

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Conduct Air Force Security Training at the Clinton Training Site



**911th AIRLIFT WING
AIR FORCE RESERVE COMMAND**

**Pittsburgh International Airport Air Reserve Station
Coraopolis, PA 15108-4421**

April 2005

Prepared in accordance with
32 CFR 989

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The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969

Prepared by: 911AW/MSG/CEV
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FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

FOR

CONDUCT AIR FORCE SECURITY TRAINING AT THE CLINTON TRAINING SITE

Agency: United States Air Force, Air Force Reserve Command

Background: Under the National Environmental Policy Act, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing the Act (40 CFR 1500-1508), Department of Defense Directive 6050.1, 32 CFR 989, *Environmental Impact Analysis Process*, which implements these regulations, and other applicable Federal, state, and local regulations and Air Force policies, the United States Air Force has conducted an assessment of the Proposed Action: *CONDUCT AIR FORCE SECURITY TRAINING AT THE CLINTON TRAINING SITE*.

Proposed Action:

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Summary of Findings: This Environmental Assessment identified and evaluated potential impacts to the following resources: noise, air quality, soil and water resources.

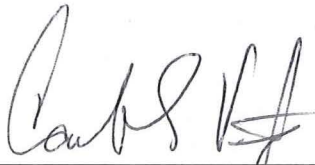
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Finding of No Significant Impact: Based on review of the facts and analysis contained in this Environmental Assessment, it is concluded that the Proposed Action will result in No Significant Impact. Accordingly, the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act regulations promulgated by the President's Council on Environmental Quality and 32 CFR 989 are fulfilled. An Environmental Impact Statement is not required and will not be prepared for this Proposed Action.



Carl Vogt, Colonel, USAFR
Chairperson, Environmental Protection Committee
Commander, 911 Airlift Wing

24 MAY 05
Date

Concur:

Toby E. Croyle
99th Regional Readiness Command
Facility Management Officer

Date

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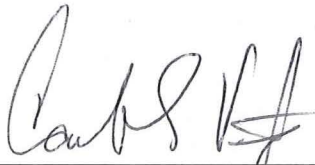
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Conduct Air Force Security Training at the Army Clinton Training Site

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

The Clinton Training Site is owned and operated by the United States Army Reserve Command (USARC), 99th Regional Support Command. The land was originally owned by the Air Force in 1955 and later acquired by the Army in 1969. The training site is located in Beaver County, Independence Township, in southwest Pennsylvania approximately 2.5 miles northwest of Clinton, Pennsylvania. The training site, comprised of just over 150 acres, is situated between farms in a rural region of the state.

The training conducted by the Army is limited to light maneuver with training facilities consisting of bunkers, bivouac sites, an obstacle course, and a Nuclear, Biological and Chemical (NBC) proficiency course and decontamination training facilities. Appendix B is a summary and diagram of the Clinton Training Site. Appendix C is a detailed diagram of the Clinton Training Area.

The Air Force leases 43 acres of the Clinton Training Site from the Army, approximately 2 acres of which the Small Arms Firing Range is located. The firing range is used to provide necessary weapons instruction and certification to all members of the 911th AW military and civilian personnel. Certification is required for their duty position for civilian contractors, military personnel (active and reserve), and federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. These range facilities permit the firing of various rifles, pistols, shotguns, and machine guns including 50 caliber. Appendix D has pictures of the facilities in the Clinton Training Area and the Small Arms Firing Range.

Two Environmental Assessments have been prepared for the Small Arms Firing Range to date, with conclusions of FONSI's. See References [1] and [2]. Reference [1] assessed the use of small arms permitting the firing of M16 rifles, 12 gauge shotguns, .38 caliber handguns, and M60 machine guns for daytime use only. Nighttime shooting was not anticipated at the time of construction of the original Small Arms Firing Range in 1990. Reference [2] assessed the operation of the Small Arms Firing Range to allow nighttime shooting to 2230. In addition, Reference [2] assessed the conduct of training exercises similar to the Proposed Action at the Starvaggi Industries Bivouac area, which is leased to the Air Force, located to the west of the Small Arms Firing Range. Figure 1-1 of Reference [2] shows the locations of the Small Arms Firing Range and the Starvaggi Industries Bivouac area.

1.2 PURPOSE

The purpose of this action is to conduct Air Force Security training for up to 120 personnel from the Pittsburgh Air Reserve Station, 911th Airlift Wing. These personnel are from the 911th Airlift Wing Civil Engineering Squadron and the Security Forces Squadron.

1.3 NEED

Airbase Defense Sustainment training is required for Security Forces readiness in accordance with AFI 36-2225. In addition, Security Forces training is required by the Civil Engineering Training Plan.

1.4 DECISION TO BE MADE

The decision to be made is whether or not to conduct this Air Force Security training at the Army owned Clinton Training Site located in Beaver County, Pennsylvania or to conduct this training at an alternate location.

1.5 SCOPE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

1.5.1 Relevant Environmental Issues

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
Conduct Air Force Security Training at the Army Clinton Training Site

Environmental issues considered relevant in the analysis of the Proposed Action are the impacts upon noise, air quality, soil and water contamination. The relevant issues are:

Air Installation Compatible Use Zone/Land Use: Small arms rifles, pistols, and machine guns are fired on a recurring basis at the Air Force leased and operated firing range. In addition to the small arms munitions (5.56mm blanks, 7.62mm blanks, and 5.56mm blank linked Squad Automatic Weapon-SAW) that will be used in the Proposed Action, other munitions will be used in the training exercises.

The munitions will include the following: M119 Whistling Boobytrap Simulator produces a whistling noise. The M115A2 Ground Burst Projectile Simulator produces a flash and a loud report. The M18 Smoke Grenades and M83TA Practice Grenade emit smoke with no noise. The M228 Practice Hand Grenade Fuze, which is designed for use with the M69 practice grenade, produces a loud report like that of a firecracker and smoke. The current land use classification would remain unchanged as a result of the Proposed Action. Since these munitions produce noise, smoke, or a flash, this potentially could be undesirable to some of the local residences.

Air Quality: Air emissions from the use of the various munitions from the Proposed Action and vehicular emissions may affect the local air quality.

Geology, soils, and water resources: No major change in topography or land use will occur at the site as a result of the Proposed Action. A consequence of training using munitions containing explosives, propellants, and pyrotechnics is the potential contamination of the environment including soil, water, and air by unexploded munitions components and by-products of combustion.

1.5.2 Non-Relevant Environmental Issues

Environmental issues considered non-relevant in the analysis of the Proposed Action are the impacts on safety and occupational health, hazardous materials/waste, biological resources, cultural resources, and socioeconomic factors. Because these impacts are considered negligible, they are not addressed further in this Environmental Assessment. A brief explanation of why these issues are considered non-relevant is listed as follows.

Safety and Occupational Health: The Safety and Occupational Health program at the 911th AW is administered by the base Ground Safety Officer and the base Bioenvironmental Engineer in accordance with all OSHA and AF requirements. All work done on the site is required to conform to these requirements. The Safety Supplement to Operation Steel Hammer OPLAN, Annex V, dated 21May04 was developed by the 911th AW Safety Office to address all Safety concerns with the Proposed Action. See Reference [3].

Hazardous Material/Waste: No additional hazardous materials use or waste generation is anticipated during the operation of the Proposed Action. If there is a spill as a result of the Proposed Action such as a fuel or an oil leak, spill procedures established by the latest 911th AW Hazardous Material Emergency Planning and Response plan will be followed. See Reference [4].

Biological Resources: Biological resources including wetlands, floodplains, and threatened or endangered species will not be impacted. There are no visible wetlands or floodplains at the Clinton Training Site. The U.S. Army Reserve 99th Regional Support Command contracted Horne Engineering Services, Inc. to prepare an Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan and EA for its training sites including the Clinton Training Site. As a part of this effort, Horne Engineering Services, Inc. contacted the following agencies in 2002 to determine if there are any threatened or endangered species at these training sites:

- a. Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior
- b. Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- c. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission

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d. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Game Commission

All of these agencies concluded that except for occasional transient species, no federally listed or proposed threatened or endangered species are known to exist at the Clinton Training Site. See Appendices E-H.

Cultural Resources: Cultural resources including historic, architectural, or archaeological resources will not be impacted. Reference [1] indicated that there were no known historic or archaeological features in the location of the Small Arms Firing Range which was supported by field observations showing this area was disturbed by agricultural activities probably 30 to 40 years ago.

The only existing buildings are the Air Force owned Small Arms Firing Range and administrative building and buildings in the Army owned Clinton Training Area built in the 1990s. In the area of the Proposed Action, no buildings will be affected or altered.

As a result of the extensive historical agricultural activity in this area, potential impacts to archaeological resources are unlikely. The only ground disturbance due to the Proposed Action is digging of the GBS detonation pits. These pits are small in size (6 x 6 inches wide x 18 inches deep) and will be located at the end of the access roads on previously disturbed ground. See Appendices C and D for pictures of the locations of the pits. If unanticipated discoveries occur, to prevent archaeological resources from being compromised, the Cultural Resources Manager will be notified, and established procedures will be followed in accordance with AFI 32-7065.

Socioeconomic: The Proposed Action is for training of up to 120 Air Force personnel for a short duration (6-20 days) with a frequency of 1-2 times annually. There will be no increase in personnel manning levels or resulting permanent impact on socioeconomic factors from the Proposed Action. The effect on the local economy, if any, would be minimal.

2. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

2.1 PROPOSED ACTION

The Air Force proposes to conduct Security training at the Army owned Clinton Training Site located in Beaver County, Pennsylvania. The Air Force Security Forces proposes to conduct Airbase Defense Sustainment training; the 911th Civil Engineering Squadron proposes to conduct Security training to satisfy the Civil Engineering Training Plan. The training will be conducted for between 6 and 20 days with a frequency of 1-2 times annually. Training will occur between the hours of 0700 to 2230 with no firing to occur after 2000. Flares will not be used after dark. The Security Forces training will be conducted in accordance with the Safety Supplement to Operation Steel Hammer OPLAN Annex V dated 21May04. See Reference [3]. The Security training for the 911th Civil Engineering Squadron will be conducted in accordance with the Civil Engineering Training Plan. The following munitions will be used in this training:

ITEM #	NATIONAL STOCK NUMBER	NOMENCLATURE	HAZARD CLASS/DIVISION	QTY.	NET EXPLOSIVE WEIGHT
1	1305-00-182-3217 A080	5.56mm, Blank	1.4S	10,000	16.0
2	1305-00-752-8087 A111	7.62mm, Blank	1.4S	7,500	18.75
3	1305-01-258-8694 A075	5.56mm Blank Linked SAW	1.4S	7223	7.9
4	1330-00-289-6851 G940	Grenade, Smoke, M18 (Green)	1.4S	12	8.64
5	1330-00-289-6852 G950	Grenade, Smoke, M18 (Red)	1.4S	16	11.52
6	1330-00-289-6853 G955	Grenade, Smoke, M18 (Violet)	1.4S	16	11.52
7	1330-00-289-6854 G945	Grenade, Smoke, M18 (Yellow)	1.4S	16	11.52
8	1330-01-380-0287 G982	Grenade, Practice, M83TA	1.4S	28	.41
9	1370-00-028-5255 L600	Simulator, Boobytrap, Whistling, M119	1.2.2G	46	4.8
10	1370-00-752-8126 L594	Simulator, Projectile, Ground Burst, M115A2	1.3G	46	6.4
11	1330-00-168-5502 G878	Fuze, Hand Grenade, Practice, M228	1.4B	196	.88

TABLE 1

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This training is planned to be conducted at several locations on the Clinton Training Site. See Appendix I for a map showing the location of the Proposed Action and Appendix C which is a more detailed diagram of the Clinton Training Area. The training with items 1-3 will occur at the Small Arms Firing Range. The training with items 4-10 will occur at the Ground Burst Simulator (GBS) Detonation Pits 1, 2, and 3 to be constructed at the Clinton Training Area, located approximately 1/4 mile northwest of the Small Arms Firing Range. The GBS Detonation Pits do not currently exist. Up to 3 GBS detonation pits will be constructed from sand bags aboveground or a hole will be dug into the ground with dimensions 6 x 6 inches wide x 18 inches deep. Training with item 11 will occur at the grenade throwing area located across the access road to the south of the Small Arms Firing Range.

The Clinton Training Site is the preferred location for the conduct of the Air Force Security training for the following reasons:

- Existing Small Arms Firing Range which can accommodate firing of items 1-3.
- Close proximity to the 911th AW allowing minimal travel time and logistical burden.
- The Army has facilities constructed in the 1990s which are used by the Army for similar type of Security Forces training using similar munitions in the Proposed Action. These facilities include 2 hardened bunkers, which can be used for shelter in the event of severe weather such as heavy rains during training exercises. See Appendix D, page 8 for a picture of Bunker No. 2.
- A bivouac area with latrines and tent pads for the setup of tents. See Appendix D, pages 3-5.
- Semi-improved roads which reduce the logistical burden of the training.

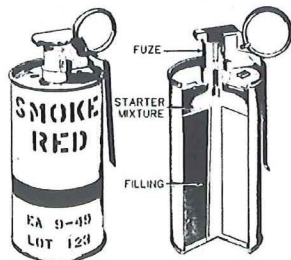
2.1.1 Description of Munitions to be Used in Proposed Action

5.56 mm, Blank (Item 1) - Blank ammunition used in the M16 rifle.

7.62 mm, Blank (Item 2) - Blank ammunition used in the M240B machine gun, which has replaced the M60 machine gun.

5.56 Blank Linked SAW (Item 3) - Blank ammunition used in the M249 Squad Automatic Weapon (SAW).

Grenade, Smoke, M18 (Green, Red, Violet, Yellow, Items 4-7) - These grenades are 5.75 inches long, 2.50 inches in diameter, and weigh 19 ounces. The M18 contains a delay-igniting fuze so that smoke is not released immediately after the grenade is activated. When activated, the M18 will emit a cloud of colored smoke for 50-90 seconds. These grenades are pyrotechnics used by the military for signaling, obscuring, and illuminating during training exercises which produce smoke, but no noise. These fired grenades can be seen over great distances depending on the background terrain color. The body of these grenades consists of a thin cylinder sheet metal filled with smoke mixtures consisting mostly of colored dyes, potassium chlorate, sodium bicarbonate (baking soda), and potassium nitrate. This is a pictorial of the red colored M18 Smoke Grenade:



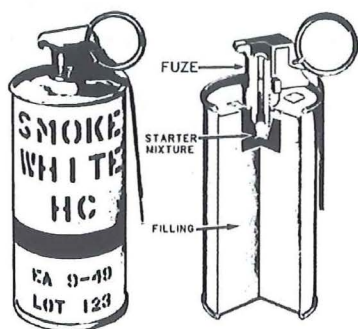
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Grenade, Practice, M83TA (Item 8) - This grenade is a cylindrical metal container filled with 300 grams of material, mostly terephthalic acid (TPA) and fuzeed with an M201A1 fuze. TPA has been widely used in the chemical industry to produce polyesters. The M83TA Practice Grenade replaced the U.S. Army's hexachloroethane (HC) smoke grenade, which contains a suspect human carcinogen and produces toxic combustion products (i.e. zinc chloride, chlorinated organics, and phosgene). The M83TA Practice Grenade is used to generate white smoke for screening and signaling. When the grenade is initiated, the primer emits an intense flame, igniting a delay element which burns for .7 to 1.2 seconds, igniting the fuze, which ignites the grenade filler including the starter mixture and TPA mix. The filler burns from 25 to 70 seconds. This grenade produces smoke, but no noise. Per Reference [5], the formulation for the M83TA Practice Grenade is:

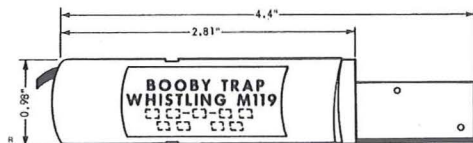
TPA Mix (98%)		Starter Mix (2%)	
Terephthalic Acid	56.4	Silicon	16.12
Sugar (Sucrose)	13.9	Potassium nitrate	51.87
Magnesium Carbonate	3.0	Charcoal	17.03
Potassium chlorate	22.8	Stearic acid	10.71
Stearic acid	3.0	Nitrocellulose	4.28
Polyvinyl Alcohol (PVA)	1.0 *		

* Dissolved in water to form a 4.0% nominal solution.

This is a pictorial of the HC Grenade similar to the M83TA Practice Grenade from T.O. 11A8-5-7:

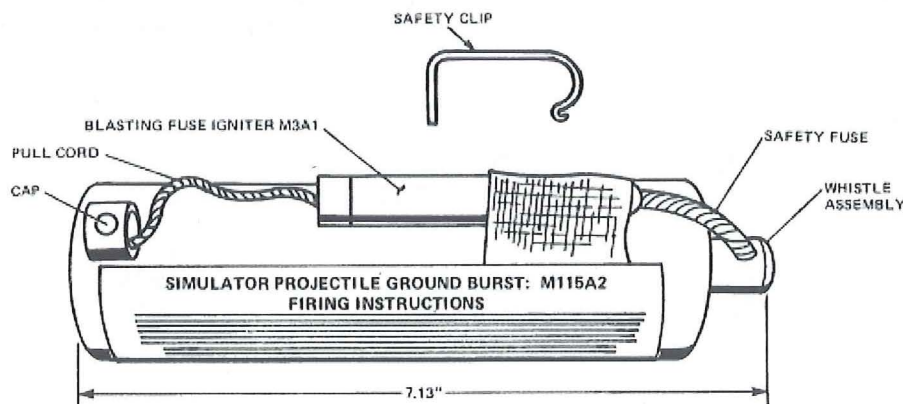


Simulator, Boobytrap, Whistling, M119 (Item 9) - The M119 Whistling Boobytrap Simulator consists of a cylindrical body and a flat, metal nailing bracket which extends from one end of body. It is 4.40 inches long, .98 inches wide and weighs .15 pounds. When actuated, the M119 produces a 3-4 second whistle by liberating gas in a paper tube. The whistling composition of the M119 is mostly sodium salicylate and potassium perchlorate, which are used to produce the whistling noise in consumer fireworks. This is a pictorial of the M119 Whistling Boobytrap Simulator:

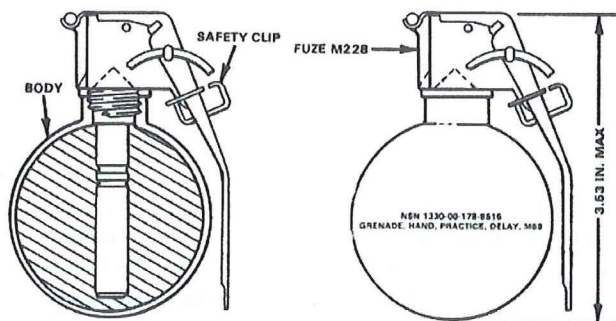


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Simulator, Projectile, Ground Burst, M115A2 (Item 10) - The M115A2 is a pyrotechnic simulator used exclusively in training to imitate battle sounds and flashes mimicking shells in flights and ground explosions. The M115A2 is 7.13 inches long including whistle assembly, 2.38 inches wide, and weighs about .30 pounds. After ignition, it creates a high pitched whistle that starts 6-10 seconds after ignition and lasts 2-4 seconds, after which follows a detonation producing a flash and loud bang. The M115A2 body is a cylindrical paper tube containing a whistle assembly and a photoflash charge consisting of aluminum powder and potassium perchlorate. A safety fuse joins the whistle assembly to the fuse lighter. This is a pictorial of the M115A2 Ground Burst Projectile Simulator.



