

Vieques Clean up News!

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<http://public.lantops-ir.org/sites/public/vieques>

February 2012

Fish and Crab Sampling at SWMU 6

In January 2012, the Navy collected samples of fish and crabs from the small lagoon at SWMU 6 and from nearby Laguna Arenas, both on west Vieques. SWMU 6 is a former waste disposal site, on the ocean side of Hwy 200 near Laguna Kiani Bridge. The waste was removed in 2008-2009, creating the small lagoon.

The team captured snook, mullet, and blue crabs from each lagoon and sent them to a chemistry laboratory. The laboratory is analyzing them to determine if contaminants from the past disposal are found in the fish and crab tissues.

The analysis results from fish and crabs in SWMU 6 will be compared to the results from Laguna Arenas, which was not a disposal site. The SWMU 6 results will be used to estimate the potential risk to people who might eat fish and crabs from SWMU 6.

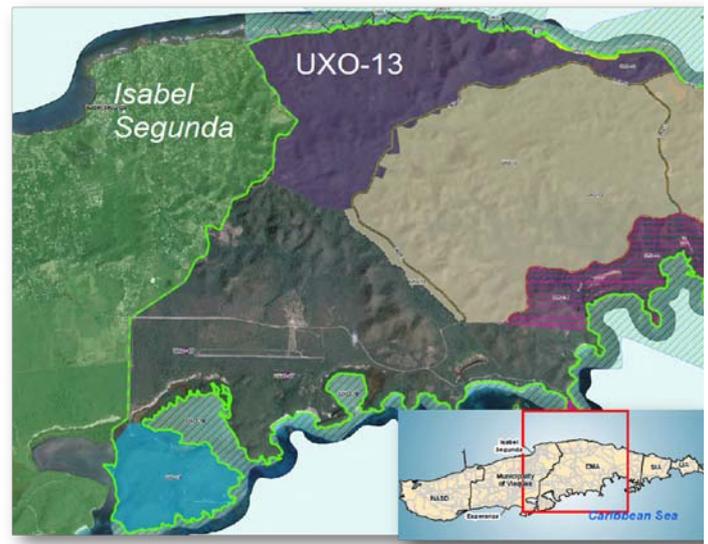
This will be an important piece of information for deciding whether additional remedial action is needed at SWMU 6 to protect public health.

The Navy's sampling was overseen by representatives from U.S. EPA (Daniel Rodríguez), Puerto Rico EQB (Wilmarie Rivera), NOAA (Diane Wehner), and U.S. FWS (Félix López).



Munitions Removal Planned in UXO-13

UXO-13 is located in the northwestern portion of the former Vieques Naval Training Range, to the east of Isabel II.



Munitions will be removed from areas within UXO-13 to reduce the public safety hazards associated with unexploded ordnance.

Vegetation will be removed using hand tools. If munitions are found, they will be eliminated.

RAB Meeting - March 13 6:00 to 9:00 PM Lighthouse in Isabel II

Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) members meet with representatives from U.S. and Puerto Rico regulatory agencies and the Navy several times a year.

At this meeting, we will discuss the ongoing investigation and cleanup of environmental and munitions sites.

Members of the public are always welcome at RAB meetings. We hope you can join us!

Play it safe! Visiting beaches in the restricted areas, or anchoring boats in waters surrounding the restricted areas, is **dangerous**. Munitions may still be in these areas. If you find a suspicious item on public or private property (outside from the FWS Refuge), please call the Police at 787-741-2020.