



Vieques Community Involvement Plan Update

Madeline Rivera/Navy

Vieques Restoration Advisory Board

Meeting # 40

February 12, 2014

Community Involvement Program Plan Update



▪ Questionnaires – in Spanish and English

- Mailed 3,005 questionnaires to all Vieques registered addresses – week of Jan 6, 2014
- Send 169 questionnaires by email to the mailing list – January 22, 2014
- Conducted personal interviews in Isabel II and Esperanza – January 27-30, 2014
- Included in the Vieques Blog of Jan 23, 2014

▪ Interviews Announcements

- Discussed at November 2013 RAB meeting
- Distributed flyers around town and by e-mail -Dec 2013
- Sent cover letter with questionnaires by mail and electronically
- Megaphone announcements for 2 consecutive days
- Radio Vieques plugs for 5 consecutive days

▪ Two interviewing teams, two communities, 3 days

- Madeline Rivera (US Navy), Wilmarie Rivera (PR EQB), Geoffrey Garrison (US EPA)
- Gloria Toro (EQB), Danny Rodriguez (EPA), and Susana Struve (Navy/CH2M HILL)
- Isabel II and Esperanza Streets, Multiple Use Center and Vieques Conservation and Historic Trust

Community Involvement Program Plan Update



- **Questionnaires received (as of 7 Feb)**
 - By mail – 150
 - By e-mail – 14
 - Interviews – 88

- **What was effective during the interviews**
 - Conducting interviews on the streets (versus a location)
 - Conducting interviews in person
 - People were pleased that we listened to them
 - Having representatives from the three agencies conducting interviews
 - Answer general and specific questions
 - Clarify doubts

- **Next Steps**
 - Analyze Data
 - Draft Community Involvement Plan (CIP)
 - Finalize CIP

Community Involvement Program Plan Update



QUESTIONS/ COMMENTS



New Vieques Public Website Overview

**Vieques Restoration Advisory Board
Meeting # 40
February 12, 2014**

New Vieques Public Website Overview



- **New URL – <http://www.navfac.navy.mil/vieques>**
- **Conforms to Navy standards for all public websites**
- **Navigation made easy by side and top menus (see on next slide)**
 - Side Menu used to drill down levels
 - Top Menu used to go back levels
 - Can also use the browsers back button to get to previous pages
- **Similar content and structure as the old public website**
- **Updated regularly**
- **Ability to access other Navy public websites by using the top menus**

New Vieques Public Website Overview



Environmental > Products and Services > ENV Restoration > Installation Map > NAVFAC Atlantic > Vieques ← Top Menu

NAV/FAC Midwest Vieques

NAV/FAC Southeast

NAV/FAC Washington

Side Menu →

- Vieques
- Site Descriptions
- Community Outreach
- Administrative Records
- Links

WELCOME TO: Former Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Area - Vieques

PR

Welcome to the website of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Atlantic (NAVFAC Atlantic) for the former Vieques Naval Installation. The former Vieques Naval installation is a 23,000-acre facility located on Vieques Island, which is located off the southeast coast of the mainland of Puerto Rico.

The island was used for military training for members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. From the mid-1940s until 2003, more than 300,000 munitions items were fired during military training operations, including naval gunfire, air-to-ground bombing, and marine artillery fire. It is estimated that up to 9,000 acres of the property may contain munitions and munitions-related items.

It is important to the Navy that community members have access to accurate and timely information about the actions NAVFAC Atlantic in coordination with its agency partners is taking to implement the Environmental Restoration Program. The Navy is committed to protecting public health and the environment. This website is one of the ways the community can learn about environmental restoration activities, including [Munitions Safety](#), on Vieques and participate in the decision-making process.

New Vieques Public Website Overview



Environmental [Employees](#) [Client](#) [View Map](#)

ABOUT US PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

Environmental > Products and Services > ENV Restoration > Installation Map > NAVFAC Atlantic > Vieques > Site Descriptions > West Vieques

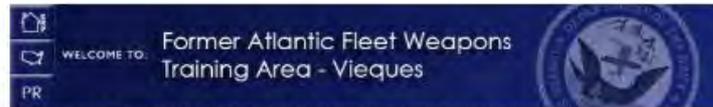
West Vieques

East Vieques

Munitions Safety

Regulatory Overview

West Vieques



The former Naval Ammunition Support Detachment (NASD) covered 8,200 acres on the west side of the island and was used to store munitions and other support facilities for Atlantic Fleet training.