Fuze, Hand Grenade, Practice, M228 (Item 11) - This is a pyrotechnic delay igniting fuze which is designed for the M69 practice grenade. The dimensions of the M60 with M228 fuze is 3.6 inches length x 2.62 inches diameter, and weighs about .875 pounds. The body contains primer and a pyrotechnic delay igniting fuze. The M69 practice grenade is designed to be reusable. The M228 is screwed into the M69 grenade. After firing the M228, the expended fuze can be removed from the M69 and replaced with a non-expended fuze and reused. When activated, the striker strikes the percussion primer. The primer emits a small intense flame, igniting a delay element which burns for 4-5 seconds then sets off the igniter. It produces a bang, like that of a firecracker and a puff of white smoke. This is a picture of the M69 grenade assembled with the M228 Practice Hand Grenade Fuze:



2.2 ALTERNATIVES

2.2.1 Alternative Training Location

Conduct training at a location other than the Army owned Clinton Training Site such as the Starvaggi Bivouac Area located in Western Pennsylvania. This training area does not have facilities such as bunkers, tent pads, and latrines for the conduct of the Air Force Security training. Figure 1-1 of Reference [2] shows the locations of the Proposed Action and the Starvaggi Industries Bivouac area.

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There are other alternative training sites to consider other than the Starvaggi Bivouac Area such as Camp Swift, Texas and Warfare Center, NJ, but these sites are located substantially further away from the 911th AW, increasing the costs and logistical burden of conducting this training. For the purposes of this Environmental Assessment, only the Starvaggi Bivouac Area is evaluated as a reasonable alternative.

2.2.2 No Action This is not a reasonable alternative and will not be assessed any further in this EA since Air Force Security training is needed to satisfy the Airbase Defense Sustainment requirements for Security Forces readiness and to satisfy the Civil Engineering Training Plan for the 911th Civil Engineer Squadron. There are no other reasonable alternatives to consider other than conducting the training at an alternative location.

3. AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The following describes the baseline condition of the affected environment areas involved in the Proposed Action. Effects on each Environmental area for both the Proposed Action and the Alternatives are discussed in the corresponding subsections of Section 4.0, Environmental Consequences.

3.1 AIR INSTALLATION COMPATIBLE USE ZONE/LAND USE

The Clinton Training Site has been under Federal control, used for Department of Defense training and storage since the 1950s. The Army training facilities shown in Appendix C were built and used for training since the 1990s. The Small Arms Firing Range was constructed by the Air Force and operated since 1990. The use of the firing range is consistent with land uses which have existed since the 1950s. Reference [1] evaluated the noise associated with the Small Arms Firing Range with conclusions that the noise levels potentially experienced by the closest residents was 54 dBA, which is well below the accepted 65 decibel noise level. The noise levels were reported in an A-weighted scale (dBA), which includes a 10 decibel penalty during night. The additional noise and potential community impacts associated with the Proposed Action will be evaluated in this Environmental Assessment.

3.2 AIR QUALITY

The Clinton Training Site is located in the Southwest Pennsylvania Intrastate Air Quality Control Region (SPIAQCR). The SPIAQCR consists of Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Greene, Fayette, Indiana, Washington, and Westmoreland counties.

The EPA uses 6 criteria pollutants as indicators of air quality including: ozone, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, particulate matter, and lead. The maximum concentration above which adverse effects on human health may occur are National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). When an area does not meet the NAAQS for a criteria pollutant, this area is designated as a non-attainment area requiring a State Implementation Plan (SIP) to be developed. This plan outlines air pollution reduction measures that an area must adopt.

Per the EPA Greenbook, the Pittsburgh-Beaver Valley area, which the Clinton Training Site is located, is classified as a maintenance area for ozone based on the 1 hour standard, and is classified as a basic non-attainment area based on the 8-hour standard. In addition, Beaver County, which the Clinton Training Site is located, was classified in December 2004 as non-attainment for fine particle emissions, PM_{2.5}. All other criteria pollutants are in attainment. The General Conformity Rule (Air Conformity Rule) applies to most federal actions where the total direct and indirect emissions for criteria pollutants in a non-attainment or maintenance area exceed specified rates, which are defined as de minimis emissions. Also, an action is subject to the General Conformity Rule if the emissions are deemed to be regionally significant, which represents 10% or more of a non-attainment or maintenance area's emission inventory for that pollutant. The General Conformity Rule applies to ozone and PM_{2.5}, since these are the only criteria pollutants in non-attainment. The Proposed Action is for training of Military Police, which is clearly de-minimis, per the

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United States Air Force Conformity Guide, being exempt from any further Conformity Analysis. Although no de minimis thresholds have been established for EIAP purposes for PM_{2.5}, the possible effects of the proposed action in terms of the most frequent sources of fine particle emissions (such as vehicle emissions and fugitive dust) have been evaluated. There is no reason to believe that the proposed action will lead to a significant increase in fine particle levels.

3.3 GEOLOGY, SOILS, AND WATER RESOURCES

A consequence of firing of munitions is the potential contamination of training sites by firing of explosives, pyrotechnics, and propellants. Since the Clinton Training Site has been used as a munitions training and storage facility since the 1950s, a certain amount of soil and ground contamination may have occurred from these activities. Also, the potential exists for lead contamination of soil in the vicinity of the Small Arms Firing Range from firing of small arms munitions containing lead. In order to characterize the possible contamination at training sites, sampling can be taken of the groundwater and surrounding soils. The extent of contamination, if any, has not been assessed to date.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

4.1 AIR INSTALLATION COMPATIBLE USE ZONE/LAND USE

Proposed Action

See Appendix I, which is taken from a USGS aerial view dated 1/1/04, for the relative locations of nearby residences to the training areas. There are residents located as close as 1/4 mile away from the Small Arms Firing Range adjacent to Bocktown-Cork Road. The Clinton Training Area, located to the northwest of the Small Arms Firing Range, is located further from the residences adjacent to Bocktown-Cork Road, but closer to residences adjacent to East Hookstown Grade Road.

The potential environmental consequences include local residence disruption due to noise and visual disturbance caused by smoke and a flash from the munitions. The Proposed Action is consistent with land use that has existed for the Clinton Training Site since the 1950s. Noise associated with the operation of the Small Arms Firing Range was evaluated in References [1] and [5] including nighttime firing until 2230. These EAs concluded citizens from local residences adjacent to Bocktown-Cork Road would not be affected by noise as a result of firing of small arms such as M16 rifles, M60 machine guns, 12 gauge shotguns, and .38 caliber handguns at the Small Arms Firing Range. In addition, the lack of any substantial amount of complaints from local residences supports the conclusion of no significant noise impacts from the Small Arms Firing Range. In 1999, a local resident sent a letter to Senator Santorum complaining about the noise from firing at the Small Arms Firing Range at early hours of 0400 in the morning. See Appendix J. The resolution to this complaint was to restrict all firing after 2230. Following these guidelines, noise from items 1-3 will not expect to impact local residences, since these types of munitions are already being used at the Small Arms Firing Range.

The training with items 4-10 will occur at the GBS Detonation Pits 1, 2, and 3 to be constructed at the Clinton Training Area, located approximately 1/4 mile northwest of the Small Arms Firing Range. The training with item 11 will be at the Grenade Throwing Area across the access road near the Small Arms Firing Range. Items 4-8 produce smoke with no significant noise. Item 9 produces a whistling noise. Item 10 produces a flash and a loud report. Item 11 produces a bang, like that of a firecracker and a puff of white smoke.

Noise levels produced from items 9-11 are less than produced from an M60 machine gun, which has been approved for use at the Small Arms Firing Range. The quantity of these munitions to be used in the Proposed Action is relatively small. See Table 1. The noise associated with these munitions is of short duration, unlike the M60 machine gun, which can produce substantial amounts of noise for longer

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durations. Items 9 and 10 will be initiated at a distance approximately 1/4 mile farther from the residences adjacent to Bocktown-Cork Road as shown on Appendix I, reducing the noise levels to these residences. The noise may be audible to the group of residences adjacent to East Hookstown Grade Road. The GBS Detonation Pits (6x6 inches wide x 18 inches deep) are constructed aboveground using sand bags or dug into the ground. The purpose of these pits is to contain the blast from the ignited munitions with a secondary benefit to muffle the noise produced from the ignited munitions. The Army has also conducted similar training using similar munitions as items 4-11 of the Proposed Action at the Clinton Training Site without previous complaints of noise from local residents. For these reasons, noise from items 4-11 to citizens of nearby residences should be insignificant.

It is possible to visually see the smoke and the flash emitted from the detonation of these munitions from some of the nearby residences, especially at the Clinton Training Area since some residences adjacent to East Hookstown Grade Road are in direct view of this site. The emitted flash from the detonated munitions would be more noticeable after dark. Air Force Security Forces personnel have indicated that no firing will occur after 2030. The Proposed Action is to conduct this training annually. If training is conducted during the winter when darkness would occur well before 2030, the flash from the detonated munitions may be visible to nearby residences at this time but is of short duration. Due to the nature of the training, it is unlikely the training will occur after dark.

The Air Force Security training will be conducted infrequently, 6-20 consecutive days with a frequency of 1-2 times annually. Smoke from the burning grenades last only 50-90 seconds and would dissipate fairly rapidly. The quantity of smoke producing munitions used in the Proposed Action is relatively small. See Table 1. The smoke produced from these munitions is relatively small, dissipates fairly rapidly, and is of short duration. The Army has also conducted similar training using similar munitions as in the Proposed Action at the Clinton Training Site without complaints of visual disturbance from citizens of local residences. Considering these factors, any visual disturbance to citizens of nearby residences should be minimal.

Alternative Training Location

Community disruption due to noise and visual disturbance is not an issue for training at the Starvaggi Bivouac area since there are no residences in close proximity to this training facility.

No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, training will not be conducted so community disruption due to noise and visual disturbance is not an issue.

4.2 AIR QUALITY

Proposed Action

The impacts on Air Quality are the same for both the Proposed Action and the Alternative training location.

Air quality may be impacted from new air emissions as a result of:

- Air emissions from vehicles during the training exercises and transport of personnel.
- Air emissions from the use of munitions in the Proposed Action.

