



Vieques Cleanup News!

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

The removal of munitions from the surface of the former Navy Range continues

- As of July 17, 2009, 1,254 acres in the Live Impact Area, Eastern Conservation Area, and Surface Impact Area have been surface cleared.
- These areas are not open to the public.
- More than 19,000 live munitions have been removed.
- Approximately 7,100 tons of munitions debris (MD) and range-related debris (RRD) have been recovered and are being processed for eventual shipment to a recycler.
- More than 4,500 tons of MD and RRD have been shipped off the island to be recycled.

RAB meeting – August 11, 2009

Vieques Lighthouse 6:00 to 9:00 PM

NAVFAC Atlantic invites interested members of the public to participate in the next Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting. The meeting will be held at the Lighthouse from 6:00 to 9:00 PM. We will discuss the progress of the environmental cleanup and the munitions response activities on Vieques.



The public is always welcome.

We hope to see you there!

The removal of subsurface munitions and explosives of concern has begun for selected roads and beaches

NAVFAC is beginning subsurface removal activities at the Bahia Icacos beach. The subsurface removal begins with a survey of the area. Technicians use instruments that identify metal below the surface. These pieces of metal, called anomalies, may be munitions and explosives of concern (MEC). The survey phase of the removal for this beach is finished. The next step is excavation of anomalies to determine if they are MEC or just harmless pieces of metal.



NAVFAC identified more than 6,000 anomalies on Bahia Icacos. To date we have excavated 1,465 anomalies and recovered 115 MEC, or items suspected of being MEC, from the Bahia Icacos beach area. We think it will take several months to complete the removal at this beach alone.

Bahia Icacos is still an unsafe place to visit.

As many of you know, despite our warnings about the danger of trespassing on restricted beaches, many boaters expose themselves to danger when visiting Bahia Icacos and other beaches that pose a risk. When boaters enter this area, NAVFAC teams performing the removal must stop work to ensure everyone's safety, which delays the cleanup process.