

# FINAL UPDATED COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

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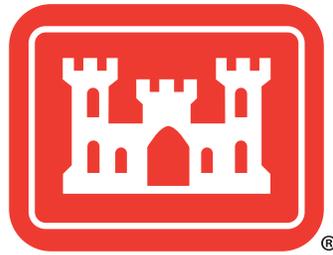
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## FOR THE REMEDIAL ACTION FOR THE RICOCHET AREA MUNITIONS RESPONSE SITE IN STATE GAME LANDS 211, PENNSYLVANIA

Contract No.: W912DR-09-D-0006

**MARCH 2014**

*Prepared for:*



**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Baltimore District**  
Baltimore, MD 21203

*and*

**Army National Guard Directorate**  
Arlington, VA 22204

**Pennsylvania Army National Guard  
Department of Military and Veterans Affairs**  
Annville, PA 17003

*Prepared by:*



**Weston Solutions, Inc.**  
West Chester, PA 19380

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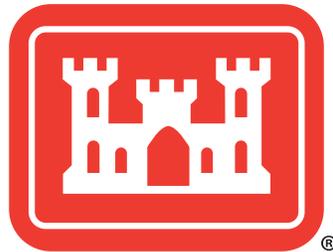
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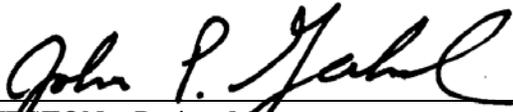


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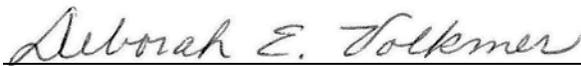
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DELIVERY ORDER NO.: 0009**



WESTON – Project Manager  
John P. Gerhard

04 March 2014

Date



WESTON – Community Outreach  
Deborah E. Volkmer

04 March 2014

Date

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

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AP	armor piercing
ARNG	Army National Guard Directorate
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CRP	Community Relations Plan
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
DERP	Defense Environmental Restoration Program
HE	high explosives
MD	munitions debris
MEC	munitions and explosives of concern
mm	millimeter
MRSs	munitions response sites
PAARNG	Pennsylvania Army National Guard
RAB	Restoration Advisory Board
TAPP	Technical Assistance for Public Participation
TRC	Technical Review Committee
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
UXO	unexploded ordnance
WESTON®	Weston Solutions, Inc.

## 1. OVERVIEW OF THE UPDATED COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Army National Guard Directorate (ARNG) and Pennsylvania Army National Guard (PAARNG) have updated the 2010 Community Relations Plan (CRP) in preparation for community relations activities to be conducted during the remedial action activities at the Ricochet Area Munitions Response Site in State Game Lands 211, Pennsylvania (FTIG-003-R-01). USACE has contracted with Weston Solutions, Inc. (WESTON<sup>®</sup>) to conduct the remedial design and action work and assist with community relations activities. WESTON is an environmental engineering firm headquartered in West Chester, PA. This Updated CRP was prepared using the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) *Superfund Community Involvement Handbook* (EPA, 2005) ([http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/cag/pdfs/ci\\_handbook.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/cag/pdfs/ci_handbook.pdf)); EPA's *Superfund Community Involvement Toolkit* (EPA, 2010-2012) (<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/toolkit.htm>); and the community involvement section (pages 81-85) from the U.S. Department of Defense's *Defense Environmental Restoration Program Management Manual* (Department of Defense [DoD], 2012) ([http://www.denix.osd.mil/references/upload/DoDM\\_471520\\_DERP-Manual\\_9March2012.pdf](http://www.denix.osd.mil/references/upload/DoDM_471520_DERP-Manual_9March2012.pdf)).

### 1.1 PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES OF THIS UPDATED COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

The purpose of this document is to provide information about community concerns and present a community relations program that will enhance communication between local residents and USACE, ARNG, PAARNG, and the Fort Indiantown Gap National Guard Training Center in Annville, PA, as the remedial design and remedial action at the site progresses.

The objective of community relations is to involve the public in activities related to the remedial design and action. The community relations program promotes two-way communication between members of the public and USACE, ARNG, PAARNG, and the military post.

## 1.2 ORGANIZATION OF THE UPDATED COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

This Updated CRP consists of the following sections:

- **Section 1**—A summary of the objectives and contents of the CRP and an overview of EPA’s Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) program.
- **Section 2**—A description and history of the site.
- **Section 3**—A profile of the community around the site, and a discussion of issues and concerns of the community.
- **Section 4**—A discussion of the community relations program.
- **Section 5**—A list of references.

This Updated CRP contains the following appendices:

- **Appendix A**—Glossary
- **Appendix B**—Key Contacts
- **Appendix C**—Locations for Public Meetings
- **Appendix D**—Locations of Information Repository/Administrative Record
- **Appendix E**—Community Interviews Survey
- **Appendix F**—Previous Key Community Concerns (2009)

## 1.3 OVERVIEW OF THE ARMY MILITARY MUNITIONS RESPONSE PROGRAM REMEDIAL PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT GUIDANCE

The U.S. Army Military Munitions Response Program follows the process outlined in CERCLA and the National Contingency Plan. Appendix D of the U.S. Army Military Munitions Response Program’s *Munitions Response Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Guidance* (U.S. Army, 2009) ([http://aec.army.mil/Portals/3/restore/Guidance %20MMRP RIFS 2009.pdf](http://aec.army.mil/Portals/3/restore/Guidance%20MMRP%20RIFS%202009.pdf)) provides the “Army Military Munitions Response Program Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Public Involvement Guidance.” Although the guidance focuses on the remedial investigation and feasibility study phases of CERCLA, the spirit of the public involvement guidance also carries through the remedial design and action phases. The guidance recommends a proactive posture. It advises personnel to research and develop an understanding of local community concerns regarding munitions response areas and munitions response sites (MRSs) and to “take appropriate action by amending communications plans, installation restoration CRPs, and environmental

messages based on input from local stakeholders.” The guidance also states “as appropriate, communicate with the community through the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) or Technical Review Committee (TRC).” An overview of a RAB is provided in Section 1.4.1 of this Updated CRP.

The Military Munitions Response Program’s Public Involvement Guidance section presents key message points to effectively communicate the Army’s reassurances and concerns regarding munitions response areas and MRSs. The key message points are as follows:

- **Stewardship**—The Army is a good steward of the environment.
- **Readiness**—The Army must train as it fights and will fight as it is trained.
- **Sustainability**—The Army’s long-term viability depends on balancing mission requirements worldwide with explosives safety and human health protections, as well as safeguards for the environment.
- **Expertise**—The Army will make use of the nation’s best available and appropriate technology to accurately assess these munitions response areas and MRSs and successfully complete required munitions response actions.
- **Partnership**—The Army will work with regulators, local community leaders, and members of the public to address concerns and ensure the safe performance of munitions response actions.
- **Local perspective**—Provide a compelling message that the Army acknowledges and will address significant local community concerns (i.e., health, safety, environmental justice, economic issues, equity issues, and other policy issues).

The Military Munitions Response Program’s Public Involvement Guidance suggests a number of communication tools and techniques to use as appropriate:

- **Public meetings**—At the discretion of the Army, information can be presented at any scheduled public meeting.
- **Public availability sessions (poster stations)** —A type of public meeting that provides a forum where Army officials and the public can interact in a less formal manner.
- **Community interviews**—Talking and listening to neighbors and community leaders helps to develop an understanding of community concerns about MRSs, current community perceptions, and sources of information useful to communicate interested stakeholders.
- **Focus groups**—Conduct community research through group interviews of 8 to 12 people for 1 to 2 hours.

- **Information products**—Provide information in printed and video formats in language easy for the public to understand. Printed materials include fact sheets, newsletters, brochures, briefing charts, and annual reports.
- **News releases**—The Army will disseminate project-related articles and announcements to local/area news media. News releases must be filed in the administrative record or information repository.
- **Website**—The Internet provides another means to update the public with up-to-date installation messages and project information.
- **Group presentations**—Briefings and speeches can be presented upon request to a RAB, TRC, homeowner associations, civic groups, and others at their regularly scheduled meetings. Feedback from these presentations can be used to evaluate the project's community relations program.
- **On-site tours**—Tours offer the opportunity for first-hand views of sites, actions, and technologies. Visitor safety is paramount.
- **Information repositories**—Military Munitions Response Program documents will be placed in the project information repository.
- **Media opportunities**—These opportunities allow journalists to learn more about the site and obtain an in-depth understanding of the Military Munitions Response Program and the remedial investigation/feasibility study process without the pressure of a deadline. These opportunities let the journalists take stock photos and video footage to use in future news stories.

#### 1.4 OVERVIEW OF THE DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM'S COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SECTION

DoD's *Defense Environmental Restoration Program Management Manual* (DoD, 2012) community involvement section is in concert with the Military Munitions Response Program public involvement guidance (see Section 1.3). Generally, the community involvement management provided in the *Defense Environmental Restoration Program Management Manual* includes the following information:

- DoD shall involve the local community in the environmental restoration process as early as possible and shall seek continued community involvement throughout. The Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP), CERCLA, and National Contingency Plan provide for formal consideration of diverse environmental factors and meaningful opportunities for public involvement on proposed response actions.
- Each installation conducting environmental restoration in accordance with CERCLA shall develop a CRP.

- Each installation shall designate a point of contact for environmental restoration activities. The point of contact shall be identified to the local community through appropriate means (e.g., newspaper notice) and will serve as the first contact for community inquiries or comments. The installation shall also provide contact information for its public affairs office.
- Information on environmental restoration activities shall be made available to the public in a timely manner, using appropriate mechanisms for disseminating information to the public as outlined in the CRP (e.g., local media, public meetings, and websites). However, where litigation exists involving environmental restoration activities, the DoD legal staff shall be consulted on appropriate or required means for providing documents to the litigating party or the public.
- Stakeholders shall be given the opportunity to be involved in updating the installation's Management Action Plan except for updates to elements that include government cost estimates for future procurement actions.
  - DoD should convert existing TRCs or similar advisory groups into a RAB, provided there is sufficient interest within the community.
  - Each installation shall establish a RAB where there is sufficient and sustained community interest. RABs may only address issues associated with DERP environmental restoration activities. Only one RAB or TRC will be recognized for each installation.
  - Opportunities for technical assistance through the DoD Technical Assistance for Public Participation program shall be made available to community members of RABs or TRCs.

## **1.5 OVERVIEW OF RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARDS, TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEES, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

### **1.5.1 Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)**

A RAB is a forum to discuss and exchange information about the DoD environmental restoration program, identify issues of concern, and establish a direct line of communication between DoD, communities, and regulators. Membership on a RAB consists of representatives from the installation, state and local government, EPA, local groups, and the community. A RAB provides communities or individuals affected by an installation's environmental restoration activities with a framework for participating in the environmental process.

In March 2007, DoD issued a document entitled *Restoration Advisory Board Rule Handbook* (DoD, 2007) to supplement the RAB Rule, which was issued on May 12, 2006 (71 Federal

Register 27610) with technical corrections at 71 Federal Register 42756 (July 28, 2006). In accordance with statutory requirements (10 U.S.C. 2705(d)(2)(A)), the RAB Rule Handbook addresses the establishment, characteristics, composition, and funding of RABs. The handbook can be accessed on-line at: [http://www.denix.osd.mil/rab/upload/RAB-Rule-Handbook\\_Final.pdf](http://www.denix.osd.mil/rab/upload/RAB-Rule-Handbook_Final.pdf)

According to the handbook: “RABs fulfill a statutory requirement for DoD to establish, whenever possible and practical, a committee to review and comment on DoD actions and proposed actions regarding environmental restoration. DoD strongly encourages RABs at installations where environmental restoration activities occur and where there is community interest in establishing a RAB. Technical Review Committees (TRCs) satisfy the same statutory requirements as a RAB, but RABs are the preferred forum. If the community is not interested in establishing a RAB at the installation, then a RAB is not required; however, DoD must make the opportunity to establish a RAB available if the community becomes interested and must assess community interest every 24 months while environmental restoration activities are still ongoing.”

According to the *Management Guidance for the Defense Environmental Restoration Program* (DoD, September 2001), only one RAB or TRC will be recognized per installation.

RABs may discuss only environmental restoration activities. Examples of RAB activities may include the following.

- Review and comment on environmental restoration documents and activities.
- Provide information to the community.
- Receive input from the community.
- Obtain information regarding schedule, technical methods or approach, and status of environmental restoration activities.

RAB members provide valuable input to the installation and environmental agencies on environmental restoration decisions; however, RABs are not decision-making bodies. The installation decision-makers will listen to and consider the input from RAB members; however, the installation is not required to follow RAB recommendations.

RABs provide a formal forum for interested parties to meet and discuss environmental restoration activities. RABs prepare a mission statement that details goals and describes its

purpose. RABs develop and follow operating procedures that include guidelines for issues to address, membership, participation, training, roles and responsibilities, and reporting requirements. Co-chairs, a representative each from the community and the installation, lead the RAB meetings. All RAB meetings are open to the public. Meeting minutes must be made available to the public.

### **1.5.2 Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP)**

The Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) program provides community members of RABs with access to independent technical support through the use of government purchase orders. It is intended to supplement existing sources of support and foster a relationship of trust and understanding between the community and DoD. For example, TAPP funds can be used to hire a separate environmental consultant to review and explain a feasibility study or other technical documents to RAB community members.

TAPP is limited to the community membership of RABs. This restriction was part of the legislation that created the TAPP program. The community members of a RAB suggest topics for a TAPP project and are responsible for determining what projects to pursue and for exploring other sources of support prior to turning to TAPP.

Procurement of the TAPP purchase order for technical assistance is subject to the availability of funds. After the technical assistance contractor has completed the task for the RAB community members, the RAB is responsible for reporting to DoD whether the TAPP was worthwhile or met the expectations of the RAB community members.

TAPP purchase orders are limited to \$25,000 or 1% of restoration cost to complete (the total cost of installation cleanup) annually, with a \$100,000 cap on the amount available to any one RAB per installation.

More information about the TAPP program is available in DoD's guidance entitled *Handbook: Technical Assistance for Public Participation* (DoD, 2000). This document can be accessed on the Internet at the following website: <http://www.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a376044.pdf>.

### 1.5.3 Technical Review Committee (TRC)

The purpose of TRCs is to review and comment on technical aspects of environmental restoration activities and proposed remedial actions at DoD installations. TRC membership consists of at least one representative from the installation, EPA, state and local government, and the community.

TRCs are similar to RABs but not as formal. Operating procedures are not required for TRCs. TRCs are chaired only by installation personnel. All TRC members are appointed by the installation. Meeting minutes are not required but usually kept on file.

## 1.6 OVERVIEW OF CERCLA PROGRAM

In 1980, the United States Congress enacted CERCLA, also known as Superfund. CERCLA authorizes EPA to investigate and respond to hazardous substance releases that may endanger public health and the environment. The 1980 law also established a \$1.6 billion fund to pay for the investigation and cleanup of sites where parties responsible for the releases are unable or unwilling to address contamination problems. Congress amended and reauthorized CERCLA in October 1986 as the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act, increasing the size of the fund to about \$8.5 billion. Between 1993 and 2005 Superfund was appropriated an average of \$1.3 billion each year (EPA, 2011).

In the last 30 years, the Superfund program has completed construction of cleanup remedies at 67.5 percent of final and deleted sites on the National Priorities List (EPA, 2011). The Ricochet Area Munitions Response Site is not listed on the National Priorities List and thus is not a Superfund site. However, the environmental studies and community relations program at the Ricochet Area Munitions Response Site are being performed in accordance with the CERCLA program under the DoD's Defense Environmental Restoration Program. Typically at a Superfund site, EPA conducts a series of processes leading up to the remedial action stage. The following briefly describes the stages as they apply to a Superfund site:

1. **Discovery** – Sites may be discovered in a number of ways: hazardous substance release; citizens petition EPA to investigate a site; or state and local governments may request EPA to investigate a site.

