

FINAL

COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study

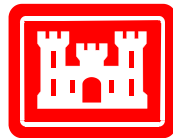
For

**Former Hammond Bombing and Gunnery Range
Tangipahoa Parish, Louisiana**

FUDS Project No. A06LA030901

June 8, 2016

Prepared for:



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Fort Worth District

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List of Acronyms

AAF	Army Airfield
AOI	Area of Interest
AR	Administrative Record
ASR	Archives Search Report
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CESWF	United States Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CRP	Community Relations Plan
DEP	Defense Environmental Programs
DERP	Defense Environmental Restoration Program
DoD	Department of Defense
FUDS	Formerly Used Defense Sites
HBGR	Hammond Bombing and Gunnery Range
HE	high explosive
IGD	Interim Guidance Document
INPR	Inventory Project Report
IR	Information Repository
LDEQ	Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
MC	munitions constituent
MEC	munitions and explosives of concern
MRS	munitions response site
RAB	Restoration Advisory Board
RI/FS	Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
SI	Site Inspection
SPD RSC	South Pacific Division Range Support Center
TPP	Technical Project Planning
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency

This document presents the Community Relations Plan (CRP) for Munitions Response Site (MRS) #1 at the Former Hammond Bombing and Gunnery Range (HBGR), Tangipahoa Parish, Louisiana. This CRP updates the previously written Public Involvement Plan (Parsons 2010).

1.1 AUTHORITY

The project is under the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Military Munitions Response Program Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) – Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) and will be executed in accordance with federal, state, and local statutes, regulations, and guidance. Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC) associated work will be consistent with the provisions of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986; the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)§300); Executive Order 12580; Chapter 29 of the CFR Section 1910.120; and USACE, Department of the Army, and Department of Defense (DoD) safety requirements regarding personnel, equipment, and procedures as they pertain to MEC, obtaining permits, and making proper notifications and contacts necessary for implementation of project tasks. CERCLA has no special provisions for dealing with explosive safety; therefore, DoD’s revised Explosives Safety Standards (DoD 6055.09-M) and the USACE Safety Manual Engineer Manuals 385-1-1, as amended, and Engineer Manual 385-1-97, will be used to address safety. In addition, all elements of the delivery order will be completed in accordance with USACE Interim Guidance Document (IGD) 06-04 for Military Munitions Response Process and IGD 14-01. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) and United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Region 6 are regulatory agencies for this project and will be asked to review and comment on several deliverables. USACE, Fort Worth District (CESWF) will seek concurrence from both LDEQ and USEPA; however, it is not required as USACE is the lead agency for all FUDS projects.

1.2 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of the CRP is to provide a framework for public involvement activities at Former HBGR. The CRP identifies community concerns relative to the Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study (RI/FS) that will evaluate potential MEC that may remain at the Bomb Target #1 MRS. The USACE will use the public involvement activities outlined in this plan to ensure community members are continuously informed about and provided opportunities to be involved in the environmental restoration process. The format of this document follows the format suggested in Engineer Pamphlet 200-3-1, Public Participation Requirements for DERP.

1.3 CRP ORGANIZATION

This CRP was developed based on a previous Public Involvement Plan developed during the Site Inspection (SI) phase of the project and published in April 2010. Additional sources of information include historical data and files and demographic research. The remainder of the CRP is organized into the following sections:

Section 2 presents an overview of the site location, history, potential hazards, FUDS activities, and the project team.

Section 3 presents a community profile, a chronology of previous public involvement activities, an overview of the key community concerns relating to the site, and a summary of communication needs as identified by the community members.

Section 4 presents the public involvement plan and the schedule for community involvement.

Section 5 presents references used to prepare this CRP.

Appendix A presents USACE project contacts.

Appendix B presents local officials and key stakeholders.

Appendix C presents federal elected officials.

Appendix D presents environmental and active citizens groups.

Appendix E presents media contacts.

Appendix F presents suggested meeting locations.

Appendix G presents the Administrative Record (AR) File and Information Repository (IR) locations.

Appendix H presents other local resources.

Appendix I presents the community interview form.

2.1 PROPERTY DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The 15,215.9-acre property formerly known as HBGR is located in Tangipahoa Parish, approximately 5 miles east of Hammond, Louisiana, north of U.S. Highway 190, east of State Highway 445, and west of State Highway 1077 (Turnpike Road). The eastern boundary of Former HBGR lies along the Tangipahoa-St. Tammany Parish line. Riverdale Heights Road and Red Bird Lane run partially through the Former HBGR. The general location and boundaries of the site are shown on **Figure 2-1**; highway and parish boundaries adjacent to HBGR are shown on **Figure 2-2**.

Several semi-developed neighborhoods are located at least partially within the Former HBGR boundary, including Willow Rivergate, Willows, Chateau Farms, Oak Hill Estates, and Louisiana Polo Farms. These subdivisions are concentrated in the northern and western portions of the site, closer to State Highway 445. Nearby unincorporated communities include Robert and Loranger.

Lake Ramsay is located approximately 3.5 miles to the east of Former HBGR (**Figure 2-2**). There are two major rivers adjacent to the property, the Tangipahoa River to the west, and the Tchefuncta River to the east. Both rivers flow southerly and empty into Lake Pontchartrain approximately 10 miles south of the property. The majority of the property drains through tributary creeks to the Tangipahoa River. Neighboring businesses include hotels, a campground, bed and breakfast inns, restaurants, and gas stations. There are four schools located within a few miles of the property, including two elementary schools, a primary school, and a high school. There is also a daycare facility and a Head Start Facility within 3 miles of the property.

2.2 PROPERTY HISTORY

2.2.1 Chronological History

The U.S. Government leased 15,215.9 acres of land from 20 different individuals and corporations in 1942 for use as a bombing and gunnery range. The site area was chosen due to its proximity to numerous training airfields and low population density. The land is located in eastern Tangipahoa Parish and historical documents note that the military used the property from August 1942 to September 1945 (USACE 2003).

In March 1943, Hammond Army Airfield (AAF) was commissioned as a sub-base of Harding AAF. Upon completion of Hammond AAF, aircraft units were transferred to the airfield temporarily for their bombing and gunnery training phase. Hammond AAF and its range complex, HBGR, was a sub-base of Harding AAF, Gulf Port AAF, Key Field, Stuttgart AAF, and Esler AAF. There are five MRSs within Former HBGR, and they encompass 6,045 acres of land. These MRSs are Bomb Target #1 MRS (see **Figure 2-2**), the Multiple Use Target MRS, Bomb Target #2 MRS, the Rifle Range MRS, and the Gunnery Range MRS.

During May 1942, Gulf Port AAF began use of Hammond AAF for high-level bombardment training (Ford 1996). Some of this training reportedly involved use of large high explosive (HE)

bombs that caused large enough explosions to rattle windows in downtown Hammond (Ford 1996).

As 1945 drew to a close, General Order No. 131, dated September 7, 1945, formally closed HBGR with an effective date of September 10, 1945. Airfield operations at the Hammond AAF were officially discontinued on September 15, 1945. HGBR personnel performed a site walkover in an attempt to remove ordnance items.

The majority of Former HBGR is currently managed as lumber production land and hunting club lands. Approximately 11,279 acres (approximately 75%) of Former HBGR was owned for many years (until May 2008) by a trust managed by the Bennett-Peters Company. The land is currently owned by a private trust. The remaining land is owned by numerous private owners that use the land for residential, commercial, and recreational purposes. As of March 2016, there were approximately 345 parcels of property within the Former HBGR FUDS boundary (Tangipahoa Parish 2016).

