

FACT SHEET

Munitions Response Program: UXO 1 – Former Skeet Range



Naval Support Activity (NSA) Cutler
Cutler, Maine



Where is Munitions Response Program (MRP) UXO 1?

The Former Skeet Range (UXO 1) is located at the Very Low Frequency (VLF) Area. The VLF Area is situated on a 2,860-acre peninsula located on the coast of Maine near the town of Cutler. UXO 1 is characterized by tall grasses, low-lying shrubs, wetland areas, two surface water bodies, gravel-covered access roads, and a gravel-covered material laydown area. The exact footprint of UXO 1 has been estimated by using historical information, the performance of several environmental investigations, and by conducting interviews with installation personnel.



What is the history of the site?

The exact dates of operation are unknown. Interviews with installation personnel indicate that the Former Skeet Range was constructed prior to 1990. The Former Skeet Range was temporarily shut down in 1990 and reopened for about one year in 1995. The Former Skeet Range was only used for recreational purpose and was not used for training. There is no historical or physical evidence of the types of munitions that were used, but the type of shooting range (skeet) indicates that the munitions would likely have included small arms ammunitions such as shot gun ammunition (e.g., 12 gauge). The primary concern is lead contamination.

What work has been done at the site to date?

In 2007, a Preliminary Site Assessment (PSA) was performed. According to the PSA, soils on the skeet range were suspected to be impacted from past shooting activities. In 2009, soil samples were collected and tested for lead. In 2011, additional step-out soil samples were collected from select locations and tested for lead. In July 2016, additional sampling and interviews were conducted with base personnel. According to interviews, the skeet range was strictly for recreational purposes and was limited to after work hours and weekends.

What work is planned for UXO 1 in the future?

Based on field investigations, laboratory findings, and the historical, infrequent use of UXO 1, one further action was performed. A few clay pigeon fragments were observed in the vicinity of one of the former skeet launching houses. In June 2017, these fragments were manually collected, containerized, and disposed of at a landfill. Following the skeet fragment removal action, Maine DEP agreed that the site required no additional remedy. Site closure was approved by Maine DEP by letter dated November 20, 2017.

Where can I go for more information?

- Compliance with Environmental Laws and Regulations: Contact the Maine Department of Environmental Protection at (207) 287-7688.
- NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic, Norfolk, Virginia General Questions: Contact the Public Affairs Officer at (757) 341-1410.