A small amount of air emissions may be produced as a result of vehicle emissions during the training exercises and transport of personnel to and from the training site. Emissions produced will be for a limited time only and stop upon completion of the training. The access roads to the training sites are limestone aggregate and dirt. During dry periods, vehicular traffic may generate fugitive dust emissions. Reductions in vehicular speed and treatment of surface road with water can help mitigate these fugitive dust emissions. The air emissions from vehicle usage are not significant.

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Air emissions will be produced from the use of munitions in the Proposed Action. Reference [1] addressed air emissions of burning gunpowder propellants such as used in items 1-3 with conclusion that the gases generated by discharging weapons would not be expected to present any danger to the environment.

References [6]-[9] and [11]-[12] address air emissions produced from items 4-7 and 9-10. These assessments were conducted by the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, located in Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD. These assessments evaluated the potential for human health effects to offsite residents breathing air emissions following the use of these munitions in training exercises. Air emissions were collected in a test chamber at Dugway Proving Grounds, Utah. These air emissions were used in an air dispersion model to determine ambient air concentrations at a location downwind from the site where the item was activated. Modeled air concentrations were combined with exposure information to estimate the amount of substances a resident could breathe and a determination made for potential for health risks from the inhalation of these substances. Conservative assumptions were used including worst-case meteorological conditions and receptor locations directly downwind. The conclusions drawn from these tests are that residents who live as close as 100 meters directly downwind from training areas are safe from breathing the air emissions from these munitions. The reports state that the assumptions contained in the analysis were conservative enough to be protective of all population including the sick, elderly, and children. The closest residents to the training exercises will be approximately 1/4 mile (402 meters), which is 4 times the distance used in the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine assessment. See Appendix I for relative locations of the nearby residences.

Reference [10] addressed inhalation toxicity effects for the M83TA grenade (item 8). The pyrotechnic combustion products are formaldehyde, benzene, and carbon monoxide. Reference [10] indicates that the byproducts were all above the threshold limit values at various dose levels but should not be of toxicological concern if the smoke is deployed in an open area. The report indicates that the M83TA grenade, containing terephthalic acid (TPA), is a safer training smoke than the Army's hexachloroethane (HC) smoke grenade, which the M83TA grenade has replaced. The products of combustion of the HC smoke grenade have a greater number of potentially harmful compounds including arsenic and chlorinated hydrocarbons. The report also indicates that actual field disseminations of the grenade would probably show a negligible amount of these gases and vapors due to the effects of wind and dilution by the atmosphere.

Item 11 contains a black powder charge. Since the training for the M69 grenades will be performed in an open area, effects of wind and atmospheric dispersion will mitigate any air emissions from the products of combustion.

In conclusion, air emissions from vehicle traffic generating fugitive dust emissions and vehicle emissions are not significant. The air emissions from the use of the munitions as specified in the Proposed Action are not significant based on the studies provided in References [6]-[12], taking into consideration the limited training that will be conducted (approximately 6-20 days with a frequency of 1-2 times annually), and the air dispersion effects of winds and atmospheric dilution.

Alternative Training Location

The environmental consequences of air emissions at the Starvaggi Bivouac Area are identical to the Proposed Action with the exception of the consequences to nearby residences. Since there are no nearby residences in close proximity to the Starvaggi Bivouac Area, air emissions due to the use of munitions is not a consideration.

No Action Alternative

For the No Action Alternative, the training will not be conducted so no new air emissions would be introduced and so air quality would not be impacted.

4.3 GEOLOGY, SOILS, AND WATER RESOURCES

Proposed Action and Alternative Training Location

The impacts on soil contamination and groundwater are the same for both the Proposed Action and the Alternative training location.

A consequence of training using munitions containing explosives, propellants, and pyrotechnics is the potential contamination of the environment including soils, water, and air by unexploded munitions components and by-products of combustion. Despite the environmental contamination, there is a need for training using these munitions for operational readiness. Contamination of soil and groundwater with energetic materials because they can be leached by rainfall, due to improper disposal practices and incomplete detonation of munitions can occur. The solubility of munition components and their by-products in water is small, so any contamination would most likely be near the soil surface and would eventually solubilize and migrate into groundwater. Other contaminants can occur including metals such as lead, chromium, cadmium, etc. from ammunition casing and other energetic components.

Items 1-3, which will be fired at the Small Arms Firing Range, will not contribute to any additional contamination because all 3 of these munitions are blanks, which do not contain lead.

Contamination to soils, which could leach into the groundwater, is possible from the firing of items 4-11. The extent of this contamination is expected to be minimal since the Proposed Action will occur 4-14 days annually, with minimal quantities of munitions used in the training as shown in Table 1. Debris from the fired munitions, including unexploded munitions components, and by-products of combustion will be contained for items 4-10 by firing these munitions in the GBS detonation pits. The detonation pits are approximately 6x6 inches wide x 18 inches deep. They will be constructed above ground using sandbags or pits dug below ground. To a certain extent, these pits minimize the flying debris of the fired munitions, however, it is expected that munitions debris and residue will scatter outside these pits onto the surrounding soils. To minimize the soil contamination from munitions debris and residue from firing of the munitions, a thorough policing of the exercise area will be accomplished at the completion of the exercise to ensure the removal of any unexploded items, munitions residue, or other litter per Reference [3]. This policing of the area following firing of the munitions will minimize the amount of soil contamination.

Erosion and sediment control is not an issue, since the training does not require any major ground disturbance. The existing Clinton Training Site Bivouac area, where the training activities will take place, has existing facilities for the conduct of the training including tent pads, latrines, and bunkers. The only ground disturbance is from digging the GBS detonation pits. This ground disturbance is minimal, not requiring any erosion and sediment controls since the size of these pits are very small (approximately 6x6 inches wide x 18 inches deep).

The potential exists for oil, grease, fuel, radiator fluid, etc. leaking from vehicles contaminating the ground. If there is a spill or leak, established spill procedures as outlined in Reference [4] will be followed. If these procedures are adhered to, and the vehicles are properly maintained, the impact would be minimal.

The training areas are not adjacent to any streams or lakes so storm water contamination is not an issue. See Appendix K, which is a USGS topographic map, showing the locations of the nearest surface water including Raccoon Creek and 2 tributaries to Raccoon Creek in the vicinity of the Proposed Action. Raccoon Creek is located approximately 0.2 miles northwest of the Clinton Training Area. There are 2 tributaries to Raccoon Creek which flow in a northerly direction on the east and west of the Proposed Action site. One tributary is located approximately 0.2 miles to the east of the Small Arms Firing Range. The other tributary is located approximately 0.2 miles to the west of the Grenade Throwing Area and approximately .15 miles to the west of the Clinton Training Area.

No Action Alternative

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
Conduct Air Force Security Training at the Army Clinton Training Site

Under the No Action Alternative, training will not be conducted so the current soil and water resources would remain unchanged.

4.4 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Environmental impacts that are considered cumulative for the Proposed Action include the impacts on contamination to soils and water resources due to usage of munitions. The cumulative environmental impacts due to the Air Force Security training is minimal since this training will only occur for 6-20 days with a frequency of 1-2 times annually.

4.5 IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

Irreversible and irretreivable resource commitments are related to both the use of nonrenewable resources and the effects of the use these resources would have on future generations. Neither the Proposed Action nor the Alternatives would result in any irreversible or irretreivable commitments of resources.

5. LIST OF PREPARERS AND PERSONS CONSULTED

This Environmental Assessment was prepared by the 911th AW, Civil Engineering Environmental Office.
The following personnel prepared this Environmental Assessment:

Mr. Frank Sniezek
Environmental Engineer
911AW/ MSG/CEVE
911th Airlift Wing, Pittsburgh IAP ARS
Coraopolis, Pennsylvania 15108-4421

The following personnel were consulted and contributed to the preparation of this document.

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Chief, Environmental Flight
911AW/MSG/CEV
911th Airlift Wing, Pittsburgh IAP ARS
Coraopolis, Pennsylvania 15108-4421

SMSgt George Beck
911AW/ SFS/SFT
911th Airlift Wing, Pittsburgh IAP ARS
Coraopolis, Pennsylvania 15108-4421

Mr. Joseph Matis
Environmental Engineer
911AW/ MSG/CEVE
911th Airlift Wing, Pittsburgh IAP ARS
Coraopolis, Pennsylvania 15108-4421

Ms. Darlene F. Stringos-Walker
U.S. Army Reserve, 99th RSC
99 Soldiers Lane
Coraopolis, PA 15108-2558

CMSgt Morgan Withrow
911AW/MSG/CES
911th Airlift Wing, Pittsburgh IAP ARS
Coraopolis, Pennsylvania 15108-4421

