



ARIZONA

**Presentation to the Sahuarita Town Council
February 26, 2024**

Arizona State Trust Land Hazard Information Project in Sahuarita

Outline



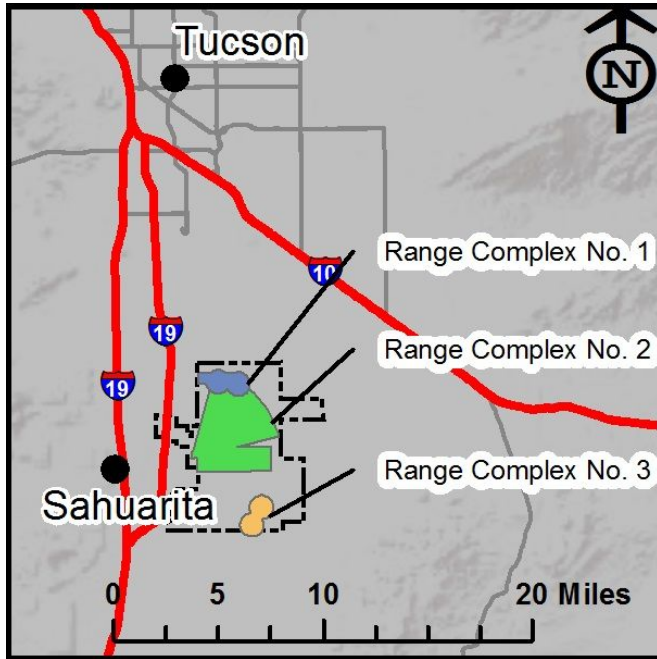
Arizona State Trust Land Hazard Information Project in Sahuarita

- *Former Sahuarita Air Force Range (SAFR) Formerly Used Defense Site*
- *State of Arizona Action*
- *Contact*

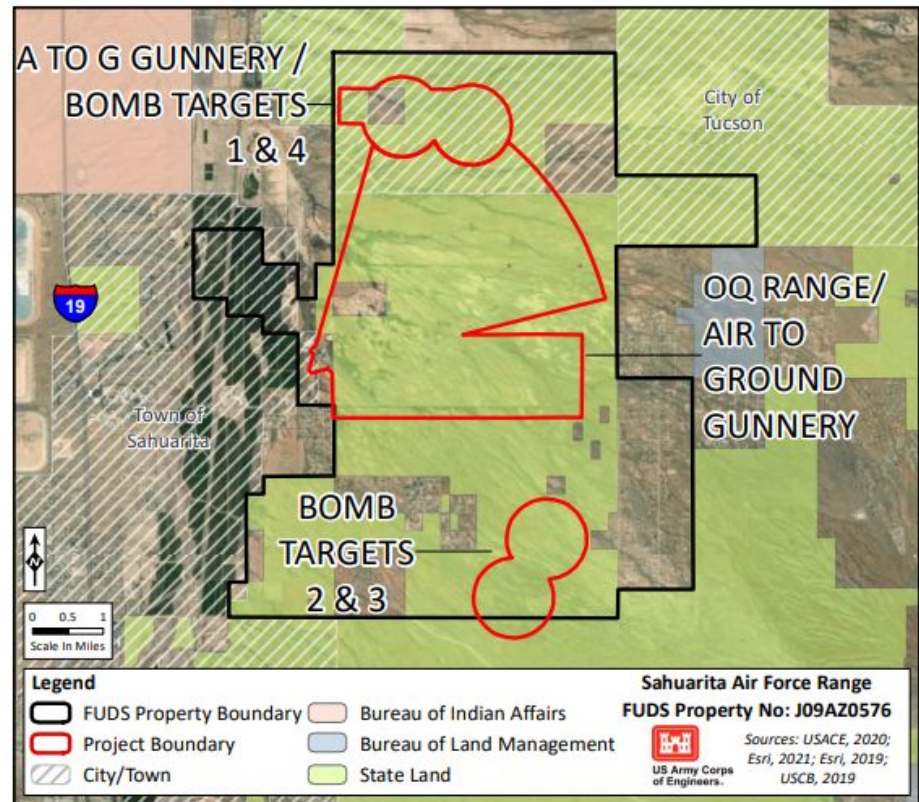
Site Background

- The former Sahuarita Air Force Range (**SAFR**) is a Formerly Used Defense Site (**FUDS**) located near Sahuarita, AZ. It was established as a pattern bombing range in support of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.
- The former SAFR (Site) was used by the U.S. military for gunnery and bombing ranges from about 1942 to 1958.

