

**FINAL  
OPERATIONAL RANGE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM  
PHASE I QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT REPORT  
BUHL TRAINING SITE  
BUHL, IDAHO**

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MARCH 2008

Prepared for:

**UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, BALTIMORE DISTRICT**  
P.O. Box 1715  
Baltimore, Maryland 21203

and

**UNITED STATES ARMY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMAND**  
Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland 21010

Prepared by:

**MALCOLM PIRNIE, INC.**  
300 E Lombard Street  
Suite 610  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202



## ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

ARID-GEO	Army Range Inventory Database-Geodatabase
ARNG	Army National Guard
bgs	Below Ground Surface
CSM	Conceptual Site Model
DoD	Department of Defense
DODI	Department of Defense Instruction
E	Ecological receptors identified. (This refers to range grouping; pathway designation always precedes E designation.)
EMO	Environmental Management Office
ESRP	Eastern Snake River Plain
GIS	Geographic Information System
GW	Groundwater pathway identified. (This refers to range grouping; M designation always precedes GW designation.)
H	Human receptors identified. (This refers to range grouping; pathway designation always precedes H designation.)
LS	Limited Source
M	Munitions used. (This refers to range grouping; M designation always precedes applicable pathway.)
MCOC	Munitions Constituents of Concern
mph	Miles per Hour
NG	Nitroglycerin
ORAP	Operational Range Assessment Program
PU	Pathway unlikely or incomplete. (This refers to range grouping; M designation always precedes PU designation.)
RFMSS	Range Facility Management Support System
SW	Surface water pathway identified. (This refers to range grouping; M designation always precedes SW designation.)
TFCC	Twin Falls Canal Company
U.S.	United States
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USACHPPM	United States Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine
USAEC	United States Army Environmental Command
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
°F	degrees Fahrenheit

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The United States (U.S.) Army is conducting qualitative assessments at operational ranges to meet the requirements of Department of Defense policy and to support the U.S. Army Sustainable Range Program. The operational range qualitative assessment (hereinafter referred to as Phase I Assessment) is the first phase of the U.S. Army Operational Range Assessment Program. This Phase I Assessment evaluates the operational range area at Buhl Training Site to assess whether further investigation is needed to determine if potential munitions constituents of concern (MCOC) are or could be migrating off-range at levels that may pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. In conducting the Phase I Assessment, MCOC sources, potential off-range migration pathways, and potential off-range human and ecological receptors are evaluated as appropriate.

Buhl Training Site occupies approximately 165 acres in the northwest portion of Twin Falls County, Idaho, near U.S. Route 30. The training site is located approximately six miles west of Buhl, Idaho, and approximately six miles north of Castleford, Idaho. The State of Idaho Military Division obtained use of the Buhl Training Site by presidential executive order. This property remains public land but has been removed from the public domain for use by the Idaho Army National Guard (ARNG) and is administered by the Bureau of Land Management. According to the Army Range Inventory Database-Geodatabase from 2006 (ARID-GEO, 2006), there are two operational ranges: a small arms range that encompasses 16.6 acres and a maneuver/training area (heavy forces) that encompasses 148.4 acres. There is no other operational area at Buhl Training Site; there is no cantonment area.

A review of available records and background data, as well as interviews with Idaho ARNG personnel, indicates that Buhl Training Site has limited training opportunities for units and has not been used since approximately 1986. Buhl Training Site historically was used for small arms and demolition training, and according to interviews with the Idaho ARNG, it was used approximately twice a year. Currently, the Idaho ARNG has an agreement with an adjacent property owner stating that he is able to use the training site for cattle grazing in exchange for maintaining the property.

The two operational ranges at Buhl Training Site are categorized as Unlikely.

### **Unlikely – Five-Year Review**

Two ranges at Buhl Training Site are categorized as Unlikely, totaling 165 acres. These ranges consist of a small arms range and a maneuver/training area (heavy forces). Ranges where, based upon a review of readily available information, there is sufficient evidence to show that there are minimal known releases or source-receptor interactions on ranges that could present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment are categorized as Unlikely. Ranges categorized as Unlikely are required to be re-evaluated at least every five years. Re-evaluation may occur sooner if significant changes (e.g., change in range operations or site conditions, regulatory changes) occur that affect determinations made during this Phase I Assessment.

**Table ES-1** summarizes the Phase I Assessment findings.

**Table ES-1: Summary of Findings and Conclusions for Buhl Training Site**

Category	Total Number of Ranges and Acreage	Source(s)	Pathway(s)	Human Receptors	Ecological Receptors	Conclusions and Rationale
Unlikely	One operational range; 16.6 acres	Small arms firing	No pathways identified	Not evaluated (no pathway identified)		Re-evaluate during the five-year review. No pathways were identified.
	One operational range; 148.4 acres	Minimal source – limited or no military munitions	Not evaluated (minimal source identified)		Re-evaluate during the five-year review. Minimal source was identified.	