6. REFERENCES

- [1] Environmental Assessment for Project JLSS 91-9004, Off Base Firing Range Near Clinton, Pennsylvania dated October 10, 1989
- [2] Environmental Assessment of the Training Operations Conducted by the 911th Airlift Wing dated December 2000
- [3] Safety Supplement to Operation Steel Hammer OPLAN, Annex V, dated 21May04.
- [4] Hazardous Material Emergency Planning and Response (HAZMAT) Plan
- [5] ERDC/CRREL TR-02-1, Guide for Characterization of Sites Contaminated with Energetic Materials, dated Feb2002, by Sonia Thiboutot, Guy Ampleman, and Alan D. Hewitt (US Army Corps of Engineers, Engineer Research and Development Center)
- [6] Pyrotechnics Health Risk Assessment, No. 39-EJ-1485-00, Residential Exposure from Inhalation of Air Emissions from the M18 Green-Colored Smoke Grenade, DODIC G940, dated 4Sep2000 by Joleen Mobley and Stafford D. Coakley (U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD)
- [7] Pyrotechnics Health Risk Assessment, No. 39-EJ-1485-00, Residential Exposure from Inhalation of Air Emissions from the M18 Red-Colored Smoke Grenade, DODIC G950, dated 5Sep2000 by Hsieng-Ye Chang and Stafford D. Coakley (U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD)
- [8] Pyrotechnics Health Risk Assessment, No. 39-EJ-1485-00, Residential Exposure from Inhalation of Air Emissions from the M18 Violet-Colored Smoke Grenade, DODIC G955, dated 5Sep2000 by Stafford D. Coakley and Laura Peters (U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD)
- [9] Pyrotechnics Health Risk Assessment, No. 39-EJ-1485-00, Residential Exposure from Inhalation of Air Emissions from the M18 Yellow-Colored Smoke Grenade, DODIC G945, dated 5Sep2000 by Hsieng-Ye Chang and Stafford D. Coakley (U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD)
- [10] Acute and Repeated Dose Inhalation Toxicity Effects of Pyrotechnically Disseminated Terephthalic Acid Smoke (XM83 Grenade), dated Sep1995 by William T. Muse, Jr., Steven J. Anthony, Jeffrey D. Bergmann, David C. Burnett, Charles L. Crouse, Bernardita P. Gaviola, and Sandra A. Thomson (Edgewood Research Development and Engineering Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD)
- [11] Pyrotechnics Health Risk Assessment, No. 39-EJ-1485-99, Residential Exposure from Inhalation of Air Emissions from the M119 Whistling Boobytrap Simulator, DODIC L600, dated 19June2000 by Joleen Mobley, Stafford D. Coakley, and Jeffrey S. Grow (U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD)
- [12] Pyrotechnics Health Risk Assessment, No. 39-EJ-1485-99, Residential Exposure from Inhalation of Air Emissions from the M115A2 Ground Burst Projectile Simulator, DODIC L594, dated 19May2000 by Hsieng-Ye Chang, Stafford D. Coakley, and Jeffrey S. Grow (U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD)

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
Conduct Air Force Security Training at the Army Clinton Training Site

APPENDIX A
ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AFI	Air Force Instruction
AFRC	Air Force Reserve Command
ARS	Air Reserve Station
AW	Airlift Wing
CE	Civil Engineering
DD	Department of Defense
DODIC	Department of Defense Identification Code
DOPAA	Description of Proposed Actions and Alternatives
EIAP	Environmental Impact Analysis Process
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
FY	Fiscal year
GBS	Ground Burst Simulator
HAZMAT	Hazardous Material Emergency and Response Plan
HC	Hexachloroethane
IAP	International Airport
INC	Incorporated
NJ	New Jersey
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PA	Pennsylvania
PM _{2.5}	Particulate matter equal to or less than 2.5 microns
QTY	Quantity
RCS	Report Control Symbol
SAW	Squad Automatic Weapon
SIP	State Implementation Plan
SIR	Species Impact Review
SPIAQCR	Southwest Pennsylvania Intrastate Air Quality Control Region
T.O.	Technical Order
TPA	Terephthalic acid
USARC	United States Army Reserve Command
USGS	United States Geological Survey



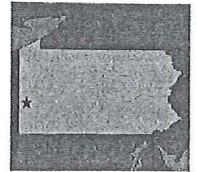
Clinton Training Site

FFID: PA2104PA060

INSNO: 42785

MACOM: U.S. Army Reserve Command (USARC)

Range Inventory Binder completed 8 November 2001



Installation Overview and Description

The Clinton Training Site is located in southwest Pennsylvania in Beaver County. This region of the state is rural. The training site is situated between farms. Comprised of just over 150 acres, the training conducted here is limited to light maneuver. There is an indoor range facility on site, which is utilized and operated by the U.S. Air Force. The land, upon which the indoor range sits, is leased to the Air Force. The rest of the training area consists of bunkers, bivouac sites, an obstacle course, and an NBC Chamber.

Range Inventory POC

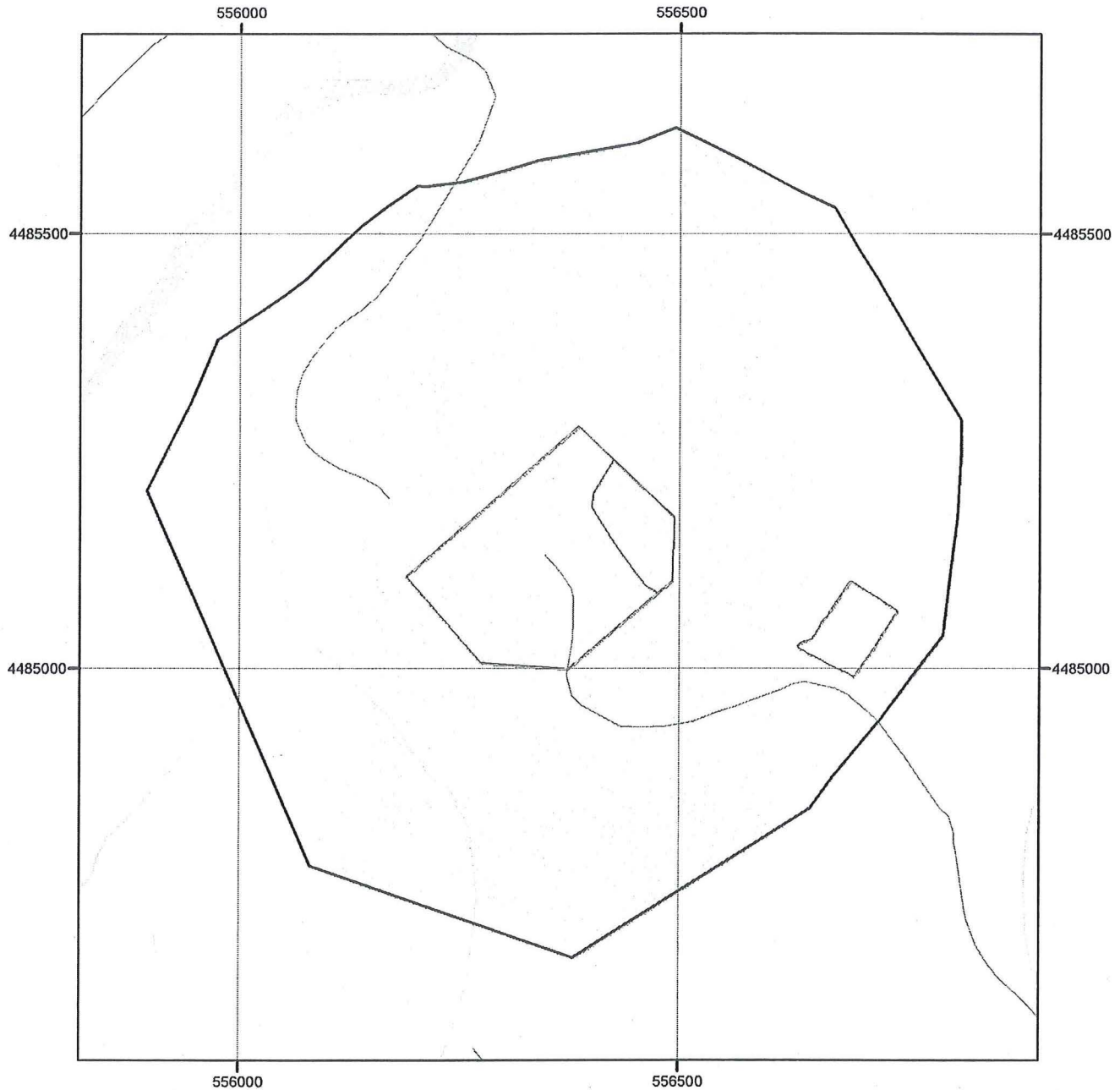
Steven Patarcity
5 Lobaugh Street
Building 5, Floor 2
Oakdale, PA 15071-5001
Telephone: (724) 693-2084
Fax: (724) 693-2094
STEVEN.PATARCITY@USARC-EMH2.ARMY.MIL

RANGE SUMMARY BY FCG CODE

FCG NAME	FCG	A/I ACREAGE	# OF RANGES
MANEUVER/TRAINING AREA	17700	150.0	2
ZERO RNG	17801	1.6	1
OTHER MISSION TRNG FAC	17900	2.0	1
TOTAL ACTIVE/INACTIVE ACREAGE		153.6	4
NON ACTIVE/INACTIVE ACREAGE		0.0	
TOTAL ACREAGE		153.6	



CLINTON TRAINING SITE



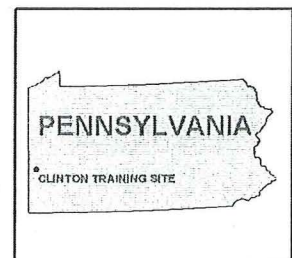
Legend	
Boundary	Non A/I Areas
Firing Ranges	Roads
Impact Area(duded)	Streams
Impact Area(non-duded)	Water
Other Ranges	

NOTE:
This map was created under procedures established for the Army Range Inventory. Accuracy varies between installations depending on source data obtained during the inventory process. Contact the USAEC Range and Munitions Division for questions regarding map data.