2. **Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection** – During the Preliminary Assessment, EPA searches permits, titles, and other records to gather information about past activities, exposure pathways, and human and other biological targets at the site. The Site Inspection involves an investigation of site conditions.
3. **National Priorities List** – The site is considered to be listed on the National Priorities List, a list of the most serious sites identified for possible long-term cleanup.
4. **Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study** – Determines the nature and extent of contamination. Assesses the treatability of site contamination and evaluates the potential performance and cost of treatment technologies.

For more information about the remedial investigation/feasibility study, see Section 1.5.1 of this CRP.

5. **Proposed Plan** – A document that describes the cleanup alternative evaluated for a Superfund site and identifies the preferred alternative and the rationale for the preference. A public comment period and opportunity for a public hearing take place after the release of the proposed plan and before the record of decision.
6. **Record of Decision** – The decision document that explains which cleanup alternatives will be used at a site.
7. **Remedial Design/Remedial Action** – Preparation and implementation of plans and specifications for cleaning up the site.
8. **Construction Completion** – Indicates completion of the physical cleanup construction; however, this does not mean the final cleanup goals have been achieved.
9. **Post-Construction Completion** – Ensures cleanup actions provide for the long-term protection of human health and the environment through long-term response actions, operation and maintenance, institutional controls, five-year reviews, and remedy optimization.
10. **National Priorities List Delete** – Removes a site from the list once all cleanup actions are complete and cleanup goals are achieved.
11. **Reuse** – Information on how the Superfund program works with communities and other partners to return hazardous waste sites to safe and productive use without interfering with the cleanup remedy.

More details about the Superfund process are available on-line at the following EPA website: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/cleanup/index.htm> (EPA, 2011).

### 1.6.1 Remedial Investigation, Feasibility Study, and Proposed Plan

A remedial investigation involves the following steps:

- Identify the types of contaminants present at and near the site.
- Assess the degree of contamination.
- Characterize potential risks to the community and the environment.

A feasibility study evaluates cleanup alternative remedies for environmental problems at a site. The development of cleanup alternatives requires the following steps:

- Identify remedial action objectives.
- Identify potential treatment, resource recovery, and containment technologies that will satisfy the objectives.
- Screen the technologies based on their effectiveness, implementability, and cost.
- Assemble technologies and their associated containment or disposal requirements into alternatives for the contamination at the site.

The amount of time required to conduct a remedial investigation and feasibility study can range from 18 to 24 months or longer; however, actual on-site work may take from 2 weeks to several months. The remainder of the time is spent on laboratory work and report preparation and review.

The feasibility study and proposed plan, which follows the remedial investigation phase, may not be necessary if the risk assessment and remedial investigation do not identify any munitions concerns in the site.

The preferred alternative for a site remedy is presented to the public in a document called a proposed plan. The proposed plan briefly summarizes the alternatives studied in the detailed analysis phase of the remedial investigation and feasibility study, highlighting the key factors that identified the preferred alternative. The proposed plan, remedial investigation, feasibility study, and the other information that forms the basis for a cleanup selection are made available for public comment in the administrative record file. The opportunity for a public meeting must also be provided at this stage.

## 1.6.2 Record of Decision

Following the public comment period and any final comments from the support agency (e.g., a state environmental agency), the lead agency (i.e., Army National Guard) selects and verifies the remedy selection decision in a document called a record of decision. The record of decision details the remedial action plan for a site and serves the following three basic functions:

- It certifies that the remedy selection process was carried out in accordance with CERCLA and the National Contingency Plan.
- It describes the technical parameters of the remedy, specifying the methods selected to protect human health and the environment including treatment, engineering, and institutional controls, and cleanup levels.
- It provides the public with a consolidated summary of information about the site and the chosen remedy and the reasoning for the selected remedy.

The record of decision provides the basis for the transition to the next phase of the remedial process.

## 1.6.3 Remedial Design, Remedial Action, and Five-Year Reviews

The remedial design is an engineering phase during which additional technical information and data identified are incorporated into technical drawings and specifications developed for the remedial action. These specifications are based upon the detailed description of the selected remedy and the cleanup criteria provided in the record of decision. Basically, the remedial design encompasses the following tasks:

- Develop a project management plan.
- Collect predesign information.
- Setting the project schedule, including the remedial action tasks.
- Establish the remedial design and remedial action budget.
- Hire a remediation contractor and, if needed, subcontractors.
- Prepare a work plan to address site issues during the remedial action.
- Manage the design development.

At the time of the remedial design, the site CRP is reviewed to determine if it is necessary to update the CRP. At the completion of the remedial design phase, CERCLA requires preparing and distributing a fact sheet that explains the remedial design and remedial action and holding a public meeting.

The remedial action is the implementation of the remedial design. Upon completion of the remedial action, a remedial action report or final closeout report is prepared that documents the completed cleanup results. For the Ricochet Area MRS, the remedial action report will be entitled *After Action Report*.

For an actual Superfund site, when all phases of the remedial action at a site have been completed and no further response is needed, the site may be eligible for deletion from the National Priorities List. Additional information about remedial designs and remedial actions may be accessed at: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/cleanup/rdrabook.htm>.

CERCLA requires a review to be conducted at least every 5 years at sites where an action has been selected that results in hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants remaining at the site above levels that allow for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure. The purpose of the five-year reviews process is to evaluate the implementation and performance of a remedial action to determine if the remedy is or will be protective of human health and the environment.

The five-year review process includes a community involvement component that entails the following tasks:

- Publication of newspaper public notices announcing both the commencement and completion of the five-year review process.
- At high-profile sites, consider developing a communication plan. A communication plan may include, but not be limited to, a public meeting, community interviews of residents near a site, and a public comment period.

Additional information about five-year reviews and its community involvement component may be accessed at: <http://www.epa.gov/oerrpage/superfund/accomp/5year/index.htm>.

#### **1.6.4 Community Involvement Requirements**

There are specific community relations activities that must be performed in accordance with CERCLA (see Table 1-1, Required Community Involvement Activities at CERCLA Remedial Responses). Additional community relations activities tailored to the distinctive needs of each site and the specific community interests may be implemented.

**Table 1-1**

**Required Community Involvement Activities at CERCLA Remedial Responses**

<b>Technical Milestones</b>	<b>Required Public Involvement Activities</b>	<b>Date Accomplished For Ricochet Area MRS</b>
Remedial Investigation	Conduct community interviews	December 8, 2009
	Establish information repository	February 9, 2010
	Prepare community involvement plan	February 2, 2010
	Hold a public meeting	February 18, 2010*
	Establish administrative record	February 9, 2010
	Publish public notice (announce remedial investigation, public meeting, information repository, and administrative record locations)	February 11, 2010
Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan	Update information repository and administrative record	April 6, 2010, August 5, 2011, January 13, 2012, June 6, 2012, and November 14, 2012
	Prepare proposed plan (feasibility study summary fact sheet)	June 5, 2012
	Hold a public meeting	June 21, 2012
	Prepare transcripts of public meeting	July 27, 2012
	Set 30-day public comment period	June 7, 2012 to July 6, 2012
	Publish public notice (announce recommended cleanup alternative, public meeting, public comment period, information repository, and administrative record)	June 6, 2012 (Harrisburg <i>Patriot-News</i> and Lebanon <i>Daily News</i> )
	Prepare responsiveness summary to accompany record of decision	August 7, 2012
Record of Decision	Update information repository and administrative record	June 6, 2013
	Publish public notice (decision document officially signed)	July 11, 2013
	Revise community involvement plan, if needed	Draft – December 23, 2013
Remedial Design	Prepare final design fact sheet	TBD – 2014
	Provide a public briefing on remedial design	TBD – 2014

\* Additional public meetings were held on April 8, 2010, May 5, 2010, June 2, 2010, October 6, 2010, June 20, 2011, and October 27, 2011.

## **2. SITE BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 SITE LOCATION**

The Fort Indiantown Gap National Guard Training Center is located in southern Dauphin County and northern Lebanon County in south-central Pennsylvania (Figure 2-1). Blue Mountain (also called First Mountain) separates the post's support and logistical coordination area from the tank and artillery training areas. The tank and artillery training area is located in the valley between Blue and Second Mountains.

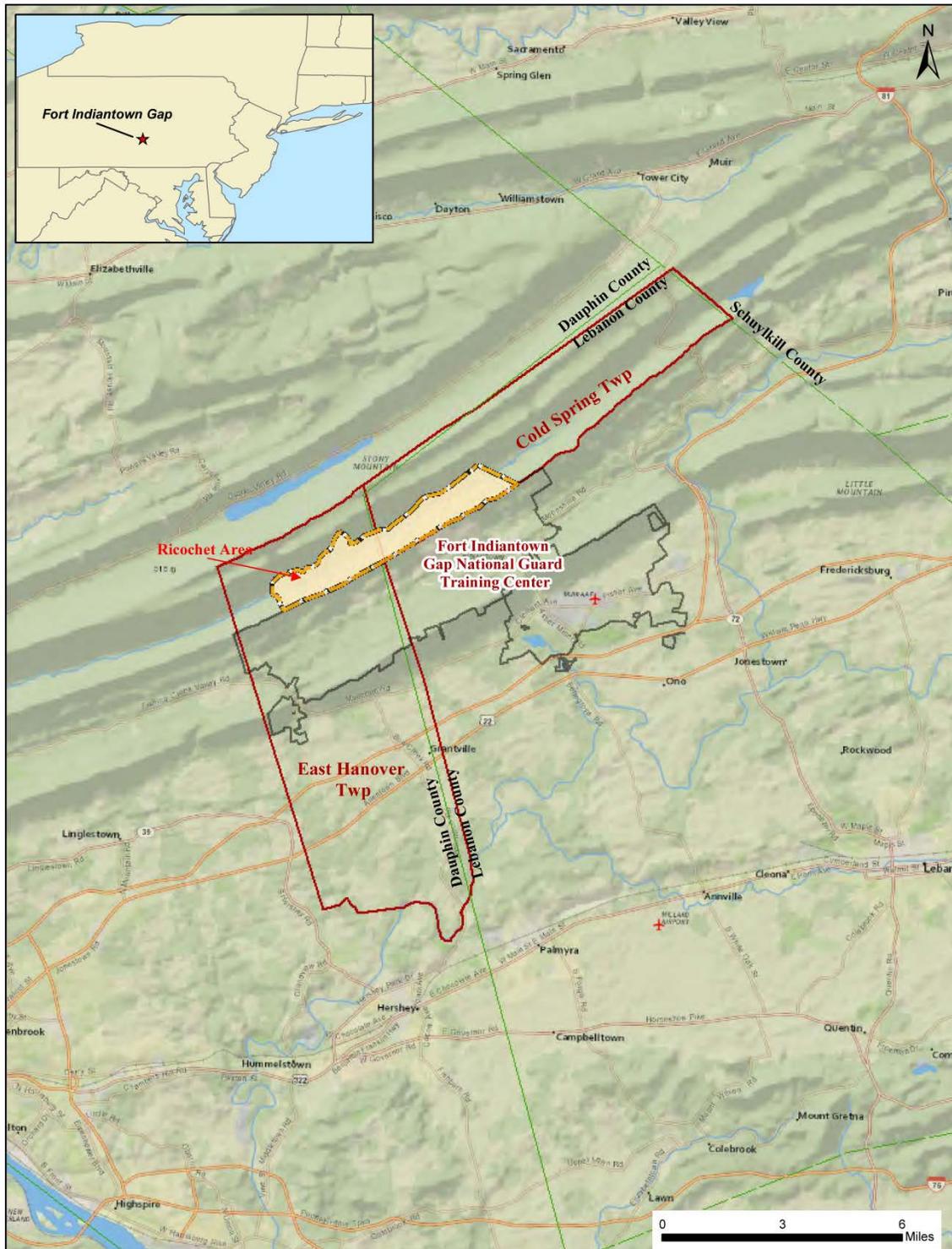
The Ricochet Area Munitions Response Site is located between Second and Sharp Mountains. The east and west boundaries are based on the air space restricted area identified in 1995. The site is located within the Pennsylvania State Game Lands 211 owned by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and managed by the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Also, the Ricochet Area site lies within East Hanover Township in Dauphin County and Cold Spring Township in Lebanon County.

### **2.2 SITE HISTORY**

#### **2.2.1 Fort Indiantown Gap National Guard Training Center**

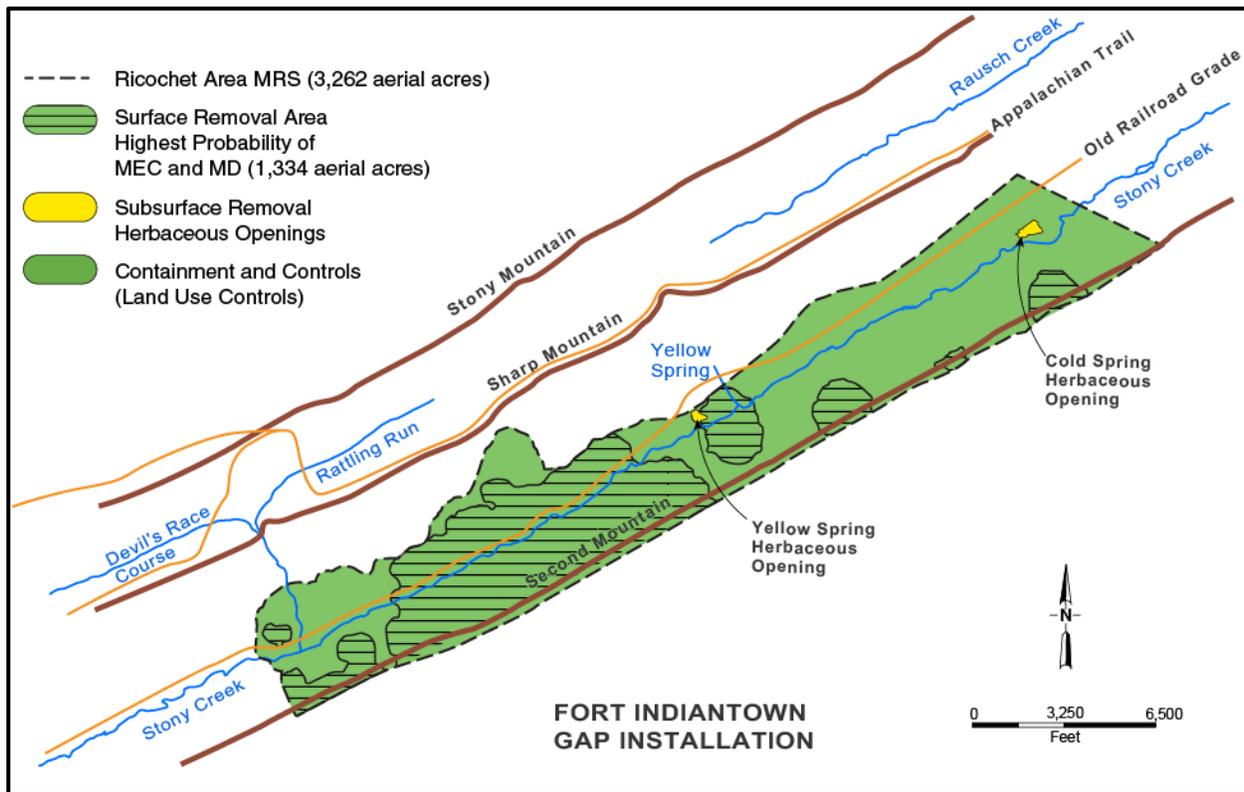
The Fort Indiantown Gap National Guard Training Center was established in 1931 when the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania purchased approximately 18,000 acres as a military training facility for the PAARNG with training maneuvers starting in 1933. The training area consisted of approximately 16,000 acres located northwest of the post's support and logistical coordination area. Weapons fire was supported by an approximate 1,500-acre impact area in the north-central portion of the training area (between Blue and Second Mountains).

