

FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITE

March 2024

# REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is a Remedial Investigation?

A Remedial Investigation is an in-depth study designed to gather data for use in determining the nature and extent of contamination at the Area 101 Formerly Used Defense Site, or FUDS.

The primary objective of the Remedial Investigation is to determine the nature and extent of *munitions* and explosives of concern, or MEC, and munitions constituents, or MC, with respect to Area 101, Yigo, Guam, and to assess the potential hazards posed to human health and the environment by MEC and/or MC (if present).

The Remedial Investigation creates the basis to establish site cleanup criteria, preliminary alternatives for remedial action, and supports the technical and cost analyses of alternatives should they be necessary.



(Area 101 is denoted by the green border.)

#### Why does Area 101 need a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study?

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has concluded that a Remedial Investigation is necessary based on the findings of MEC and MC at the site during previous Site Inspections at the Area 101 FUDS location.

In 2008, the Corps conducted a Site Inspection of more than 540 acres in the Area 101 FUDS location to address sites that potentially contained MEC and MC. The Site Inspection concluded that specific MC were present at the site above relative background levels and a Remedial Investigation was necessary to address MEC and MC at Area 101 based on findings of MEC and munitions debris at the site.

In June 2021, USACE personnel conducted another property visit to assess the conditions in a different portion of the FUDS area. They found munitions debris scattered along the Anao Cliffs Trail, especially in the immediate vicinity of the former AGF bomb disposal range pit. The identified munitions debris included munition debris from high explosive frag from unidentified artillery rounds and 5-inch projectile base fuses.

The Feasibility Study is the mechanism for development, screening and detailed evaluation of alternative remedial actions. The Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study are conducted concurrently. The data collected in the Remedial Study influences the development of remedial alternatives in the Feasibility Study.

#### What's required to perform this study on my property?

USACE needs a signed Right of Entry, or ROE, to investigate your property. This is the legal document that gives USACE permission to enter your property to investigate for the presence of munitions. Signing the ROE enables USACE to investigate your property in a methodical fashion and fulfill its mission to protect human health and the environment. A property cannot be investigated or remediated (cleaned) without a signed ROE.

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## How do I get my property investigated?

Property owners will typically receive requests for ROEs several months before USACE visits their property. Upon completion and return of the ROE documents to USACE, we will notify you by email, letter/postcard and/or phone call at least two weeks before entering your property to provide updates and schedule our visit.

#### How will my land be investigated?

A small crew of workers will walk through your property to perform a surface scan with a handheld metal detector. The crew will mark the sampling area with small flags if soil samples are needed. USACE makes every effort to work with the landowner so there is as little disruption as possible. When the crew is finished working on your property, they will leave a tag with the date and time of the visit on the front door. A phone number to call with questions or concerns will be on the tag.

## When will the results of my property's investigation be available?

The process to develop a Remedial Investigation report takes about a year and a half to complete. At that point, USACE will host an in-person meeting to review and discuss the project and its findings. The final document will be available at the Flores Library in Hagatna and the Robert F. Kennedy Library at the University of Guam.

## Do I have to be home to allow access to my property?

If the work to be performed is in an easily accessible area or prior arrangements are made, it would not be necessary for the property owner to be present.

#### What happens next?

USACE will hold a public meeting to explain the work that will be conducted, how it will be done and what you can expect. This will be an opportunity to meet the USACE team.

## Is my property safe?

Safety is our number one priority, so even if you haven't yet signed your ROE, please keep in mind the 3Rs of Explosives Safety — Recognize, Retreat and Report.

#### Whom should I call with questions?

Please contact the Area 101 Project Team with any questions or concerns about Area 101 or your property. We may be reached at: FUDS AREA-101@usace.army.mil.

### More about FUDS

The DoD is responsible for the environmental restoration (cleanup) of properties that were formerly owned by, leased to or otherwise possessed by the U.S. and under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Defense prior to October 1986. Such properties are known as Formerly Used Defense Sites, or FUDS. The U.S. Army is the DoD's lead agent for the FUDS Program.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers executes the FUDS Program on behalf of the U.S. Army and DoD. The U.S. Army and DoD are dedicated to protecting human health and the environment by investigating and, if required, cleaning up potential contamination including munitions that may remain on these properties from past DoD activities.



**RECOGNIZE:** When you may have encountered a munition and that munitions are dangerous. Munitions can come in many shapes and sizes. They can be rusty or look like new. They can be out in the open, hidden in bushes, or partially buried.

RETREAT: Do not approach, touch, move, or disturb the item, carefully leave the area.

**REPORT:** Call 911 and advise the police of what you saw and where you saw it. (Version: 02.29.2024)