Upcoming Events:

Mar 1, 2013  USACE M2S2 Webinar – Hazard Assessment  On Line Training  
http://www.clu-in.org/live/default.cfm

Mar 5-6, 2013  NAOC Capitol Hill Fly-In & Spring Meeting  Washington, DC  
http://www.naoc.org/default.aspx

http://www.clu-in.org/live/default.cfm

Apr 22, 2013  USACE M2S2 Webinar – Technology  On Line Training  
http://www.clu-in.org/live/default.cfm

Apr 23, 2013  ITRC Green & Sustainable Remediation  On Line Training  
http://www.itrcweb.org/Training

May 7&9, 2013  ITRC Incremental Sampling Methodology  On Line Training  
http://www.itrcweb.org/Training

May 21-24, 2013  SAME Joint Engineer Training Conference  San Diego, CA  
with session on Munitions Response and Remediation  
http://s3.goeshow.com/same/JETC/2013/

May 30, 2013  USACE M2S2 Webinar – Non-CERCLA  On Line Training  
http://www.clu-in.org/live/default.cfm

Jun 10-13, 2013  E2S2 Symposium and Exhibition  New Orleans, LA  
http://e2s2.ndia.org/Pages/Default.aspx

Range Sustainment News:

ARMY INVITES PUBLIC TO REVIEW RANGE MODERNIZATION PLANNING DOCS  
The Army announces the availability of the Programmatic Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of  
No Significant Impact for Modernizing and Operating Training Ranges on Previous or Existing Range Sites on  
Army Training Areas and invites the public to provide comments. The Army needs to modernize many of its  
training ranges to meet future wartime requirements and to provide facilities better aligned to changes in training,  
doctrine and weapons systems. To streamline the documentation process, a programmatic environmental assessment  
has been prepared to analyze the effects of constructing a variety of types of ranges that would disturb less than 40  
acres of military grounds that currently or previously have been used as a military training range. For the entire new  
release, see  
http://www.army.mil/article/92428/Army_invites_public_to_review_range_modernization_planning_documents/  
[by Cathy Kropp, U.S. Army Environmental Command, December 11, 2012]
REPORT WARNS OF HIGH LEAD RISK FOR MILITARY FIRING RANGE WORKERS

A report released Monday afternoon has found “overwhelming evidence” that 30-year-old federal standards governing lead exposure at Department of Defense firing ranges and other sites are inadequately to protect workers from ailments associated with high blood lead levels, including problems with the nervous system, kidney, heart and reproductive system. The report, issued by the National Research Council, recommends that the Pentagon review its guidelines and practices protecting workers from lead exposure on firing ranges, including lowering acceptable blood lead levels “to more stringent levels” that reduce the risk of adverse health effects. For the entire article, see [http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/federal-eye/wp/2012/12/03/new-report-warns-of-high-lead-risk-for-military-firing-range-workers/][by Steve Vogel, Washington Post (DC), December 3, 2012] [See also References for Additional Reading]

BLAME THE PENTAGON

The nation’s biggest polluter isn’t a corporation. It’s the Pentagon. Every year the Department of Defense churns out more than 750,000 tons of hazardous waste - more than the top three chemical companies combined. Yet the military remains largely exempt from compliance with most federal and state environmental laws, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Pentagon’s partner in crime, is working hard to keep it that way. For the past five decades the federal government, defense contractors and the chemical industry have joined forces to block public health protections against perchlorate, a component of rocket fuel that has been shown to effect children’s growth and mental progress by disrupting the function of the thyroid gland which regulates brain development. For the entire article, see [http://www.counterpunch.org/2013/02/15/the-u-s-has-a-grossly-corrupted-health-protection-system/][by Jeffrey St. Clair and Joshua Frank, Counterpunch, February 15-17, 2013]

REMOTELY CONTROLLED FLAIL ASSISTS COUNTER-IED, DEMINING MISSIONS

The US Army has been using the M160 remotely controlled flail robot built by the Croatian company DOK-ING in Afghanistan for route clearance missions. The Croatian built MV4 remotely controlled tracked mine clearance system has already demonstrated its ability to battle improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and Un-Exploded Ordnance (UXO) in Afghanistan and other war zones like Iraq, Nicaragua and Sri Lanka. By using the new robot, soldiers can clear routes without putting themselves in danger. Fielding of the M160 MV4 has been a priority of C-IED specialized ‘Task Force Rampant’ for some time now, said Command Sgt. Maj. Leonard Meeks of TF Rampant. The task force is engaged in developing and implementing techniques, tactics and procedures utilizing new technologies and capabilities for route clearing, combating IEDs in Afghanistan. For the entire article, see [http://defense-update.com/20130101_remotely-controlled-flail-assists-counter-ied-demining-missions.html][Defense-Update.com, January 1, 2013]

