

# **RAB Meeting Munitions Response Program Update** January 2005 to September 2006 **Former VNTR** Vieques, Puerto Rico September 2006

## Munitions Response Program Overall Objectives



**Former Viegues Naval Training** 

- Conduct Munitions Response Program (MRP) investigations
- Characterize Munitions Response Sites (MRS)
- Conduct Munitions Response Actions at sites that pose unacceptable risks to human health
- Final response action objectives will be based on final land use plan

Former Naval Ammunition
Support Detachment:
Transferred 2001

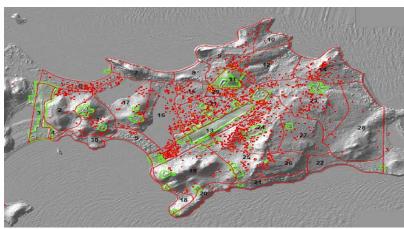
Municipality of Vieques

Puerto Rico
Conservation Trust

## Site Inspection Phase I



- MEC surface clearance of all beaches (65 acres)
  - > 62 live UXO items removed
- Expanded Range
   Assessment/Site Inspection
   (ERA/SI)
  - > 27 of 62 Munitions Response Sites (MRS) investigated
- Light Detection and Ranging Aerial Survey Conducted for Entire VNTR





#### **Time Critical Removal Action**



- 180 acres surface cleared in the Live Impact Area
- Items located requiring detonation
  - > Live Bombs 79
  - > Inert Bombs 573
  - Live Projos/Mortars 1169
  - > Inert Projos/Mortars 1276
  - Live Rockets 61
  - > Inert Rockets 4
  - > Flares-Pyrotechnics 33
  - > Live sub munitions 10
  - > Inert sub munitions 7
- More than 100,000 munitions related items have been removed





#### **Time Critical Removal Action**



 Implemented "boat patrols" on north and south sides of LIA to inform and protect the public during operations

Air monitoring conducted to evaluate potential

releases from detonation

To date, no detections of explosives compounds or metals exceeding screening levels



#### **Time Critical Removal Action**



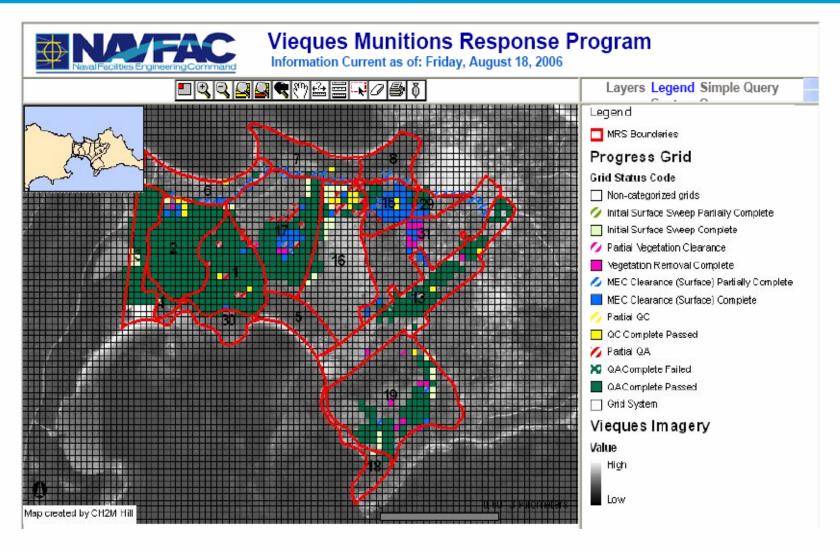
- Establishing onsite munitions debris and range related debris processing facility to insure scrap metal shipped off site is free of explosives
  - Process includes cutting materials into manageable size and heating to insure no explosive residues remain





## **Map of TCRA Progress**





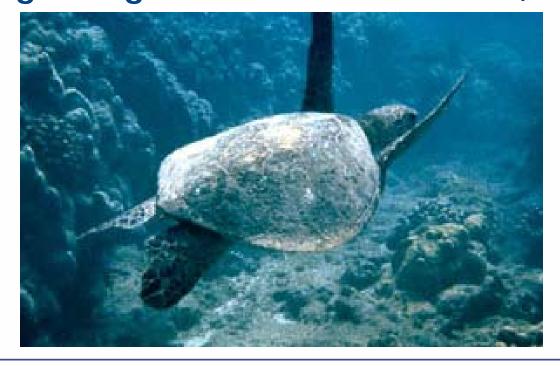
## **Support Actions**



Completed biological assessment for LIA to establish mitigation measures to avoid impacts to sea turtles and threatened/endangered plant species during munitions response actions

\* Expanding biological assessment to EMA, SIA, and

**ECA** 



## **Support Actions**



- Conducted UXO
   Technician I
   training course for
   13 local residents
- Conducted 40 hour OSHA training and UXO awareness training for 19 local residents
- 32 local residents employed on site





#### **Economics**



- Economic impacts from training locals residents
  - Over \$300,000 in salaries paid to local residents since November 2005
- Over \$900,000 paid to Puerto Rican contractors and support personnel
- Average of \$90,000 to \$100,000 per month is spent for local services (housing, fuel, food)
- Munitions Response Program Funding
  - > Fiscal Year 2005 \$ 8 million
  - > Fiscal Year 2006 \$20 million
  - Fiscal Year 2007 \$20 million (projected)

#### **Future Actions**



- Continue time critical removal action for remainder of LIA and ECA
- Conduct Phase II Site Inspection
  - Investigate 35 identified munitions response sites
  - Perform digital geophysical mapping of roads and beaches identified in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service land use plan
- Conduct removal action for surface and subsurface munitions and explosives of concern at the roads and beaches identified in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife land use plan
- Train additional sweep personnel
- Train additional UXO Technician I

## **Proposed Controlled Burning**



Controlled burning reduces explosive risk by exposing munitions hidden by vegetation

Air monitoring will be conducted during the controlled burning



