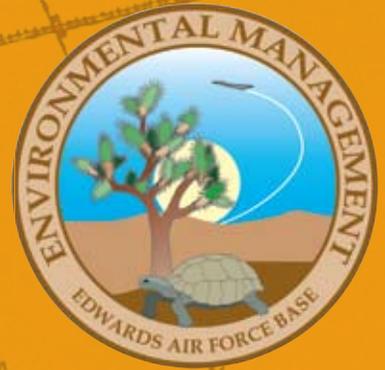


ERP Fact Sheet

May 2008



Land Use Controls Will Keep People and Animals Safe at Site 442

Air Force environmental engineers recommend land use controls and stormwater controls as the preferred method to ensure people and animals are not exposed to chemical warfare materiel (CWM) that could be buried in trenches at Site 442.

Site 442, Known Explosive Ordnance Division Burial Locations, consists of three separate areas (designated as Areas 1, 2, and 3), which are located in the Precision Impact Range Area (PIRA) at Edwards AFB. The areas encompass about 4.6, 8.3, and 0.2 acres, respectively. They were possibly associated with nearby former bombing targets operated during the 1940s and 1950s by the Aberdeen Bombing Mission (ABM). The ABM was a detachment from the United States Army Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, which was tasked with the testing of CWM.

The Air Force conducted geophysical surveys at Site 442. The geophysical surveys identified one burial trench at Area 1, seven burial trenches and pits at Area 2, and one burial trench at Area 3. The surveys indicated

that the trenches were dug to an estimated depth of 15 feet and contained approximately 27,000 cubic yards of munitions debris and fill soil. Cover soils were estimated to be at least 5 feet thick over the buried debris.

The Air Force was concerned that contamination may be leaking from the burial trenches into the soil and groundwater. Workers drilled into the ground near the trenches to collect soil gas samples, and surface and subsurface soil samples. Groundwater samples were collected from monitoring wells.

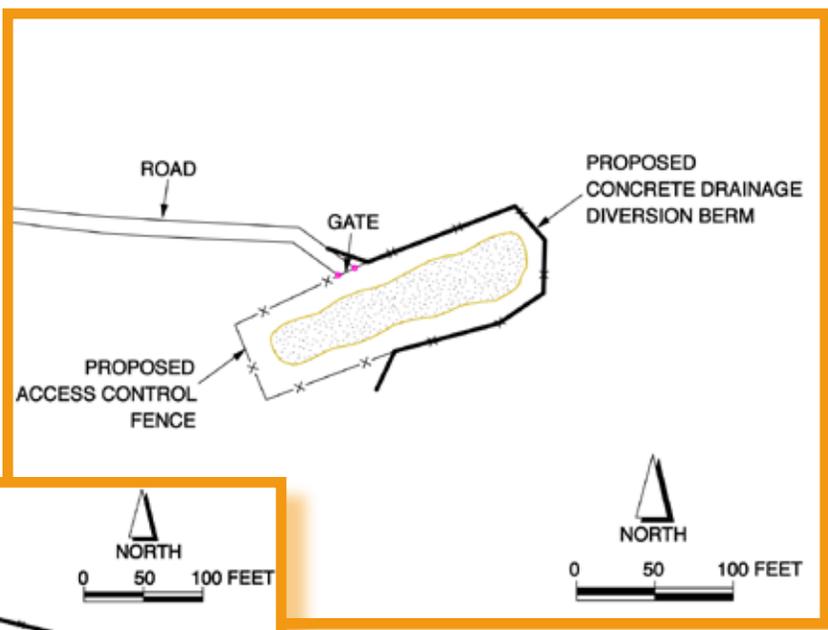
No samples were collected directly from the buried debris because of a concern that a release of chemical warfare agent (CWA) during sampling might contaminate the PIRA. No CWA or CWA degradation products were detected in soil or groundwater samples. However, the Air Force is concerned that some of the buried munitions present at Site 442 may not be inert, and therefore it is necessary to protect the public and the environment from a future release of munitions residue that may be contained within the trenches.

This Fact Sheet describes the proposed remedial actions for Areas 1, 2, and 3 of Site 442, Known Explosive Ordnance Division Burial Locations.