Site Specific News:

NAVY EXPANSION COULD HALT KING OF THE HAMMERS EVENT

Less than a week after the King of the Hammers off-road race in Johnson Valley, the U.S. Navy on Wednesday issued its decision on a proposed expansion of the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center in Twentynine Palms that could put a brake to the popular event as well as all off-roading in the high desert. The official record of decision, which Marine officials said will be available online today, endorses a plan that would give the Corps more than half the 188,000 acres of public off-roading area located about 20 miles north of Yucca Valley. Bumping up on the western boundary of the base, the land is now under the protection of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management. As outlined in a previous environmental impact report released in July, 108,530 acres of the valley would be permanently closed to off-roaders and used instead for training exercises involving thousands of Marines, along with tanks, helicopters and live ammunition. For the entire article, see [http://www.mydesert.com/article/20130213/BUSINESS/302130004/][by K Kaufmann, Desert Sun (CA), February 13, 2013]

TEST CENTER BRINGS WORLD-CLASS FACILITY TO REDSTONE ARSENAL

They can shake you, rattle you and roll you. And yes, they concede they are one of the reasons you hear loud booms or see plumes of smoke rising from Redstone Arsenal. Such work is essential when your job is to
provide testing for a variety of military projects, ranging from helicopters to missile systems. It's all the duty of Redstone Test Center, a low-profile but highly important operation at Redstone Arsenal. For the entire article, see http://blog.al.com/breaking/2013/01/redstone_test_center_brings_wo.html [by Leada Gore, al.com (AL), January 28, 2013]

**ARMY SEeks PUBLIC COMMENT ON PLAN FOR MAKUA STUDY**

The Army is asking the public to comment on its plans to study marine life near Makua Valley where commanders want to resume live-fire training. U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii said in a statement Tuesday the court-ordered study will determine whether military activities at Makua Military Reservation have contributed to or will contribute to the contamination of the area's marine resources. The study will examine whether proposed Army training poses a health risk to area residents who gather food from the ocean. For the entire article, see http://www.staradvertiser.com/news/breaking/188079991.html [By Associated Press, Honolulu Star-Advertiser (HI), January 23, 2013]

**PROPOSED PANTEGO WIND FARM STALLS**

The nation's largest independent wind farm developer said Friday that it has abandoned its original plans for a 49-turbine project in Eastern North Carolina. Chicago-based Invenergy's reconsideration of its proposed Pantego Wind Energy project comes after months of delays caused by risks that would be deal-breakers for just about any wind farm. The Pantego project's spinning blades pose a potential threat to bald eagles roosting and foraging in Beaufort County, and they would create a collision risk for F-15E Strike Eagle fighter jets making practice runs from nearby Seymour Johnson Air Force Base. For the entire article, see http://www.newsobserver.com/2013/01/12/2600290/proposed-pantego-wind-farm-stalls.html [By John Murawski, News and Observer (NC), January 12, 2013]

**U.S. SENATOR URGES ARMY TO CLEAN-UP LONE STAR**

A U.S. Senator is requesting the army make good on its commitment to clean-up a former ammunitions facility in East Texas. The site has been designated for redevelopment and officials say projects are being hindered by the lack of clean-up. Nearly 8,900 acres of Lone Star Army Ammunition Plant was transferred to the TexAmericas center in 2010, at least 1,100 of those prime development acres were expected to be cleaned-up by 2011. "Some of the work has been completed, but the vast majority of it has not. The property is still pretty encumbered by permit regime that makes it very difficult to sell," said Bill Cork, TexAmericas Executive Director. For the entire article, see http://www.ktbs.com/news/U-S-Senator-urges-army-to-clean-up-Lone-Star/144844/18504092/-/14igd0jz/-/index.html [by KTBS TV-3 News (TX), February 11, 2013]