In 1940, the land was leased to the federal government for training U.S. Army Infantry and Armor Divisions. In 1942, the installation was put under the command of New York Port of Embarkation and served as a staging area for troops preparing for transport overseas. From 1942 to the end of World War II, the facility supported the Transportation Corps Training Center and served as a prisoner of war camp for captured German soldiers.



**Figure 2-1**

**Site Location  
Ricochet Area Munitions Response Site**



**Figure 2-2**

**Remedial Action Components  
Ricochet Area Munitions Response Site**

In 1945, the land north of the post was purchased by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to be used as the Cold Spring firing position, and military use continued until 1958. The Cold Spring Range Fan was active from about 1940 to 1970, and associated munitions types were 60-millimeter (mm), 81-mm, and 4.2-inch mortars, and 105-mm, 155-mm, and 8-inch projectiles. The Cold Spring Range Fan was a separate MRS from the Ricochet Area Munitions Response Site, but it was combined into the Ricochet Area site during the site investigation because it fell within the same area. The exact targets and impact area for the munitions fired from the Cold Spring Range Fan are unknown but within the current post property boundary.

Between 1946 and 1951, the post was placed on deactivated status as a federal base and served as the National Guard Training Site. The post resumed active status for the Korean conflict

(1951-1953) and returned to deactivated status in 1953 when it was turned over to the Pennsylvania Military District. During the late 1960s and early 1970s (Vietnam conflict), the installation served as the Reserve Officers Training Corps summer camps.

The post was used twice as a Refugee Resettlement Camp—in 1975 for over 32,000 Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees, and in 1980 for over 19,000 Cuban aliens.

On October 1, 1998, the active Army ended its responsibility with the post as part of the 1995 Base Realignment and Closure. At this time the Army National Guard Directorate took control, and the post became a National Guard and Army Reserves training center. The Fort Indiantown Gap National Guard Training Center covers approximately 19,000 acres and now serves as headquarters for the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and the Pennsylvania Army and Air National Guard, and as the primary training site in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for individual and collective weapons training qualification. In addition, civilian organizations with similar interests and training needs are also accommodated when possible. A yearly average of approximately 100,000 students and trainees receive instruction at the installation.

### **2.2.2 Ricochet Area Munitions Response Site**

The Ricochet Area Munitions Response Site resulted from weapons training operations as a fall area for munitions that ricocheted north of Second Mountain. Training operations associated with the site occurred from about 1940 to 1998. Prior to the remedial investigation phase, munitions expected to be found in the Ricochet Area (including the Cold Spring Range Fan) consisted of 60-mm, 81-mm, and 4.2-inch mortars, and 105-mm, 155-mm, and 8-inch projectiles.

The Ricochet Area is located within State Game Lands 211 owned by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and managed by the Pennsylvania Game Commission. The current land uses within the Ricochet Area site include recreational uses such as fishing, hunting, hiking, running, bicycle riding, snow shoeing, dog sledding, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, horseback riding, Fall-Drive Thru, and bird watching. The Horse-Shoe Trail and Appalachian National Scenic Trail are near the site.

Non-recreational activities within the Ricochet Area site include trail, game, and forest maintenance performed by Pennsylvania Game Commission employees or their contractors and organizations associated with the other trails. The Game Commission Management Plan for current and future land use includes road construction and maintenance, special wildlife area management, timber management, and preservation area maintenance.

## **2.3 PREVIOUS STUDIES AND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITE**

Previous studies and inspections were conducted at the Ricochet Area Munitions Response Site to identify potential munitions and explosives of concern and munitions constituents contamination and their extent. A brief discussion of these studies is provided below.

### **2.3.1 Final Closed, Transferring and Transferred Range/Site Inventory**

The Closed, Transferring and Transferred Range/Site Inventory was conducted in 2003. The inventory is a comprehensive history of closed, transferring, and transferred ranges and sites with unexploded ordnance, discarded military munitions, or munitions constituents. The purpose of the inventory was to identify ranges or sites that have been owned, leased, or operated by the Army or DoD that potentially qualify for the Military Munitions Response Program. The Military Munitions Response Program provides the process to plan and execute a remedial investigation and feasibility study at MRSs located on active installations, installations undergoing Base Realignment and Closure, Formerly Used Defense Sites, and other transferred properties. Persons preparing the inventory reviewed installation records, interviewed site personnel, and compiled risk assessment code scores for explosives safety risks for each range and unexploded ordnance or discarded military munitions sites. The inventory determined risk assessment code scores of 3, moderate explosive safety risk, for the Ricochet Area and Cold Spring, and further action was recommended.

### **2.3.2 Final Historical Records Review**

A Historical Records Review was conducted in 2007. The purpose of the Historical Records Review was to perform a records search to document historical and other known information for the Military Munitions Response Program sites at the installation. Based on the findings, the Ricochet Area and the Cold Spring Range Fan were eligible MRSs under the Military Munitions

Response Program. Because the Cold Spring Range Fan section is located within the Ricochet Area Munitions Response Site, the Cold Spring site was included in the Ricochet Area Munitions Response Site. Although the Ricochet Area and Cold Spring Range Fan never served as an impact area or were intentionally fired into, the historical review identified four areas of concern and the approximate locations of inert projectiles, illumination canisters, and munitions and explosives of concern. A live World War II high explosive Sherman tank round was discovered by hikers in the 1990s and removed from the Ricochet Area.

### **2.3.3 Final Site Inspection**

A Site Inspection was conducted in 2008. The primary goal of the Site Inspection was to collect the necessary information to support one of the following MRS recommendations: (1) perform a remedial investigation/feasibility study; (2) perform an immediate response; or (3) no further action. Site Inspection field investigations included conducting 2,000-ft transects for magnetometer-assisted visual surveys across the four areas of concern. Eight soil samples were collected from three pre-determined locations along each transect and analyzed for explosives, lead, and mercury. Site Inspection findings indicated that no munitions and explosives of concern or munitions constituents were detected during the investigations. However, the Site Inspection report recommended further investigation because the Site Inspection addressed only small areas of the site and live munitions and explosives of concern were confirmed in the area. The Site Inspection report also recommended No Further Action for munitions constituents unless munitions and explosives of concern or munitions debris are discovered in the remedial investigation.

### **2.3.4 Remedial Investigation**

The remedial investigation report was finalized in July 2011. The purpose of the remedial investigation was to collect sufficient data to determine the nature and extent of munitions and explosives of concern and munitions constituents. The remedial investigation results were used to develop and evaluate remedial alternatives and provide cleanup recommendations as part of the feasibility study (Section 2.3.5).

The remedial investigation field work focused on visual and geophysical surveys of a representative portion of the site to identify areas of munitions and explosives of concern and munitions debris and soil sampling for munitions constituents. Field work was performed from March through May 2010 and March 2011. The cumulative acreage surveyed in transects and grids was 374 acres across the entire 8,002-acre site. Soil sampling consisted of eight samples collected from beneath munitions and explosives of concern items, nine samples collected after these munition and explosive items were detonated, and background soil samples. Samples were analyzed for explosives and/or metals.

Results of the visual and geophysical surveys identified 13 munitions and explosives of concern and 121 items of munitions debris that were removed from the site and/or destroyed. Cultural debris, totaling 594 items, was also recovered. The 13 munitions and explosives of concern items identified and disposed of included:

- Seven 75-mm high explosive projectiles, classified as unexploded ordnance (UXO).
- One 155-mm high explosive projectile. (This projectile was identified at the southernmost boundary of the MRS during land survey and location control activities. The FIG firing range control was notified, and a U.S. Army Explosive Ordnance Disposal team responded and transported the item to the FIG impact area for controlled detonation.)
- One 75-mm armor piercing high explosive projectile (UXO).
- Four MK-2A4 primers, classified as discarded military munitions.

Approximately 10% of the munitions items (including debris) found present an explosive hazard. Most items, including the UXO, were located at or near the ground surface and at a maximum of 12 inches below the surface. The highest density of munitions and explosives of concern and munitions debris is located between the ridgeline of Second Mountain and Stony Creek in the south-central portion of the site. Soil analytical results showed no significant detections of explosives or metals above background or Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection standards.

A human health risk assessment and screening level ecological risk assessment were performed to evaluate the potential risk associated with munitions constituents. No chemicals exceeded risk screening guidelines; therefore, further evaluation was not needed. The health assessment

concluded that no remedial action was necessary to protect public health, welfare, or the environment based on the current and intended future use of the site (i.e., recreational visitors and site workers). The ecological risk values were based on certain animals and birds: woodcock, weasel, shrew, dove, vole, and hawk. The results of the ecological risk assessment indicated a risk from copper at one location that could affect the dove, shrew, and woodcock populations. The limits of copper was exceeded at only one location, but across the site, copper does not pose a problem. The ecological assessment concluded that the potential ecological risk for populations from munitions constituents in soil is low.

The density map of munitions and explosives of concern showed the site has a lot of munitions debris and some munitions and explosives of concern. At the Ricochet Area MRS 66% of the munitions were found on the surface, 25% at 3 inches, and 9% at 6 inches or deeper. The items were found on their side, horizontal, indicating they had ricocheted in the area. Parts were lost and fuzes were sheared off as the munitions ricocheted and tumbled. At the Cold Spring, Mark 2A4 primers were found at a 1 ft depth.

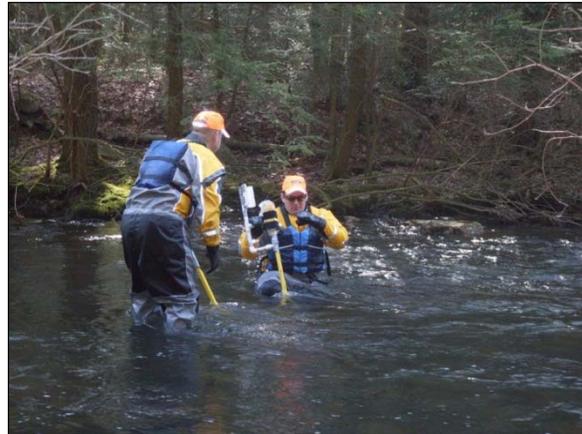
Part of the remedial investigation is determining the receptors that are on site. Receptors are persons, animals, or plants that are exposed to a hazard. The remedial investigation identified site receptors to be hunters, hikers, anglers, Appalachian Trail maintenance personnel, Pennsylvania Game Commission personnel and contractors, and firefighters. By studying various categories the munitions and explosives of concern hazard assessment determines a score in which receptors may become in contact with munitions. The score determines hazard level (1 through 4, with 1 being the highest hazard).

Ricochet Area MRS was identified as a Hazard Level Category 3. The Ricochet Area MRS contains high explosives and receptors are in the area. Munitions and explosives of concern were located on the surface and subsurface, and there is a possible migration of UXO. Cold Spring MRS was identified as a Hazard Level Category 4. This area does not have high explosives, but it does have receptors within the area.

The following photographs show the UXO technicians and geophysicists conducting field work activities and some of the munitions debris and UXO they found.



UXO technicians use magnetometers to search for metal objects, specifically UXO items and munitions debris.



UXO technicians plunge into Stony Creek to seek UXO items and munitions debris.



UXO technicians conduct field work activities along Second Mountain. The warm rocky areas are where the technicians encountered rattlesnakes.



UXO technicians search for UXO items and munitions debris along the ridge line of Second Mountain.



Digital geophysical mapping layouts were set into 50-foot by 50-foot grids.



Geophysical specialist conducts a grid sweep.



Geophysical specialist conducts land surveying operation.



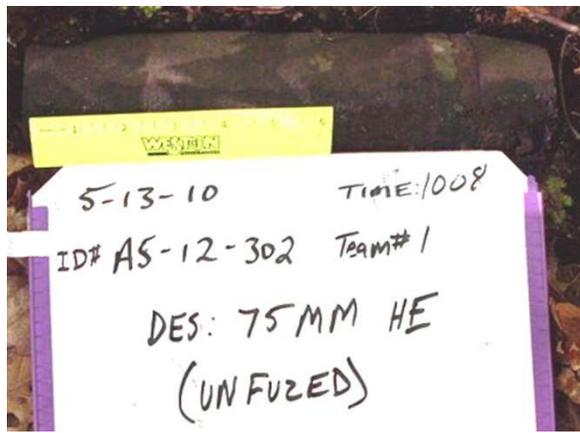
Geophysical specialist establishes survey control for digital geophysical mapping grids.







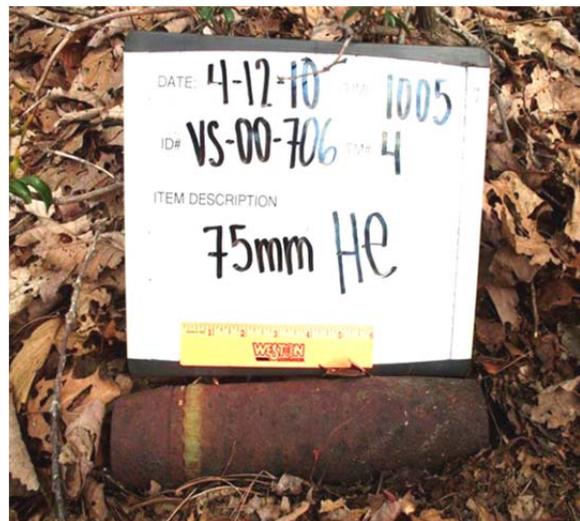
75-mm high explosive, unfuzed



75-mm high explosive, unfuzed



75-mm armor piercing high explosive



75-mm high explosive projectile with M51A5 fuze



75-mm high explosive projectile with M51A5 fuze



A total of 374 acres of the Ricochet Area MRS was investigated to delineate the nature and extent of munitions and explosives of concern. Thirteen munitions and explosives of concern (nine UXO and four discarded military munitions) were identified and disposed of during the remedial investigation activities, and 121 munitions debris items and 594 non-munitions debris items (manmade/cultural items including railroad spikes, nails, metal scrap, horseshoes, and wire) were identified and removed from the MRS. The UXO and discarded military munitions recovered include the following items:

- Seven 75mm high explosives (HE) projectiles (UXO).
- One 155mm HE projectile (UXO).
- One 75mm armor piercing (AP) HE projectile (UXO).
- Four MK-2A4 Primers (DMM).

Following the field activities for the remedial investigation, the munitions debris was disposed of in accordance with Department of Defense specifications. All munitions debris was thoroughly inspected, secured in a lockable container until final disposition at a foundry or recycler where it was processed through a smelter, shredder, or furnace prior to resale or release. Thirteen munitions debris items were donated to Fort Indiantown Gap Museum. Remaining munitions debris was disposed of permanently. Approximately 1,433 pounds of munitions debris and 314 pounds of miscellaneous metallic scrap were removed from the MRS. Cultural debris recovered was inspected by cultural resource experts. Any items deemed by the cultural resource experts to be of historic significance were donated to local museums. The remainder was brought to Community Interest Group/public meetings to give the public the opportunity to claim cultural items before disposal at a metal recycler.

Based on the remedial investigation results, the following subdivisions of the Ricochet Area MRS and remedial action objectives were developed for the protection of human health and the environment:

- **Ricochet Area MRS**—This MRS consists of 3,245 acres located along the northern slope of Second Mountain into the valley between Second and Sharp Mountains and encompassing both the Rail Trail and Stony Creek. This MRS also includes the 12 acres located at the Cold Spring clearing. The Ricochet Area MRS was recommended for further remedial alternative evaluation as part of the feasibility study to be protective of human health.

- **Sharp Mountain MRS**—This MRS consists of the 4,730 acres comprising the southern slope and top of Sharp Mountain. No further action was recommended for the Sharp Mountain MRS based on the lack of munitions and explosives of concern and munitions debris observed during the remedial investigation.

