



FACT SHEET

Military Munitions Response Program

Former Camp George West Artillery Range

Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study

Lakewood, Colorado

Site Use

In support of the United States' military readiness for World War II, Camp George West was used for military training from approximately 1912 to the late 1930s. During that time, the Army National Guard leased portions of Green Mountain from the William F. Hayden family for artillery training and used 75-millimeter (mm) high explosive and shrapnel projectiles. Today, the land is owned by the City of Lakewood and lies within the William F. Hayden Park on Green Mountain, a popular destination for recreational hikers and bikers.



Left: The Park includes multi-use trails with scenic views.
 Right: Munitions debris recovered from the northern slopes of Green Mountain.

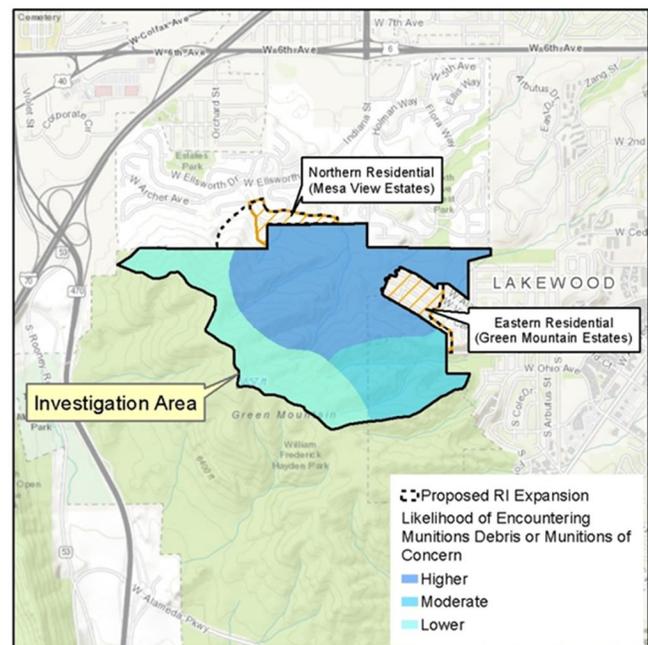
Results of Recently Conducted Investigation

The Site is being investigated as part of the Department of Defense Military Munitions Response Program. Under this program, various studies and investigations have been conducted on the north slopes of Green Mountain since 2010. Findings include munitions and explosives of concern and munitions debris identified as being from 75-mm high explosive and shrapnel projectiles. As of late November 2015, the investigations recovered 12 unexploded ordnance items from approximately 2 to 16 inches below the ground surface. All of these recovered items were subsequently destroyed by specialized unexploded ordnance technicians. In addition, munitions debris (i.e., inert remnants of historically detonated 75-mm projectiles) has also been recovered. Based on these findings, the Army National Guard determined that field work should continue under the Remedial Investigation phase.

The studies and field work that have been conducted so far follow the steps required under the Military Munitions Response Program which reflects the discovery, investigation and cleanup requirements of the federal law administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, called the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986. You may learn more about these two response programs at <http://www.asaie.army.mil/Public/ESOH/mmrp.html> and <http://www.epa.gov/superfund>

The Former Camp George West Artillery Range under investigation is NOT a Superfund site, but the Army follows the

same guidelines for investigation and cleanup to ensure that the careful and thorough study of conditions result in protection of the surrounding community and the environment. For this reason, the Army National Guard in consultation with the State of Colorado and the Environmental Protection Agency will expand the study area. While the likelihood of finding additional munitions items is very low, since munitions debris has been found in the vicinity of residential areas, officials are choosing to use an abundance of caution.



Above: A map showing the current study area with the proposed extent of the expansion to include portions of the communities to the north and east.

Right of Entry Sought

Expanding the study area due to the findings in 2015, has led to the inclusion of portions of nearby neighborhoods to the north and east of Hayden Park on Green Mountain. To investigate these areas, the Army National Guard will need the cooperation of residents in those portions of the communities shown in light brown, and outlined in black, in the map above. The Guard is seeking permission to access private properties when the investigation continues during the Spring and Summer of 2016. Permissions are obtained through a signed document known as a Right of Entry (ROE). An ROE is a legal document that gives the Army Corps of Engineers (on behalf of the Guard) access to conduct an investigation on privately-owned property. Work cannot begin until a property owner signs an ROE. Participation is strictly voluntary; it is the property owner's decision whether or not to sign a ROE. However, if the ROE is not signed, it will not be possible to determine if there are any military munitions present on the property. Whether or not a ROE is signed, we ask that

residents follow the three R's of munitions safety—Recognize, Retreat, Report.

Be Aware of the Three R's

Discovery of unexploded items within the previous study area indicates a probability that additional unexploded items could be present in the area, reinforcing the importance of expanding the study area. Raising the public awareness of the potential dangers of unexploded items is among the highest priorities of the Army National Guard. If suspected munitions are ever encountered, the three (3) R's should be followed.



- Recognize:** Recognize when you may have encountered a munition item.
- Retreat:** Do not touch, move or disturb it, but carefully leave the area the way you entered.
- Report:** Call 911! Immediately notify local law enforcement of what you saw and where you saw it.

What Does an Unexploded Item Look Like?

Examples of what have been encountered during the recent investigations are shown in the photos on this page. The Army National Guard is working diligently to better understand the nature and extent of the munitions present within the study area and determine what risks remain.



Left: Munitions debris recovered in 2015 during investigation of the north slopes of Green Mountain. These remnants are typically nothing more than scrap metal, but it is an indicator of activity that could also have left unexploded items behind.

Right: Unexploded items that are remnants of historic artillery range use can pose a significant hazard. When these are encountered, practice the three R's and call 911.

Munitions that were used at the Former Artillery Range at Camp George West are made of metal, and are approximately 10 inches long and 3 inches wide. Because these items were fired so long ago, and soil movement associated with construction of the neighborhood was significant, the likelihood of encountering items that would present any danger is very

low. However, since munitions items have been found during recent investigations, an abundance of caution must be used.

What to Expect If an Investigation is Conducted on Your Property

Details will vary depending on the size of your yard and the amount of unpaved/uncovered area that is accessible to investigators. Additionally, "interferences" such as buried utilities or construction debris can slow down their work. However, it is expected that a typical yard might take about half a day to investigate.

Once the investigation is completed and if nothing is found, they can move on to another property that has a signed ROE. If material is found that warrants a closer look, the investigators will dig up the metal piece that they are interested in learning more about. In most cases they will remove it and replace the patch of grass that was disturbed. If an item that needs to be detonated in place is found, they will need to spend more time and take additional steps.

Neighbors may have observed the detonation of several items on Green Mountain during the Fall of 2015. This is unlikely in the neighborhood areas, but possible, and details of responsibilities and liabilities associated with this activity are included in the ROE document. It is important that homes are vacated during the investigations. However unlikely it may be, if an item is found that needs to be detonated, regulations require that certain distances be cleared for this to occur.



Example of the type of investigation that could occur in the yards of nearby residents.

Contacts for More Information

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Additional Information

<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/camp-george-west-green-mountain>

Information Repository: Belmar Library: 555 S. Allison Pkwy, Lakewood, CO 80226