**NORTON TO ARMY: MOVE FAMILY FROM DUMP**

A family that wants to leave the tony Washington, D.C., neighborhood of Spring Valley because of concerns over the area being a former dumping ground for military munitions is getting some help from Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton. The District of Columbia’s non-voting representative in the House wrote a letter today to the Army Corps of Engineers, urging it to temporarily relocate Rogerio Zandamela and his family, including two children ages 1 and 5. They live across the street from a property on Glenbrook Road, where the Army has already demolished a home and removed some of the 500 munitions, 400 pounds of laboratory glassware and 100 tons of contaminated soil found in the area, according to Norton. For the entire article, see http://go.bloomberg.com/political-capital/2013-02-21/norton-to-army-move-family-from-dump/ [by Brendan McGarry, Bloomberg, February 21, 2013]

**PROPERTY VALUE CUT ON SPRING VALLEY MUSTARD GAS THREAT**

Here’s something you don’t see every day: mustard gas as the basis for an assessment appeal. Jeffrey Stern, the owner of 4846 Glenbrook Road NW, successfully argued before the D.C. Real Property Tax Appeals Commission that buried munitions in his Spring Valley neighborhood have cut into the value of his home, according to a decision released this week. It’s hard to disagree. For the entire article, see http://www.bizjournals.com/washington/breaking_ground/2013/02/property-value-cut-on-spring-valley.html [by Michael Neibauer, Washington Business Journal (DC), February 21, 2013]
SEARCH FOR UNDETONATED WWII ROCKETS BURIED IN REID STATE PARK

There’s no immediate danger, but federal authorities may one day return to Reid State Park to search for more unexploded ordnance beneath Mile Beach. The ordnance is buried in sand and contains the remains of rockets used by Brunswick Naval Air Station flight crews during World War II exercises. In the winter of 1996-97, extensive beach erosion uncovered pieces of ordnance, none of which was deemed to pose a threat to park users. For the entire article, see [http://bangordailynews.com/2013/01/23/news/midcoast/feds-eye-search-for-undetonated-wwii-rockets-buried-in-reid-state-park-beach/](http://bangordailynews.com/2013/01/23/news/midcoast/feds-eye-search-for-undetonated-wwii-rockets-buried-in-reid-state-park-beach/) [by Larry Grard, Time Record (ME), January 23, 2013]

AIRPORT IS SITE FOR FINAL PHASE OF WWII ORDNANCE REMOVAL

An end to a nearly 20-year project to remove unexploded World War II-era military ordnance at the former Motlow Range is in sight. The Tullahoma Board of Mayor and Aldermen approved Monday to allow the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to assess and remove ordnance from Tullahoma Municipal Airport property at the west end of its main runway 6-24 which runs in a northeast to southwest direction. Karl Blankenship, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project manager, said Tuesday that he hopes the work to be done will be the final phase in an overall ordnance removal effort that has covered 7,528 acres, resulting in removing 735 unexploded 37mm-caliber anti-aircraft, anti-tank projectiles and about 3,500 pounds in debris from exploded rounds. For the entire article, see [http://www.tullahomanews.com/?p=11301](http://www.tullahomanews.com/?p=11301) [by Brian Justice, Tullahoma News (TN), January 15, 2013]

ACTIVISTS PUSH TO START MARKETING FORT ORD TO TOURISTS

The most likely access point from the city of Seaside to the newly minted Fort Ord National Monument is a dead-end road. There's no visitor center, no parking, no bathrooms - not even any signs, at least not yet. The monument on the former Army base is less than a year old, and its development depends on a munitions clean-up effort that, two decades in, still has years to go. But some activists say the city's crazy to not be marketing the heck out of what could be a tourist draw on par with Pinnacles National Monument. A Nov. 1 version of Seaside's Economic Opportunity Plan for 2013 included promotion of the monument through directional signage and improved access. But at the City Council's request, the language was revised to leave only the call for signage. For the entire article, see [http://www.montereycountyweekly.com/news/2013/jan/10/monumental-asset/](http://www.montereycountyweekly.com/news/2013/jan/10/monumental-asset/) [By Kera Abraham, Monterey County Weekly (CA), January 10, 2013]

NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED AT CAMP PEARY CLEAN-UP SITE