### 2.3.5 Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan

The feasibility study report was finalized in January 2012. The purpose of the feasibility study was to identify, develop, and perform a detailed analysis of potential remedial alternatives that would meet the remedial action objectives for munitions and explosives of concern to provide the project team and decision-makers with adequate information to select the most appropriate remedial alternative(s) for the Ricochet Area MRS. The selected alternatives are expected to mitigate, reduce, or eliminate unacceptable risks to human health and the environment from munitions and explosives of concern, based on the future use of the property.

The following major steps were involved in the development of the feasibility study:

- Identification of remedial action objectives.
- Identification of applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements and criteria to be considered.
- Identification of general remedial actions.
- Identification and screening of potentially applicable remedial technologies and process options for the general response actions.
- Development and screening of a range of remedial alternatives for the site based on the combinations of the remedial technologies that were retained.
- Performance of a detailed analysis for each of the remedial alternatives using the evaluation criteria required by the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan.
- Identification of the most appropriate/viable remedial alternative(s) that meet the remedial action objectives.

The goal of a remedial action is to reduce explosives safety hazards or contaminants of concern to ensure protection of human health, public safety, and the environment in the Ricochet Area MRS. To achieve this goal, the feasibility study evaluated the appropriateness and effectiveness of potential remedial actions for minimizing exposure pathways to munitions and explosives of concern while maintaining the intended future land use for recreational activities, herbaceous opening maintenance, and timber harvesting at the Ricochet Area MRS.

The objectives established for remedial actions guided the development of alternatives for the Ricochet Area MRS and focused the comparison of acceptable remedial action alternatives, if warranted. These objectives also assisted in clarifying the goal of minimizing the explosive risk and achieving an acceptable level of protection for human health and the environment. These objectives are required to meet criteria set by the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan.

General remedial actions that were considered for the Ricochet Area MRS include no action, containment and controls, and munitions and explosives of concern removal activities. Munitions and explosives of concern removal activities include technologies used for detection, positioning, removal, disposal, and waste stream treatment (if necessary). The various technologies currently available for munitions and explosives of concern removal activities were screened for effectiveness, implementability, and cost to assess the viability of each technology at the Ricochet Area MRS and to provide additional information to future decision-makers.

The following remedial alternatives were developed from the general remedial actions identified above and were evaluated for the Ricochet Area MRS:

1. **No Action**—Required alternative to be evaluated by the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan.
2. **Containment and Controls**—Consists of various access control and/or public awareness programs. Examples of containment and controls are brochures and fact sheets distributed to recreational users; signs placed at game lands to notify the public of explosive safety hazards when encountering munitions; notifications included with permits and contracts; information added to existing printed materials; and an awareness video provided to groups and organizations using the game lands.
3. **Surface Removal of Munitions and Explosives of Concern with Containment and Controls**—Removal of munitions and explosives of concern detected on the ground surface and breaching the ground surface across the entire Ricochet Area MRS. This alternative also includes containment and controls.
4. **Focused Surface and Subsurface Removal of Munitions and Explosives of Concern with Containment and Controls**—Removal of munitions and explosives of concern detected on the ground surface and breaching the ground surface in the area identified with more than 0.5 munitions and explosives of concern/munitions debris per acre and along trails (estimated to be 1,334 acres of the Ricochet Area MRS). This alternative includes removal of munitions and explosives of concern to

detection depth at the herbaceous openings (estimated to be 10 acres of the Ricochet Area MRS). It also includes containment and controls, including UXO construction support for future intrusive activities at the MRS.

5. **Removal of Munitions and Explosives of Concern to Detection Depth with Containment and Controls**—Removal of munitions and explosives of concern detected across 3,262 acres of the Ricochet Area MRS. The depth of detection varies based on the depth of munitions and explosives of concern at the site and the detection technology used. This alternative also includes containment and controls.

Remedial alternatives deemed highly viable for use at the Ricochet Area MRS were assessed in a detailed evaluation against the evaluation criteria described in the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan, Section 300.430. The evaluation criteria included:

1. Overall protectiveness of human health and the environment.
2. Compliance with applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements and criteria to be considered.
3. Long-term effectiveness and permanence.
4. Reduction of toxicity, mobility, or volume of contaminants through treatment.
5. Short-term effectiveness.
6. Implementability.
7. Cost.
8. Regulatory agency acceptance.
9. Community acceptance.

Regulatory agency acceptance and community acceptance were evaluated during the review of the feasibility study and the proposed plan.

Based on the detailed analysis of remedial alternatives, the strengths and weaknesses of the remedial alternatives relative to one another were evaluated with respect to each of the criteria. Alternative 4, Focused Surface and Subsurface Removal of Munitions and Explosives of Concern and Containment and Controls, was the recommended remedial action alternative. Alternative 4 was selected because it ranked favorably in the detailed analysis over the other alternatives in relation to the overall protectiveness of human health and the environment, compliance with applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements, and implementability.

The proposed plan was finalized and distributed to the public in June 2012. The purpose of the proposed plan was to summarize the remedial investigation and feasibility study, describe the remedial alternates considered for Ricochet Area MRS, and provide the public with an opportunity to submit comments to the project team. A public notice (to announce recommended cleanup alternative, public meeting, public comment period, information repository, and administrative record) was published in the Harrisburg, PA, *Patriot-News* and Lebanon, PA, *Daily News* newspapers on June 6, 2012. The public comment period was June 7, 2012 to July 6, 2012. The proposed plan public meeting was held on June 21, 2012.

### 2.3.6 Record of Decision

The record of decision was finalized in May 2013. The purpose of the record of decision was to document the selected remedial action for the site. The record of decision meets the criteria:

- A legal document that certifies the remedy selection process was carried out in accordance with CERCLA and, to the extent practicable, in accordance with the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan.
- A substantive summary of the technical rationale and background information contained in the administrative record file.
- A technical document that provides information necessary for determining the conceptual engineering components, and which outlines the remedial action objectives and cleanup levels for the selected remedy.
- A key communications tool for the public that explains the contamination problems the remedy seeks to address and the rationale for its selection.

The record of decision described the selected remedy for the Ricochet Area MRS, Alternative 4 – Focused Surface and Subsurface Removal of Munitions and Explosives of Concern with Containment and Controls. Under Alternative 4, munitions and explosives of concern detected either fully or partially exposed at the ground surface will be removed in areas with the highest probability for encountering munitions and explosives of concern (i.e., munitions and explosives of concern and munitions debris densities greater than 0.5 surface items per acre). Two herbaceous openings within the MRS, that are planted with forages and regularly maintained by Pennsylvania Game Commission personnel as feeding sites for wild game, will undergo subsurface removal activities to remove munitions and explosives of concern to the depth of

detection. Removal activities are focused on these herbaceous openings because of the increased human activity in these locations. This alternative reduces exposure risks to the public and Pennsylvania Game Commission personnel. In addition, containment and controls will be implemented to reduce munitions and explosives of concern exposure through behavior modification. Alternative 4 includes the following components:

Removal of munitions and explosives of concern:

- Focused surface removal in areas where there is a high probability to encounter munitions and explosives of concern (1,334 aerial acres).
- Surface and subsurface removal of munitions and explosives of concern to detection depth from two herbaceous openings (10 acres).
- Containment and Controls:
  - Signs.
  - Notification during permitting and contracting.
  - Brochures/fact sheets.
  - Information packages to public officials and emergency management agencies.
  - Awareness video.
  - Classroom education.
  - Internet website.
  - Appalachian Trail Guidebook editorials.
  - Providing UXO construction support as needed during timber management activities, such as constructing access roads and establishing log landings.

### **3. COMMUNITY BACKGROUND**

#### **3.1 COMMUNITY PROFILE**

The Ricochet Area Munitions Response Site is located in Dauphin and Lebanon Counties and East Hanover and Cold Spring Townships in south-central Pennsylvania. The following sections provide a brief overview of the counties and townships.

##### **3.1.1 Dauphin County**

Dauphin County consists of 525 square miles and 40 municipalities, one of which is the state capital, Harrisburg. The county is located 100 miles west of Philadelphia and 200 miles east of Pittsburgh. In 1785, John Harris, Jr., the founder of Harrisburg, along with other settlers, established Dauphin County. The county was named “Dauphin” in honor of the eldest son of the King of France, who aided the American colonies during the American Revolution.

The Dauphin County Technical School and 10 public school districts are located in Dauphin County. Higher education is represented by Harrisburg Area Community College, Dixon University Center, Troy University, Pennsylvania State University – Harrisburg, Penn State University – Hershey Medical Center, Keystone Technical Institute, University of Phoenix – Harrisburg, ITT Technical Institute - Mechanicsburg, Widener University – Harrisburg, and Harrisburg University of Science and Technology.

The Dauphin County Park system includes the Community Gardens, Fort Hunter Park, Fort Hunter Conservancy, Henninger Farm Covered Bridge, Lykens Glen Park, Wiconisco Creek Park, and Wildwood Park. The county park system offers a number of programs: nature, school, and history programs; educator workshops; summer day camps; and community gardens.

Tourists and residents have a variety of activities available to them in Dauphin County: State Capitol Complex, Hershey Park amusement center, The Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex, Riverside Stadium (sports and large events), Hershey Bears hockey team, National Civil War Museum, Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts, Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art, Antique Auto Museum, golf courses, hunting grounds, and fishing.

Major employers in the area include the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Hershey Foods, PinnacleHealth, Penn State Hershey Medical Center, Tyco Electronics/AMP, Penn State, Capital Blue Cross, and Dauphin County.

### **3.1.2 Lebanon County**

Lebanon County is located east of Dauphin County and consists of 362.9 square miles. Twenty-six municipalities are located in Lebanon County. The county was created in 1813 from parts of Lancaster and Dauphin Counties. The selection of the county name, Lebanon, reflected the deep religious nature of the settlers in the valley. The City of Lebanon is the county seat. Early settlers were German agriculturalists and the Scots-Irish. Lebanon County is a center of iron and steel manufacturing, which can be traced to the Revolutionary War when the local historic Cornwall Furnace supplied much of the iron for cannons and munitions for the colonial military.

The county supports seven public school districts, including a cyber school, as well as the Lebanon Valley College, Harrisburg Area Community College – Lebanon, Evangelical Theological Seminary, and Universidad del Tourabo – Lebanon.

The Lebanon County Parks and Recreation manages Monument Park, Governor Dick Park, Lebanon Valley Rail-to-Trail, and Union Canal of Pennsylvania areas. The county is also home to the Lebanon Valley Expo Center and Fairgrounds, farmers markets, scenic by-way Route 419, Middlecreek Wildlife Project, and Swatara State Park.

Local sites include old Annville, Lebanon Arts Center, Stoy Museum, historic Schaefferstown, Union Canal Tunnel Park, Cornwall Iron Furnace Rails to Trails, Isaac Meier Homestead, and Pennsylvania National Guard Military Museum.

According to the not-for-profit Lebanon Valley Economic Development Corporation, the leading employers in the county are Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, Good Samaritan Hospital, Farmer's Pride, Inc., Bell and Evans, County of Lebanon, Veteran's Administration Hospital, Tyco Electronics, Philhaven Hospital, Weaber, Inc., Lebanon City School District, and Cornwall-Lebanon School District.

### **3.1.3 East Hanover Township**

East Hanover Township is located approximately 12 miles east of Harrisburg. The township occupies 39.1 square miles, making it the third largest township in Dauphin County. The population density is 146.2 persons per square mile. East Hanover Township was founded in 1842 when West Township was split into three separate municipalities, with the third township becoming South Hanover Township. The township includes several historical sites, including Manada Furnace, early schoolhouses, mill sites, churches, and commercial establishments in two main villages (Grantville and Shellsville). In southern East Hanover Township, remnants of the Union Canal (a towpath from Middletown on the Susquehanna River to Reading on the Schuylkill River) exist, including several locks. The township is governed by five elected supervisors.

### **3.1.4 Cold Spring Township**

Cold Spring Township is located in north Lebanon County and is bordered to the west by East Hanover Township. Cold Spring Township occupies 24.3 square miles and has a population density of 2.1 persons per square mile. As its name implies, the township was noted for its cold spring water. A few settlers homesteaded this area in the late 1700s. At that time a hotel was constructed. In the late 1800s, a second hotel was built, plus a cottage, bowling alley, and dance house. The hotelier lobbied the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad to build a depot at Cold Spring. This began Cold Spring as a resort destination. Unfortunately, the hotel and other structures burned in 1900. During the early 1900s, a company tapped Cold Spring water and sold the sweet mineral water for therapeutic purposes. From the 1920s to the 1940s, the YMCA operated the Shand Boys Camp. During World War II, the Army purchased a tract of land and named it Cold Spring Military Reservation. It was a special training annex to Camp Edward Martin (now Fort Indiantown Gap National Guard Training Center). Bivouac and paratrooper training was conducted at the Cold Spring Military Reservation. After the war, military training at the site ended. Today, the area is so sparsely populated that the township does not elect supervisors.

### 3.1.5 Fort Indiantown Gap National Guard Training Center

Although not a county or township, Fort Indiantown Gap National Guard Training Center maintains a workforce of 1,200 full-time and 15,339 part-time employees. The employees include state and federal civilians, military technicians, members of the Active Guard and Reserve program, active-duty soldiers, and employees of contractors and non-Department of Military and Veterans Affairs tenants. The primary mission of Fort Indiantown Gap National Guard Training Center is military training for the active and reserve components of all the services. Civilian organizations with similar interests and training needs are also assisted whenever possible. On average, more than 100,000 individual students and trainees rotate through the installation every year. Military facilities at Fort Indiantown Gap National Guard Training Center include the following:

- Garrison and tenant organizations:
  - State headquarters of the Pennsylvania Army and Air National Guard.
  - Home of the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.
  - Training site headquarters.
  - Recruiting and Retention Battalion.
  - Counterdrug Joint Task Force.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Civil Support Team.
  - 28<sup>th</sup> Combat Aviation Brigade.
  - United States Property and Fiscal Office.
  - All Army Sports: host to the All Army Sports Camps in women’s basketball, taekwon do, and women’s softball as part of the Armed Forces Sports Program.
  - U.S. Army Research Laboratory Robotics Research Facility.
  - 193<sup>rd</sup> Special Operations Wing Regional Support Group.
- Training opportunities:
  - Training and Maneuver Corridor

- Fixed Training Sites
  - o Bridge Training Site
  - o Drop Zones
  - o Helicopter Landing/Pickup Zones
  - o Land Navigation
  - o Leadership Reaction Course
  - o Mine Detection
  - o Muir Army Airfield Nuclear Biological and Chemical Chambers
  - o Obstacle Course
  - o Rope Bridge
  - o Unmanned Aircraft System Facility
  - o Water Purification
- Ranges
  - Automated Target System
  - Individual Weapons System
  - Sniper/Unit Marksmen
  - Crew Served (machine gun range)
  - Hand Grenades/Grenade Launcher
  - Explosives/Demolition Sites
  - Anti-Tank Weapons Systems
  - Indirect Fire
  - Aerial Gunnery
  - Close Air Support
- Urban and Collective Training Sites
  - Combined Arms Collective Training Facility
  - Forward Operation Base
  - Improvised Explosive Device Home Station Training Lane
  - Live Fire Breach Exercise Facility
  - Live Fire Infantry Squad Battle Course
  - Live Fire Shoot House
  - Structure Collapse Site
  - Third World Villages
  - Urban Assault Course
- Virtual Training
  - Engagement Skills Trainer
  - Fire Arms Training Simulator
  - Stryker Mobile gun System Advanced Gunnery Training System
  - Call for Fire Trainer
  - Virtual combat Operations Trainer
  - Close Combat Tactical Trainer
  - Operator Driver Simulator
  - Common Driver Trainer
  - High-Mobility Multi-Wheeled Vehicle Egress Assistance Trainer
  - Mine Resistance Ambush Protected Egress Trainer
  - Aviation Combined Arms Tactical Trainer
  - Shadow Crew Trainer
  - Virtual Battlespace
  - Battle Command Training Center
  - Deployed Digital Training Campus
- Tenant Training Organizations
  - 166<sup>th</sup> Regiment Regional Training Institute
  - Northeast Counterdrug Training Center
  - Medical Battalion Training Site
  - Lightning Force Academy
  - Regional Training Site Maintenance
  - Eastern ARNG Aviation Training Site

The Fort Indiantown Gap National Guard Training Center is home to the non-profit organization, the Fort Indiantown Gap Fish and Game Conservation Club. The club membership is hunters and anglers whose appreciation of the sport and outdoors motivates them to maintain and improve the region surrounding the post. The club sponsors programs for the raising and stocking of trout, protecting hunters and wildlife of the post and educating fellow hunters and anglers on their responsibilities to make the area enjoyable for all outdoor men and women.

