

The background of the slide is an aerial photograph of Vieques Island, Puerto Rico. The image shows a lush green coastline with a white lighthouse and several small buildings. The turquoise ocean is visible, along with a sandy beach and a small bay. In the distance, there are more islands and mountains under a blue sky with some clouds.

# **Vieques RAB Meeting**

## **Controlled Burn Plan Update**

**Former VNTR**

**Vieques, Puerto Rico**

**May , 2008**

# Controlled Burn Plan

## *The Need*

- **Portions of Live Impact Area is covered with dense brush vegetation.**
  - Mechanical vegetation removal is prohibited.
  - Manual vegetation cutting equipment has a risk of contacting munitions items.
- **Several of the munitions that remain on the surface are dangerous (sub munitions)**
  - Can explode from even the slightest disturbance.
  - Significant safety hazard for workers.
  - Recreational boaters trespass into the LIA
- **Controlled burns provide the safest alternative.**
  - Allows the cleanup workers to more readily see the ground
  - Procedures and controls will protect of human health and the environment
  - Air monitoring will be conducted to minimize air quality impacts



# ***The Need- Dense Vegetation***





# *The Need- Small munitions are difficult to see*



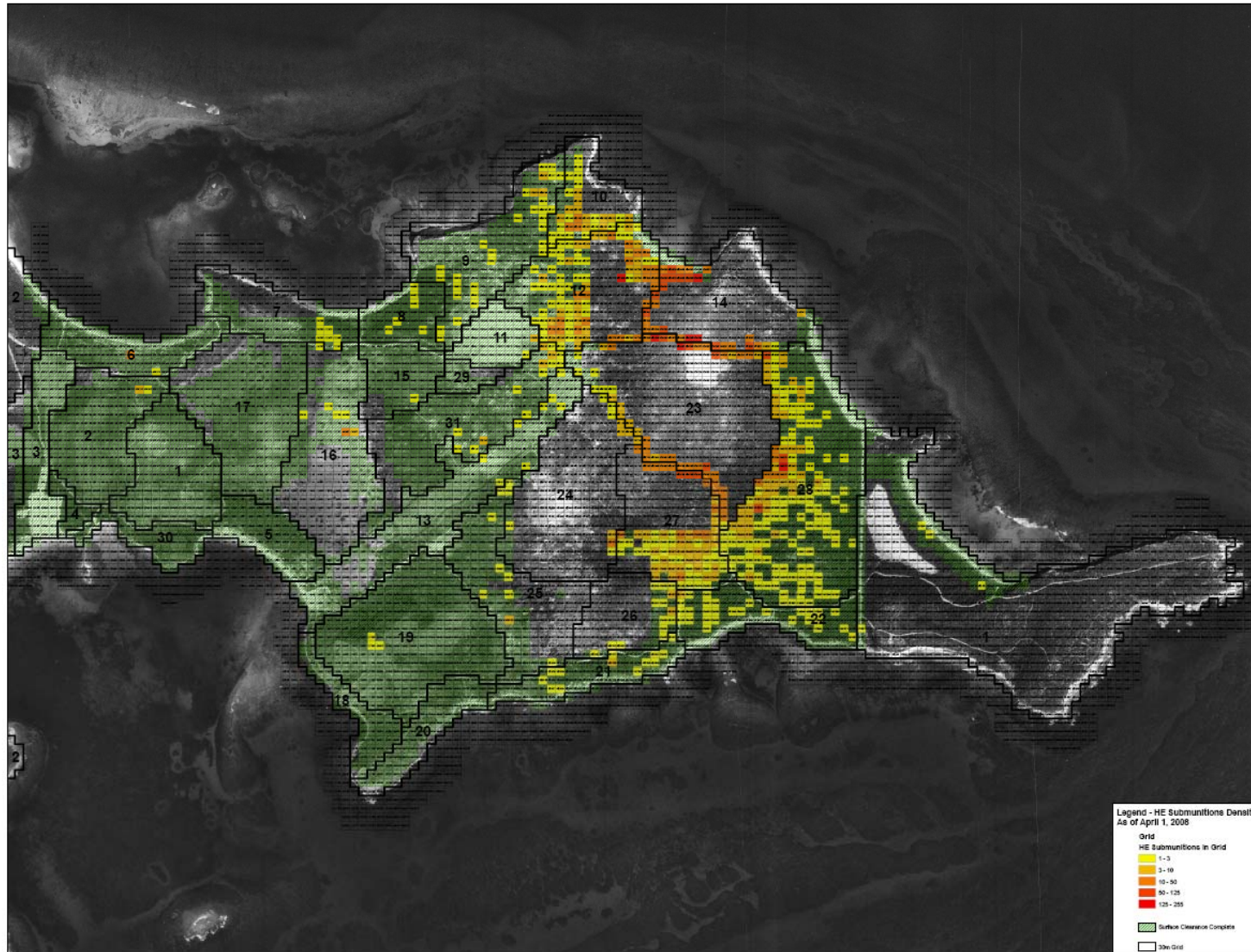


# Previous accidental burns allowed small munitions to be readily seen





# Submunition areas in the LIA where controlled burning is needed



# Variance Application of the Regulations for the Control of Atmospheric Pollution

- **Executive Summary of Variance Application of the Regulations for the Control of Atmospheric Pollution to Conduct Controlled Burning of Vegetation at the former Vieques Naval Training Range**
- ***Draft Prescribed Fire Plan for the Live Impact Area and Eastern Conservation Areas, Former Vieques Naval Training Range, Vieques, Puerto Rico.***
- ***Draft Air Monitoring Plan for TCRA Prescribed Vegetation Burns on the Vieques Naval Training Range***
- ***Draft Report- Air Dispersion Modeling for TCRA Prescribed Vegetation Burns on the Former Vieques Naval Training Range***

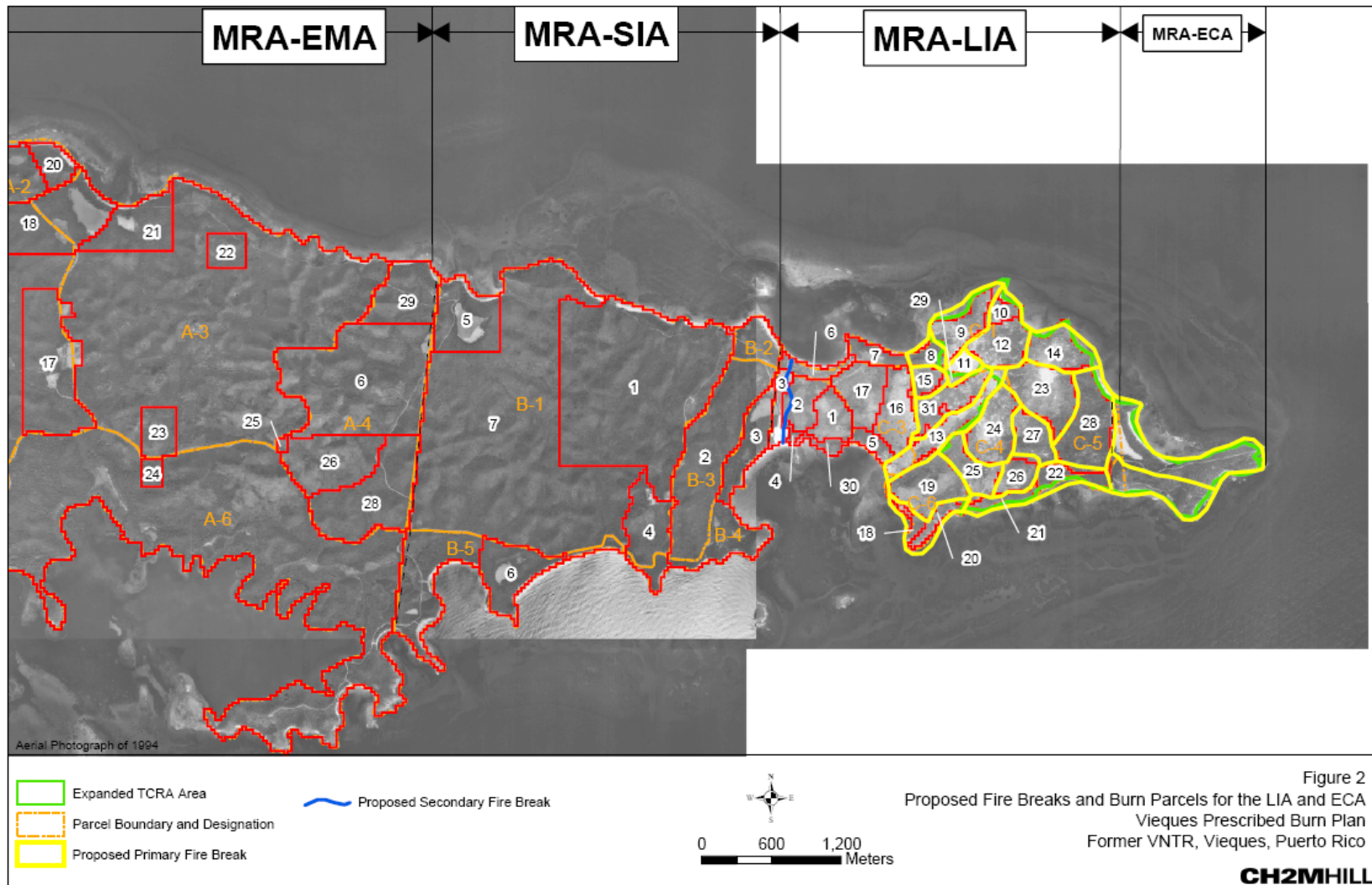
# Prescribed Burn Plan *Procedures & Controls*