There are a total of 18 sites on or adjacent to west Vieques, two of which are munitions response sites (SWMU 4 and UXO 16). Thirteen of the sites are complete and no further cleanup activity will be required. The remaining five sites (AOC E, AOC I, SWMU 4, SWMU 6, and UXO 16) are currently under investigation.

On April 30, 2001, the 8,114-acre former Naval Ammunition Support Detachment (NASD) on the west side of Vieques was apportioned and transferred to the Department of the Interior (DOI), the Municipality of Vieques (MOV), and the Puerto Rico Conservation Trust (PRCT) in accordance with Public Law 106-398. The property owned by DOI (approximately 3,158 acres) is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) as part of the Vieques National Wildlife Refuge. Environmental restoration of the former NASD is based on potential risks to human health and the environment, with consideration given to the planned future land use.



[Click here to view a larger PDF version](#)

New Vieques Public Website Overview



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[Environmental > Products and Services > ENV Restoration > Installation Map > NAVFAC Atlantic > Vieques > Site Descriptions > **East Vieques**](#)

[West Vieques](#)

East Vieques

[Munitions Safety](#)

[Regulatory Overview](#)

East Vieques

WELCOME TO: Former Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Area - Vieques

The former Vieques Naval Training Range (VNTR), which comprises approximately 14,573 acres, was used for ground warfare and amphibious training for Marines, naval gunfire support training, and air to ground training. The former VNTR was divided into four separate operational areas, comprising from west to east: the Eastern Maneuver Area (EMA), the Surface Impact Area (SIA), the Live Impact Area (LIA), and the Eastern Conservation Area (ECA).

There are 15 existing munitions response sites on the former VNTR. There are a total of 36 environmental sites. Investigations are complete at 34 of the environmental sites, and no further cleanup activity will be required. Investigations are underway at the existing munitions response and existing environmental sites.

On April 30, 2003, the former VNTR was transferred to the Department of the Interior (DOI) to be operated and managed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) as a National Wildlife Refuge pursuant to Section 1049 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 (Public Law 107-107).

Approximately 900 acres of the former VNTR, consisting of the LIA, is managed as a wilderness area where public access is prohibited in accordance with Public Law 106-398 and Public Law 107-107.

USFWS developed a [Comprehensive Conservation Plan \(CCP\)](#) for the Vieques National Wildlife Refuge that outlines its concept for managing the refuge. Environmental restoration of the former VNTR is based on potential risks to human health and the environment, with consideration given to the future land use identified in the CCP.

New Vieques Public Website Overview



Environmental > Products and Services > ENV Restoration > Installation Map > NAVFAC Atlantic > Vieques > Community Outreach ← Top Menu

Click to go back to Vieques Home Page

Side Menu
Notice change

Site Descriptions
Community Outreach
News and Information
Public Meetings and Community Events
RAB Documents
Administrative Records
Links

Former Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Area - Vieques

PR

To integrate the community into the restoration program, an extensive community involvement program has been established to disseminate information regarding the cleanup and provide a forum for the public to provide input. The Vieques Community Involvement Program promotes effective, two-way communication about the progress of the Navy's environmental investigations and munitions response activities, with an emphasis on *Munitions Safety*. To enhance communication, the Navy has established an unusually comprehensive bilingual community involvement program, beginning in 2000 (several years before Vieques was placed on the NPL).

Community Involvement Plan

The Community Involvement program on Vieques is intended to make sure that community members have ample opportunity to voice their opinions and receive answers to their questions. The public will have several formal opportunities to comment on study documents and proposed remedies. However, questions and comments are welcome at any time during the study process.

EPA and the Navy worked with community members from Vieques to prepare and implement a Community Involvement Plan (CIP). The CIP describes how the community will be kept informed about the activities carried out under the Consent Order and how public input will be obtained. EPA conducted community interviews in December 2003 and the Navy conducted additional interviews in 2005. You can download the CIP here in [English](#) or [Spanish](#).

Restoration Advisory Board

A Technical Review Committee was formed in 2001, including several local residents, to provide a forum for discussing the investigation and cleanup of western Vieques. In addition, periodic

New Vieques Public Website Overview



Environmental > Products and Services > ENV Restoration > Installation Map > NAVFAC Atlantic > Vieques > Community Outreach > News and Information ← Top Menu

News and Information

- News and Information
- Flyers
- Information Kiosks
- Newsletters
- Public Meetings and Community Events
- RAB Documents

Click to go back to Vieques Home Page

WELCOME TO: Former Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Area - Vieques

Click on a link below to view the available documents. You will need [Adobe Reader](#) to view the PDF files.