2.2.2 Explosives Safety Hazards

According to the Archives Search Report (ASR) Supplement (USACE 2004) (see **Section 2.3.3**) the munitions reportedly used at the site include the following:

- Bomb, 100 pound, General Purpose, AN-M30
- Bomb, 100 pound, General Purpose, MK 1
- Small arms ammunition, 0.50-caliber, machinegun
- General small arms ammunition, 0.30-caliber, machinegun
- Signal, Spotting Charge, M1A1
- Bomb, 100 pound, practice, M85
- Bomb, 100 pound, practice, M38A2
- Bomb, 3 pound, practice, AN-MK4
- Bomb, 3 pound, practice, AN-MK5
- Bomb, 3 pound, practice, AN-MK23
- Bomb, 4.5 pound, practice, AN-MK43

During the April 2002 site visit in support of the ASR (described in **Section 2.3.2**), USACE personnel examined Former HBGR for ordnance-related features and items. The site visit team noted HE cratering and fragments of HE bombs at Bomb Target #1 and Bomb Target #2 MRSs. The site visit team also noted numerous practice bomb fragments of unknown type, M38A2 100-lb. practice bombs, tail fins, suspension lug bands, parts of M1A1 spotting charges, 0.30-caliber projectiles, and 0.50-caliber projectiles.

Historic documentation for the site indicates there have been no MEC findings or any incidents involving ordnance found at Former HBGR. Deputy Sheriff Tom Davidson of the Tangipahoa

Parish Sheriff's Department has indicated he detonated munitions found at the site in the early 1970s. However, the Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Department does not have written records going back to that time.

2.2.3 Community Reaction to Former HBGR Property

There are several core community reactions to the Former HBGR property. Many individuals feel the property is not dangerous and that USACE should officially declare this so that the land is free of complications. Others understand that cleanup efforts might be necessary, but would like to see the process expedited.

2.3 FUDS PROPERTY INSPECTIONS AND CLEANUP ACTIVITIES

2.3.1 1996 Inventory Project Report

In 1996, the USACE New Orleans District prepared an Inventory Project Report (INPR) (USACE 1996) that identified Former HBGR as a FUDS property. The INPR determined that Former HBGR was formerly used by the Department of War/DoD and recommended a site evaluation for possible ordnance contamination.

2.3.2 2003 Archives Search Report

In March 2003, the USACE Rock Island District completed an ASR (USACE 2003). The ASR documented the results of the 2002 site visit, records search, and aerial photograph review, and assigned a risk assessment code to the site. The ASR also indicated that, during the 2002 site visit, there were several ordnance-related findings and remaining target features. The site visit team noted HE cratering and fragments of HE bombs at Bomb Target #1 and Bomb Target #2 MRSs. The site visit team also noted M38A2 100-lb. practice bombs (Multiple Use Target MRS), parts of M1A1 spotting charges (Multiple Use Target MRS), 0.30-caliber projectiles (Rifle Range MRS), and 0.50-caliber projectiles (Multiple Use Target MRS) at the site. The team also learned that no MEC incidents had been reported at the former ranges or targets.

2.3.3 2004 Archives Search Report Supplement

In November 2004, the USACE St. Louis District completed the Former HBGR ASR Supplement (USACE 2004). It presented information concerning the munitions items potentially present at Former HBGR that were reported in the 2003 ASR. The ASR Supplement identified five MRSs covering approximately 6,045 acres in land area at Former HBGR.

2.3.4 2008 Annual Report to Congress

The 2008 Annual Report to Congress (Defense Environmental Programs [DEP] 2009) indicates Former HBGR consists of 6,045 acres, which is consistent with the cumulative MRS acreages reported in the ASR Supplement. It also indicates that there is restricted public access and that the site is fenced and has locked gates.

2.3.5 2009 Site Inspection Report

The objective of the SI was to determine whether Former HBGR warrants further evaluation under CERCLA. Information collection was limited exclusively to identify MEC and munitions constituent (MC) contamination and did not consider other unrelated hazardous and toxic waste concerns. In addition to the previously identified MRSs, a potential area of interest (AOI) with possible cratering was identified during the first technical project planning (TPP) meeting and included in the inspection. Qualitative reconnaissance and MC sampling were performed.

The qualitative MEC risk evaluation showed a possibility that human receptors might come into contact with explosively hazardous MEC at Bomb Target #1, Multiple Use Target, and Bomb Target #2 MRSs. Therefore, there is the potential for an explosive safety risk at these MRSs. However, no explosive hazards remain at the Rifle Range or Gunnery Range MRSs and therefore, no explosive safety risk is considered to be present at these MRSs. Based on results of the MC and MEC risk evaluations, it was recommended that Bomb Target #1, Multiple Use Target, and Bomb Target #2 MRSs require further evaluation as part of an RI/FS, and the Rifle Range and Gunnery Range MRSs require no further DoD action. It was also recommended the potential cratering AOI be investigated further and the location of the Multiple Use Target MRS be evaluated to see if it was placed correctly on historical maps.

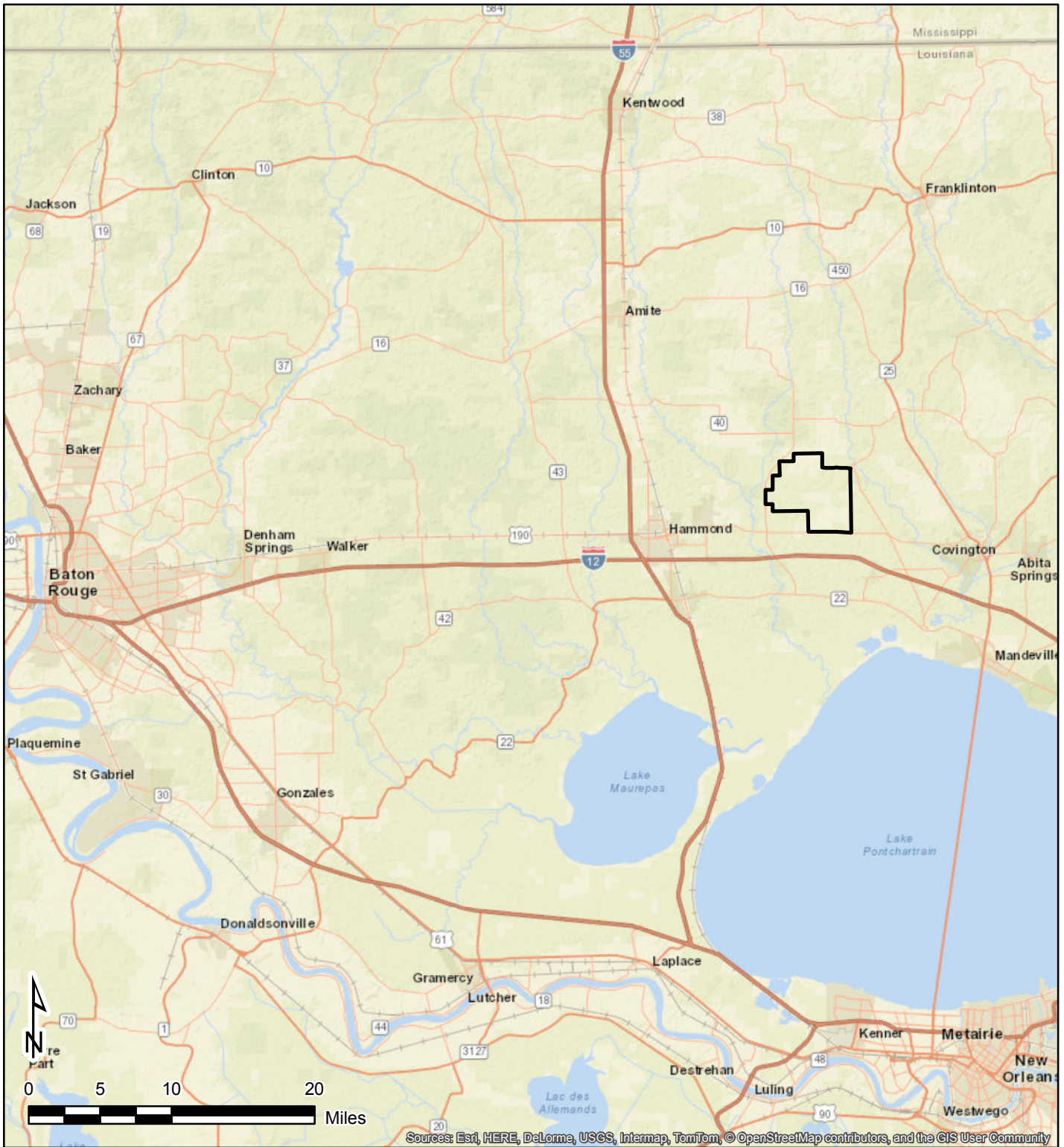
After completion of the SI, USACE negotiated with Former HBGR project stakeholders to revise MRS boundaries and recommendations for further investigations. The realigned Bomb Target #1 MRS (**Figure 2-2**) includes some property previously part of the Multiple Use Target, Rifle Range, and Gunnery Range MRSs, and is designated for an RI/FS. All other Former HBGR property outside the realigned Bomb Target #1 MRS boundary has been determined to require no further action.