0 0.1 0.2 Miles

SPHEROID.....Geodetic Reference System 80
GRID.....500 Meter UTM Zone 17
PROJECTION.....Transverse Mercator
HORIZONTAL DATUM.....North American Datum of 1983
PRINTED FOR.....U.S. Army Environmental Center,
contract DAAD13-00D-5003
DATE PRINTED.....15 December 2002



CLINTON TRAINING AREA
CLINTON, PA

LOCATION OF GBS
DETONATION PITS IN
PROPOSED ACTION- SEE
APPENDIX D, PAGES 6 & 7

TENT PADS IN BIVOUAC AREA-
SEE APPENDIX D, PAGES 3 & 4
FOR PICTURES

Mine
Field
15'x40'

10'
Pit

Claymore
Mine Area
10'x50'

2 HARDENED BUNKERS - SEE
APPENDIX D, PAGE 8 FOR
PICTURE OF BUNKER #2

Gravel

Bunker
#1

26.5' x 60.5'

Bunker
#2

26.5'x60.5'

Latrines
14'8x26'4"

Can
Pad
6'x15'

Kitchen
Tent Pad
12'x22'

Bivouac
Area

Medium Tent
Pads
16'x32'

Gen.
Pit

Trench

5-Station Litter
Obstacle Course

8-Station
NBC
Prof.
Course

Wire

NBC
Bldg

Gen.
Pit

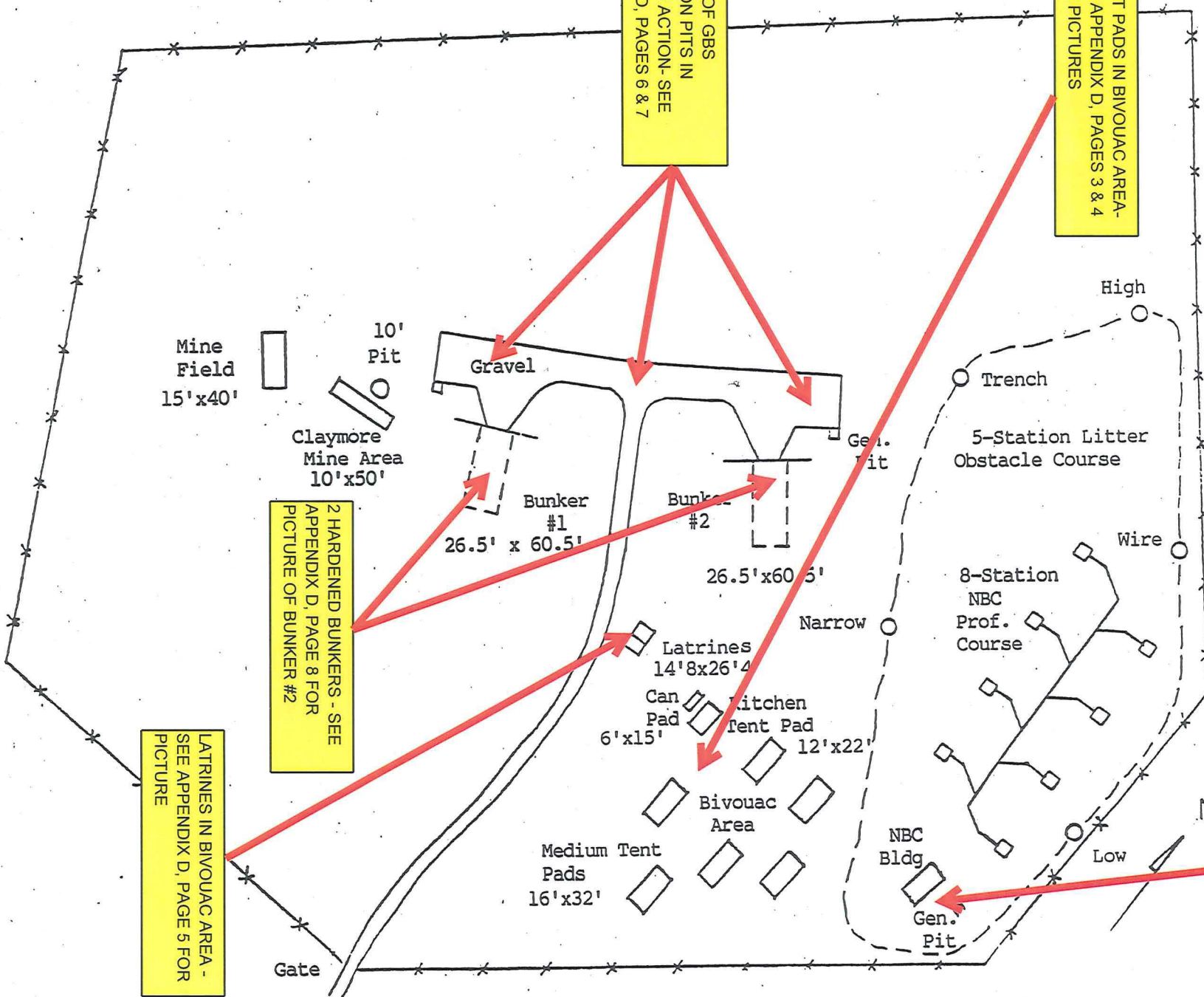
High

Low

NBC BUILDING AND GENERATOR
PIT - SEE APPENDIX D, PAGE 2 FOR
PICTURE

LATRINES IN BIVOUAC AREA -
SEE APPENDIX D, PAGE 5 FOR
PICTURE

APPENDIX C



911th AW Small Arms Firing Range



Generator pit and NBC decontamination building



Bivouac area - tent pad



Bivouac area - tent pad



Bivouac area - latrine



GBS detonation pit area



GBS detonation pit area



Bunker No. 2





United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Pennsylvania Field Office
315 South Allen Street, Suite 322
State College, Pennsylvania 16801-4850



March 4, 2002

Dorothy M. Gibb, Ph.D.
Project Manager
Horne Engineering Services, Inc.
2750 Prosperity Avenue, Suite 450
Fairfax, VA 22031-4312

Dear Ms. Gibb:

This responds to your letter of January 30, 2002, requesting information about federally listed and proposed endangered and threatened species within the vicinity of the Clinton and Keystone Local Training Areas, Johnstown Aviation Support Facility, and Edgemont (former Nike Missile Site) located in Clinton, Cambria, Delaware, and Crawford Counties, Pennsylvania. The following comments are provided pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) to ensure the protection of endangered and threatened species.

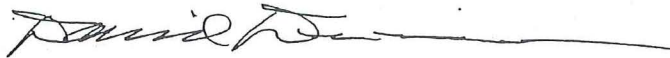
Except for occasional transient species, no federally listed or proposed threatened or endangered species under our jurisdiction are known to occur within the project impact area. Therefore, no biological assessment nor further consultation under the Endangered Species Act are required with the Fish and Wildlife Service. This determination is valid for two years from the date of this letter. If the proposed project has not been fully implemented prior to this, an additional review by this office will be necessary. Also, should project plans change, or if additional information on listed or proposed species becomes available, this determination may be reconsidered. A compilation of certain federal status species in Pennsylvania is enclosed for your information.

This response relates only to endangered or threatened species under our jurisdiction based on an office review of the proposed project's location. No field inspection of the project area has been conducted by this office. Consequently, this letter is not to be construed as addressing potential Service concerns under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act or other authorities.

Requests for information regarding State-listed endangered or threatened species should be directed to the Pennsylvania Game Commission (birds and mammals), the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (fish, reptiles, amphibians and aquatic invertebrates), and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (plants).

Please contact Michael Schmaus of my staff at 814-234-4090 if you have any questions or require further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Densmore", followed by a long horizontal line.

David Densmore
Supervisor

Enclosure

**FEDERALLY LISTED AND PROPOSED SPECIES
THAT NO LONGER OCCUR IN PENNSYLVANIA**

<u>COMMON NAME</u>	<u>SCIENTIFIC NAME</u>	<u>STATUS**</u>	<u>FORMER DISTRIBUTION</u>
<u>MAMMALS</u>			
Canada lynx	<i>Lynx canadensis</i>	PT	north-central PA (Tioga Co.)
Delmarva Peninsula fox squirrel	<i>Sciurus niger cinereus</i>	E	mature forests of southeastern PA (Delaware and Chester Co.)
Eastern cougar	<i>Felis concolor couguar</i>	E	state-wide
Grey wolf	<i>Canis lupus</i>	E	state-wide
<u>MOLLUSKS</u>			
Fanshell*	<i>Cyprogenia stegaria</i>	E	Ohio River drainage
Orange pimpleback*	<i>Plethobasus striatus</i>	E	Ohio River drainage
Pink mucket pearly mussel*	<i>Lampsilis abrupta</i>	E	Ohio River drainage
Ring pink mussel*	<i>Obovaria retusa</i>	E	Ohio River drainage
Rough pigtoe*	<i>Pleurobema plenum</i>	E	Ohio River drainage
<u>INSECTS</u>			
American burying beetle	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>	E	state-wide
Karner blue butterfly	<i>Lycaeides melissa samuelis</i>	E	pine barrens, oak savannas (wild lupine habitat) (Wayne Co.)
Northeastern beach tiger beetle	<i>Cicindela dorsalis dorsalis</i>	T	along large rivers in southeastern PA
<u>PLANTS</u>			
Eastern prairie fringed orchid	<i>Platanthera leucophaea</i>	T	wet prairies, bogs (Crawford Co.)
Sensitive joint-vetch	<i>Aeschynomene virginica</i>	T	freshwater tidal marshes of Delaware river (Delaware and Philadelphia Co.)
Virginia spiraea*	<i>Spiraea virginiana</i>	T	along Youghiogheny River (Fayette Co.)
Smooth coneflower	<i>Echinacea laevigata</i>	E	serpentine barrens (Lancaster Co.)

Revised 10/19/00

* It is possible that remnant populations of some of these species (indicated with an *) may still occur in Pennsylvania, however, there have been no confirmed sightings of these species for over 70 years.

** E = Endangered, T = Threatened, PT = Proposed Threatened

The following is a partial list of additional species that no longer occur in Pennsylvania: moose, bison, wolverine, passenger pigeon, Bachman's sparrow, greater prairie-chicken, olive-sided flycatcher, Bewick's wren, eastern tiger salamander, blue pike, butterfly mussel, Diana fritillary butterfly, precious underwing moth, deertoe mussel, marbled underwing moth, cobblestone tiger beetle, mountain clubmoss, crested yellow orchid, red milkweed, American barberry, small white lady's-slipper, etc, etc.

