



Vieques Cleanup News!

For more information, please contact:

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

Munitions Removal Update



The primary objective of the time-critical removal action is to reduce the explosive risk to trespassers and the public, reduce the risk to workers, and to support future land management activities. The Navy and contract workers, including many *viequenses* who have received munitions

training, are working hard to achieve this goal.

As of October 10, 2008, 821 acres have been surface cleared in the Live Impact Area and Eastern Conservation Area. These are the types and numbers of items located that required detonation or explosive venting for safety:

- Live Bombs – 494
- Inert Bombs – 4,851
- Live Projectiles /Mortars – 5,116
- Inert Projectiles /Mortars -4,074
- Live Rockets - 375
- Inert Rockets - 251
- Flares-Pyrotechnics – 389
- 23,744 live or inert munitions have been removed, including 8,244 ICMS, also known as sub-munitions or cluster bombs

Trespassing is dangerous!



These boats are located in restricted areas. For your own safety, please stay away from these areas and observe the warning signs that have been installed.

When you anchor in restricted areas, you are putting your family and friends at risk!

An aerial magnetometer survey will be conducted.

As part of the Expanded Range Assessment, approximately 15,200 acres within the former Navy lands will be surveyed using survey airborne magnetometer technology. This technology will help us identify areas containing a high density of metallic objects, which could be munitions, above or under the surface of the ground.

The information will be used, along with other data collected during previous investigations, to help in prioritizing sites for munitions removal. This survey will take approximately 3 months to complete and is expected to start in November or December 2008.

The survey is conducted from a helicopter, which will be flying at very low altitudes to be able to detect the metallic anomalies.



People living in close proximity to the Vieques Wildlife Refuge should not be alarmed.

Public Comment Period Underway for Draft Final Site Management Plan

The Site Management Plan describes the environmental and munitions sites that currently have been identified on the former Naval facilities on Vieques Island and summarizes the response actions and documents that are planned during Fiscal Years 2008-2009. The Site Management Plan also provides the anticipated schedules for response actions that have been agreed to by the Navy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board, and U.S. Department of the Interior. From October 14 to November 15, 2008, community members can comment on the Draft Final Site Management Plan (SMP). The document is available in:

Biblioteca Electrónica,
Calle Carlos LeBrum #449, Isabel Segunda, Vieques
Phone: 787-741-2114

From 8:00 am to 4:00 pm – Monday through Friday
or by accessing NAVFAC website

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