After two removal processes stretching over five years that extracted nearly 14,000 tons of debris, 58 tons of metal debris and 2,488 separate pieces of munitions— including two 60mm mortar shells—a small block of land at Camp Peary requires no further action, according to a government document released for public review. For the entire article, see [http://wydaily.com/2012/12/28/vdeq-navy-conclude-no-further-action-required-at-camp-peary-clean-up-site/](http://wydaily.com/2012/12/28/vdeq-navy-conclude-no-further-action-required-at-camp-peary-clean-up-site/) [By Gregory Connolly, Williamsburg Yorktown Daily (VA), December 28, 2012]

'TRUE BLOOD' TOWN IN LOUISIANA EVACUATED

Authorities have evacuated an entire town in northwest Louisiana after more than 6 million pounds of powdered explosives were found hidden at a shuttered military ammunition plant there. The load of M6 artillery powder, at Camp Minden near Doyline – which has served as the setting for some scenes in HBO’s hit vampire series “True Blood” -- is six times larger than authorities initially thought after it was first discovered on Friday. After asking some residents to leave on Friday, town officials moved to evacuate the entire town of 850 on Sunday. For the entire article, see [http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/la-town-evacuated-explosives-article-1.1212208](http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/la-town-evacuated-explosives-article-1.1212208) [by Philip Caulfield, New York Daily News, December 3, 2012]

NAVY INVESTIGATING THREAT OF OLD AMMO AT ACADEMY

In the 1800s, sailors and crowds of Annapolitans would smile and clap as shells flew across the Severn River into the Chesapeake Bay and on to firing ranges across Navy land. Now the Navy is investigating former ranges around the Naval Academy and Naval Support Activity Annapolis to find out whether gunpowder, clay targets, or ammunition debris remain in the soil and, if so, if it poses a threat to people or the environment. The Navy funded investigation could last more than 10 years and require testing in the bay and the Severn, near Bancroft Hall at the Academy, and at NSAA, including backyards where children play. Some of the firing ranges date to the late 1700s. Officials have had to determine what guns were tested and how they were used to figure out where bullets and other munitions may be found. For the entire article, see
CSB REPORT ON HONOLULU FIREWORKS DISPOSAL EXPLOSION

In a final report set to be considered today, the U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) said an explosion and fire that killed five workers during a fireworks disposal operation in Hawaii in 2011 resulted from unsafe disposal practices; insufficient safety requirements for government contractor selection and oversight; and an absence of national guidelines, standards, and regulations for fireworks disposal. The final report, scheduled for a board vote at a public meeting in Washington, DC, today, recommends that federal agencies develop a new government-wide safety and environmental responsibility requirement for contractors, and calls for new regulations on the safe disposal of fireworks, a growing problem across the U.S. For the entire release and a link to the full report, see http://www.csb.gov/newsroom/detail.aspx?nid=444 [News Release, U.S. Chemical Safety Board, January 17, 2013]

TROUBLED ASHLAND COMPANY RECEIVES NEW U.S. CONTRACT

An Ashland-based research and development firm that has been under investigation since 2010 for allegedly misusing federal funds and bribing a government official was awarded a $370,000 federal contract in September. In March, federal agents seized thousands of payroll, tax and personal finance documents, as well as digital data and other items from Sky Research Inc. and its owners, Sky and Anne Sky. Investigators are sifting through the evidence, according to motions granted Nov. 9 in U.S. District Court in Eugene by Judge Thomas Coffin. The company specializes in aerial mapping, geophysical surveys and remote sensing, and develops equipment for detecting unexploded material. Those products are put to use in decommissioned military ranges and other areas that could harbor live munitions. The new contract, awarded Sept. 18 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers office in Alexandria, Va., is for the development of aerial metallic-detection equipment. For the entire article, see http://www.mailtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20121205/NEWS/212050326 [by Sam Wheeler, Mail Tribune (OR), December 5, 2012]

References for Additional Reading:

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1) House removed at Spring Valley site – Complicated search continues, by Brittany Bangert
2) Capturing ordnance fingerprints, by James Campbell

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1) Leveraging Advance Sensor Data to Clean Up UXO
2) Biopolymers Maintain Training Berms, Prevent Contamination

Stakeholders' Forum on the Use of Geophysical Classification for Munitions Response
By Lenny Siegel, December 2012

Potential Health Risks to DoD Firing Range Personnel from Recurrent Lead Exposure
National Research Council, 2012
http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=18249#toc