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
315 SOUTH ALLEN ST., SUITE 322, STATE COLLEGE, PA 16801

FEDERALLY LISTED, PROPOSED AND CANDIDATE SPECIES
(in Pennsylvania)

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Status</u> ¹	<u>Distribution</u>
<u>FISHES</u>			
Shortnose sturgeon ²	<i>Acipenser brevirostrum</i>	E	Delaware River & other Atlantic coastal waters
<u>REPTILES</u>			
Bog turtle	<i>Clemmys muhlenbergii</i>	T	Current - Adams, Berks, Bucks, Chester, Cumberland, Delaware, Franklin, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton and York Co. Historic - Crawford, Mercer and Philadelphia Co.
Eastern massasauga rattlesnake	<i>Sistrurus catenatus catenatus</i>	C	Current - Butler, Crawford, Mercer and Venango Co. Historic - Allegheny and Lawrence Co.
<u>BIRDS</u>			
Bald eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	T	Suitable habitats across the state. Recent nesting in Butler, Cameron, Centre, Chester, Crawford, Dauphin, Erie, Forest, Huntingdon, Lancaster, Lebanon, Mercer, Northumberland, Pike, Tioga, Venango, Warren and York Co. Wintering concentrations occur near ice-free sections of rivers, lakes and reservoirs, including the Delaware River.
Piping plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	E	Presque Isle (Erie County). Migratory. No nesting in Pennsylvania since mid-1950s.
<u>MAMMALS</u>			
Indiana bat	<i>Myotis sodalis</i>	E	Winter hibernacula: Armstrong, Blair, Lawrence, Luzerne, Mifflin and Somerset Co.
<u>MOLLUSKS</u>			
Dwarf wedgemussel	<i>Alasmidonta heterodon</i>	E	Current - Delaware River (Wayne Co.). Historic - Delaware River watershed (Bucks, Carbon, Chester and Philadelphia Co.); Susquehanna River watershed (Lancaster Co.).
Clubshell mussel	<i>Pleurobema clava</i>	E	French Creek and Allegheny River watersheds (Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Forest, Mercer, Venango and Warren Co.)
Northern riffleshell	<i>Epioblasma torulosa rangiana</i>	E	French Creek and Allegheny River watersheds (Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Forest, Mercer, Venango and Warren Co.)
<u>PLANTS</u>			
Northeastern bulrush	<i>Scirpus ancistrochaetus</i>	E	Current - Adams, Bedford, Blair, Carbon, Centre, Clinton, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Huntingdon, Lackawanna, Lehigh, Lycoming, Mifflin, Monroe, Perry, Snyder and Union Co. Historic - Northampton Co.
Small-whorled pogonia	<i>Isotria medeoloides</i>	T	Current - Centre, Chester and Venango Co. Historic - Berks, Greene, Monroe, Montgomery and Philadelphia Co.

¹ E = Endangered, T = Threatened, PE = Proposed Endangered, PT = Proposed Threatened, C = Candidate Revised 12/05/00

² Shortnose sturgeon is under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service



Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory

Scientific information and expertise for the conservation of Pennsylvania's native biological diversity

March 7, 2002

Fax 717-783-5109
717-787-3444

Bureau of Forestry

Deborah Hahn
Horne Engineering Services, Inc.
2750 Prosperity Avenue, Suite 450
Fairfax, VA 22031-4312

Re: Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory Review for the Proposed Environmental
Assessment for the Clinton Local Training Area, Pittsburgh, Allegheny County
PER NO: 12628

Dear Ms. Hahn:

In response to your request January 30, 2002 to review the above mentioned project, we have reviewed the area using the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) information system. PNDI records indicate that no occurrences of species of special concern are known to exist within the project area, therefore we do not anticipate any impact on endangered, threatened, or rare species at this location. PNDI attempts to be a complete information resource on species of special concern within the Commonwealth. However, it may not contain all location information for species within the jurisdiction of other agencies. Please contact the Fish and Boat Commission and US Fish and Wildlife Service for information on species within their purview.

PNDI is a site specific information system that describes significant natural resources of Pennsylvania. This system includes data descriptive of plant and animal species of special concern, exemplary natural communities and unique geological features. PNDI is a cooperative project of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, The Nature Conservancy and the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. This response represents the most up-to-date summary of the PNDI data files and is good for one year. An absence of recorded information does not necessarily imply actual conditions on-site. A field survey of any site may reveal previously unreported populations.

Feel free to phone our office if you have questions concerning this response or the PNDI system, and please refer to the P.E.R. Reference Number at the top of the letter in future correspondence concerning this project.

Sincerely,

(car)

Jeanne Harris
Environmental Review Specialist

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
209 Fourth Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
(412)288-2777
www.paconserv.org

Pennsylvania Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources
Bureau of Forestry
P. O. Box 8552
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8552
(717)787-3444
www.dcnr.state.pa.us

APPENDIX F

The Nature Conservancy
208 Airport Drive
Middletown, PA 17057
(717)948-3962
www.tnc.org

BUREAU OF FISHERIES

Rickalon L. Hoopes, Director
(814) 359-5154
FAX: (814) 359-5153



DIVISION OF FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

Richard A. Snyder, Chief
(814) 359-5110
FAX: (814) 359-5153

IN REPLY REFER TO
SIR #8713

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
FISH & BOAT COMMISSION
450 Robinson Lane
Bellefonte, PA 16823-9620

March 4, 2002

HORNE ENGINEERING SERVICES, INC.
Dorothy M. Gibb
2750 Prosperity Avenue, Suite 450
Fairfax, Virginia 22031-4312

Dear Ms. Gibb:

**RE: Species Impact Review (SIR) – Rare, Candidate, Threatened and Endangered Species
U.S. Army Reserve 99th Regional Support Command
Horne Engineering Services, Inc. Project 3261**

I examined the maps accompanying your recent correspondence for these proposed area:

DESCRIPTION	MUNICIPALITY	COUNTY
Clinton Local Training Area	15 miles West of Pittsburgh	Allegheny & Beaver
Johnstown Aviation Support Facility	Richland Township	Cambria
Keystone Local Training Area	Greenwood Township	Crawford

Presently, none of the fishes, amphibians or reptiles we list as endangered or threatened are known to occur at or in the immediate vicinity of this study area.

I also examined the map which shows the location for this proposed area:

DESCRIPTION	MUNICIPALITY	COUNTY
Edgemont Training Area	King of Prussia	Delaware

Based on records maintained in the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) database and our own files, the state endangered and federally listed threatened bog turtle (*Clemmys muhlenbergii*) is known from the vicinity of the Edgemont Training Area site.

The bog turtle is a small (up to a 4 inch carapace) semi-aquatic, omnivorous turtle that prefers open marshy wetlands associated with springs and groundwater, specific vegetative communities, and mucky soils for burrowing. This species is restricted to the southcentral and southeast portions of Pennsylvania. However, due to the lack of pristine habitat found in its range from disturbance and plant successional processes, the bog turtle has, in some cases, become accustomed to disturbed, low quality wetland complexes often with semi-closed canopies. Bog turtles are also known to be transients in forested habitat that are associated with springs and small streams leading to more open marshes. They use these habitats as dispersal corridors to other wetlands. The bog turtle is threatened by habitat destruction, poor water quality, and poaching.

Based on the review of this information and the proximity to a nearby bog turtle occurrence, there occurs a potential for there to be suitable habitat on-site for the bog turtle that will require further investigation. Therefore, if there will be any direct (e.g., filling) or indirect (e.g., runoff) impacts to the wetlands on-site, we recommend that a habitat assessment/suitability survey (Phase 1) for bog turtles be conducted by a herpetologist that is qualified/recognized to survey for the species of special concern (we have included a list of surveyors for

Executive Office • P.O. Box 67000 • Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000 • 717-705-7801 • 717-705-7802

D. Gibb
March 4, 2002
Page 2

your convenience). Bog turtle habitat assessment/suitability surveys are to be conducted in accordance with the methods outlined by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission's "*Guidelines for Bog Turtle Surveys*." The habitat assessments are to be focused on all of the palustrine emergent marsh (PEM) and palustrine shrub-scrub (PSS) wetlands occurring on-site.

Upon completion of the Phase 1 bog turtle survey work, the herpetologist is to forward a report showing the surveyor's results to this office (Nongame and Endangered Species Unit) for our review and comment. Reports should include descriptions of the wetland vegetation, soils, and hydrology on-site. In addition, color photographs and maps of appropriate suitable habitat should be included in the report. If any threatened and endangered species are observed in the survey, they should be photographed, aged, sexed, measured as to their size, and the area(s) where they were observed/captured should be mapped accordingly. The surveyor should also report other herpetofauna seen while conducting the surveys. Pending the review of the habitat survey and further consultation with this office, presence/absence survey (Phase 2) may be required. Due to the federal status of the bog turtle, future correspondence should also be directed to the Endangered Species Biologist of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at their field office in State College, Pennsylvania.

However, if there will be no direct or indirect impacts to wetlands from the proposed project, then I do not foresee any adverse impacts to the bog turtle or any other rare or protected species under Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission jurisdiction. Please note that the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission conducts Species Impact Reviews **only for reptiles, amphibians, fishes, and aquatic invertebrates**. Reviews concerning other natural resources should be directed to the appropriate agencies.

If you have questions with this response, contact me at (814) 359-5113 or my assistant, Chris Urban, at (814) 359-5186. Please refer to the SIR# listed in the upper left-hand corner of this letter. Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this matter of endangered species conservation and habitat protection.

Sincerely,


Andrew L. Shiels, Leader
Nongame and Endangered Species Unit

CU/ta

Enclosure (1)

cc: R. Snyder - PFBC
R. Tibbott - PFBC
B. Dershem - USFWS



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

2001 ELMERTON AVENUE, HARRISBURG, PA 17110-9797

February 28, 2002

Ms. Deborah Hahn
Horne Engineering Services, Inc.
2750 Prosperity Avenue
Suite 450
Fairfax, VA 22031-4312

In re: U.S. Army Reserve 99th Regional Support Command
Clinton Local Training Area, Allegheny & Beaver Counties, PA
Johnstown Aviation Support Facility, Cambria County, PA

Dear Ms. Hahn:

This is our response to your letter of January 30, 2002, requesting information on the above referenced training sites.

We have completed an office review of the site areas and determined that they are not located within the boundary line of any State Game Lands. Also, we have determined that except for occasional transient individuals, the training sites are not located within an area, which is the habitat of an endangered or threatened species of bird or mammal recognized by the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Furthermore, we do not anticipate any long-term adverse impacts to any critical or unique habitats as a direct result of activity at these training sites.