2.4 PROJECT TEAM

The lead agency currently responsible for Former HBGR is CESWF. The project and regulatory contacts are listed below.

- USACE, Fort Worth District
Carlos Duarte, Project Manager
819 Taylor Street, Room 3A12
Fort Worth, TX 76102-0300
817-886-1884
carlos.m.duarte@usace.army.mil
- Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
Mike Miller, Project Manager
P.O. Box 4314
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4314
225-219-3212
michael.miller@la.gov

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Legend

 FUDS Property Boundary



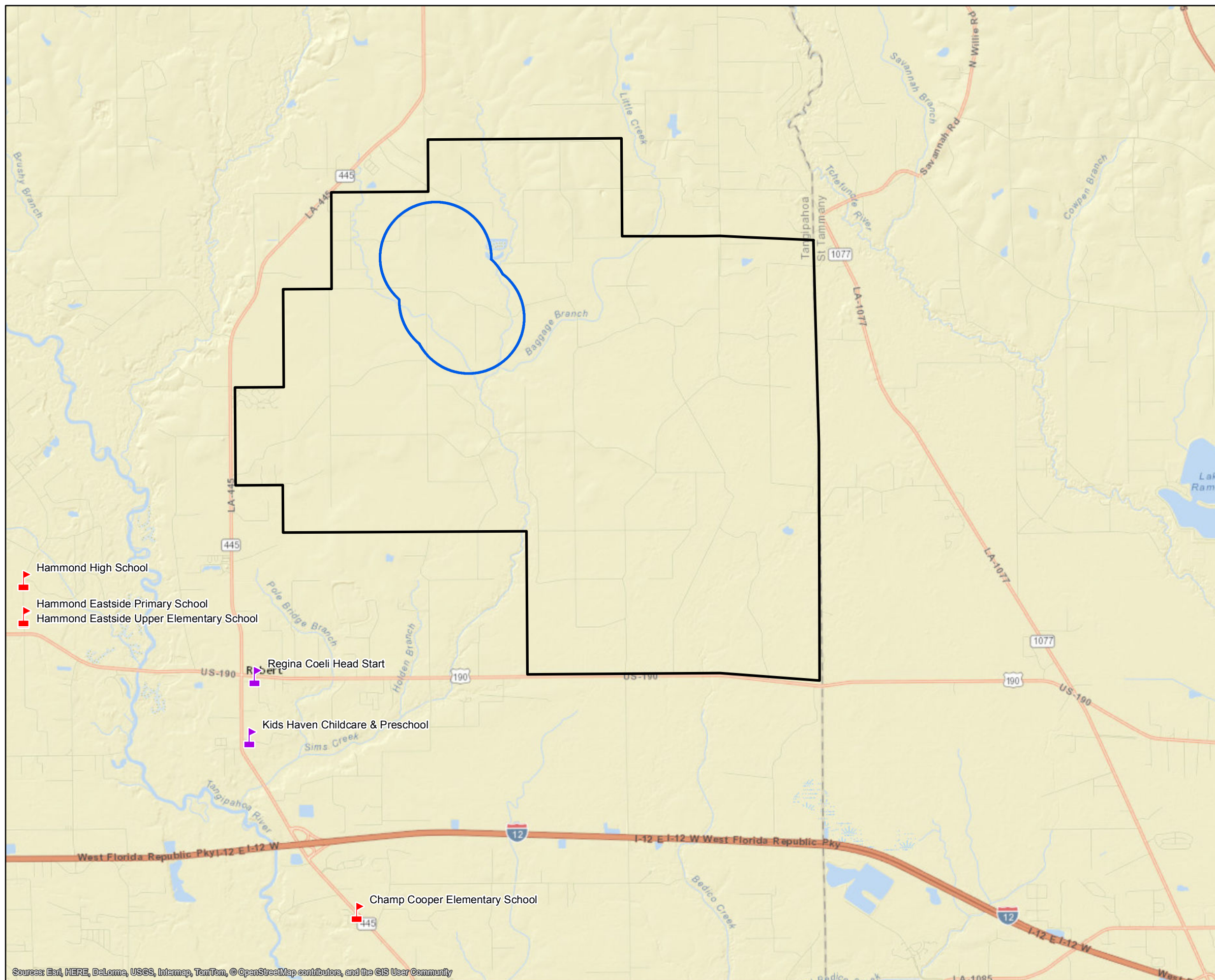
**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

Installation Location
Former Hammond Bombing
and Gunnery Range
Tangipahoa Parish, Louisiana

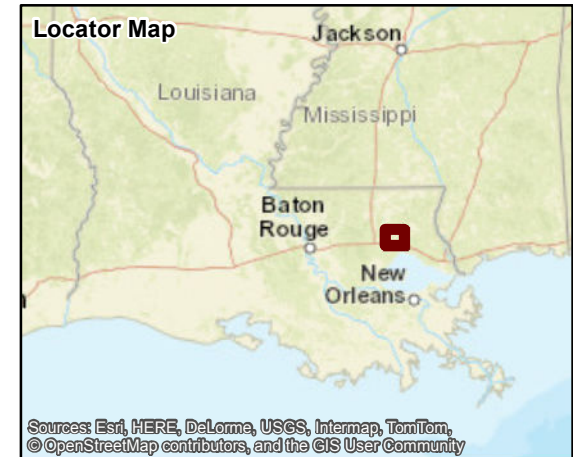
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Figure 2-1

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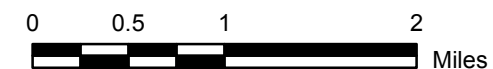
Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, TomTom, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, TomTom, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

Legend

-  FUDS Property Boundary
-  Bomb Target #1 MRS
-  School
-  Child Care/Preschool



US Army Corps of Engineers®

MRS Location
 Former Hammond Bombing and Gunnery Range
 Tangipahoa Parish, Louisiana

Drawn By: JZ	Date: 3/31/2016
Checked By: JC	Project No. 60442953

Figure 2-2

3.1 COMMUNITY PROFILE

Former HBGR is located in Tangipahoa Parish in southeastern Louisiana, 35 miles northwest of New Orleans. According to the 2010 U.S. Census data, the total population of the 790.24-square mile parish was 121,097 people, giving the parish a population density of 153.2 persons per square mile (U.S. Census Bureau 2010). The Tangipahoa Parish is part of the Northshore region of Louisiana. Historically, this region's population increased approximately 2.07% annually. Following Hurricane Katrina in August 2005, the rate increased to 4.12%, and in 2006 Tangipahoa Parish itself was reportedly one of the fastest growing parishes in the state (Hammond Chamber of Commerce 2009). Census estimates indicate population growth in Tangipahoa Parish from 2010 to July 2014 of 4.9% (U.S. Census Bureau 2010).

The largest city in the area, located approximately 5 miles west of the site, is Hammond, Louisiana. Its population was approximately 20,019 in 2010 (U.S. Census Bureau 2010). Nearby unincorporated communities include Robert, located approximately 2 miles southwest of Former HBGR, and Loranger, located approximately 1.5 miles west of the Former HBGR. The site itself is sparsely inhabited in its central, southern, and eastern portions, but has semi-developed residential areas at the fringe of the property boundaries in its northern and western portions. There are a few business developments scattered throughout those same areas, just outside the Former HBGR boundary. Businesses within a 1 mile buffer of Former HBGR include a bed and breakfast inn, hotels, restaurants, and gas stations.

