



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND
ATLANTIC
6506 HAMPTON BLVD
NORFOLK VA 23508-1278

9/9/05-02444

TELEPHONE NO:

IN REPLY REFER TO:

September 09, 2005

District Commander
Lieutenant Juan Ortiz
Vieques Police Station
PR Road 200
Vieques, PR 00765

**SUBJECT: PROTOCOL FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE
(UXO, MUNITIONS AND RELATED ITEMS FOUNDS ON FEDERAL LANDS**

Dear Lieutenant Ortiz:

As discussed in a telephone conversation with Mrs. Madeline Rivera of the US Navy, we are herein providing you with a protocol to be used by your dispatcher when receiving calls identifying UXO or munitions findings in federal lands.

Along with the protocol, there is a form to be completed by the dispatcher receiving the call to document information pertaining to the finding. The information collected on this form will assist the US Navy Explosive Representative locate the reported items and the type of respond needed.

There is also a map identifying the federal lands, now under the jurisdiction of Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and known as the Vieques National Wildlife Refuge, and the restricted areas within the federal lands. The map shall be posted near the dispatcher station to be used to identify the location of the reported item.

Mrs. Madeline Rivera will be discussing the protocol with you and assist you in its implementation. If you have any question, please contact Mrs. Rivera at (787) 865-4152 x460.

Sincerely,

Christopher T. Penny, P.E.
Eastern Vieques Project Coordinator
Environmental Programs Branch (Caribbean Section)
Environmental Division NAVFAC ATLANTIC
By direction of the Commander

Copy to:

PREQB (Mrs. Yarissa Martínez)

US EPA (Mr. Daniel Rodríguez)

NAPR (Mrs. Madeline Rivera)

DOI (Messrs. Bud Olivera, Oscar Díaz, Susan Silander, Feliz López)

NAVFAC ATLANTIC (Mr. Byron Brant, Mr. Jeffrey Harlow)

CH2MHILL (Mr. John Tomik)

**Protocol For Emergency Response to Unexploded Ordnance (UXO), Munitions and
Related Items Found On The
Vieques National Wildlife Refuge
(Federal Lands Under FWS Responsibility in Vieques)**

PURPOSE

The following protocol is to establish standard procedures to be followed by the dispatcher of the Puerto Rico Police in Vieques to screen calls and contact responsible personnel when residents or visitors of Vieques report unexploded ordnance (UXO), munitions and /or related items found in the Vieques National Wildlife Refuge.

BACKGROUND

Due to past military operations on the Island of Vieques, munitions and other ordnance related items are found in the former Vieques Naval Training Range (VNTR) on the east side of Vieques, and could also be found on the west side of the Island. The Navy is responsible for responding to emergencies related to ordnance / munitions on federal lands under the jurisdiction of FWS.

Proper response procedures to safeguard people who may encounter these items are necessary to avoid confusion and miscommunication among all the agencies that are involved in emergency response and the clean up of Vieques.

PROCEDURE (FOR FEDERAL LANDS ONLY)

1. Any person who encounters unexploded ordnance or any munitions in areas that are open to the public on the Vieques National Wildlife Refuge shall call the Puerto Rico Police dispatcher in Vieques to report the finding. The number to call is: (787) 741-2020 or (787) 741-2121.
 - a. A person could also call 9-1-1, and identify to the 9-1-1 dispatcher the reason for the call and location. The 9-1-1 dispatcher, once informed that the emergency is in Vieques, will forward the call to Vieques Police dispatcher, who in turn will follow the procedure outlined here.
2. Once the call is received and it is determined that ordnance or munitions are involved, the Vieques Police dispatcher will ask the following questions and record the responses on the attached *Record of Call Reporting a Munitions Finding*.
 - a. Name of caller and phone number (optional)
 - b. Where are you located?
 - c. Where did you find the item? (Try to get as much information as possible about the location to pass to the Explosive Representative who will respond to the finding.)
 - d. What does the item look like?

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3. The Police dispatcher will determine if the item reported is located **within federal lands under jurisdiction of FWS** and immediately call the personnel listed below. A map identifying federal lands is provided with this protocol to assist dispatcher to identify the location of reported items.