- **Advance planning and coordination.**
  - Inter-agency coordination (EPA, EQB, DOI/FWS, Fire Department)
  - Notification procedures for the stakeholders
  - Public notice, public comment period
- **Engineering & Administrative controls**
  - Firebreaks
    - Primary
    - Secondary
  - Fire Fighting equipment
    - On-site equipment
    - Stand-by equipment
  - Site Conditions
    - Wind speed and direction
    - Air Temperature
    - Relative Humidity
    - Soil moisture
  - Air Monitoring
  - Site Access Control



# Controlled Burn Plan

## Fire Breaks within the LIA and ECA



# Proposed Air Monitoring Locations

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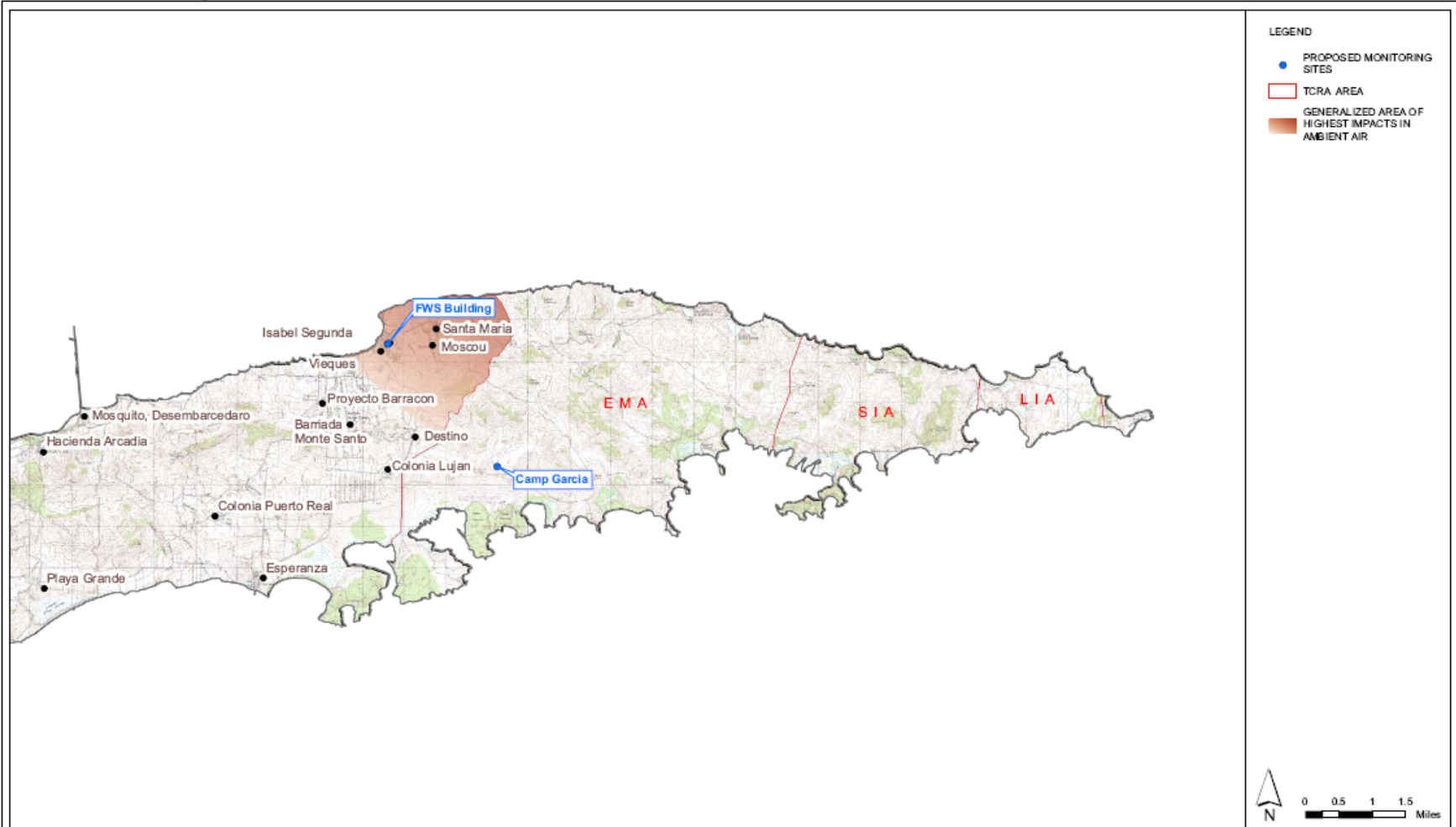


FIGURE 1-2  
GENERALIZED AREA OF HIGHEST  
IMPACTS IN AMBIENT AIR  
VIEQUES, PUERTO RICO



# Status of Burn Plan

- **Previous submittals**

- Variance Application submitted: 2/14/07
- Resolution of comments received from regulators: 6/21/2007-1/10/2008

- **Path Forward**

- Resolve regulator comments
- Issue Public Notice
- Submit revised documents for public review
- Schedule Public Hearing