Tables 3-1 through 3-6 present U.S. Census Bureau data comparing the residential demographic Dauphin and Lebanon Counties and East Hanover and Cold Spring Townships.

**Table 3-1**

**Demographics Comparison of Site Area Residents – Population, Race, Age  
2010 U.S. Census**

	<b>East Hanover Township</b>	<b>Cold Spring Township</b>	<b>Dauphin County</b>	<b>Lebanon County</b>
<b>Population</b>	5,718	52	268,100	133,568
<b>Race (Percent of Population)</b>				
• White	95.3%	100.0%	72.7%	91.0%
• Black/African American	0.8%	0.0%	18.0%	2.2%
• American Indian/Alaska Native	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%
• Asian	1.1%	0.0%	3.2%	1.1%
• Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
• Some other race	1.3%	0.0%	2.7%	3.9%
<b>Hispanic/Latino (of any race)(% of Population)</b>	4.4%	0.0%	7.0%	9.3%
<b>Median Age (years)</b>	43.3	48.0	39.4	41.0

**Table 3-2**

**Demographics Comparison of Site Area Residents – Employment  
2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates**

	<b>East Hanover Township</b>	<b>Cold Spring Township</b>	<b>Dauphin County</b>	<b>Lebanon County</b>
<b>Employment Status</b> (Population 16 years and over)	4,464	16	212,250	105,460
• Employed (Civilian labor force)	68.3%	50.0%	62.8%	60.3%
• Unemployed (Civilian labor force)	2.3%	0.0%	4.6%	4.7%
• Employed (Armed Forces)	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.3%
• Not in labor force	29.4%	50.0%	32.5%	34.7%

**Table 3-3**

**Demographics Comparison of Site Area Residents – Occupation  
2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates**

	<b>East Hanover Township</b>	<b>Cold Spring Township</b>	<b>Dauphin County</b>	<b>Lebanon County</b>
<b>Occupation</b> (Employed civilian population 16 years and over)	3,050	8	133,193	63,590
• Management, business, science, and arts occupations	32.3%	0.0%	36.4%	29.3%
• Service occupations	21.9%	0.0%	16.7%	18.5%
• Sales and office occupations	23.8%	0.0%	26.6%	24.5%
• Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	7.6%	0.0%	6.7%	9.4%
• Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	14.5%	100.0%	13.5%	18.3%

**Table 3-4**

**Demographics Comparison of Site Area Residents – Educational Attainment  
2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates**

	<b>East Hanover Township</b>	<b>Cold Spring Township</b>	<b>Dauphin County</b>	<b>Lebanon County</b>
Population 25 years and over	3,964	16	182,035	90,834
• Less than 9 <sup>th</sup> grade	2.6%	0.0%	3.2%	5.3%
• 9 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> grade, no diploma	7.7%	0.0%	8.1%	9.8%
• High school graduate (includes equivalency)	44.3%	0.0%	36.9%	45.3%
• Some college, no degree	16.9%	50.0%	17.2%	14.5%
• Associate degree	7.3%	0.0%	7.6%	6.4%
• Bachelor’s degree	13.6%	50.0%	16.8%	12.4%
• Graduate or professional degree	7.4%	0.0%	10.2%	6.3%
• High school graduate or higher	89.6%	100.0%	88.7%	84.9%
• Bachelor’s degree or higher	21.1%	50.0%	27.0%	18.7%

**Table 3-5**

**Demographics Comparison of Site Area Residents – Income and Benefits  
(In 2011 Inflation Adjusted Dollars)  
2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates**

	<b>East Hanover Township</b>	<b>Cold Spring Township</b>	<b>Dauphin County</b>	<b>Lebanon County</b>
<b>Total Households</b>	2,044	16	108,047	51,899
• Less than \$10,000	1.8%	0.0%	6.5%	5.1%
• \$10,000 to \$14,999	5.5%	0.0%	4.9%	5.0%
• \$15,000 to \$24,999	6.8%	0.0%	9.5%	10.4%
• \$25,000 to \$34,999	11.9%	50.0%	10.6%	10.0%
• \$35,000 to \$49,999	13.3%	50.0%	15.1%	15.7%
• \$50,000 to \$74,999	19.7%	0.0%	19.2%	22.3%
• \$75,000 to \$99,999	16.7%	0.0%	14.3%	14.0%
• \$100,000 to \$149,999	17.8%	0.0%	12.9%	12.4%
• \$150,000 to \$199,999	3.7%	0.0%	3.6%	2.7%
• \$200,000 or more	2.8%	0.0%	3.3%	2.3%
• Median household income	\$61,979	\$33,750	\$53,771	\$53,474

**Table 3-6**

**Demographics Comparison of Site Area Residents – House Value  
2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates**

	<b>East Hanover Township</b>	<b>Cold Spring Township</b>	<b>Dauphin County</b>	<b>Lebanon County</b>
<b>House Value</b> (Specified owner-occupied units)	1,768	8	70,505	38,217
• Less than \$50,000	12.3%	0.0%	6.6%	7.7%
• \$50,000 to \$99,999	14.1%	0.0%	16.6%	14.5%
• \$100,000 to \$149,999	11.5%	0.0%	22.8%	21.7%
• \$150,000 to \$199,999	14.9%	100.0%	23.4%	24.7%
• \$200,000 to \$299,999	22.2%	0.0%	18.3%	19.9%
• \$300,000 to \$499,999	19.8%	0.0%	9.5%	8.7%
• \$500,000 to \$999,999	5.1%	0.0%	2.5%	1.7%
• \$1,000,000 or more	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	1.1%
• Median	\$188,900	–	\$157,400	\$160,800

**3.2 CHRONOLOGY OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Community groups in the vicinity of the installation and the Ricochet Area Munitions Response Site are organized, active, and vocal. A local citizens’ group, the Stony Creek Valley Coalition, was founded in 1974 to oppose Pennsylvania Power and Light’s plan to build two dams along the Stony Creek and flood the valley to generate electricity. The coalition and its “Save Stony Valley” campaign were successful in preventing the hydroelectric development. In 1980, with assistance from the coalition, Stony Creek was designated Pennsylvania’s First Wild and Scenic River and placed under the management of the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Since then, the coalition has also been instrumental in maintaining the Stony Creek Valley as a wilderness area. Stony Creek Valley Coalition’s efforts are supported by more than 50 sporting and environmental groups and 11 local municipalities. More than 10,000 people have signed a petition to save and protect Stony Creek Valley.

Through the installation’s Public Affairs Office, the installation has conducted an ongoing, responsive community relations program for many years. According to the 2007 Installation Action Plan, a RAB was established during the Active Army Component environmental

remediation efforts prior to the turnover of the installation to the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs in 1998. The RAB was disbanded at the departure of the Active Army Component because the environmental remedial actions were completed.

Prior to the field work for the remedial investigation of the Ricochet Area MRS, the installation hosted a meeting on December 8, 2009 that included representatives of key local environmental groups. The environmental groups represented were Stony Creek Valley Coalition, Second Mountain Hawk Watch, Lebanon County Conservation District, and Appalachian Trail Conservancy. Area residents were the first members of the public to learn about the project. Representatives of ARNG, installation's environmental office, and WESTON presented an overview of the remedial investigation. The overview included an introduction to the Military Munitions Response Program and how the Pennsylvania State Game Lands 211 area has the potential to have UXO within its boundary. The Army had funded ARNG to investigate the results of past artillery training practices impacting the State Game Lands 211.

The presentation informed attendees about the following:

- Methods that the field work technicians will use to locate surface and subsurface munitions and explosives of concern.
- The tentative project schedule to inform and be available to the general public at an open house on February 18, 2010.
- Remedial investigation field work that will be conducted from March to May 2010.
- Preparation of the remedial investigation report (completed September 2011).
- Development of an optional feasibility study (completed September 2012).

Meeting attendees were given the telephone numbers of the ARNG Project Officer and the PAARNG Project Officer and Public Affairs Officer. The meeting was opened for further discussion of the project and the opportunity for attendees to ask questions. A summary of the concerns voiced by the meeting attendees is presented in **Appendix F**.

The community was kept informed of project activities throughout the remedial investigation, feasibility study, and proposed plan phases. ARNG and PAARNG hosted a series of public meetings that were well attended by area residents. Each meeting featured project presentations, handouts, fact sheets, and/or displays.



An open house on February 18, 2010, introduced the project to the public. Over 60 area residents attended the open house.



A series of posters prepared for the open house were displayed at the first public meeting on April 8, 2010, to provide an overview of the project.



Examples of munitions debris from other munitions response sites were displayed at the May 5, 2010, meeting to show the public the types and sizes of items the UXO technicians may find at the site.



Cultural artifacts, including these spikes and horseshoes, were recovered during the field work for the remedial investigation and displayed at the June 2, 2010, public meeting.



The five remedial alternatives evaluated in the feasibility study were introduced and explained at an open house on October 27, 2011.



At the proposed plan meeting on June 21, 2012, area residents listened to presentations on the preferred alternative and the CERCLA process. Meeting attendees had the opportunity to ask questions and provide comments on the proposed plan.

In addition to the public meetings presented in the preceding photographs, public meetings were also held on October 6, 2010, and June 20, 2011.

Members of the public who provided the project team with their e-mail addresses received monthly updates throughout most of the remedial investigation and feasibility study phases.

### 3.3 KEY COMMUNITY CONCERNS

On November 18, 2013, 666 community surveys were mailed to area residents and public officials. The community survey is provided in **Appendix E**. Recipients of the mailing were asked to participate in community interviews to gather public views and concerns for the Ricochet Area MRS project. The information received from completed surveys and interviews served as the basis for this section of the Updated CRP. Fourteen surveys were completed and returned to PAARNG and two individuals participated in an interview format. None of the recipients of the survey opted to be interviewed by telephone. The following is a summary of the major areas of concern presented by the survey and personal interview.

### 3.3.1 Loss of or Restricted Use of State Game Lands 211

The most repeated concern in the community interviews and surveys was that the use of the State Games Lands 211 would be restricted or removed from public use. This concern was also one of the original concerns at the onset of the remedial investigation. Area residents were concerned about any closings or changes to public use. Some residents were concerned that the cleanup of State Game Lands 211 would prompt the installation “to steal the wilderness area from the people all in the name of safety.” One person asked if the remediation of the MRS would be used as a way for the installation to gain ownership of a part of Stony Creek Valley. Several mentioned that not one person has ever been hurt due to UXO in State Game Lands 211 and that this safety record should account for preserving the game lands for public use.

Along this line of thought, several residents were concerned that Fort Indiantown Gap is not supportive to protect and preserve Stony Creek Valley. One resident asked “why does Fort Indiantown Gap refuse to support legislation that would protect Stony Creek Valley forever?” Another noted that Stony Creek Valley is the last roadless wilderness area left in eastern Pennsylvania and the people did not save the valley 30 years ago so Fort Indiantown Gap could use the wilderness as a tank range because the installation is too small for other ranges. Another resident stated that what began as an attempt by PAARNG to steal the public land in State Game Lands 211 has been reduced to an assault on the wilderness aspect of Stony Creek Valley and Pennsylvania Game Commission is a willing participant. The resident stated that the commission is the primary benefactor of the adopted remedial plan. The resident stated that the Pennsylvania Game Commission wants to construct an access road from the point west of Rattling Run (end of recent timber harvest) to the Cold Spring Road and complete “timbering opportunities based on assessments.”

The most emotional plea from the community survey was “get out of this wilderness area and leave it to ‘we the people’ for our recreation and pleasure as provided by GOD!!!”

### 3.3.2 Progress of the Project and Protection of the Environment

Most of the respondents were concerned with the progress of the project and the protection of the environment. Survey and interviews participants wanted to know when the remediation would be

done and if the project was on-track for completion. One resident was concerned that the project would never end. Another asked if the remediation was already funded and at what cost. Another resident said to “please rethink the project. This project is a waste of money. Unnecessary. Instead of using the money for undue private and corporate profit, the money should be diverted to help the lives of our returning ‘Wounded Warriors.’” This resident was skeptical of the progress and process of the project and asked for transparency. The individual asked to “see the transcripts or minutes of ALL MEETINGS not open to the public (Pennsylvania Game Commission, PAARNG, ARNG, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, and Weston Solutions, et al).” On the other hand, one resident was pleased to have the munitions and explosives of concern removed and stated: “Since I use the area for hunting and fishing, I’m glad the National Guard is removing unexploded ordnance.”

Residents are concerned the remedial action will be a negative impact to the environment. A respondent asked how many 100-year-old trees exist on State Game Lands 211 and if the Allegheny woodrats exist on the north slope of Second Mountain. Additional individuals voiced the following concerns for the environment at the site.

- “The benefit from this "remedial action" does not exceed the ultimate environmental damage proposed by the Pennsylvania Game Commission (construction of an access road and timbering operations). Studies have shown that as trees age they absorb more carbon, "the amount of carbon stored is high in older forests, and that live carbon continues to accumulate for centuries." "Old trees in an old forest have other uses, too. They often provide cavities for a variety of birds and animals that use them for nesting and shelter." The quotes were taken from 2013 Pennsylvania Game Commission literature. Climate change and carbon seem to be topics discussed by everyone except the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Pennsylvania Game Commission should do the right thing and let the north slope of Second Mountain revert to an old growth forest.”
- My primary concern is to keep Stony Creek Valley protected for the people of this part of the country. Everyone I have talked to wants to see Stony Creek Valley protected. We all thought the state’s first “wild and scenic river area” would, of course, be protected. We all love this area.

### 3.3.3 Lack of Trust in the Project Team

The community survey and interviews asked the public of perceptions regarding the environmental activities at the site, the project team, and communications regarding the project.

A minority of respondents were most vocal with their general displeasure of the environmental activities, the project team, and communications. Below are their comments.

- My concern is after 70 years, what is the government's true motive to these actions?
- Prior to this MRS project, the Army National Guard wanted total control of this area with a land swap.
- Look at the cover-up of the minutes from the one meeting at West Hanover. Look at the past meetings at Fort Indiantown Gap when they said the meeting has nothing to do with Stony Creek Valley.
- The only way this state agency can expand is to steal the land away from the people that saved it 30 years ago all in the name of safety.
- Very not credible, trustworthy. Pennsylvania Game Commission must be added to this clique. Why? What began as an attempt to steal the public land by PAARNG has been reduced to an "end run" (a maneuver in which the impediments are overcome by deceit or trickery).
- In over 60 years of activity on State Game Lands 211, there have been zero accidents involving munitions and explosives of concern.
- From the very beginning it has appeared to most people that the "fix was in." Very few officials from federal and state agencies were present at the public meetings. These officials were supposedly sent an email or post card notification. The absence of agency heads and politicians signaled a "deal was done" or the "fix was in."