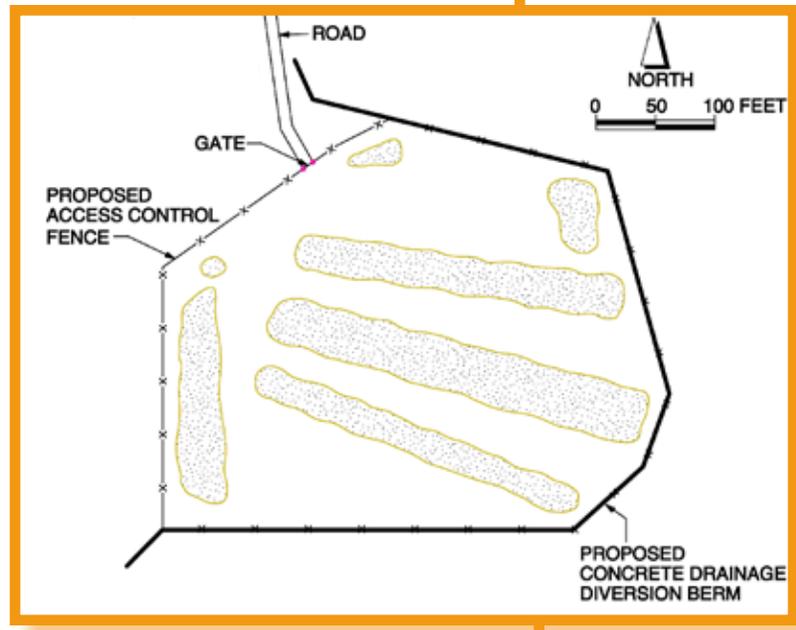
The Air Force has included the proposal for Site 442 in the *Operable Unit 7 Chemical Warfare Materiel Proposed Plan*. Printed copies of the Proposed Plan are available at the three information repositories listed on page 4. The document is also available to the public on the internet at <http://bsx.edwards.af.mil/environmental>. Choose the **Documents for Public Review** folder, select the **Operable Unit 7 Chemical Warfare Materiel Proposed Plan** Folder, and download **Proposed Plan** from the bottom of the page.