If the training site areas change or if additional information becomes available on endangered or threatened species, or impacts to critical or unique habitats, this determination may be reconsidered.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (717) 783-5957.

Very truly yours,

James R. Leigey
Wildlife Impact Review Coordinator
Division of Environmental Planning
And Habitat Protection
Bureau of Land Management

JRL/pfb

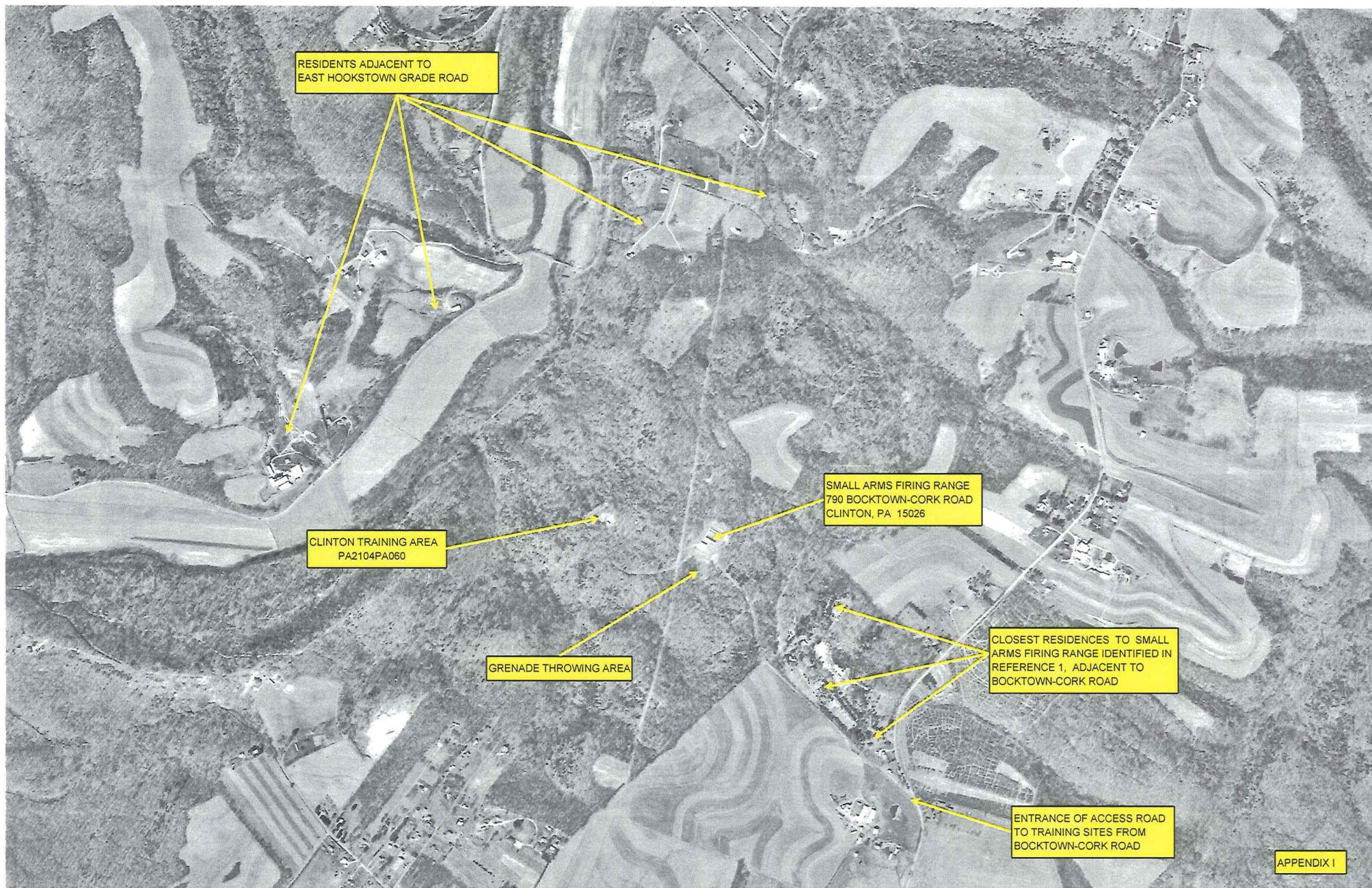
ADMINISTRATIVE BUREAUS:

PERSONNEL: 717-787-7836 ADMINISTRATION: 717-787-5670 AUTOMOTIVE AND PROCUREMENT DIVISION: 717-787-6594
LICENSE DIVISION: 717-787-2084 WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT: 717-787-5529 INFORMATION & EDUCATION: 717-787-6286 LAW ENFORCEMENT: 717-787-5740
LAND MANAGEMENT: 717-787-6818 REAL ESTATE DIVISION: 717-787-6568 AUTOMATED TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS: 717-787-4076 FAX: 717-772-2411

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APPENDIX H



**INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP
BEAVER COUNTY
104 SCHOOL ROAD
ALQUIPPA, PA 15001
724-378-3739 Fax 724-378-8792**

NOV 17 1999

November 12, 1999

United States Senator Rick Santorum
1 Station Square, Suite 250
Landmark Building
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Dear Senator Santorum:

Located within the boundaries of our Township, on Bocktown Cork Road, Clinton, PA., is a US Army facility currently being used by the 911 Airwing Reservists. This facility was upgraded in the last few years to include an indoor, military, firing range.

Last weekend a problem arose when the personnel at that facility were conducting 'night firing', outdoors, commencing at 4:00 am. Needless to say the continued rapid fire of M-16's and M-40's at that hour on a Saturday both awakened and frightened many Township residents in that area.

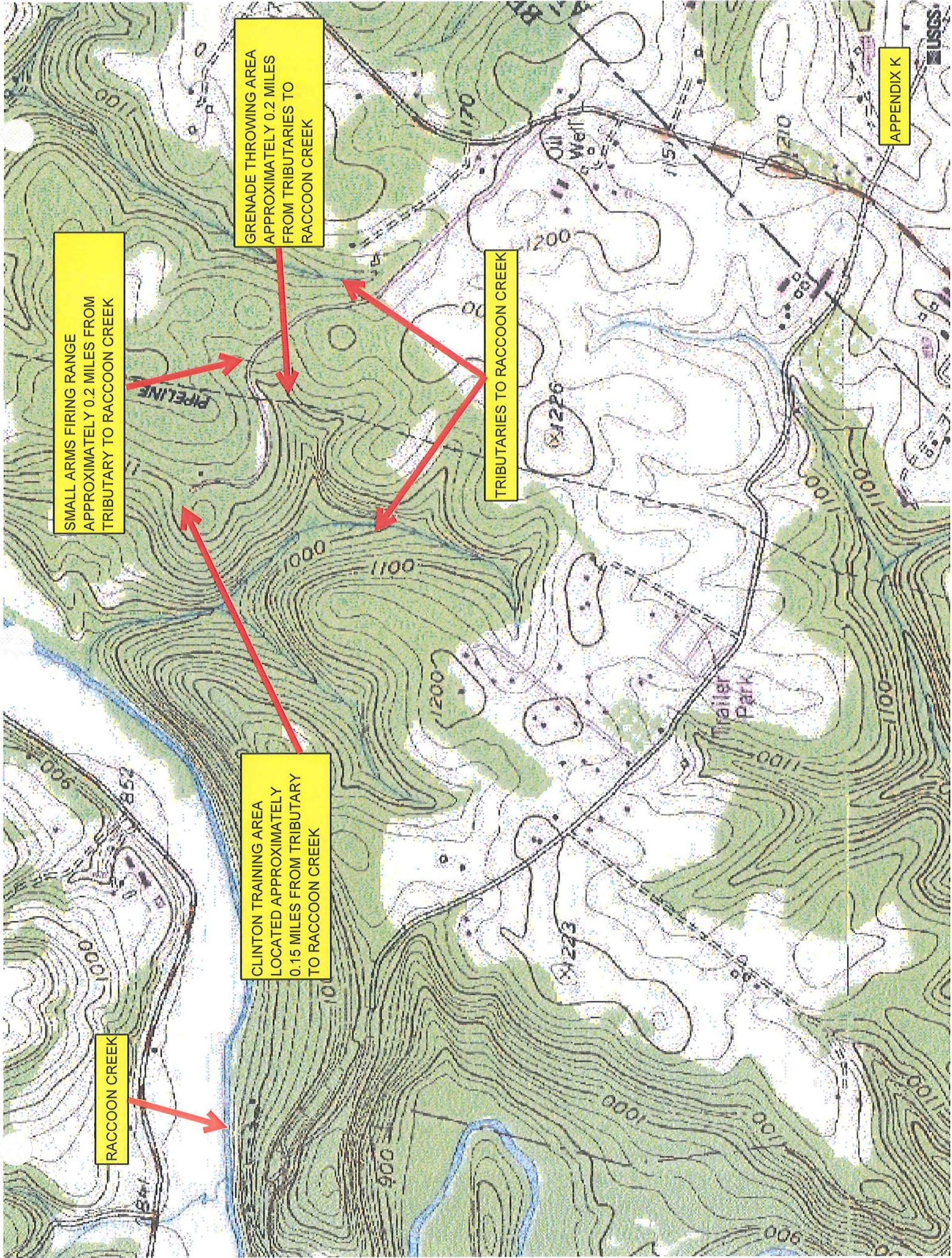
We, the Board of Supervisors, respectfully ask your help in negotiating an agreement on an outdoor practice schedule that is amenable to all persons and agencies involved.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS


Fred Schmidt
Chairman



SMALL ARMS FIRING RANGE
APPROXIMATELY 0.2 MILES FROM
TRIBUTARY TO RACCOON CREEK

GRENADE THROWING AREA
APPROXIMATELY 0.2 MILES
FROM TRIBUTARIES TO
RACCOON CREEK

TRIBUTARIES TO RACCOON CREEK

CLINTON TRAINING AREA
LOCATED APPROXIMATELY
0.15 MILES FROM TRIBUTARY
TO RACCOON CREEK

RACCOON CREEK

APPENDIX K