**Table 3-7** provides a tally for all of the 16 respondents.

**Table 3-7**

**Overview of Public Perception of Environmental Activities,  
Project Team, and Project Communications**

What is your impression of the environmental activities conducted at the Ricochet Area Munitions Response Site?		Are the Pennsylvania Army National Guard, Army National Guard Directorate, and Weston Solutions, Inc. (project contractor) credible, trustworthy sources of information?		Overall, how happy are you with the communications you have received regarding the project?	
Positive	9	Very credible, trustworthy	5	Very happy	2
Neutral	3	Somewhat credible, trustworthy	3	Happy	5
Negative	3	Neutral	2	Neutral	3
No response	1	Somewhat not credible, trustworthy	2	Unhappy	1
		Very not credible, trustworthy	2	Very unhappy	1
		No response	2	No response	4

**3.4 SUMMARY OF COMMUNICATION NEEDS**

All the persons responding to the survey and in the personal interviews expressed the need for information regarding the remedial design, remedial action, and completion of the project. The residents requested to be kept informed through printed materials sent in regular mail and e-mail transmittals and public meetings.

## 4. COMMUNITY RELATIONS PROGRAM

Public information objectives and activities have been developed to encourage public awareness and understanding of the remedial design and remedial action at the Ricochet Area Munitions Response Site. The USACE, ARNG, and PAARNG community relations program is intended to ensure that local officials and interested persons are informed about activities taking place at the Ricochet Area Munitions Response site and have opportunities to provide input and ask questions about the investigation. To be effective, the community relations program must be formulated according to the community's need for information, and its interest and willingness to participate in the community relations program during the remedial design and remedial action process.

The overall goal of a community relations program is to promote two-way communication between residents and USACE, ARNG, and PAARNG, and to provide opportunities for meaningful and active involvement by the community during the environmental investigation of the Ricochet Area site. The following community relations program presents communication tools and techniques.

### 4.1 KEEP THE PUBLIC INFORMED AND UP TO DATE

#### 4.1.1 Designate a Spokesperson for the Project

**Objective**—Provide primary contact(s) for the public to communicate with USACE, ARNG, and PAARNG, and to ensure prompt, accurate, and consistent responses and information dissemination about the site.

**Method**—The Fort Indiantown Gap National Guard Training Center maintains a Public Affairs Office to communicate post affairs with the public and the news media. It is paramount that the WESTON<sup>®</sup> Project Manager keep the Public Affairs Office informed of the site's remedial investigation schedule, technical procedures, revisions to the process, and any occurrence out of the ordinary.

MAJ Angela King-Sweigart is a Deputy State Public Affairs Officer at the installation and the primary contact for the public and the news media regarding activities at the post. MAJ King-

Sweigart and the installations public affairs staff will be prepared to respond to public and news media inquiries. If needed, technical personnel will be available to explain the remedial design and remedial action process and possible future environmental studies and actions for the Ricochet Area Munitions Response site.

#### **4.1.2 Maintain Contact with Key Local Officials and Residents**

**Objective**—Identify and assess public perception of the remedial design and remedial action activities at the site and the work being performed by USACE, ARNG, and PAARNG and its contractor, WESTON.

**Method**—USACE, ARNG, and PAARNG will inform key local officials and residents of the upcoming environmental activities and solicit their perceptions. It is essential that key persons be regularly and fully informed of the site activities, findings, and developments.

#### **4.1.3 Establish and Maintain Information Repository**

**Objective**—Provide a convenient location where residents can go to read and photocopy official technical documents and other pertinent information about site environmental activities.

**Method**—The information repository is a reference collection of site information that includes the Work Plan, Site Safety and Health Plan, Quality Assurance Project Plan, CRP, Military Munitions Response guidance, DERP manuals/guidance, RAB and TAPP information, and other site-specific information.

An administrative record has been prepared for the site. The administrative record contains the documents used to make the decision about the selection of a remedial action. Documents in the administrative record include, but are not limited to, the remedial investigation report, feasibility study, proposed plan, and record of decision.

The information repository and administrative record are located at the Annville Free Library in Annville, Pennsylvania, and on the project website. The location and web access for the information repository and administrative record are provided in **Appendix D**.

#### 4.1.4 Prepare and Distribute Fact Sheets

- **Objective**—Provide local officials, community leaders, residents, and other interested parties with current, accurate, easy-to-read, and easy-to-understand information about the remedial investigation.
- **Method**—A fact sheet will be prepared to explain the remedial design and remedial action. The fact sheet will be mailed to all parties on the project mailing list and distributed at public meetings. In addition, copies of the fact sheet will be placed in the information repository and posted on the installation’s website. Additional fact sheets may be developed as needed.

#### 4.1.5 Update Project Mailing and E-mailing Lists

- **Objective**—Facilitate the distribution of site-specific information to persons who need or want to be kept informed about the remedial design and remedial action.
- **Method**—The project team maintains a mailing list and e-mail distribution list of interested persons and will update the lists from the sign-in sheets of attendees at public meetings and the community interviews survey. During the final stages of the remedial design and throughout the remedial action, the project team will disseminate monthly e-mails to persons on the distribution list. Notifications of public meetings will be disseminated through regular mail service and e-mail distribution.

### 4.2 PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

#### 4.2.1 Maintain the Community Interest Group

- **Objective**—To provide local residents with a meaningful way to become involved, and to provide USACE, ARNG, and PAARNG, and WESTON personnel with a viable means of learning citizens’ concerns, perceptions, ideas, and information on the area.

**Method**—An assessment of the public’s level of interest to form a RAB at the installation was completed. On September 26, 2013, a public notice was published in the Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, *Patriot-News* and the Lebanon, Pennsylvania, *Daily News* newspapers. Following publication of the public notice there was no response from the public to form a RAB for the Fort Indiantown Gap National Guard Training Center. Below is the text of the public notice.

**Fort Indiantown Gap  
Soliciting Community Interest in Forming a  
Restoration Advisory Board**

Part of the U.S. Army’s environmental program is to ensure that the community is involved in all aspects of environmental studies, investigations, and cleanup processes at Fort Indiantown Gap, Annville, Pennsylvania. Community involvement is achieved through, but not limited to, public notices published in local newspapers, maintaining an

administrative record file, and community participation in a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB). The purpose of a RAB is to provide a forum for community members who may be interested or affected by investigation and clean-up activities at U.S. Army installations. RAB members meet on a regular basis to review and comment on environmental data and plans related to the clean-up activities. In keeping with the U.S. Army's policy to seek community involvement in environmental investigation and clean-up processes, the U.S. Army is seeking input from the community to determine if there is sufficient community interest in establishing a RAB at Fort Indiantown Gap. If there is sufficient interest in establishing a RAB, one will be established. Typically, sufficient interest is indicated by 50 or more individuals who are interested and/or available to be involved in RAB activities. For more information about RABs, please access the following website: [http://www.denix.osd.mil/rab/upload/RAB-Rule-Handbook\\_Final.pdf](http://www.denix.osd.mil/rab/upload/RAB-Rule-Handbook_Final.pdf).

If you are interested in establishing a RAB at Fort Indiantown Gap, please contact MAJ Angela King-Sweigart, Public Affairs Officer, at (717) 861-8468 or e-mail: [angela.s.kingsweigart.mil@mail.mil](mailto:angela.s.kingsweigart.mil@mail.mil).

- In addition, the community interview survey distributed in November 2013 to 666 persons asked if there was any interest in forming a RAB. Of the 16 respondents, 11 left the question blank, 3 responded “no,” 1 responded “maybe,” and 1 responded “why not?”
- At the June 2, 2010 public meeting, the attendees voted to form a RAB, TRC, or Community Interest Group. There were 26 votes for Community Interest Group, 1 vote for TRC, and 1 vote for RAB. The flexibility of a relatively short-term, site-specific Community Interest Group was the opportunity the public preferred.
- The site-specific Community Interest Group would meet informally with USACE, ARNG, PAARNG, and WESTON for the duration of the remedial design and remedial action. If the level of community interest increases, a RAB may be formed at the installation.

#### 4.2.2 Hold Public Meeting/Open House

**Objective**—Provide information to the community regarding remedial design and remedial action activities and address community questions, concerns, ideas, and comments.

**Method**—USACE, ARNG, PAARNG, and WESTON will schedule, prepare, and participate in all announced public meetings. The format of public meetings may be in the traditional theatre-style, as an open house, or as a workshop. Organizers of the public meeting will provide at least 2 weeks' notice to the public before each meeting. It is anticipated that three public meetings will be held throughout the remedial design and remedial action phases. Locations for public meetings are provided in **Appendix C**.

### 4.3 TIME FRAME SUMMARY FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

Figure 4-1

Time Frame for Community Involvement Activities

Activity	Technical Milestones					
	Prior to Remedial Design and Remedial Action (November 2013-February 2014)	Near Completion of Remedial Design (February-March 2014)	Beginning of Remedial Action (May-June 2014)	Mid-Point of Remedial Action (July-August 2014)	End of Remedial Action (September-October 2014)	Final After-Action Completion Report (March 2015)
Conduct community interviews	■					
Finalize Updated CRP	■					
Designate project spokesperson	■					
Maintain contact with key local officials and residents	■	■				
Establish and maintain information repository	■	■	■	■	■	■
Prepare/distribute fact sheets		■			■	
Establish and update project mailing lists	■	■	■	■	■	■
Disseminate monthly/milestone e-mail updates		■	■	■	■	■
Hold public meeting/open house		■		■	■	

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## **APPENDIX A**

## **GLOSSARY**

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## APPENDIX A – GLOSSARY

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<b>Administrative Record</b>	The body of documents that “forms the basis” for the selection of a particular response at a site. Documents that are included are relevant documents that were relied upon in selecting the response action as well as relevant documents that were considered but were ultimately rejected.
<b>Applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements</b>	Any state or federal statute that pertains to protection of human life and the environment in addressing specific conditions or use of a particular cleanup technology at a Superfund site.
<b>Base Realignment and Closure</b>	A program governing the scheduled closing of Department of Defense sites (Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1988; Public Law 100-526, 02 Stat. 2623; the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990; Public Law 101-510, 104 Stat. 1808).
<b>Community Relations Plan</b>	The Community Relations Plan serves as the framework to establish a successful information exchange with the public during the environmental restoration process. The Community Relations Plan follows guidelines set forth under Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act and Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act. Each plan must be tailored to fit the individual site and situation. The Community Relations Plan is not a static document and should be revised to reflect the development and progress of actions at the project.
<b>Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)</b>	Congress enacted CERCLA, commonly known as Superfund, on December 11, 1980. This law created a tax on the chemical and petroleum industries and provided broad federal authority to respond directly to releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances that may endanger public health or the environment.
<b>Discarded military munitions</b>	Military munitions that have been abandoned without proper disposal or removed from storage in a military magazine or other storage area for the purpose of disposal. The term does not include unexploded ordnance and military munitions that have been properly disposed of consistent with applicable environmental laws and regulations.

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<b>Feasibility study</b>	The feasibility study follows the remedial investigation. During the feasibility study, the remedial investigation data are analyzed and remedial alternatives are identified. The feasibility study serves as the mechanism for the development, screening, and detailed evaluation of alternative remedial actions.
<b>Geophysical surveys</b>	Techniques used to characterize the subsurface without having to dig up large areas.
<b>Human health risk assessment</b>	A process which estimates the likelihood that people who could be exposed to chemicals may have health effects. The four steps of a risk assessment are: (1) hazard identification (Can this substance damage health?), (2) dose-response assessment (What dose causes what effect?), (3) exposure assessment (How and how much do people come in contact with it?), and (4) risk characterization (combining the other three steps to estimate risk).
<b>Inert</b>	An inert substance is one that is not generally reactive. This is a synonym for "inactive." Inert also means being unable to move or resist movement.
<b>Information repository</b>	A repository, generally located at libraries or other publicly accessible locations in or near the community affected by an environmental project, which contains accurate and up-to-date documents reflecting the ongoing environmental restoration activities.
<b>Lead</b>	One of the elements, a heavy, pliable, inelastic metal, having a bright, bluish color, but easily tarnished. It is used for tubes, sheets, bullets, etc. It is easily fusible and forms alloys with other metals, and is an ingredient of solder and type metal.
<b>Magnetometer</b>	A magnetometer is an instrument that can detect metal objects buried underground.
<b>Mortar</b>	A muzzle-loading, indirect fire weapon with either a rifled or smooth bore. It usually has a shorter range than a howitzer and employs a higher angle of fire. This gun has a tube with a length of 10 to 20 calibers.
<b>Munitions and explosives of concern</b>	This term, which distinguishes specific categories of military munitions that may pose unique explosives safety risks, means unexploded ordnance, discarded military munitions, or munitions constituents (e.g., TNT, RDX) that are present in high enough concentrations to pose an explosive hazard.

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<b>Munitions constituents</b>	Includes any material originated from unexploded ordnance, discarded military munitions, or other military munitions, including explosive and nonexplosive materials, and emission, degradation, or breakdown elements of ordnance or munitions.
<b>Munitions response actions</b>	Response actions, including investigation, removal actions, and remedial actions to address the explosives, human health, or environmental risks presented by unexploded ordnance, discarded military munitions, or munitions constituents or to support a determination that no removal or remedial action is required.
<b>Munitions response areas</b>	Any area on a defense site that is known or suspected to contain unexploded ordnance, discarded military munitions, or munitions constituents. Examples include former ranges and munitions burial areas. A munitions response area is composed of one or more munitions response sites.
<b>Munitions response sites</b>	A discrete location within a munitions response area that is known to require a munitions response.
<b>Mercury</b>	A metallic element that is a heavy, opaque, glistening liquid (commonly called quicksilver). It is used in barometers and thermometers. It was named by scientists after the god Mercury.
<b>Munitions debris</b>	Remnants of munitions (e.g., fragments, projectiles, shell casings, links, and fins) remaining after munitions use, demilitarization, or disposal.
<b>Ordnance</b>	Explosives, chemicals, pyrotechnics, and similar stores. Examples of ordnance are bombs, guns and ammunition, flares, smoke, or napalm.
<b>Projectile</b>	An object, such as a bullet or shell that is propelled from a weapon by an explosive propelling charge.
<b>Proposed plan</b>	The proposed plan is a supplement of the remedial investigation/feasibility study and provides the public with the cleanup alternatives considered, the preferred alternative that meets the requirements of CERCLA, and an opportunity for the public to comment on the alternatives and participate in the selection of the remedial action.
<b>Range fans</b>	A designated area of land in the shape of a fan that is set aside, managed, and used for firing activities of the Department of Defense.

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<b>Record of decision</b>	The record of decision is a public document that explains which alternatives will be used to clean up a Superfund site. The record of decision is created from information generated during the remedial investigation/feasibility study.
<b>Remedial action</b>	Those actions consistent with the permanent remedy taken in the event of a release or a threatened release of a hazardous substance into the environment, to prevent or minimize the release of hazardous substances so that they do not migrate to cause substantial danger to present or future public health, welfare or the environment.
<b>Remedial design</b>	A phase of remedial action that follows the remedial investigation/feasibility study and includes development of engineering drawings and specification for a site cleanup.
<b>Remedial investigation</b>	An in-depth study, designed to gather the data necessary to determine the nature and extent of known contamination at a site, assess risk to human health and the environment, and establish criteria for cleaning up the site.
<b>Responsiveness Summary</b>	A formal written summary and response by the lead agency to public questions and comments. A responsiveness summary is prepared following a public meeting and public comment period about a proposed plan. The responsiveness summary may list and respond to each question, or summarize and respond to questions in categories.
<b>Ricochet</b>	Glancing rebound of a projectile after impact.
<b>Unexploded ordnance</b>	Includes military munitions that have been primed, fused, armed, or otherwise prepared for action; have been fired, dropped, launched, projected, or placed in manner that constitutes a hazard to operations, installation, personnel, or material; and remain unexploded either by malfunction, design, or any other cause.