- Flyers
- Newsletters
- Information Kiosks

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Ability to share the page via social media

New Vieques Public Website Overview



NAVFAC Environmental

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Employee Client View/Map

ABOUT US PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

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West Vieques
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Munitions Safety

WELCOME TO
Former Atlantic Fleet Weapons
Training Area - Vieques
PR

Large numbers of munitions and explosives were left behind by years of training on the Former Vieques Naval Training Range. The Navy is making Vieques safer for residents and visitors by reducing the risk of encountering potentially dangerous munitions on the island. To protect Vieques residents and visitors, roads leading to the areas that contain munitions and explosives are closed to the public and identified with warning signs.

What is UXO?

UXO stands for unexploded ordnance. When military munitions do not explode, they become UXO. Examples of UXO include: bombs, rockets, projectiles and grenades.

- UXO comes in many shapes, sizes and colors.
- UXO may be visible on the surface or buried.
- Age does not matter: Old rusty items can kill or injure.
- Size does not matter: Even small items can kill or injure!

New or old...shiny or rusty...Clean or dirty...It is all very dangerous!

Recognize, Retreat, and Report if you Encounter Munitions

If you find UXO, remember the 3Rs of Explosives Safety:

Recognize — Recognizing when you may have encountered a munition is key to reducing the risk of injury or death. If you encounter, or suspect you may have encountered a munition, consider it extremely dangerous. Remember, munitions are sometimes hard to identify.

Retreat — If you encounter or suspect you may have encountered a munition, do not touch, move or disturb it, but immediately and carefully - do not run - leave the area following the same path on which you entered. If you can do so safely, mark the general area, not the munition, in some manner (for example, with a hat, piece of cloth, or tying a piece of plastic to a tree branch).

Report — When you think you may have encountered a munition, call 911 or the police at 787-741-2020 to report what you have found.



SEGURIDAD RELACIONADA A MUNICIONES

SI NO SE LE CAYÓ, NO LO RECOJA

UXO SAFETY

IF YOU DIDN'T DROP IT, DON'T PICK IT UP



- RECONOZCA**
RECOGNIZE
- RETROCEDA**
RETREAT
- REPORTE**
REPORT
911 or (787) 741-2020

New Vieques Public Website Overview





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West Vieques

East Vieques

Munitions Safety

Regulatory Overview

CERCLA

IRP and MRP

Agency Roles

Regulatory Overview



Former Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Area - Vieques

CERCLA - Comprehensive, Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act

IRP and MRP - Installation Restoration Program and Munitions Response Program

Agency Roles - Primary government entities involved in the cleanup of past contamination at the former Navy facilities on Vieques Island

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[Administrative Record – Camp Garcia](#)
[Administrative Record – Vieques East](#)
[Administrative Record – Vieques West](#)



Note: Some internet browsers do not include Department of Defense (DoD) digital security certificates, which may result in a security warning recommending that the user not proceed. Though there is no harm from proceeding, to avoid such security alerts first download the DoD Root CA Certificates by following the instructions at the following web site:
<http://dodpki.c3pkt.chamb.diaa.mil/rootca.html>

ARF documents may contain sensitive information. If a document has sensitive information, when the title is clicked, Point of Contact information appears in lieu of the actual document.

To learn more about the Administrative Record File, click here: [Environmental Restoration Program Home](#)

The AR for the Vieques Environmental Restoration and Munitions Response Programs (ERP and MRP) is available locally on a computer at the Electronic Library located at Calle Benitez Guzman, Esquina Baldorioty de Castro in Isabel Segunda, Vieques. The library is open 10 AM to 6 PM Monday-Friday.

For additional information, to review documents, make comments or express concerns please contact:

NAVFAC Atlantic
Public Affairs Office
6506 Hampton Blvd
Norfolk, VA 23508-1278
(757) 322-8005

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  WELCOME TO: **Former Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Area - Vieques** 

Additional web pages of interest are listed below.