Site Background (cont.)



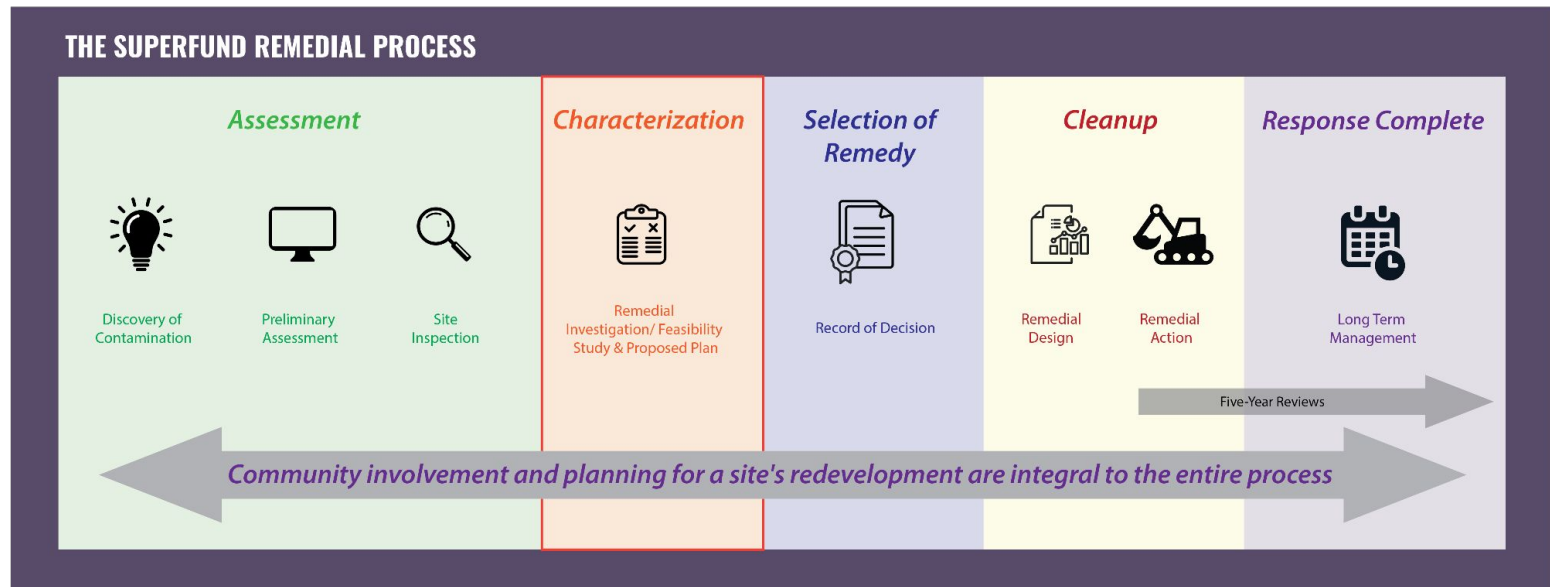
Map of Sahuarita Air Force Range



Site Status

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (**USACE**) is conducting an environmental investigation and accompanying study to evaluate Site cleanup options - USACE is in the “Characterization” phase.

Overview of the Superfund Process



Site Risk to the Community

Weapons debris found at the Site over the years has included practice bombs, high explosive incendiary projectiles, small arms and other related items.



