



Vieques Cleanup News!

For more information, please contact:

Madeline Rivera, NAVFAC ATLANTIC, Vieques Site Manager (787) 741-4792
Daniel Hood, NAVFAC ATLANTIC, Remedial Project Manager (757) 322-4630

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

Controlled burns provide the safest and most effective alternative to continue with the removal of dangerous submunitions on East Vieques

On February 14, 2007 the Navy requested a waiver to be allowed to perform prescribed (controlled) burning of vegetation for munitions removal activities on Vieques Island. Along with this request, the Navy submitted draft versions of the work plan (*Prescribed Burn Plan*), an air monitoring plan for the variance, and an air dispersion model for the activities to be conducted.

The Environmental Quality Board invites the community to attend a public hearing on this topic. The hearing will be held on Vieques on September 24 at the Multiple Use Center in Isabel Segunda at 6:00 PM.

Public Comment Period for EE/CA ends on September 30, 2008

The Navy invites public comment on the Draft Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) Report for the surface removal of munitions within the former Surface Impact Area on Vieques, Puerto Rico. The Navy is proposing to remove munitions and explosives of concern, which may include unexploded ordnance, that are found on the surface of the land within the former Surface Impact Area

The public comment period will be open from September 1, 2008 through September 30, 2008. The document is available from:

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>

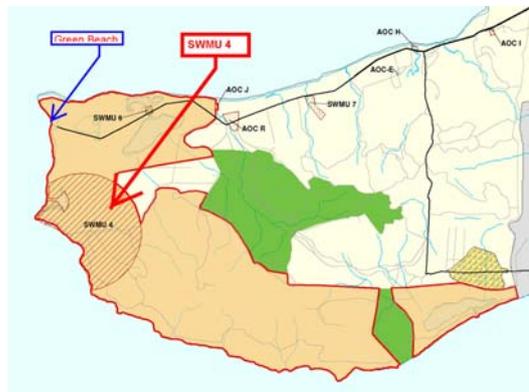
Munitions Removal Update

As of September 1, 2008:

- 800 acres in the LIA and ECA have been surface cleared.
- Over 14,000 live munitions removed.
- All beaches (65 acres) have previously been surface cleared.
- Approximately 5,000 tons of munitions debris (MD) and range related debris (RRD) has been recovered and is being processed for eventual shipment to a recycler.
- Over 1,700 tons of MD and RRD have been shipped off island to be recycled.

The primary objective of the removal is to reduce the risk to trespassers and the public, reduce the risk to workers, and to support future land management activities.

Access to SWMU 4 (near by Boca Quebrada), located on West Vieques, is restricted due to the presence of munitions and explosives of concern



Only Navy authorized personnel should access this area. Previously installed fence, gates, and signs were damaged/removed from the site by trespassers. The area is managed by Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) as part of the

Vieques National. For your own safety, please obey the signs and stay away from this area. An engineering evaluation/cost analysis for removal of MEC from the roads and beaches in this area has been finalized (February 2008) and the work plan is currently being reviewed by the Vieques RAB.

Next RAB meeting

October 9, 2008 - Lighthouse

The next Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting will be held on Vieques on October 9 at the Lighthouse from 6:00 to 9:00 PM. Remember all RAB meetings are open to the public.

If you are interested in becoming a RAB member and participating with the agencies and other members of the public in discussions about the Vieques clean up, please contact the Navy Site Manager, Madeline Rivera (787) 741-4792.