According to the 2010 Census, the ratio of men to women in the immediate vicinity of Former HBGR (zip codes 70446 and 70455) is approximately equal. The median age is approximately 37 years, with roughly 30% of the population under 20 years of age and 11% of the population over 65 years of age. The majority of the population identifies their race as white (90.2%), with the largest minority population identifying as black or African American (7.1%). Hispanic/Latino accounted for 2.7% of the area's population. Other races identified include Asian and American Indian and Alaska native (U.S. Census Bureau 2010). Approximately 73% of the population over age 18 graduated from high school, with 13.5% of the population over age 25 earning a bachelor's degree or higher (U.S. Census Bureau 2000). Of the population 5 years of age and over, an estimated 3.4% reported speaking a language other than English at home (U.S. Census Bureau 2014). The area is served by the Tangipahoa Parish school system.

In Hammond, the population tends to be slightly younger with a median age of 33.6. In contrast to the population's racial background in the immediate vicinity of Former HBGR, the 2010 census showed 48.6% of the population identified as white and 47.5% identified as black or African American (U.S. Census Bureau 2010).

3.2 HISTORY OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

There was little to no community involvement prior to the USACE's initiation of the SI process. During the scoping process of the SI, three land holdings (REC Anderson, Samuel McGee, and the private trust) were identified as properties of interest. Representatives of the trust, in addition to local officials, were invited to participate in the two TPP meetings that were held as part of the SI process.

The first TPP meeting took place on February 14, 2008 and was held to gather input on the technical approach for the SI. Attendees included representatives of CESWF, USACE South Pacific Division Range Support Center (SPD RSC), the LDEQ, representatives of the private trust, and the Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Department. In addition to establishing the framework for the SI technical approach, a concern was raised by the Local Deputy Sheriff indicating that he had responded to several ordinance findings by local residents since the site closure and was concerned of the effectiveness of the walkover performed by HGBR personnel when the site was closed in 1945.

The second TPP meeting was held on January 22, 2009 to summarize the results of the SI. This meeting was attended by LDEQ, the CESWF, the Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Department, and representatives of the private trust. At this meeting, the property owner and their representative voiced their concern with the SI recommendations, stating that the report may negatively affect the value of the land. In addition, they were concerned that it may take several years or more for USACE to clean up the property, if deemed to be necessary during the RI/FS. The LDEQ requested these parties to formally submit their concerns and urged the CESWF to find an avenue to put USACE lawyers in touch with them to work toward a resolution on prioritizing future investigations/cleanup activities for their property.

Two additional stakeholder meetings were held in June 2009 between USACE personnel and community members in order to help address community concerns related to the findings of the SI. The first meeting on June 24, 2009 included representatives of the LDEQ, SPD RSC, CESWF, the Tangipahoa Parish Deputy Sheriff, a landowner/developer and his attorney, and a former landowner and his attorney. Some of the community concerns raised at this meeting included the lack of information about the site prior to their purchasing of the property and the lack of public notifications on FUDS property activities.

The second stakeholder meeting was held on June 25, 2009 with LDEQ and the private trust, owner of the majority of land within the Former HBGR. Concerns raised at this meeting included the lack of notification to other landowners, the effect on property value, and the lack of ordinance findings since the site closed.

On October 27, 2009, USACE hosted a public meeting in Hammond to help educate the community on the SI findings and also gather input on their concerns relating to the property and FUDS related activities. In preparation for this meeting, the USACE worked through the Tangipahoa Parish Appraisal District to identify as many parcels located within the Former HBGR as possible. Invitations were sent to 246 identified landowners in addition to key project stakeholders. The meeting was also advertised in the local paper, The Hammond Star; announcements were sent to the radio stations; and flyers were posted at the local libraries, the community center, the city hall, and the U.S. Post Office. Approximately 150 people attended. The majority of attendees were landowners, as determined by comparing the list of attendees to the landowner list identified by Tangipahoa Parish Appraisal District Records. The meeting was also attended by representatives from the LDEQ, the offices of U.S. Senator David Vitter and U.S. Representative Steve Scalise, the Hammond City Manager, and a board member of the Tangipahoa Water District. In addition to formal presentations by the USACE, there was a question and answer session. Community concerns were documented during this portion of the

meeting. In addition, one-on-one conversations between the public and project personnel took place prior to the meeting and over the break. These conversations were documented on interview sheets whenever possible.

Prior to the October 26, 2006 public meeting, the Tangipahoa Parish Council members passed a resolution in support of current landowners of the Former HBGR (Tangipahoa Parish 2009). The resolution requested the USACE to declare that no further action is necessary within the boundaries of Former HBGR.

Finally, over the course of the SI project, but especially after the meeting invitations were mailed to the landowners, USACE received numerous telephone calls from concerned and interested citizens.

3.3 KEY COMMUNITY CONCERNS

A representative cross-section of the local community was interviewed in January and February 2016 regarding potential concerns and information needs related to the Former HBGR RI/FS. A copy of the interview form can be found in **Appendix I**.

The key community concerns raised in 2016, which interviewees believe are shared by most residents within the Former HBGR area, include safety (i.e., the possibility that live unexploded ordnance still exists on the bombing range property); impacts to property values; and the length of time it is taking the USACE to clear the property for development, including a desire for investigation to come to a conclusion. Some interviewees wondered about the safety of the Former HBGR; however, others expressed no concerns whatsoever regarding site safety.

These key community concerns from interviews conducted in 2016, as well as the remedial or removal response actions proposed to address those concerns, are outlined below.

3.3.1 Safety of Bombing Range Property Adjacent to Private Property

Concerns were raised regarding whether live ordnance still exists on Former HBGR, which might impact adjacent properties. One property owner indicated a concern about unexploded ordnance in dirt pits, as well as the continued excavation of these pits when unexploded ordnance has not been found. Another property owner said that he is digging a lake on his property and does not want to encounter live ammunition.

Response actions proposed to deal with these concerns include developing better communication and information sharing between the USACE and the concerned public. Details on specific actions proposed are included in **Section 4.1**.

3.3.2 Impacts to Property Values

A couple of individuals raised concerns about how being a part of the FUDS property affects the value of the parcels. One individual noted that some people moved into the area after Hurricane

Katrina and did not know about Hammond property devaluation, leading to concerns on their part.

Response actions proposed to deal with these concerns include developing better communication and information sharing between the USACE and the concerned public. Details on specific actions proposed are included in **Section 4.1**.

3.3.3 Length of Time for Investigations and Clearance of Site

Concerns were raised about how long it took to get to this point in the process and also how long it will take until the investigation and remediation, if necessary, is complete. One property owner noted that he wants to be able to sell, drill for oil, cut timber, or build on his land, and wants to know when the property will be released. Another property owner noted DoD needs to remediate the site and then release the property with written clearance so people can develop it. Another property owner indicated he wants the whole thing to go away as quickly as possible and that his concerns are with the USACE not with the property.

Response actions proposed to deal with these concerns include developing greater communication and information sharing between the USACE and the concerned public. Details on specific actions proposed are included in **Section 4.1**.

3.4 RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY CONCERNS

In response to community concerns regarding the results of the SI, the USACE hosted two stakeholder meetings in June 2009. Recommendations resulting from these meetings included expanding the landowner notifications to include all the parcel owners within the FUDS property, not just the properties of interest within the MRSs; hosting a formal public meeting in the near future; considering formal notification letters to all landowners notifying them of the FUDS property; and lastly, considering a broad education and outreach program for the stakeholders.

Based on recommendations from the June 2009 stakeholder meetings, an additional public meeting was held in October 2009. Although a title search was not conducted to verify that all current property owners were notified, a meeting invitation letter was sent to the 246 landowners identified through Tangipahoa Parish Appraisal District records. During this public forum, there was a question and answer session where attendees could share their concerns related to the Former HBGR and the FUDS process in general. USACE posted an electronic version of the SI report in response to requests for online access. Community concerns voiced during 2016 interviews are addressed in the remainder of this CRP.