Mr. Carlton Finley, Navy UXO Representative- (787)-509-3071

Alternate: Christopher T. Penny, P.E., Navy Project Manager

(757) 322-4815) during work hours

(After work hours-- (757) 481-2055

Mr. Oscar Diaz, FWS Vieques Refuge Manager

(787)-741- 0659 or (787)-741-2138 during work hours

After working hours - (787) 504-5935)

- a. If the caller states that the item is found in any of the restricted areas in the VNTR (East) or Vieques West, and / or this can be confirmed by the dispatcher by consulting the map, the dispatcher shall advise the caller that he/she is in a restricted area not open to public and should leave immediately.
4. After receiving all information pertaining to the call:
- i. The UXO Representative will determine the type of response needed depending on the location of the item (area open to the public or restricted areas.)
 - ii. UXO Representative is responsible for contacting additional personnel to investigate and to secure the location, if needed.

PROCEDURE (OUTSIDE FEDERAL LANDS)

1. If the item is located outside of federal lands (private property, municipality of Vieques lands, Puerto Rico Conservation Trust, etc.), the Police dispatcher will follow their internal procedure.
- a. The Puerto Rico Police, through their Bomb Squad, is responsible for responding to findings of UXO /munitions when items are found on non federal lands (private or public).

Protocol For Emergency Response to Unexploded Ordnance (UXO), Munitions and
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Record of Call Reporting a Munitions Finding

Date call is received _____ Time call is received _____

Dispatcher 's name _____

Name of caller _____ Phone Number _____

(Optional, in case we need more information)

Note: Inform the caller not to approach or disturb the item

Where are you located? _____

(If person is currently inside a restricted area, advice him/her to leave the area immediately)

Where did you find the item? _____

Location of Item now _____

Without approaching the item, what does the item look like?

Without approaching the item, are there any markings visible

Additional information

Dispatcher's Action:

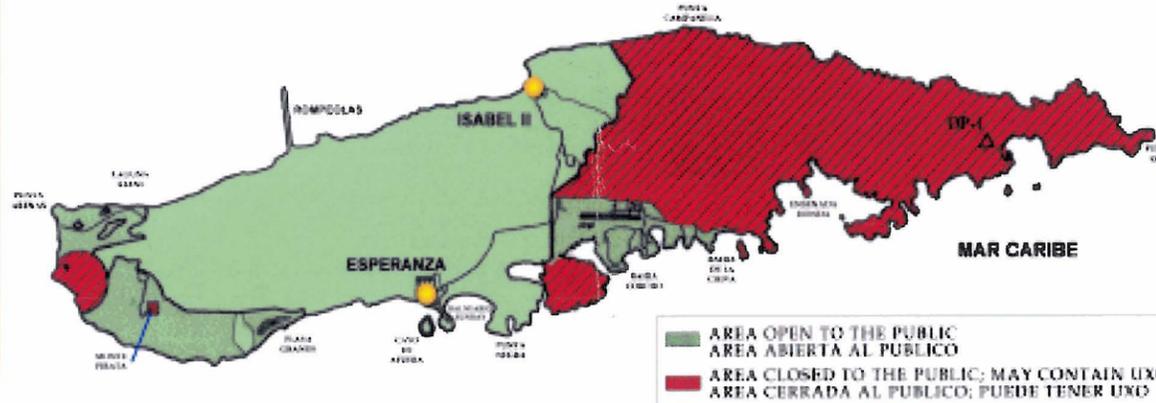
1. Check on map the location of item. If item is located in federal lands (FWS National Wildlife Refuge) call:
 - a. Mr. Carlton Finley, Navy UXO Change Representative- (787)-509-3071
Alternate: Christopher T. Penny, P.E. , Navy Project Manager
(757) 322-4815) during work hours
After work hours- (757) 481-2055
 - b. Mr. Oscar Diaz, FWS Vieques Refuge Manager
(787)-741- 0659 or (787)-741-2138
After work hours - (787) 504-5935
2. If item is located outside federal lands, follow police internal procedures.

Restricted Areas Within the Vieques National Wildlife Refuge

DANGER
DANGER
DANGER
DANGER
DANGER
DANGER

FOR YOUR SAFETY...
POR SU SEGURIDAD...

PELIGRO
PELIGRO
PELIGRO
PELIGRO
PELIGRO
PELIGRO



WHAT IS UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE (UXO)?

- Ammunition that was fired but didn't explode
- Ammunition that could explode

¿QUE ES UN EXPLOSIVO SIN DETONAR?

- Municiones que fueron disparadas pero no detonaron
- Municiones que pueden detonar