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<b>Screening level ecological risk assessment</b>	<p>The process that evaluates the likelihood that adverse ecological effects may occur or are occurring as a result of exposure to one or more stressors (e.g., contaminants). Screening-level risk assessments are simplified risk assessments that can be conducted with limited data by assuming values for parameters for which data are lacking. At the screening level, it is important to minimize the chances of concluding that there is no risk when in fact a risk exists. Thus, for exposure and toxicity parameters for which site-specific information is lacking, assumed values should consistently be biased in the direction of overestimating risk. This ensures that sites that might pose an ecological risk are studied further. Without this bias, a screening evaluation could not provide a defensible conclusion that negligible ecological risk exists or that certain contaminants and exposure pathways can be eliminated from consideration.</p>
<b>Superfund</b>	<p>The commonly used term that describes the federal legislation authorizing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to investigate and respond to the release or threatened release of hazardous substances to the environment. The Superfund program outlines specific steps and actions for conducting a response to a release. The official term for Superfund is the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). In 1986, Superfund was reauthorized as the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act.</p>
<b>Transects</b>	<p>Lines for ecological measurements; a strip of ground along which ecological measurements are made at regular intervals.</p>
<b>Visual surveys</b>	<p>A process in which a magnetometer is used to detect metal objects (e.g., UXO or munitions debris) buried underground. Upon location of a metal object, a technician digs in the area to uncover the object. The object is identified to determine further action (e.g., object is safe to remove or is dangerous and requires a controlled detonation).</p>

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## **APPENDIX B**

### **KEY CONTACTS**

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## APPENDIX B – KEY CONTACTS

### B.1 FEDERAL AGENCY PROJECT REPRESENTATIVES

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Wayne Davis (410) 962-3506  
Project Manager E-mail: Wayne.F.Davis@usace.army.mil  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Baltimore District  
Environmental and Munitions Design Center  
-Military Section  
10 S. Howard Street, Rm 10040-P  
Baltimore, MD 21201

---

Rob Halla (703) 607-7995  
Army National Guard Directorate Fax: (703) 607-8329  
ATTN: ARNG-ILE E-mail: walter.r.halla2.civ@mail.mil  
111 S. George Mason Drive  
Arlington, VA 22204

---

Dawn Fulsher (215) 814-3270  
U.S. EPA Region 3  
1650 Arch Street (Mail Code: 3HS12)  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

### B.2 PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS

---

Joan Anderson (717) 861-9414  
PAARNG – PA Department of Military & Veterans Affairs E-mail: joanderso@pa.gov  
Bureau of Environmental Management  
Environmental Compliance Division  
Building 0-11, Fort Indiantown Gap  
Annville, PA 17003

---

MAJ Angela King-Sweigart (717) 861-8829  
Deputy State Public Affairs Officer E-mail: angela.s.kingsweigart.mil@mail.mil  
Pennsylvania National Guard  
Building 8-41, Fort Indiantown Gap  
Annville, PA 17003-5002



---

### B3. STATE AGENCY PROJECT REPRESENTATIVES

---

John Fitzgerald  
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection  
Rachel Carson State Office Building  
P.O. Box 2063  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063

(717) 783-9475  
E-mail: jfitzgeral@pa.gov

---

Scott Bills  
Land Management Group Supervisor  
Pennsylvania Game Commission  
Southeast Region  
448 Snyder Road  
Reading, PA 19605

(610) 926-3136  
E-mail: sbills@pa.gov

### B.4 WESTON SOLUTIONS, INC. PROJECT REPRESENTATIVES

---

John Gerhard  
Project Manager  
Weston Solutions, Inc.  
1400 Weston Way, Building 4-2  
P.O. Box 2653  
West Chester, PA 19380

(610) 701-3793  
Fax: (610) 701-3187  
E-mail: John.Gerhard@westonsolutions.com

---

Deb Volkmer  
Community Outreach Specialist  
Weston Solutions, Inc.  
1400 Weston Way, Building 5-2  
P.O. Box 2653  
West Chester, PA 19380

(610) 701-3913  
Fax: (610) 701-3187  
E-mail: Deborah.Volkmer@westonsolutions.com

### B.5 FEDERAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

---

Robert Casey  
U.S. Senator  
393 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

(202) 224-6324  
Toll Free: (866) 802-2833  
Fax: (202) 228-0604

**District Office:**  
Robert Casey  
U.S. Senator  
22 S. Third Street, Suite 6A  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

(717) 231-7540  
Toll Free: (866) 461-9159  
Fax: (717) 231-7542



---

Pat Toomey (202) 224-4254  
U.S. Senator Fax: (202) 228-0284  
248 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**District Office:** (717) 782-3951  
Pat Toomey Fax: (717) 782-4920  
U.S. Senator  
United States Federal Building  
228 Walnut Street, Suite 1104  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

---

Lou Barletta (202) 225-6511  
U.S. Representative (11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District) Toll-Free: (855) 241-5144  
115 Cannon HOB Fax: (202) 226-6250  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**District Office:** (717) 525-7002  
Lou Barletta Fax: (717) 695-6794  
U.S. Representative (11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District)  
4813 Jonestown Road, Suite 101  
Harrisburg, PA 17109

---

Charlie Dent (202) 225-6411  
U.S. Representative (15<sup>th</sup> Congressional District) Fax: (202) 226-0778  
2455 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**Dauphin County District Office:** (717) 533-3959  
Charlie Dent Fax: (717) 533-3979  
U.S. Representative (15<sup>th</sup> Congressional District)  
250 W. Chocolate Avenue, Suite 2  
Hershey, PA 17033

**Lebanon County District Office:** (717) 867-1026  
Charlie Dent Fax: (717) 867-1540  
U.S. Representative (15<sup>th</sup> Congressional District)  
342 W. Main Street (Front)  
Annville, PA 17003



## B.6 STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS

---

Tom Corbett	(717) 787-2500
Governor, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	Fax: (717) 772-8284
225 Main Capitol Building	E-mail: Governor@pa.gov
Harrisburg, PA 17120	

---

Mike Folmer	(717) 787-5708
Pennsylvania State Senator, District 48	Toll-Free: (877) 222-1897
Senate Box 203048	Fax: (717) 787-3455
Room: 170 Main Capitol	
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3048	

<b><u>District Office:</u></b>	(717) 274-6735
Mike Folmer	Fax: (717) 274-7702
Pennsylvania State Senator, District 48	
400 S. 8th Street	
101 Municipal Building	
Lebanon, PA 17042	

---

Rob Teplitz	(717) 787-6801
Pennsylvania State Senator, District 15	Fax: (717) 783-3722
Senate Box 203015	
Room: 183 Capitol Building	
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3015	

Rob Teplitz	(717) 232-2937
Pennsylvania State Senator, District 15	Fax: (717) 232-2656
46 Kline Village	
Harrisburg, PA 17104	

---

Mauree Gingrich	(717) 783-1815
Pennsylvania State Representative, District 101	Fax: (717) 705-2569
106 Ryan Office Building	
PO Box 202101	
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2101	

<b><u>District Office:</u></b>	(717) 270-1905
Mauree Gingrich	Fax: (717) 270-1854
Pennsylvania State Representative, District 101	
445 W. Penn Avenue	
Cleona, PA 17042	



---

Ron Marsico (717) 783-2014  
Pennsylvania State Representative, District 105  
218 Ryan Office Building  
P.O. Box 202105  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2105

**District Office:** (717) 652-3721  
Ron Marsico Fax: (717) 652-6276  
Pennsylvania State Representative, District 105  
4401 Linglestown Road, Suite B  
Harrisburg, PA 17112

---

RoseMarie Swanger (717) 787-2686  
Pennsylvania State Representative, District 102 Fax: (717)782-2890  
403 Irvis Office Building  
PO Box 202102  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2102

**District Office:** (717) 277-2101  
RoseMarie Swanger Fax: (717) 277-2105  
Pennsylvania State Representative, District 102  
2232 Lebanon Valley Mall, Unit F3  
Lebanon, PA 17042

## **B.7 DAUPHIN COUNTY OFFICIALS**

---

Jeffrey T. Haste (717) 780-6300  
Dauphin County Commissioner  
P.O. Box 1295  
Harrisburg, PA 17108

---

Mike Pries (717) 780-6300  
Dauphin County Commissioner  
P.O. Box 1295  
Harrisburg, PA 17108

---

George P. Hartwick, III (717) 780-6300  
Dauphin County Commissioner  
P.O. Box 1295  
Harrisburg, PA 17108

---

## B.8 LEBANON COUNTY OFFICIALS

---

Jamie A. Wolgemuth (717) 228-4427  
County Administrator Fax: (717) 274-8094  
Lebanon County E-mail: jwolgemuth@lebcnty.org  
Room 207, Municipal Building  
400 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lebanon, PA 17042-6794

---

Robert J. Phillips (717) 228-4427  
Commissioner Fax: (717) 274-8094  
Lebanon County E-mail: rphillips@lebcnty.org  
Room 207, Municipal Building  
400 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lebanon, PA 17042-6794

---

William E. Ames (717) 228-4427  
Commissioner Fax: (717) 274-8094  
Lebanon County E-mail: bames@lebcnty.org  
Room 207, Municipal Building  
400 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lebanon, PA 17042-6794

---

Jo Ellen Litz (717) 228-4427  
Commissioner Fax: (717) 274-8094  
Lebanon County E-mail: jlitz@lebcnty.org  
Room 207, Municipal Building  
400 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lebanon, PA 17042-6794

---

## B.9 EAST HANOVER TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

---

Ronald L. Reeder (717) 469-1033  
Township Manager Fax: (717) 469-1442  
East Hanover Township E-mail: rltreeder.eht@gmail.com  
8848 Jonestown Road  
Grantville, PA 17028

---

Keith Espenshade (717) 469-0833  
Supervisor Fax: (717) 469-1442  
East Hanover Township E-mail: ehsupervisors@comcast.net; Subject: Attn: Keith Espenshade  
8848 Jonestown Road  
Grantville, PA 17028



---

George Rish (717) 469-0833  
Supervisor Fax: (717) 469-1442  
East Hanover Township E-mail: ehsupervisors@comcast.net; Subject: Attn: George Rish  
8848 Jonestown Road  
Grantville, PA 17028

---

Glenn Moyer (717) 469-0833  
Supervisor Fax: (717) 469-1442  
East Hanover Township E-mail: ehsupervisors@comcast.net; Subject: Attn: Glenn Moyer  
8848 Jonestown Road  
Grantville, PA 17028

---

Mike Yingling (717) 469-0833  
Supervisor Fax: (717) 469-1442  
East Hanover Township E-mail: ehsupervisors@comcast.net; Subject: Attn: Mike Yingling  
8848 Jonestown Road  
Grantville, PA 17028

---

Aaron Moyer (717) 469-0833  
Supervisor Fax: (717) 469-1442  
East Hanover Township E-mail: ehsupervisors@comcast.net; Subject: Attn: Aaron Moyer  
8848 Jonestown Road  
Grantville, PA 17028

## **B.10 COLD SPRING TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS**

No listing

## **B.11 NEWS MEDIA**

---

*The Patriot-News* City Desk: (717) 255-8161  
812 Market Street E-mail: citydesk@patriot-news.com  
Harrisburg, PA 17101 Website: <http://www.patriot-news.com>

---

*The Lebanon Daily News* City Editor: (717) 272-5611 Ext. 146  
718 Poplar Street City Editor E-mail: KarolGress@ldnews.com  
Lebanon, PA 17042 Annville/Military/Education: Brad Rhen  
(717) 272-5611 Ext. 145  
E-mail: bradrhen@ldnews.com



---

WGAL-TV (Channel 8 – NBC)  
1300 Columbia Avenue  
Lancaster, PA 17603

News Tip Line: (800) 847-9425  
WGAL Main Switchboard: (717) 393-5851  
Harrisburg Newsroom Fax: (717) 236-3285

**Mailing Address**

WGAL 8  
P.O. Box 7127  
Lancaster, PA 17604

**WGAL 8 Harrisburg**

333 Market Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17105

---

WHP-TV (Channel 21 – CBS)  
3300 N. Sixth Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

General: (717) 238-2100  
News Tip Line: (877) 393-6397  
Fax: (717) 238-4903  
E-mail: news@local21news.com

---

WHTM-TV (Channel 27 – ABC)  
3235 Hoffman Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Voice: (717) 236-2727  
Main Number for News: (717) 236-1444  
News Fax: (717) 236-1263  
News Tips: (800) 366-9486

---

WPMT-TV (Channel 43 – FOX)  
2005 S. Queen Street  
York, PA 17403

(717) 814-5600  
E-mail: news@fox43.com

---

WITF-FM (89.5 – NPR)  
4801 Lindle Road  
Harrisburg, PA 17111

(717) 704-3000  
Toll Free: (800) 366-9483  
Newsroom: (717) 910-2907  
News Releases E-mail: news@witf.org

## B.12 LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

---

Stony Creek Valley Coalition  
354 Troy Avenue  
Lebanon, PA 170466

Website: <http://www.savestonycreekvalley.com>

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Fort Indiantown Gap Fish and  
Game Conservation Club

Website: <http://igapfishandgame.webs.com>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/iGapFishandGameClub>

The club meets the third Thursday of every month.

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Audubon Pennsylvania  
100 Wildwood Way  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

(717) 213-6880  
Fax: (717) 213-6880  
Website: <http://pa.audubon.org>



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Susquehanna Appalachian Trail Club  
P.O. Box 61001  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-1001

E-mail: [hike-hbg@satc-hike.org](mailto:hike-hbg@satc-hike.org)  
Website: <http://satc-hike.org>

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Trout Unlimited (Doc Fritchey Chapter)  
P.O. Box 6592  
Harrisburg, PA 17112

Website: <http://dftu.org>

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Appalachian Trail Conservancy  
Mid-Atlantic Regional Office  
4 East First Street  
P.O. Box 625  
Boiling Springs, PA 17007

(717)-258-5771  
Fax: (717) 258-1442  
E-mail: [atc-mar0@appalachaintrail.org](mailto:atc-mar0@appalachaintrail.org)  
Website: <http://www.appalachaintrail.org>

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## APPENDIX C

### SUGGESTED LOCATION FOR PUBLIC MEETINGS

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## APPENDIX C – SUGGESTED LOCATIONS FOR PUBLIC MEETINGS

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East Hanover Township Building  
8848 Jonestown Road  
Grantville, PA 17028

(717) 469-0833  
Fax: (717) 469-1442  
Nichole S. Crull, Administrative Assistant  
Direct: (717) 469-7655  
E-mail: deppinger@comcast.net  
Website: www.easthanoverpa.com

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Fort Indiantown Gap Community Club  
Fort Indiantown Gap  
Annville, PA 17003-5002

Community Club: (717) 861-2450  
Project public meetings will be scheduled/reserved by:  
MAJ Angela King-Sweigart  
Deputy State Public Affairs Officer  
Pennsylvania National Guard  
(717) 861-8829  
E-mail: angela.s.kingsweigart.mil@mail.mil

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Lickdale Elementary School  
40 Fisher Avenue  
Jonestown, PA 17038

(717) 865-4012  
Fax: (717) 865-5396  
Principal: Dr. Melissa McInerney  
E-mail: mmcinerney@norleb.k12.pa.us  
Secretary: Mrs. Hoerner  
E-mail: choerner@norleb.k12.pa.us

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**APPENDIX D**

**SUGGESTED LOCATIONS OF INFORMATION REPOSITORY/  
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD**

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## APPENDIX D – LOCATIONS FOR INFORMATION REPOSITORY/ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

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Pennsylvania Department of Military and  
Veterans Affairs Website

All of the final versions of these documents are posted  
on the project website: <http://www.dmva.state.pa.us>  
Click on “Featured Topics,” then click on “Military  
Munitions Response Program/Ricochet Area  
Munitions Response Site to access all final technical  
reports and community outreach materials.