3.5 SUMMARY OF COMMUNICATION NEEDS

Each of the key community concerns identified in **Section 3.3** can be addressed through greater communication between the USACE and the Former HBGR community. The communication needs to fall into the three general categories described below.

3.5.1 FUDS Program Information and Process Overview

A common theme of the community concerns is a lack of communication with the landowners and the general public about the site history and future plans. In general, there is a lack of understanding among the public about the FUDS program process and timeline. Since it has been a number of years since the SI, many community members need to understand the scope of the new RI/FS effort. Information is needed on both the program (e.g., background, number of sites involved, timelines) and the process, including what is involved in an RI/FS, what degree of investigations occurs during each, and the timelines.

3.5.2 FUDS Property Activities

The community requested better and more public notification on FUDS property activities. Many reported that the government had not been responsive when asked for information; a smaller number appeared to be satisfied with their interactions with the USACE. At least one individual was concerned that not all landowners within the Former HBGR were notified of activities. Specific requests were made for more frequent communications with landowners about how decisions are made, the progress of the RI/FS, upcoming activities, and the project timeline.

3.5.3 Landowner Issues

It was apparent that there is a need for increased communication with landowners regarding how being part of FUDS property affects their properties and land use activities. As discussed in detail in **Sections 3.2 and 3.3**, concerns include how being a part of the FUDS property affects current and future land uses, the property value, and the sale and purchase of the land.

The goals of USACE's public involvement program are to educate the public about the site history and potential risks, encourage communication between USACE and the community, solicit public input, and develop trust and credibility through proactive interaction with the public.

The following plan is based on the community input described earlier and addresses each issue that was identified as being important to the community. USACE will implement the community involvement activities discussed below; however, it should be considered a dynamic document that will evolve and be updated as the project progresses.

4.1 THE PLAN

Each of the identified issues discussed in **Section 3.5** are addressed in detail below. The issue is stated along with the activity (or activities) intended to address the issue. The prescribed activities are further described in **Section 4.1.2**. This is followed by the objective of the activity, the method to be employed to achieve this objective, and the timing for use of the method.

4.1.1 Identified Issues

4.1.1.1 *FUDS Program Information and Process Overview*

There is a general lack of understanding among the public about the FUDS program (program background, number of sites involved, timelines, etc.) and the FUDS process, including what is involved in an RI/FS, what degree of investigation occurs during the investigation, and the timelines. Activities proposed to address the issue include the following:

1. Develop one or more informational fact sheets on topics such as the FUDS program, RI/FS process, and the role of public involvement in the RI/FS. Numerous fact sheets covering a number of related topics are currently available within the FUDS Public Involvement Toolkit.
2. Post background information about the FUDS program and process on a project website and through the use of other web-based tools.
3. Inform interested parties about the availability of the fact sheet(s) through use of the project mailing list, the project website, and other web-based tools.

The objective of these activities is to help raise community awareness and understanding of the FUDS program and process. These activities should be completed as outlined in **Table 4-1**.

4.1.1.2 *FUDS Property Activities*

Information on current and future FUDS property activities needs to be shared with all landowners within the FUDS property boundaries, and with the neighboring community when appropriate. Activities proposed to address this issue include the following:

1. Send out direct mail updates on the project status to the project mailing list.
2. Post information on project activities on the project website.

3. Conduct public meetings and information sessions, as needed.
4. Host briefings or small group meetings, as requested.
5. Disseminate news releases before public meetings and information sessions and at other important junctures in the project process.
6. Issue public notices, as required.
7. Provide opportunities for public comment on the process, as required.
8. Keep the AR File and IR current and accessible.

The objective of these activities is to help raise community awareness and understanding of the FUDS program and process. These activities should be completed as outlined in **Table 4-1**.

4.1.1.3 *Landowner Issues*

Greater communication with FUDS property landowners is needed to inform them how being a part of the FUDS property affects current and future land uses, the property value, and the sale and purchase of the land. Activities proposed to address the issue include the following:

1. Develop one or more informational fact sheets on the following topics:
 - Key landowner contacts for property-related information.
 - Land use options and safety advice for parcel owners within the Former HBGR.
2. Post pertinent landowner-related information as described above, including key local and parish contacts, on the project website.
3. Inform interested parties about the availability of fact sheets through use of the project mailing list and project website and through the use of other web-based tools.
4. Provide email address and phone number for those seeking immediate information.

The objective of these activities is to help raise community awareness and understanding of the FUDS program and process. These activities should be completed as outlined in **Table 4-1**.

4.1.2 *Activities*

The activities described below are components of an overall community involvement strategy and will be used to address the issues described above.

4.1.2.1 *Fact Sheets*

Fact sheets can provide project information to keep the community aware and informed about the project and its progress. In addition, fact sheets provide information about additional resources available to the public including website addresses, AR File and IR locations, and opportunities for providing comments and joining the project mailing list.

Fact sheets should be prepared as soon as possible on topics of interest identified in **Section 4.1.1**. Fact sheets will also be prepared as appropriate for distribution to stakeholders and

interested people to promote awareness and to update the community on the status and issues associated with project actions and activities.

Fact sheets will be available at all public forums, at the AR File and IR locations, and on the project website. They will also be direct mailed to property owners and others on the mailing list as appropriate.

4.1.2.2 News Releases

News releases are useful notification tools used to inform the media and the public about meetings and important changes in activities at the site. In addition to being released to the local news media, information contained in news releases can be provided directly to primary stakeholders and members of the project mailing list.

News releases will be prepared to announce public forums such as public meetings and information sessions, and for other significant events, as appropriate, and issued to the stakeholders identified in **Appendices A through D** and the local media (**Appendix E**). Media representatives will be invited to attend public meetings and observe other project-related activities as appropriate.

4.1.2.3 Public Notices

Paid advertisements that appear in the local newspaper are considered public notices. Required at various stages of the remedial process, they are issued to announce major project milestones and opportunities for community participation. Public notices will be published in the local newspaper, The Hammond Star. A public notice is required at the following times:

- when the AR File and IR become available
- when a public meeting is scheduled
- when the Proposed Plan is ready for review by the public
- when a remedial alternative has been selected and the Decision Document is approved
- when the Project Closeout Report is finalized

4.1.2.4 Project Website

A project website provides a dynamic environment within which project information can be provided more often than a regular mailing. The website includes a brief overview of the FUDS program, the project history and status, safety information, maps and photographs, and contact information for the public to submit questions or concerns. The website will be updated as necessary to reflect the status of project activities.

Links to this website should be shared with the City of Hammond and the Tangipahoa Parish so they may make it available to the public on their websites. If other websites are identified that would serve as appropriate gateways to direct interested community members to project documents, a link to the project website will also be shared with them.

4.1.2.5 *Other Web-based Tools*

The use of the internet to inform and engage the public is quickly becoming standard procedure for businesses and nonprofit organizations. In addition to project- or company-specific websites, a number of other web-based tools are commonly used by the public to retrieve information and stay informed on issues that concern them. However, feedback provided by those interviewed indicated that some of the individuals who live near the project area do not have internet access and therefore these tools would not be available to them.

Nonetheless, the use of social media could potentially be used as a means of keeping the public educated and current on FUDS property activities.

4.1.2.6 *Project Mailing List*

A mailing list facilitates keeping interested community members, as well as other stakeholders and communities impacted by or interested in military munitions response activities, informed of activities and opportunities for community involvement. A mailing list can be used to distribute news releases, fact sheets, and other types of pertinent information for project activities.

USACE will establish and maintain a project mailing list consisting of interested individuals, local officials, and media representatives. The initial list will include identified landowners within the boundary of the Former HBGR, attendees of the October 2009 public meeting who requested to be added to it on the registration list, and key stakeholders including local officials and key stakeholders (**Appendix B**), federal elected officials (**Appendix C**), local environmental and active citizens groups (**Appendix D**), and members of the media (**Appendix E**). The USACE will update this mailing list as necessary and appropriate, and will provide information in fact sheets, at public meetings, and on the project website as to how individuals and groups can be added to the mailing list. The mailing list will include email addresses for those community members and stakeholders who prefer to receive project information electronically.

