



FINAL

Operational Range Assessment Program Phase I Qualitative Assessment Report Drop Zone Beech Hill, West Virginia

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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April 2008

Final Operational Range Assessment Program Phase I Qualitative Assessment Range Assessment Reports will be released beginning in March 2008 per the Direction of Army Headquarters. The cover page of this Report reflects the official finalization date. The date on subsequent pages/figures reflects the date upon which this document's conclusions are based.



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 (ORAP). This Phase I Assessment evaluates the operational range area at Drop Zone (DZ) Beech Hill 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.

DZ Beech Hill is located in Mason County, West Virginia. The site is located on private property approximately six miles southeast of Point Pleasant, West Virginia. The primary usage of DZ Beech Hill is as a training area for the West Virginia Army National Guard (WVARNG) and the West Virginia Air National Guard (WVANG).

An Operational Range Inventory Sustainment update was submitted to the U.S. Army Environmental Command in June 2006 (Army Range Inventory Database-Geodatabase [ARID-GEO], 2006). ARID-GEO (2006) identified one operational range, encompassing a total of 189.3 acres, which is used for airborne operations (including equipment and personnel drops). Interviews with WVARNG personnel (Environmental personnel) and WVANG (Range Environmental Compliance Manager) indicated that no live-fire training is conducted at DZ Beech Hill. Munitions use is limited to pyrotechnic/obscurant rounds during training activities performed by the WVARNG; no munitions are used by WVANG. Munitions are used at the site less than three days per year, thereby limiting the source of potential MCOC.

Based on data collected during the Phase I Assessment regarding current and historical MCOC sources, potential migration pathways from ranges, and potential off-range human and/or ecological receptors, the operational range at DZ Beech Hill has been placed into the following range grouping.

Unlikely – Five-Year Review

DZ Beech Hill, which consists of 189.3 acres, is categorized as Unlikely. This range consists of a maneuver and training area. Ranges where, based upon a review of readily available information, there is sufficient evidence to show that there are limited or no known releases or source-receptor interactions on ranges that could present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment are categorized as Unlikely. 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 DZ Beech Hill

| Category | Total Number of Ranges and Acreage | Source(s) | Pathway(s) | Human Receptors | Ecological Receptors | Conclusions and Rationale |
|----------|------------------------------------|--|------------|--|----------------------|--|
| Unlikely | 1 operational range; 189.3 acres | No source – limited or no military munitions use | | Not evaluated (no source was identified) | | Re-evaluate during the five-year review. Limited non-live-fire munitions use was identified. |

ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

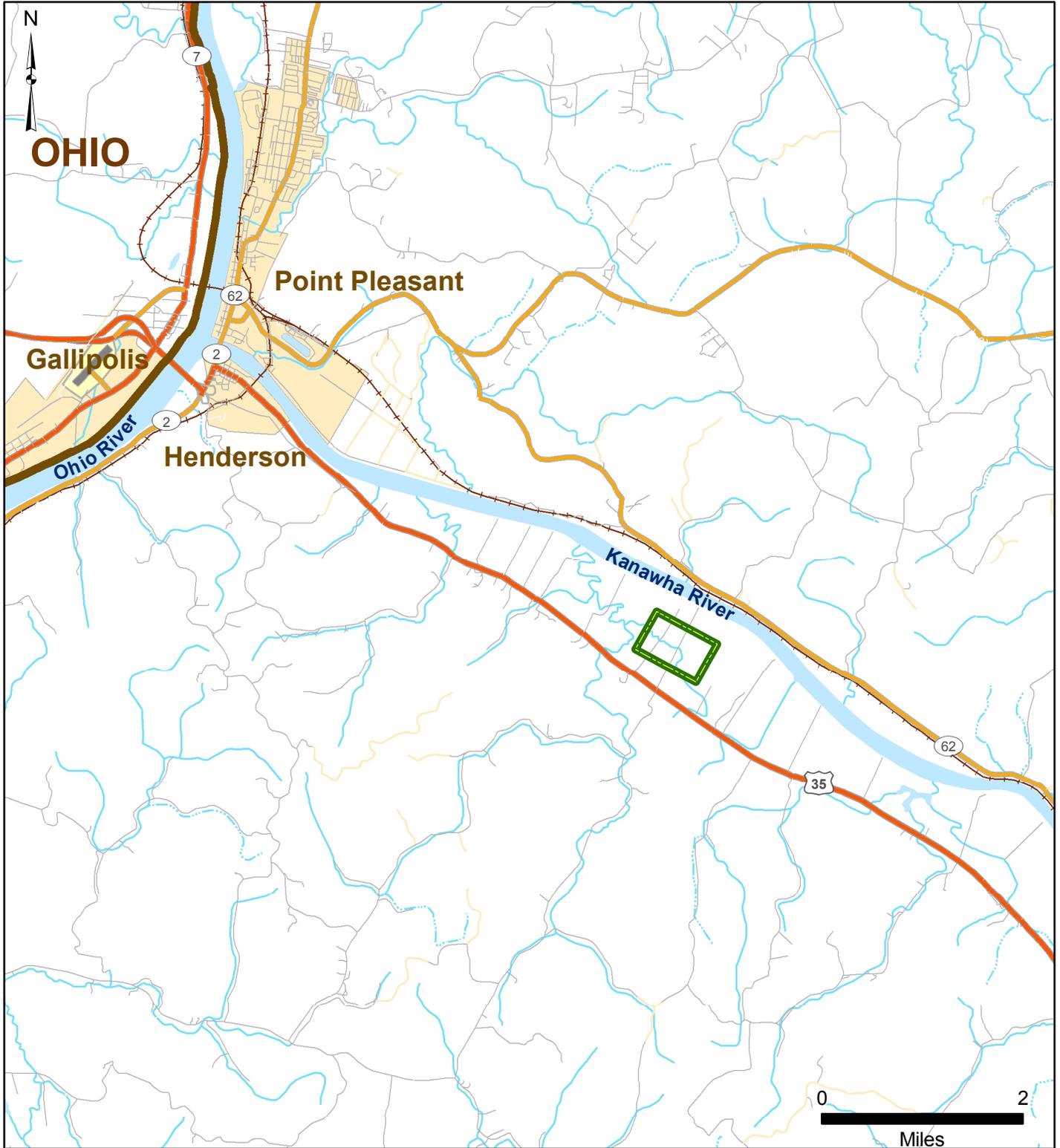
| | |
|----------|--|
| ARID-GEO | Army Range Inventory Database-Geodatabase |
| CERCLA | Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act |
| CSM | Conceptual Site Model |
| DoD | Department of Defense |
| DODI | Department of Defense Instruction |
| DZ | Drop Zone |
| GW | Groundwater pathway identified. (This refers to range grouping; M designation always precedes GW designation.) |
| H | Human receptors identified. (This refers to range grouping; pathway designation always precedes H designation.) |
| LS | Limited Source. |
| M | Munitions used. (This refers to range grouping; M designation always precedes applicable pathway.) |
| MCOC | Munitions Constituents of Concern |
| ORAP | Operational Range Assessment Program |
| PETN | Pentaerythritoltetranitrate |
| PU | Pathway unlikely or incomplete. (This refers to range grouping; M designation always precedes PU designation.) |
| RFMSS | Range Facility Management Support System |
| SW | Surface water pathway identified. (This refers to range grouping; M designation always precedes SW designation.) |
| U.S. | United States |
| USACE | United States Army Corps of Engineers |
| USACHPPM | United States Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine |
| USAEC | United States Army Environmental Command |
| USEPA | United States Environmental Protection Agency |
| USDA | United States Department of Agriculture |
| USFWS | United States Fish and Wildlife Service |
| USGS | United State Geological Survey |
| WVANG | West Virginia Air National Guard |
| WVARNG | West Virginia Army National Guard |
| WVDNR | West Virginia Department of Natural Resources |



Operational Range Assessment Program
Phase I Qualitative Assessment
DZ Beech Hill, WV



Figure 1-1
General DZ Beech Hill Location



Installation
 Installation Boundary

Data Sources:
ARID-GEO 2006, ESRI StreetMap 2005

Date:..... October 2007
 Prepared By: EA Engineering, Science & Technology
 Prepared For:..... U.S. Army
 Contract Number:..... W912DR-05-D-0008