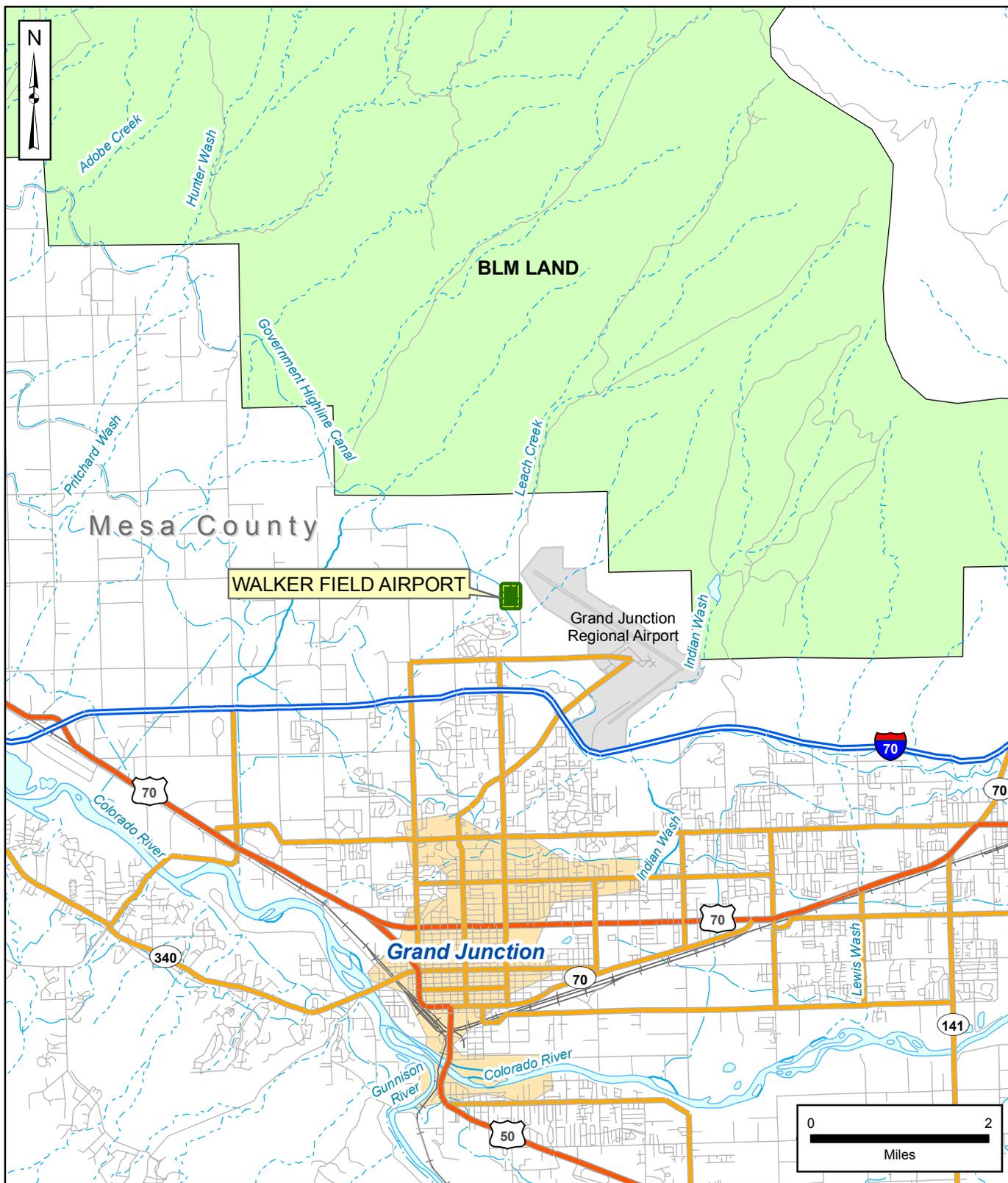


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**Operational Range Assessment Program
Phase I Qualitative Assessment
Walker Field Airport, CO**



**Figure 2-1
Walker Field Airport Location and Operational Range Area**



Installation

- Installation Boundary
- Operational Area

Hydrology

- River/Stream (Perennial)
- Stream (Intermittent)
- Canal/Ditch
- Water Body

Transportation

- Interstate
- Highway
- Major Road
- Local Road

- Railroad
- Airport
- BLM Land

Data Sources:

AEC, ARID-GEO, 2005
ESRI, StreetMap USA, 2005

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