

Proposed Plan for Dix Former Small Arms Range Munitions Response Site (SR002)

February 2021



For More Information

Public Meeting:
Details of the virtual public meeting will be advertised in the Burlington County Times and Pine Barrens Tribune.

For questions and comments, contact:
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OVERVIEW

The Air Force at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JBMDL) has released a Proposed Plan for the Former Small Arms Range referred to as Munitions Response Site (MRS) SR002 at the Dix area of JBMDL. The Proposed Plan summarizes previous investigations and remedial activities completed and identifies the preferred remedy for the site. Public comment is welcome during the comment period extending from February 16, 2021 to March 18, 2021. A virtual public meeting will be held by the Air Force to provide information on the Proposed Plan and solicit public comment (see sidebar for details).

LOCATION, HISTORY, AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

MRS SR002 is 6.75 acres in size and is located in the far western portion of the JBMDL Dix area, west of the water filtration plant and south of the Holly Crest housing area. MRS SR002 is currently undeveloped, open land that is partially wooded. Much of the site has reverted to native vegetation, characteristic of the Pinelands National Reserve.

The site is comprised of two former adjacent ranges, likely a pistol range (East Small Arms Range [SAR]) and a machine gun range (West SAR), each with a separate earthen berm. The ranges were likely operational between 1940 and 1957; however, the period of use may have varied between the East and West SARs.

Metals (antimony, copper, and lead) were identified in soil and groundwater at MRS SR002 during previous investigations above New Jersey Residential Direct Contact Soil Remediation Standards (NJRDCSRs) and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Ground Water Quality Standards. However, the soil with antimony copper, and lead concentrations above removal action criteria was removed from the site during a 2017 Non-Time Critical Removal Action (NTCRA). No other munitions constituents (MC) have been detected in soil or groundwater at MRS SR002 and munitions and explosives of concern (MEC) have never been identified.

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP REGULATION

In 1980, Congress enacted the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (also called CERCLA) to respond to environmental conditions that may pose a threat to human health, welfare, and the environment. The Act is administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and established a process for evaluating and restoring contaminated sites as shown below. The NJDEP has reviewed and concurred with the Proposed Plan. The Air Force, in coordination with NJDEP, will provide determination on the final remedy after public comments are reviewed.

Preliminary
AssessmentSite
InspectionRemedial
InvestigationFeasibility
StudyProposed
PlanRecord of
DecisionRemedial
DesignRemedial
ActionLong Term
Management



For More Information

JBMDL maintains an
Information Repository at:

Westampton Branch,
Burlington Co Library
5 Pioneer Boulevard
Westampton, NJ 08060

The full Administrative
Record can be found
online at:

[https://ar.afcec-
cloud.af.mil/](https://ar.afcec-cloud.af.mil/)

The Proposed Plan and
other information about
the JBMDL Environmental
Restoration Program can
be found online at:

[www.envirorestore
jbmdl.com](http://www.envirorestore
jbmdl.com)

HUMAN HEALTH AND ECOLOGICAL RISK ASSESSMENT

A human health risk assessment (HHRA) and a screening level ecological risk assessment (SLERA) were performed to determine whether MC at the site pose health risks or hazards to current or future site users. Chemicals analyzed in the HHRA and SLERA were based on previous field sampling results.

At MRS SR002, antimony in soil was selected as the only human health chemical of potential concern (COPC) during the HHRA. To evaluate potential risk to humans, maximum antimony concentrations in soil were used to calculate noncancer hazards to current and future residents, recreators, and workers. Based on the calculations, the noncancer hazards for all human receptors were below the USEPA hazard threshold. Antimony is also not a carcinogen; therefore, cancer risks were not calculated. The HHRA determined that soil at MRS SR002 does not pose a risk to human health.

Groundwater at MRS SR002 did not yield any human health COPCs during the HHRA. The maximum detected concentrations of MC in groundwater were below the lowest risk-based screening levels for human health. Therefore, based on anticipated future site uses, the HHRA determined that groundwater at MRS SR002 does not pose a risk to human health.

Antimony, copper, lead, and zinc in soil were selected as chemicals of potential ecological concern (COPECs) during the SLERA. To assess potential risk to ecological receptors, the toxicities of the COPECs to terrestrial plants, invertebrates, mammals, and birds that may be exposed to site soil were calculated. The SLERA determined that soil at MRS SR002 does not pose an unacceptable risk to ecological receptors.

Lead was selected as the only COPEC for groundwater during the SLERA because the maximum detected concentration exceeded the New Jersey Administrative Code chronic freshwater criterion. The maximum lead concentration, however, did not exceed the acute freshwater criterion and the average lead concentration did not exceed the chronic or acute criteria. Therefore, the SLERA determined that groundwater at MRS SR002 does not pose an unacceptable risk to ecological receptors.

PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

The preferred alternative for MRS SR002 is no further action since soil was remediated to the NJRDCSRs during the 2017 NTCRA, and the HHRA and SLERA determined risks and hazards are acceptable to all human and ecological receptors. The Air Force believes the site is protective of human health and the environment and suitable for unlimited use/unrestricted exposure.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The public is encouraged to review the 2007 Site Inspection Report, the 2015 Engineer Evaluation/Cost Analysis, the 2018 Removal Action Report, and the 2019 Remedial Investigation Report, along with other supporting documents, which can be assessed online at the Administrative Record website. Public oral comments are welcome at the virtual public meeting or in writing during the public comment period extending from February 16, 2021 to March 18, 2021. Comments can be emailed, faxed, or mailed to Mr. James Richman (see sidebar on Page 1). Mailed comments must be postmarked by March 18, 2021. The Air Force will keep the community informed of the final selected remedy through a newspaper notice and presentations at Restoration Advisory Board meetings. Information about Restoration Advisory Board meetings can be found on the web site at www.envirorestorejbmdl.com.