Site Maps

Area 1



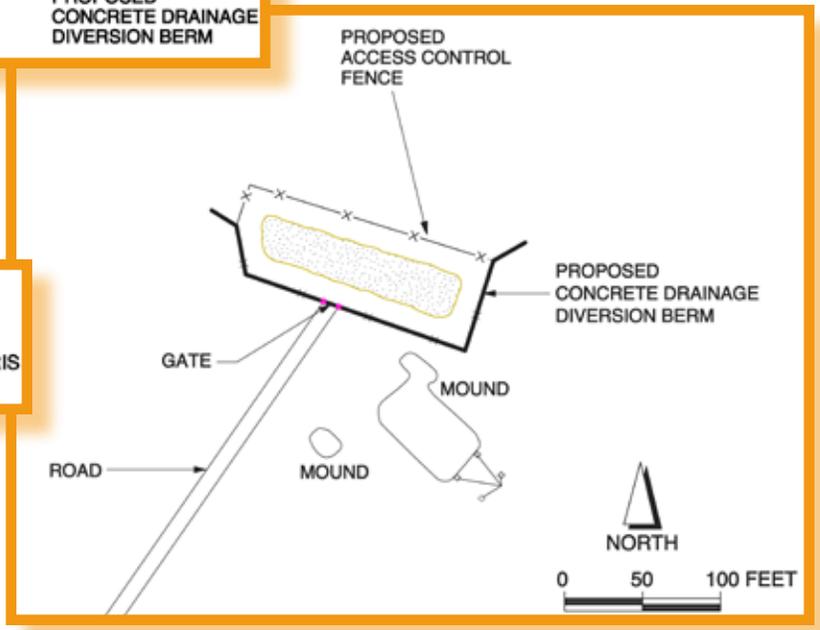
Area 2

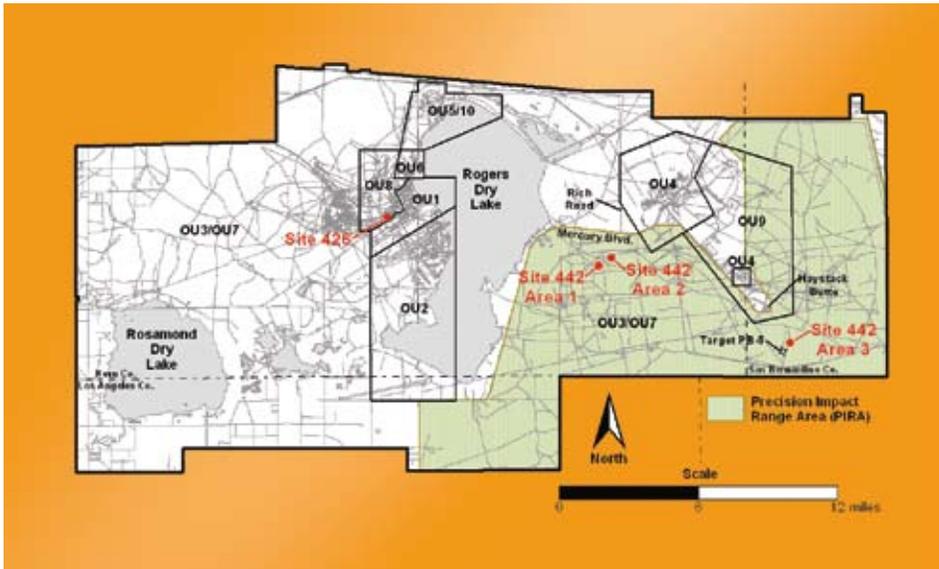


Area 3

EXPLANATION

 BURIED DEBRIS





Locations of chemical warfare materiel sites discussed in the Operable Unit 7 Chemical Warfare Materiel Proposed Plan.

The Air Force proposes land use controls and stormwater controls as the preferred alternative for accomplishing these goals. The Air Force would enforce land use restrictions for Site 442 in the Base General Plan in perpetuity to prevent inadvertent or unauthorized excavation or development of the site. A fence would be constructed around each area to restrict access. In addition, a 2-foot-high reinforced concrete berm wall would be constructed at each area to prevent stormwater from running onto the burial trenches. Limited grading would be performed to prevent stormwater ponding and promote runoff. This alternative would cost an estimated \$2.3 million for the first 30 years of operation.

The OU7 CWM Proposed Plan offers three alternatives to the preferred alternative – no action; land use controls; and land use controls, stormwater controls, and enhanced cover systems.

The no action alternative would not cost anything, and existing protections would not be maintained. The land use control alternative would cost an

estimated \$1.8 million for the first 30 years of operation, but would not protect the landfill cover from erosion. The land use controls, stormwater controls, and enhanced cover systems alternative would cost an estimated \$3.9 million for the first 30 years of operation, but would not significantly increase protection of human health and the environment when compared to the less expensive preferred alternative.

The preferred alternative is the lowest cost alternative that is protective of human health and the environment and is also compliant with applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements under State Water Resources Control Board Resolution 88-63 by being protective of groundwater. Although the alternative does not reduce the toxicity or volume of CWA, if present in the burial locations, stormwater control measures will serve to reduce the mobility of potential contaminants.

No chemical warfare agents were detected in soil or groundwater samples at Site 442.

More Information Available

The Air Force encourages the public to learn more about these sites, about restoration activities already completed and those proposed for the future. All documents that the base used to make decisions about these sites are in the base's administrative record. To view the full administrative record, contact Gary Hatch during regular business hours at:

95 ABW/PAE

Attn: Gary Hatch

**5 E. Popson Ave., Bldg. 2650A
Edwards AFB, CA 93524-8060**

Phone: (661) 277-1454

Fax: (661) 277-6145

E-mail: 95abw.pae@edwards.af.mil

**Hours: By appointment only,
Monday through Friday
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

A subset of decision documents is available at the three Information Repository locations listed in the orange box above.

To Make a Comment

Comments on the *Proposed Plan* may be made at the public meetings or by mail, e-mail, or fax. Send comments to Gary Hatch using the contact information above. A form is provided at the end of the *Proposed Plan*, but written comments are accepted in any form. Comments must be received no later than June 16, 2008.

How to Get More Information

For more information on the Operable Unit 7 Chemical Warfare Materiel project, technical documents may be reviewed at the following Information Repositories.

Edwards AFB Library
5 W. Yeager Blvd.
Building 2665
Edwards AFB, Calif.
(661) 275-2665

Los Angeles County Public Library
601 W. Lancaster Blvd.
Lancaster, Calif.
(661) 948-5029

Kern County Public Library
Wanda Kirk Branch
3611 Rosamond Blvd.
Rosamond, Calif.
(661) 256-3236

Please join us for a
Public Meeting/Public Availability Session
to discuss the

Operable Unit 7 Chemical Warfare Materiel Proposed Plan Sites 426 and 442

May 29, 2008 • 5:30 p.m.

West Boron Elementary School
12300 Del Oro Street
Boron, California

For more information on the meeting, please contact Gary Hatch at (661) 277-1454 or e-mail 95abw.pae@edwards.af.mil.

Printed copies of the Proposed Plan are available at the three information repositories listed above. The document is also available to the public on the internet at <http://bsx.edwards.af.mil/environmental>. Choose the **Documents for Public Review** folder, select the **Operable Unit 7 Chemical Warfare Materiel Proposed Plan** folder, and download **Proposed Plan** from the bottom of the page.