4.1.2.7 *Public Meetings and Information Sessions*

Public meetings and information sessions convey important project-related information and are valuable because they help build rapport between project staff, the local community, and other interested stakeholders. Both types of meetings are described below.

- **Public Meetings:** Public meetings allow the opportunity to share project information with the community through a presentation and brief question and answer period. This format is particularly useful for conveying updated information regarding project activities to a relatively large group of people at one time. Format may include both an open house (opportunity for participants to view exhibit boards and ask questions) and formal presentation followed by a public comment opportunity.
- **Information Sessions:** Information sessions are informal opportunities for stakeholders and interested people to meet with staff members/project personnel to discuss project activities and/or community/stakeholder issues or concerns. These types of meetings generally follow an open house format in which participants can informally interact with the team while

reviewing exhibit boards staffed by project team members. A short presentation may also be included. It is important that project team members be able to answer and/or explain different aspects of project work, or be able to introduce a community member to someone who can answer their question or address a comment.

These types of meetings will be held when necessary to update interested community members and stakeholders on project activities or as requested by the community. The format of these meetings will depend on the project status and/or community information needs at the time of the meeting. Sessions generally will be scheduled on weeknights (Monday through Thursday) and will last no longer than 2 hours. Holidays or other times that may conflict with local activities, (e.g., Wednesday night church services) will be avoided. See **Appendix F** for suggested meeting locations.

4.1.2.8 Briefings or Small Group Meetings

Project representatives will be available to conduct individual briefings with local officials or presentations for small group meetings as requested. These small meetings are designed to share project information and update interested parties on project status in an informal forum setting. Some potential groups include civic, recreational, neighborhood, and schools. A meeting with Tangipahoa Parish Council may be appropriate given their 2009 resolution regarding Former HBGR (Tangipahoa Parish 2009b). An important aspect to these types of interactions is that it involves project staff attending existing group meetings, in addition to interacting with stakeholders and community groups in a project organized forum.

4.1.2.9 Administrative Record File

The AR File contains the documents that form the basis for the selection of a particular response at the FUDS project and includes all correspondence, reports, and documents related to the site. Access to the AR File and IR allows the local community to conduct research on the site and learn how to participate in the response action process. In addition to the official AR file that is maintained at CESWF, an IR is also stored at a centralized location where the community can access and review decision documents related to military munitions response activities, and is maintained throughout the duration of the project. The IR for this project is established at the Tangipahoa Parish Library – Hammond Branch (see **Appendix G** for location, phone number, and hours). Placing an IR in the New Orleans Public Library should also be considered based on input provided by attendees of the October 27, 2009 meeting.

It is also essential that all project communications be documented as part of this record. This includes telephone conversations, emails, and facsimiles. A record of this information will help guide future outreach efforts to facilitate the goals of this CRP.

4.1.2.10 Restoration Advisory Board

A Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) assists the project team in meeting the needs of the community in understanding the environmental cleanup process at HGBR. The RAB will

provide input to the USACE concerning choices that need to be made at the Former HBGR during the RI/FS.

RAB membership will include individuals in the community who express an interest in participating and can commit to attending RAB meetings. The RAB will meet at regular intervals (at least once a year) at an area location to be determined, and meetings will be facilitated and documented. Meeting announcements and agendas will be mailed/mailed to RAB members well in advance of the meeting. Many of the community members interviewed in January and February 2016 voiced interest in participating in a RAB if it is formed. Paid advertisements and press releases will also be used as needed to solicit interest in a RAB and encourage participation.

4.1.2.11 Public Comment

The community should not only be educated and kept informed, but should also be given the opportunity to provide input into the project. Public comment periods allow citizens to participate in the response action decision-making process. During public comment periods, the USACE accepts comments from the public on proposed actions and decisions. Public comment periods are required by law at certain times, such as following completion of the Proposed Plan. USACE may also request comments on the RI/FS Work Plan and RI/FS Report.

4.2 PROJECTED SCHEDULE FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

The public involvement timeline (**Table 4-1**) provides the recommended time frame during which each of the public involvement activities should be implemented.

**TABLE 4-1
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE
FORMER HAMMOND BOMBING AND GUNNERY RANGE**

Activity	Timing
Update and maintain project mailing list	List should be updated as soon as possible and maintained as requests to be placed on the list are received.
Create and maintain project website	Website should be created as soon as possible and should be updated as new project information is available.
Establish and maintain other web-based tools	Establish a project social media page as soon as possible. Post relevant updates and announcements as they become available and interact with subscribers as opportunities for public involvement become available.
Create and distribute fact sheets	First fact sheet should be developed and distributed via direct mail as soon as possible. This fact sheet will inform community members of upcoming RI/FS activities. It will also be posted on the project website. Other fact sheets will be developed for distribution before public meetings and for use at public meetings and on the project website.
Disseminate news releases	Minimum of 7 days prior to a public meeting and other significant events. News releases may be submitted as soon as a study/report is completed and considered final.
Issue public notices	As required.
Conduct public meetings and information sessions	Three meetings to be conducted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of 2 weeks prior to RI/FS field work being started • When the RI/FS Report is issued • When the Proposed Plan is finalized (requires a 30-day public comment period)
Host briefings or small group meetings	As requested. The availability of project personnel for these types of meetings should be posted on the project website.
Initiate RAB	Identify membership and begin holding RAB meetings at least annually.
Initiate and maintain the AR File and IR	Already established at the Tangipahoa Parish Library – Hammond Branch. Will be updated as new project documents and files become available. Consider duplicate copy in the New Orleans Public Library.
Establish public comment periods	Allow 30 days for public comments on reports, as required.

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Name and Title	Contact Information
Robin Prince Contracting Officer	USACE, Fort Worth District CESWF-CT-C (Robin Prince) 819 Taylor St, Room 2A17 Fort Worth, Texas 76102 Phone: 817-866-1045 Email: robin.g.prince@usace.army.mil
Steve Martin Contracting Officer's Representative	USACE, Fort Worth District CESWF-PEC-TE (Steve Martin) 819 Taylor St, Room 3A12 Fort Worth, Texas 76102 Phone: 817-886-1873 Email: steven.g.martin@usace.army.mil
Carlos Duarte Project Manager	USACE, Fort Worth District CESWF-PEC-TM (Carlos Duarte) 819 Taylor St, Room 3A12 Fort Worth, Texas 76102 Phone: 817-886-1884 Email: carlos.m.duarte@usace.army.mil

Name and Title	Contact Information
Robby Miller, Jr. Tangipahoa Parish President	PO Box 215 Amite, Louisiana 70422
David Vial Chair, Tangipahoa Parish Council, Councilmember District 8	47162 Oak Creek Trace Hammond, Louisiana 70403
James Bailey Tangipahoa Parish Council District 2 Chief, Husser Volunteer Fire Department	49624 Bailey Loop Rd Robert, Louisiana 70455
Alyson Lapuma Tangipahoa Parish Planning Director	15485 W Club Deluxe Rd Hammond, Louisiana 70403
Maurice Jordan Tangipahoa Parish Engineer	15485 W Club Deluxe Rd Hammond, Louisiana 70403
Tom Davidson Tangipahoa Parish Deputy Sheriff	15485 W Club Deluxe Rd Hammond, Louisiana 70403
Daniel Edwards Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff	15485 W Club Deluxe Rd Hammond, Louisiana 70403
Julian E. Dufreche Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court	318-A NW Railroad Ave Hammond, Louisiana 70401
Dawson Primes Tangipahoa Parish Homeland Security Director	206 E Mulberry St Amite, Louisiana 70422
Joaquin "JR" Matheu Tangipahoa Parish Assessor	PO Box 336 Amite, Louisiana 70422
Roddy Devall Chief, Hammond Police Department	120 S Oak St Hammond, Louisiana 70401 PO Box 2788 (mailing) Hammond, Louisiana 70404
Melissa Bordelon President & CEO, Hammond Chamber of Commerce	PO Box 1458 Hammond, Louisiana 70404
John Thomas Chief, Hammond Fire Department	405 S Oak St Hammond, Louisiana 70401 PO Box 2788 (mailing) Hammond, Louisiana 70404
Melody Woodworth Hammond Area Economic Industrial Development District SE LA Business Center	1514 Martens Dr, Suite 130 Hammond, Louisiana 70401
Pete Panepinto Mayor, City of Hammond	PO Box 2788 Hammond, Louisiana 70404
Johnny Blount City Council, Hammond District 1	PO Box 2788 Hammond, Louisiana 70404
Jason Hood City Council, Hammond District 2	PO Box 2788 Hammond, Louisiana 70404
Janie Carter-Beard City Council, Hammond District 3	PO Box 2788 Hammond, Louisiana 70404
Lemar Marshall City Council, Hammond District 4	PO Box 2788 Hammond, Louisiana 70404

