



## Army Operational Range Assessment Program

**2006 Army Environmental Cleanup  
Workshop**

**San Antonio, Texas**

**February 3, 2006**

# Operational Range Assessments



## Purpose of Brief

- **Status**
- **Intent**
- **Details**
- **Implementation**

# Operational Range Assessments

## Status



- **Army Chief of Staff for Installation Management (ACSIM) signed tasking memorandum requiring range assessments be conducted on all operational ranges.**
- **Qualitative Range Assessment Protocol developed.**
- **“Proof of Concept” of Protocols underway.**
- **Operational Range Assessment Program to be initiated in FY05.**

# Operational Range Assessments



## Intent

- **Operational Range Assessments are part of the Army's overall Sustainable Range Program (SRP).**
- **SRP Tenet: Information Excellence – Ensure the Army has the best available data to support operational ranges.**
- **Address concerns of public, stakeholders and Congress – fear that Munitions Constituents (MC) migrating off-range.**

**Bottom Line: - Keep range open and available for training and testing while protecting human health and the environment.**

# Operational Range Assessments

## Details



- **Includes 378 facilities in the United States and territories with range complexes/ranges.**
- **Will focus on off-range migration pathways and Munitions Constituents (MC).**
- **Use existing data to greatest extent possible.**
- **Phase I Qualitative Assessment - Collect data from existing sources... paper drill (all range complexes), site visits as needed.**
- **Phase II Quantitative Assessment - field sampling (only as needed).**

# Operational Range Assessments



## Details

### Phase I Qualitative Assessments

- **Conduct at all range complexes in US (FY05-09).**
- **Will use existing data (e.g. firing information, range inventory, census data, environmental reports). Data will be collected centrally before visiting installations.**
- **Contractors will analyze data to identify:**
  - **Where MC may be concentrated (e.g. impact areas, firing points);**
  - **How it might move off-range (e.g. streams, groundwater);**
  - **Who/what will be impacted (e.g. nearby communities/sensitive environments).**
- **Reports will have one of three conclusions:**
  - **Unlikely - Review in five years;**
  - **Potential - Go to Phase II Quantitative Assessment (sampling);**
  - **Referred - Referred to appropriate cleanup program.**

# Operational Range Assessments



## Details

### Phase II Quantitative Assessments

- **Conducted on ranges where Phase I Qualitative Assessments show potential problem. Planned start FY08.**
- **Sample likely migration pathways (surface water (SW), ground water (GW), soil, sediments) identified in Phase I Qualitative Assessments.**
- **Will use regulatory accepted processes (data quality objectives) to determine the number, location for samples collected in the field.**
- **Will sample for MC using approved analytical methods.**

# Operational Range Assessments

## Details

### If Actions Are Required

- **If qualitative/quantitative assessments uncover off-range migration of MC that involves risk, the installation will be referred to the appropriate environmental cleanup program for execution and funding.**
  - **G-3 (Trainers) will also be notified**
  - **Mitigation actions will require innovative methods in concert with trainers and training needs.**
- **If the assessments uncover an imminent, time critical, H&S exposure scenario then the affected installation will apply through the Compliance Deficiency Resolution (CDR) process for funding.**
  - **This process will allow resources to be obligated within 3 weeks of discovery for critical environmental deficiencies.**



# Operational Range Assessments



## Details Five-Year Review

- **Ranges will be reviewed every five years from the date of the initial assessments.**
- **The purpose is to determine if conclusions made in previous study remain valid (new range, new surrounding community).**
- **If no significant change, wait another five years for review.**
- **If conclusions not valid, conduct a more in-depth Phase I/II range assessment.**

# Operational Range Assessments



## Implementation Funding/Execution

- The Army's assessment program will be centrally funded.
- Phase I Qualitative Assessment will be centrally executed by contractor(s) through Baltimore USACE.
- The centralized approach will:
  - ensure consistency and accountability of the programs;
  - achieve economies of scale;
  - allow flexibility to adapt to rapidly changing requirements (e.g. the "next" perchlorate, BRAC).
- Phase I Qualitative Assessments completed FY09
- Phase II Quantitative Assessments commence dependent upon funding and will be executed at installation level with technical oversight USAEC/USACHPPM.