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Annville Free Library  
216 East Main Street  
Annville, PA 17003

(717) 867-1802  
Dee L. Neff, Library Director  
E-mail: [dln@lclibs.org](mailto:dln@lclibs.org)  
Website: [www.lclibs.org/annville](http://www.lclibs.org/annville)

Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Friday and Saturday: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday: Closed

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## APPENDIX E

### COMMUNITY INTERVIEWS SURVEY

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## APPENDIX E – COMMUNITY INTERVIEWS SURVEY



### Army National Guard Requests Public Input for Upcoming Site Remediation

#### Introduction

The Army National Guard Directorate, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are preparing the remedial design for the selected cleanup remedy, “Focused Surface and Subsurface Removal of Munitions with Containment and Controls” at the Ricochet Area Munitions Response Site (MRS) in State Game Lands 211, Pennsylvania.

#### Site Background

The Ricochet Area MRS is located between Second and Sharp Mountains within eastern Dauphin County and northern Lebanon County in south central Pennsylvania. State Game Lands 211 are owned by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and managed by the Pennsylvania Game Commission. The 3,262-acre site is located within the 70,000-acre State Game Lands 211 and lies north of the Fort Indiantown Gap Military Reservation, Annville, PA.

#### Site Description

The site is a wilderness area that is covered with mountains and forests. Stony Creek flows from northeast to southwest in the valley between Second and Stony Mountains. A variety of wildlife species maintain habitats in the area.

Cultural and historical resources include remnants of house foundations, an Indian encampment, and structural foundations from both the Cold Spring Resort and the coal mining industry.

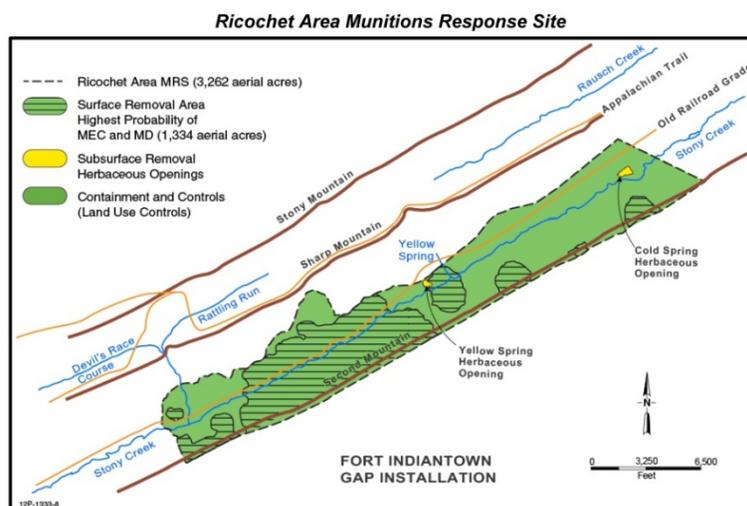
#### History of Ricochet Area MRS Project

The presence of munitions within the Ricochet Area MRS is likely the result of unintentional overshoot and/or ricochets from Army artillery training conducted from 1940 to 1998 at Fort Indiantown Gap. In the late 1990s, a World War II 75-millimeter (mm) high explosive Sherman tank projectile was found in State Games Lands 211 and a 105-mm high explosive projectile was found at Stony Creek. Currently, Pennsylvania Army National Guard artillery training operations use firing angles that prevent ricochets into this area. The Army National Guard reviewed the Ricochet Area MRS for potential cleanup actions based on the remedial investigation and feasibility study conducted at the site. A timeline of the Ricochet Area MRS project environmental studies and activities is provided on page two.

#### Community Relations Plan

The Army National Guard is reviewing the current Ricochet Area MRS Community Relations Plan that was finalized in February 2010. A community relations plan serves as the framework to establish a successful information exchange with the public during the environmental restoration process. Community relations plans follow guidelines set forth under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 and the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986.

Each plan must be tailored to fit the individual site and situation. A community relations plan is not a static document and is revised to reflect the development and progress of actions at the project.



### Updating the Ricochet Area MRS Community Relations Plan

To update the existing Community Relations Plan, your thoughts and concerns on the upcoming site cleanup activities and the information you need from the Army National Guard regarding the site remediation. You may complete the attached survey and mail your comments in the enclosed self-addressed envelope or at the e-mail address provided on the survey form before **Friday, December 6, 2013**.

Or you may discuss your individual concerns and need for project information with project representatives on **Tuesday-Wednesday, December 3-4, 2013, between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.** in the conference room at the East Hanover Township Building (Dauphin County). The township building is located at 8848 Jonestown Road, Grantville, PA 17028. Please contact our contractor, Deb Volkmer with Weston Solutions, Inc., to schedule your appointment. Deb can be contacted at (610) 701-3913 or [deborah.volkmer@westonsolutions.com](mailto:deborah.volkmer@westonsolutions.com). Please reserve your day and time to meet with project representatives by **Monday, December 2, 2013**. We estimate a meeting to last 30 to 45 minutes.

Or if you prefer, we may visit with you via a telephone conversation on Thursday-Friday, December 5-6, 2013, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Please contact Deb Volkmer at the phone number or e-mail provided above to schedule your phone appointment.

### Project Website

All final documents for the Ricochet Area MRS are posted on the project website:

<http://www.dmva.state.pa.us>

Click on "Featured Topics," then click on "Military Munitions Response Program/Ricochet Area Munitions Response Site. This website contains all final Ricochet Area MRS technical reports and community outreach materials.

The final documents are also available to the public at the Annville Free Library, 216 E. Main Street, Annville, PA 17003.

### Additional Information

If you have any questions, please contact MAJ Angela King-Sweigart, Fort Indiantown Gap Public Affairs Officer at (717) 861-8829 or [angela.s.kingsweigart.mil@mail.mil](mailto:angela.s.kingsweigart.mil@mail.mil).

Timeline of Site Environmental Activities	
2013 – July to Present	Remedial design being developed.
2013 – July	Record of decision public notice published on July 11 and e-mail update transmitted on July 19.
2013 – May	Record of decision signed.
2012 – June	Public meeting for proposed plan held on June 21.
2012 – June and July	Public comment period for proposed plan: June 6 to July 6.
2012 – June	Final proposed plan distributed to public.
2012 – January	Final feasibility study.
2011 – October	Community Interest Group/public meeting held October 27. Fact sheet entitled "Final Remedial Investigation Report Summary" distributed.
2011 – June	Community Interest Group/public meeting held June 30. Fact sheet entitled "Draft Final Remedial Investigation Report Summary" distributed.
2011 – July	Final remedial investigation report.
2010 – October	Community Interest Group/public meeting held October 6.
2010 – June	Community Interest Group/public meeting held June 2.
2010 – May	Community Interest Group/public meeting held May 5.
2010 – April	Community Interest Group/public meeting held April 8.
2010 – March to May	Field work conducted for remedial investigation. Nine weekly updates posted on project website.
2010 – March	Final work plan.
2010 – February	Open house held on February 18.
2010 – February	Project website, administrative record file, and information repository established.
2010 – February	Community relations plan finalized.
2008 – September	Final site inspection report.
2007 – December	Field work for site inspection conducted December 18-20.
2007 – June	Final historical records review report.
2003 – October	Closed, transferring and transferred range/site inventory report.



**Army National Guard Directorate and Pennsylvania Army National Guard  
Community Interviews Survey  
Ricochet Area Munitions Response Site in State Game Lands 211 - Pennsylvania  
November 2013**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Affiliation:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City, State, Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions to complete the survey:** Thank you for taking time to read the information and survey. Please consider the questions and provide your responses. Use the lines provided to write your response or use a separate sheet of paper if you need more space. **Please write clearly.** You may provide your responses to MAJ Angela King-Sweigart, Public Affairs Officer at the Pennsylvania Army National Guard by fax at **717-861-8211** or e-mail at **angela.s.kingsweigart.mil@mail.mil**. If you fax, e-mail, or use a separate sheet of paper for your responses, **please make sure your response corresponds to the correct question number.** If you have any questions regarding this survey, please contact MAJ King-Sweigart at 717-861-8829 or through e-mail at the address provided. Please mail your completed survey in the envelope provided no later than **Friday, December 6, 2013.**

1. What is your impression of the environmental activities conducted at the Ricochet Area Munitions Response Site?

Positive	and why	_____
Neutral		_____
Negative		_____

2. How or where do you receive most of your information about the site and its activities/news?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2a. Do you want more information about the site and the upcoming remedial action?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2b. If yes, what information do you want/need to know?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2c. How do you want to receive that information? (e.g., public meetings, printed materials, newspaper articles, e-mail updates, project website updates.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2d. Are the Pennsylvania Army National Guard, Army National Guard Directorate, and Weston Solutions, Inc. (project contractor) credible, trustworthy sources of information?

Very credible, trustworthy	and why	_____
Somewhat credible, trustworthy		_____
Neutral		_____
Somewhat not credible, trustworthy		_____
Very not credible, trustworthy		_____

2e. Overall, how happy are you with the communications you have received regarding the project?

Very happy	and why	_____
Happy		_____
Neutral		_____
Unhappy		_____
Very unhappy		_____

3. What were your concerns at the beginning of the project?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



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3a. Were your concerns addressed throughout the project?

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3b. If yes, how were your concerns addressed?

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3c. If no, what concerns were not addressed?

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3d. Why do you think these concerns were not addressed?

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3e. Would you like someone to follow-up with you on your unaddressed concerns?

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4. What are your concerns about the upcoming remedial design and remedial action for the site?

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5. How do you want to be involved in the remedial design and remedial action beyond receiving information? (e.g., input on public awareness program, etc.)

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6. In 2010, the informal "Community Interest Group" was formed specifically for the duration of the environmental activities for the Ricochet Area MRS to keep the public informed and address their concerns regarding the project. The Department of Defense also supports community involvement through a formal group known as a "Restoration Advisory Board" regarding the environmental restoration process at an installation. More information about "Restoration Advisory Boards" is available at: [http://www.denix.osd.mil/rab/upload/RAB-Rule-Handbook\\_Final.pdf](http://www.denix.osd.mil/rab/upload/RAB-Rule-Handbook_Final.pdf). Are you interested in participating as a member on a "Restoration Advisory Board" for the Fort Indiantown Gap Military Reservation?

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7. What else would you like the project team to know?

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## APPENDIX F

### PREVIOUS KEY COMMUNITY CONCERNS

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## APPENDIX F – PREVIOUS KEY COMMUNITY CONCERNS (2009)

### 3.1 KEY COMMUNITY CONCERNS

The eight members of the three local environmental groups who attended the December 8, 2009, meeting asked a number of questions and also provided valuable information about the State Game Lands 211 area that was useful to the environmental technical staff responsible for the remedial investigation field work. Additional participants at the meeting included the Fort Indiantown Gap Public Affairs Officer and Environmental Compliance Division staff, a National Guard Bureau representative, a Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection representative, and members of WESTON's project team. These participants were available to respond to the variety of questions posed by the environmental group members. The response of the meeting attendees to the remedial investigation and the questions they asked serve as the initial basis for soliciting community concerns. The following is a summary of the major areas of concern raised at the December 2009 meeting.

#### 3.1.1 Disruption of Land, Field Work Procedures, and Equipment

The meeting attendees were concerned about how the field work crews would carry out their work, what equipment would be used, and how much disruption there would be to the land. One resident was concerned that personnel may deem an area would need to be closed completely. Another resident, concerned about the disruption of the valley, asked what the term “minimal footprint” specifically meant. Questions were also asked about the swamp area: How are you going to investigate the swamps and, if you find something, will you dig for it? A resident said that if an item is deeper than 2 feet in the swamp, then it is not dangerous. All attendees were curious on how a tank round ended up in the Ricochet Area.

For the munitions and fragments found by the field crews, residents asked how deep technicians will dig. (The response was approximately 2 feet.) Residents were concerned about the procedures the field crews will follow if and when unexploded ordnance is found. The residents asked a series of questions:

- How do you explode ordnance in place?
- Will you blow unexploded ordnance the same day it is discovered? If not blown that day, what happens?
- Will field crews be moving unexploded ordnance and other objects by hand?

The type of equipment to be used during the field work was discussed. The residents asked what equipment would be brought into the game lands. They asked about the magnetometer and how it would be used. They indicated an interest in seeing the equipment at the public meeting in February 2010. They asked how many people would be on-site every day and the timetable of where the crews would be searching from day to day. One resident correctly clarified that the Ricochet Area was not a CERCLA site, but that this project is following the CERCLA process. Another resident correctly made clear that the project was not closing down Stony Valley – only the areas where searching and blowing unexploded ordnance in place would be occurring.

### **3.1.2 Protection of Wildlife, Sensitive Species, and Rare Plants**

Discussion focused on protecting wildlife, sensitive species, and rare plants. Residents were concerned with the amount of clearing that may take place during the field work. One said any time a fragment of the forest is disrupted it impacts the wildlife in the area. The resident added that removal of a sapling could disrupt wildlife and asked if the 2-foot digs would be equal to the size of the table in the room (approximately 6-foot diameter) or as large as a room. (The answer was table-size.) The residents were concerned about the birds that return to the valley in April and May and concerned that the bird habitat be untouched and not be a factor. A resident asked what would the field crew do if a munition item were found next to a tree of a federally protected bird nest and how would the technicians know the nest was in the tree? How would the technicians blow that unexploded ordnance in place? The residents emphasized consideration of the sensitive species and rare plants in the area: the Allegheny wood rat is endangered and the area has Pennsylvania's northernmost stand of native holly.

### **3.1.3 Safety/Inconvenience of Persons (Hikers, Birders, Hunters, and Anglers) in the Area during Field Work**

Residents were concerned for the safety of persons who enter Stony Valley during the field work phase of the remedial investigation. They asked how the field crews would alert or notify potential hikers, birders, or anglers that field personnel were in the area and/or blowing in place unexploded ordnance. The Appalachian Trail goes through the Ricochet Area and through the ruins of an old mining town, Rausch Gap, where there is a shelter for overnight campers and cold water from a spring. One resident asked how the technicians would notify hikers along the Appalachian Trail if and when the field crews were conducting their search along the trail. Along the same line, the question was asked how the technicians would keep hikers safe if there was an occasion to blow in place ordnance in the vicinity of the Appalachian Trail or any other trail in Stony Valley. A resident asked if an area like Cold Spring would be closed for an indefinite period of time. (The answer was all areas would have normal accessibility.)

### **3.1.4 Identification and Consideration of Cultural Artifacts**

There are several abandoned towns in the area. The towns were mining towns, like Rausch Gap, and a resort town, like Cold Spring, that flourished in the late 1800s and then were deserted when the coal mining operations ceased and the train tracks were redirected. Most of the structures have been torn down, leaving only stone foundations; in Rausch Gap, a small cemetery remains. Residents are well aware of the ghost towns and the cultural artifacts that remain. They were concerned the field crews in their search for munitions and explosives of concern would disrupt the cultural artifacts or the crews would not recognize an artifact when it was found. One resident was familiar with an area where a lot of metal was located and asked if the field crews would remove the metal. (The response was no cultural items would be removed). Residents encouraged the technicians to work closely with the State Historic Preservation Office when searching in areas of abandoned settlements and ghost towns.

### **3.1.5 Project Schedule**

The residents asked about the schedule. They were informed the project schedule included the field work from March to May 2010; the remedial investigation report completed in September 2011; and

the optional feasibility study completed in September 2012. One resident asked why the timetable between field work, remedial investigation report, and feasibility study was so long. (The response was to allow time to develop the reports and for the various reviewers to consider and comment on the draft versions of the reports.)

### **3.1.6 Keeping the Public Informed**

The residents were very interested in the project and maintaining the wilderness of Stony Creek Valley. One noted that in the past, the Army, through the Public Affairs Office, has listened to any suggestions the public has given. The residents were very interested in receiving updates as the field work is being completed. The residents supported the idea of the Army posting weekly updates for the duration of the field work. Residents admitted to their curiosity about the project and asked if interim reports would be prepared and released to the public instead of having to wait until September 2011 (remedial investigation report) and September 2012 (optional feasibility study).