Name and Title	Contact Information
Michael Williams City Council, Hammond District 5	PO Box 2788 Hammond, Louisiana 70404
Hubert A. Farbes, Jr. Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP	410 Seventeenth Street, Suite 2200 Denver, Colorado 80202
Carl Schneider Reimers Trust	708 W Thomas St Hammond, Louisiana 70401
Keith Prieur Entergy Louisiana	2121 38 th St Kenner, Louisiana 70065
State Elected Officials	
Name and Title	Contact Information
Mack "Bodi" White, Jr. Louisiana State Senate, District 6	808 O'Neal Lane Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70816 Phone: 225-272-1324 Email: whitem@legis.la.gov
Jack Donahue Louisiana State Senate, District 11	PO Box 896 Mandeville, Louisiana 70470 Phone: 985-727-7949 Email: donahuej@legis.la.gov
Beth Mizell Louisiana State Senate, District 12	19208 Sam Varnado Rd Franklinton, Louisiana 70438 Phone: 985-515-0927
Chris Broadwater Louisiana State Representative, District 86	PO Box 157 Hammond, Louisiana 70404 Phone: 985-543-4900 Email: broadwaterc@legis.la.gov
EPA Official	
Name and Title	Contact Information
Ron Curry USEPA Region 6	1445 Ross Ave, Suite 1200 Dallas, Texas 75202 Phone: 800-887-6063 Email: gray.david@epa.gob
LDEQ Official	
Name and Title	Contact Information
Mike Miller Project Manager	PO Box 4303 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821 Phone: 252-219-5337 Email: michael.miller@la.gov

United States Senate		
Name	Contact Information	
Senator David Vitter	<u>Washington, D.C. Office:</u> 516 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 Phone: 202-224-4623	<u>Louisiana Office:</u> 2800 Veterans Memorial Blvd, Suite 201 Metairie, Louisiana 70002 Phone: 504-589-2753
	E-mail link: www.vitter.senate.gov/contact/email-senator-vitter	
Senator Bill Cassidy, M.D.	<u>Washington, D.C. Office:</u> 703 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 Phone: 202-224-5824	<u>Louisiana Office:</u> 5555 Hilton Ave Suite 100 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808 Phone: 225-929-7711
	E-mail link: www.cassidy.senate.gov/contact	
United States House of Representatives		
Name	Contact Information	
Representative Ralph Abraham, M.D. Congressional District 5	<u>Washington, D.C. Office:</u> 417 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 Phone: 202-225-8490	<u>Central Louisiana Office:</u> 2003 MacArthur Dr., Bldg. 5 Alexandria, Louisiana 71301 Phone: 318-445-0818
	E-mail link: https://abraham.house.gov/contact	
Representative Steve Scalise Congressional District 1	<u>Washington, D.C. Office:</u> 2238 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 Phone: 202-225-3015	<u>Hammond, Louisiana Office:</u> 1514 Martens Dr Suite 10 Hammond, Louisiana 70401 Phone: 985-340-2185
	E-mail link: https://scaliseforms.house.gov/contact	

APPENDIX D

Environmental and Active Citizens Groups

The following Hammond area civic groups were identified during an internet search conducted November 9, 2009 and updated on February 23, 2016.

Name and Title	Contact Information
Order of the Amaranth, Inc.	1129 North Gen Pershing St Hammond, Louisiana 70401 Phone: 985-345-0465
Kiwanis International, Inc.	PO Box 2944 Hammond, Louisiana 70404 www.hammondkiwanis.org
Ponchatoula Lions Club	750 East Pine St Ponchatoula, Louisiana 70454 Phone: 985-386-2852 www.lionsclub.org/EN/index.php
New Horizons Youth Service Bureau	PO Box 1968 Hammond, Louisiana Phone: 985-345-1171
Hammond Ponchatoula Sunrises Rotary Club	PO Box 325 Hammond, Louisiana 70404
Hammond Rotary Club	700 SW Railroad Ave Hammond, Louisiana 70403 Phone: 985-320-0730

Television Stations	
WAFB CBS Affiliate	844 Government St Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802 Phone: 225-383-9999 Email: news@wafb.com Website: www.wafb.com
WBRZ ABC Affiliate	1650 Highland Rd Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802 Phone: 225-387-2222 Email: news@wbrz.com Website: www.wbrz.com
WGMB Fox Affiliate	10000 Perkins Rd Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70810 Phone: 225-768-2980 Email: engineering@tvbatonrouge.com Website: www.brproud.com
WBRL No Affiliate	10000 Perkins Rd Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70810 Phone: 225-768-9195 Email: engineering@tvbatonrouge.com Website: www.brproud.com
Radio Stations	
WFMF Top 40	5555 Hilton Ave, Suite 500 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808 Phone: 225-231-1860 Email: bobmurphy@iheartmedia.com Website: www.wfmf.com/main/html
WRKF Public Radio	3050 Valle Creek Dr Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808 Phone: 225-926-3050 Email: news@wrkf.org Website: www.wrkf.org
WTGE Country	929B Government St Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802 Phone: 225-388-9898 Email: brian.king@guarantymedia.com Website: www.1007thetiger.com
WDGL News Radio	5555 Hilton Ave, Suite 500 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808 Phone: 225-231-1860 Email: brucecollins@iheartmedia.com Website: www.wjbo.iheart.com
Newspapers	
Hammond Star Local	725 South Morrison Blvd Hammond, Louisiana 70403 Phone: 985-254-7827 Email: editor@hammondstar.com Website: www.hammondstar.com

Newspapers	
The Times-Picayune Regional	301 Main St, Suite 101 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70801 Phone: 800-925-000 Email: dbroach@nola.com Website: www.nola.com

APPENDIX F

Suggested Meeting Locations

The following Hammond area businesses have meeting facilities that are available for rent to the public. Contact information and meeting room capacities for each facility are provided below. Additional information for meetings and groups is available through the Tangipahoa Parish Convention & Visitor's Bureau (800-617-4505, <http://www.tangitourism.com/site174.php>).

