

## REMEDIAL ACTION



March 2024

## Defense Environmental Restoration Program-Formerly Used Defense Sites

Across the country, the Department of Defense acquired properties, often during times of war, to use for military training, testing and demonstrations. When no longer needed, many of these properties were cleaned up according to the best practices available at the time and then transferred to other owners such as private individuals or other government entities. These Formerly Used Defense Sites can range from privately owned farms to National Parks. They also include residential, industrial and educational properties. The Department of Defense is committed to protecting people and the environment and improving public safety by cleaning up these sites if hazards from the former military operations remain. The Defense Environmental Restoration Program-Formerly Used Defense Sites was established to evaluate and, if necessary, to remediate Formerly Used Defense Sites. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) manages the program on behalf of the Department of Defense.

Congress passed the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, also known as Superfund, in 1980 and the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act in 1986. These laws give us the authority for certain cleanup activities and dictate the process we must follow. We conduct investigations to determine the potential risk to people and the environment from the military's use of the property. Public involvement and community participation are important components of the process. We partner with stakeholders throughout the process, including congressional representatives, state and local governments, regulatory and environmental agencies, and affected property owners.

## Background

In 1942, the U.S. Government acquired 52,191 acres to build Camp Swift to train Soldiers destined for the European theater during World War II (Decision Document, Munitions Response Site 4). Camp Swift was initially declared excess to the War Assets Administration in 1947. The U.S. Army then made efforts to remove remaining unexploded ordnance. Certificates of surface removal of ordnance were issued, but subsurface removal was not conducted. Following the declaration of excess and surface removal, the camp was split into smaller sections and sold to various individuals, and the deeds to some of the new owners contained a recommendation that activities be limited to surface uses only (Decision Document, Munitions Response Site 4). At that time, the majority of land was used for agricultural purposes. Currently, Munitions Response Site 4 (MRS 4) is being actively cleaned up.

## Environmental Investigations

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has completed a number of studies of the former Camp Swift including a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study which was completed in 2015. The purpose of the Remedial Investigation was to determine what munitions and munitions constituents (the metals and explosives that comprise munitions) may be present in what locations and amounts. Teams identified munitions debris at Munitions Response Site 4. The Remedial Investigation concluded the historical presence of munitions and explosives of concern represented an unacceptable potential hazard to current and future site residents, workers, and users.

## FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES | Former Camp Swift Munitions Response Site 4

Based on the results of the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study, we established Munitions Response Site 4. Munitions Response Site 4 is approximately 238 acres. Munitions Response Site 4 is on the eastern portion of the Former Camp Swift, approximately five miles northwest of Paige, Texas.



At the scale depicted, the boundaries are approximate. However, the data provided are not as accurate as the data that would be obtained from a more detailed survey. The data is provided for informational purposes only and should not be used for legal or other purposes.



Legend	
	PROPERTY BOUNDARY
	COUNTY BOUNDARY
	NATIONAL ROAD
	STATE ROAD

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS ST. LOUIS DISTRICT	
CAMP SWIFT FUDS PROPERTY NO. K06TX0304 FFID: TX08799644400 BASTROP, TEXAS BASTROP COUNTY PROPERTY MAP	
PROJ. DATE: Oct 2022	PLATE NO: 1

### SAFETY FIRST: REMEMBER THE 3Rs

If you are on a Formerly Used Defense Site, do not pick up anything that you did not put on the ground. Because of previous military training, munitions may potentially be present. These could be dangerous and may not be easily recognizable. Never touch, move or disturb something you think may be a munition. Remember the 3Rs of explosive safety.



**RECOGNIZE** - The object you found could be dangerous.  
**RETREAT** - Leave the area without touching or moving the object.  
**REPORT** - Call 911 immediately.



### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit:

<https://www.swf.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental/Formerly-Used-Defense-Sites/Swift/>

Contact:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Regional Planning and Environmental Center  
Phone: 817-886-1306