DENIX – DoD Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Network and Information Exchange
<http://www.denix.osd.mil/luxp/>

U.S. EPA Vieques Information
<http://www.epa.gov/region2/Vieques/>

U.S Fish and Wildlife Service – Vieques National Wildlife Refuge
<http://www.fws.gov/caribbean/Refuges/Vieques/>

Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board
<http://www.jca.gobierno.pr/>

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UXO 16 (offshore)

Vieques Restoration
Advisory Board Meeting
February 12, 2014



EdgeTech

4200-10

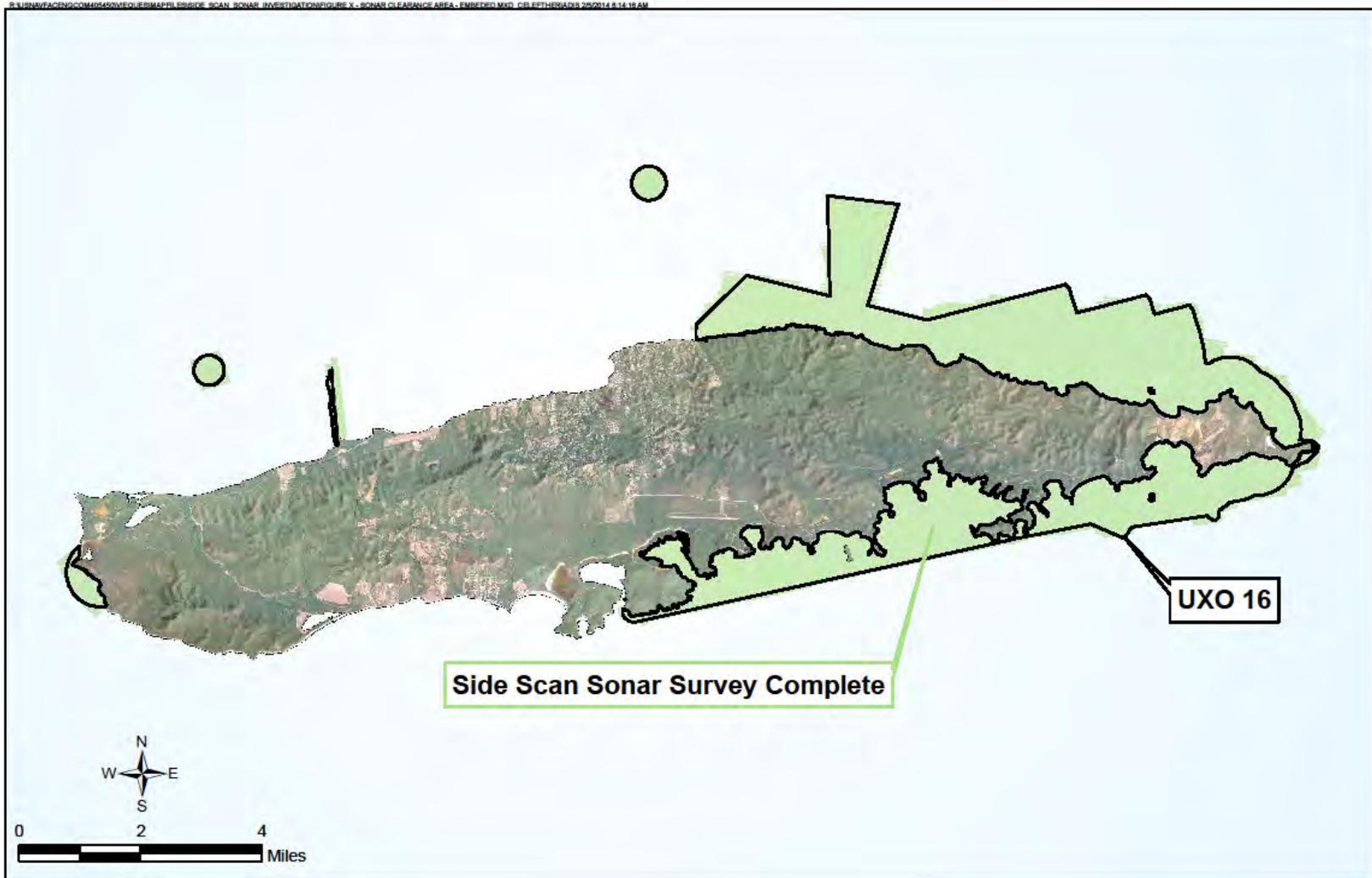




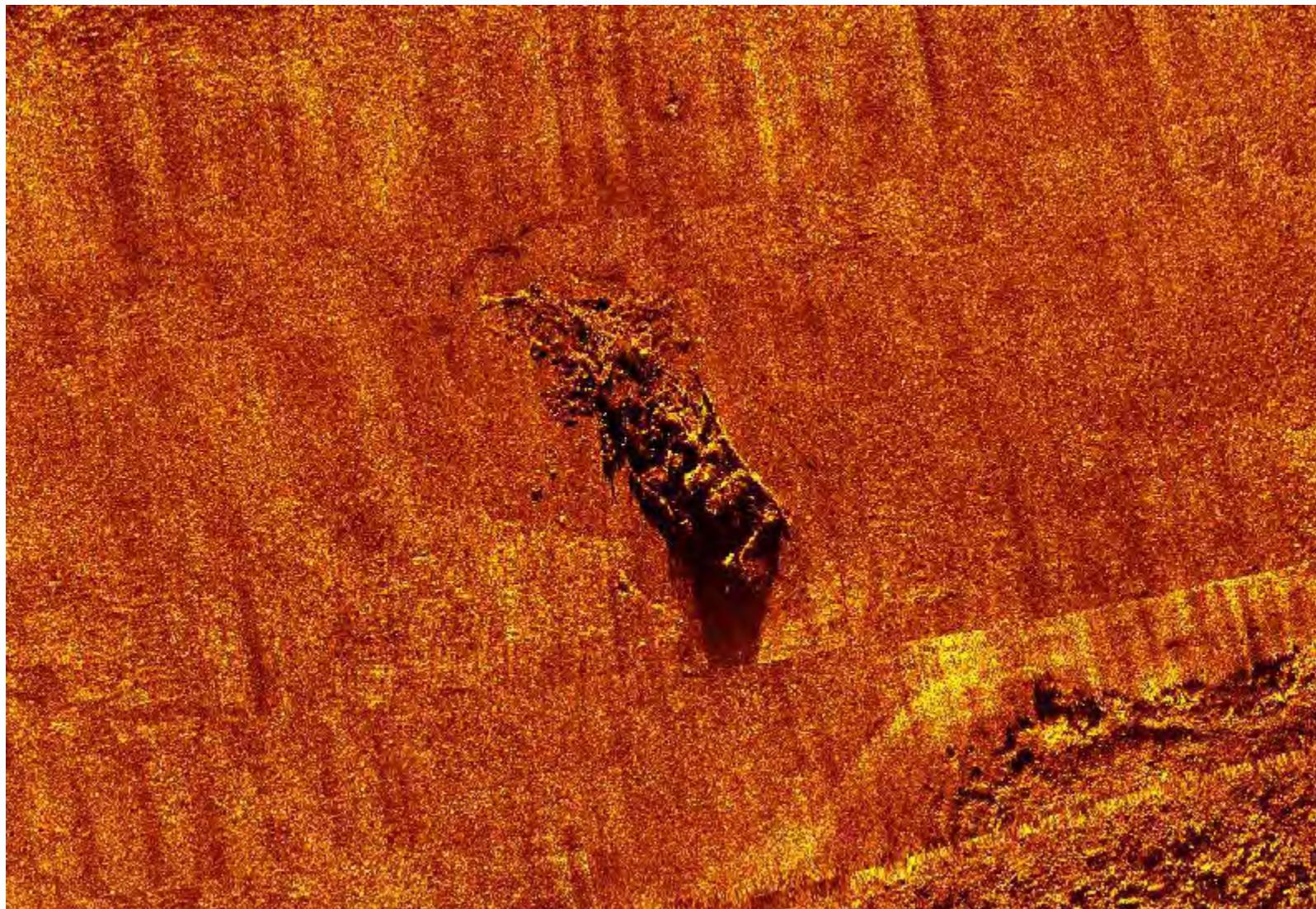




Side Scan Sonar Area



Side Scan Sonar Image - Killen



Tentative Schedule



• 2014

- **Complete side-scan sonar (completed in January)**
- **Compile and evaluate the side-scan sonar data (Jan. - March)**
 - Sea floor physical conditions (topography, obstructions, reefs)
 - Helps ensure bottom features, such as coral reefs, are protected during the wide area assessment
- **Prepare wide area assessment work plan (April - July)**
 - Factoring in the information gathered from the bathymetry and side-scan sonar to develop the approach to identify munitions and potential munitions on and beneath the sea floor

• 2015

- **Wide area assessment field work (Feb/March)**
 - Will utilize equipment such as ground-penetrating radar and cameras