Name	Contact Information
Best Western Hammond Inn & Suites	107 Duo Dr Hammond, Louisiana 70403 Phone: 985-419-2001 Website: www.bestwesternlouisiana.com/hotels/best-western-hammond-inn-and-suites Meeting room accommodates 16 to 30 people
Courtyard Hammond	1605 South Magnolia St Hammond, Louisiana 70403 Phone: 985-956-7730 Website: http://www.marriott.com/hotels/event-planning/business-meeting/hdccc-courtyard-hammond/ Meeting room accommodates 20 to 75 people
Hampton Inn	401 Westin Oak Dr Hammond, Louisiana 70403 Phone: 985-419-2188 Website: http://hamptoninn3.hilton.com/en/hotels/louisiana/hampton-inn-hammond-HAMLAHX/event/index.html Meeting rooms accommodate 10 to 60 people
Holiday Inn	1819 SW Railroad Ave Hammond, Louisiana 70403 Phone: 985-662-3877 Website: http://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/hammond/hmuqq/hoteldetail/events-facilities Meeting rooms accommodate 30 to 130 people
Microtel Inn & Suites, Ponchatoula	727 West Pine St Ponchatoula, Louisiana 70454 Phone: 985-386-8866 Website: http://www.microtelinn.com/hotels/louisiana/ponchatoula/microtel-inn-and-suites-by-wyndham-ponchatoula-hammond/hotel-overview Meeting room accommodates up to 45 people
Solomon Episcopal Conference Center	54296 Highway 445 Loranger, Louisiana 70446 Phone: 985-748-6634 Website: www.solomoncenter.org/our-facilities/meeting-space Meeting rooms accommodate 10 to 150 people
Southeastern Louisiana University Event and Conference Services	Student Union Room 2408 SLU Box 11850 Hammond, Louisiana 70402 Phone: 985-549-2094 Classrooms, ballrooms, auditoriums, and theaters spaces available that can accommodate small groups (up to 25 people) or large functions (up to 1,000 people)

APPENDIX F

Suggested Meeting Locations

Name	Contact Information
Tangipahoa African American Heritage Museum & Veterans Archives	1600 Phoenix Square Hammond, Louisiana 70403 Phone: 985-542-4259 Website: www.taahm.org Meeting rooms accommodate 50 to 70 people

Administrative Record	Contact Information								
<p>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District</p>	<p>USACE, Fort Worth District CESWF-PEC-TM 819 Taylor St, Room 3A12 Fort Worth, Texas 76102</p> <p>Available by appointment during normal business hours. Contact Mr. Carlos Duarte at 817-886-1884 for viewing information.</p>								
Information Repository	Contact Information								
<p>Tangipahoa Parish Library – Hammond Branch</p>	<p>314 East Thomas St Hammond, Louisiana 70401 Phone: 985-345-3909</p> <p>Library Hours:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>8:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.</td> <td>Monday, Tuesday</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.</td> <td>Wednesday, Thursday</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.</td> <td>Friday</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.</td> <td>Saturday</td> </tr> </table>	8:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.	Monday, Tuesday	8:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Wednesday, Thursday	8:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.	Friday	8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Saturday
8:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.	Monday, Tuesday								
8:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Wednesday, Thursday								
8:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.	Friday								
8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Saturday								

Community Resources	
Name	Contact Information
Hammond Industrial Development Board SE Louisiana Business Center	1514 Martens Dr, Suite 130 Hammond, LA 70401 Phone: 985-549-3160 info@haeidd.org
Hammond Chamber of Commerce	PO Box 1458 Hammond, LA 70404 Phone: 985-345-4457
Southeastern Louisiana University Hammond, Louisiana	Phone: 985-549-2000 Toll Free: 800-222-SELU
Hammond Local Venues Willing to Post Announcement Flyer	
Linus A Sims Memorial Library	SLU Box 10896 Hammond, LA 70402
Tangipahoa Parish Library	314 E. Thomas St Hammond, LA 70402
Zemurray Community Center	601 W. Coleman Ave Hammond, LA 70403
City of Hammond	City Hall 310 E. Charles St Hammond, LA 70402
U.S Post Office	105 NW Railroad Avenue Hammond, LA 70402

Community Involvement Interview Form

**Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
for
Former Hammond Bombing and Gunnery Range
Tangipahoa Parish, Louisiana**

Introductory Statement: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, is conducting a remedial investigation and feasibility study at the former Hammond Bombing and Gunnery Range in Tangipahoa Parish, Louisiana. The work is being conducted in close coordination with state, federal, and local agencies as well as with the public.

I got your name from _____ based on your interest in environmental conditions in the area. We are preparing a Community Relations Plan, which identifies the best ways to foster two-way communication between agencies and the public regarding investigations at the site. I would like to ask you a few questions about the site and your opinions regarding what is taking place there. All your answers will be kept confidential.

Name: _____ **Affiliation:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: (____) _____ **e-mail:** _____

ID# _____

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

INTERVIEW SCRIPT

1. The former Hammond Bombing Range is located in Tangipahoa Parish. Are you aware of any past or current environmental investigations at former Hammond Bombing Range?

- ___ No.
___ Yes; ask...

1a. When did you first become aware of the investigations?
_____ (record items verbatim).

1b. Please describe the nature of the investigations as you understand them.
(summarize carefully).

1c. Do you have any information needs or concerns about the investigations of this site? (summarize carefully).

2. Do you rent or own property, or live in or near the former Hammond Bombing Range?

- ___ No.
___ Yes; (note which situation applies to the respondent _____, then ask..

2a. Have you had any environmental concerns with this property or with the site?

- ___ No.
___ Yes; ask....

2b. What sort of concerns with your property have you had?

3. Have you had any contacts with government officials regarding environmental or safety issues related to the former Hammond Bombing Range?

No; if no, go to 4.

Yes; ask...

3a. What government agency(s) did you contact? (List each one and date of contact if given)

3b. Overall, how would you characterize your feelings about the responsiveness of government officials to your concerns? Would you say they were:

Not Responsive

Somewhat Responsive

Very Responsive

3c. What sort of problems, if any, have you had in getting government officials to respond to your concerns? (summarize carefully)

4. Have you participated in any activities (meetings, telephone calls, letter writing, or gatherings) concerning any past investigations at the former Hammond Bombing Range?

No.

Yes; ask...

4a. What activities have you participated in?

4b. Were any of these activities government sponsored?

No.

Yes; ask....

4c. How satisfied have you been with government sponsored activities in terms of meeting your needs for information?

Very Satisfied

Somewhat Satisfied

Somewhat Dissatisfied

Very Dissatisfied

5. Would you like to be involved in future activities?

- No.
- Yes; ask...

5a. In what way would you want to be involved?

The next two questions deal with the way information can be distributed to the public and the way the public can express its environmental concerns regarding the former Hammond Bombing Range.

6. Based on your needs for information about the former Hammond Bombing Range, how would you rate these methods for getting information to the public? Check any listed below. May use the list if respondent cannot think of any communication methods.

- Briefings
- Website content
- Non-technical brochures
- Emails
- Newsletters
- Press releases
- Telephone hotline
- School-based programs
- Television commercials
- Direct mail
- Newspaper ad
- Other method you think might be useful (list)_____

6a. Which of the methods listed would best serve your needs?

7. There are a number of ways people can communicate their concerns to government officials about environmental issues related to the former Hammond Bombing Range. What is the most effective way for you to communicate your concerns? Check any listed. May use the list if respondent cannot think of any communication methods.

- Participating in public meetings
- Writing letter to federal agencies
- Emails to federal agencies

- Telephone calls to federal agencies
- Government sponsored small group meetings
- Emailing or calling elected officials
- Emailing or calling a "contact" person
- Informally discussing issue with friends and neighbors
- Other (please list)

7a. Which of the methods I listed would best serve your needs?

8. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other U.S. Government agencies sponsor "restoration advisory boards" that are made up of concerned citizens and officials to provide input into environmental cleanup decisions. A restoration advisory board (RAB) may be formed for the investigations at the former Hammond Bombing Range. Would you be interested in serving on the board?

- No; go to question 9.
- Yes; ask 8a.

8a. If you might be interested in serving on the RAB, we would like to send you an application form. What is your mailing address? (if different from front page)

Street: _____ City _____ Zip _____
 Phone: _____ - _____ E-mail _____

9. What kind of information do you desire in terms of environmental issues at the former Hammond Bombing Range?

- None
- Non-technical summary of the issues
- Technical summaries of the issues
- Detailed technical documents
- Other (please list) _____

10. How frequently would you like to be updated on environmental issues at the former Hammond Bombing Range?

- Monthly Quarterly Semi-Annually Yearly
- Other (please list) _____

11. Can you suggest other individuals or groups that should be contacted regarding environmental issues at the former Hammond Bombing Range? If yes, get telephone numbers and addresses if possible.

12. Is there anything else you would like to add regarding work at the former Hammond Bombing Range that we have not discussed?

No.

Yes; if yes, please list _____

13. Would you like your name on a mailing list for those interested in being kept informed about environmental work at the former Hammond Bombing Range?

No.

Yes (enter on front page, if not already provided)

Thank them for their time!