Site Risk to the Community

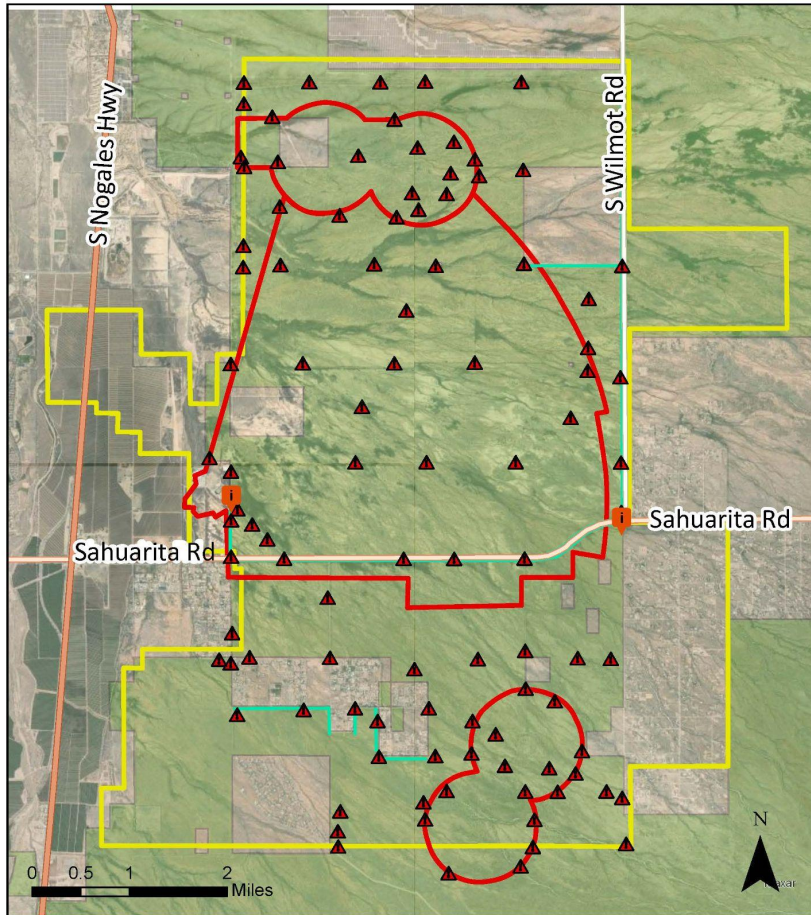
Because USACE has not completed its investigation and cleanup, similar weapons debris may be present in the area of the Site and poses a risk to the public.

State of Arizona Action

Out of an abundance of caution, the State of Arizona is taking action to inform and warn the community about this risk by installing warning signs and information kiosks on Arizona State Trust Land in the area of the Site.

- This is an interim measure to provide hazard warnings while USACE completes its investigation and develops plans for the Site cleanup - USACE supports the State of Arizona in taking this action.
- State-contracted, professionally certified unexploded ordnance specialists will be onsite to oversee the work.

State of Arizona Action - Warning Sign and Kiosk Target Locations



Legend

- Information Kiosk
- Caution Sign
- Increased Munition Areas
- Former Military Area Boundaries
- State Trust Land

State Trust Lands Hazard
Information Project - Sahuarita
Target Sign/Kiosk Locations

- 100 warning signs will be installed in the ground or attached to existing fencing and structures.
- Two information kiosks containing additional information about the Site and how to identify possibly harmful debris and report the discovery of those items to the proper authority will be constructed.

State of Arizona Action - Sign

CAUTION

FORMER MILITARY AREA



**EXPLOSIVE HAZARD
DO NOT TOUCH!**

For your safety, do not disturb unknown objects.
Military munitions could explode.
Report items to 911

For more information, scan the QR code with your mobile device or visit bit.ly/SahuaritaSite



Para más información escanea el código QR con tu dispositivo móvil o visita bit.ly/SahuaritaSite



PRECAUCIÓN

ANTIGUA ZONA MILITAR



**PELIGRO DE EXPLOSIÓN
¡NO TOCAR!**

Por su propia seguridad, No maneje los objetos desconocidos.
Las Municiones militares podrian explotar.
Reporte a 911 cualquier cuestión

State of Arizona Action - Community/Project Updates & Schedule

- **Community Update Mailer**
- **Work begins in March 2024:**
 - *A few weeks to a month to complete.*
 - *Conducted during daylight hours.*
 - *Project webpage: azdeq.gov/SAFR_sign*

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Next Steps & Contacts

USACE will develop the Proposed Plan for Site cleanup options and ask for the public's input - timing unknown.

The State of Arizona encourages the community to review and weigh in on the USACE Proposed Plan when it becomes available.

If you have questions about the former SAFR Formerly Used Defense Site, please contact:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

Robert DeDeaux
Public Affairs Specialist
Los Angeles District
Robert.I.DeDeaux@usace.army.mil

USACE Guidance for the Site



- Recognize – when you may have encountered a munition and that munitions are dangerous.
- Retreat – do not approach, touch, move or disturb it, but carefully leave the area.
- Report – call 911 and advise police of what you saw and where you saw it.

State of Arizona Project Contact

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

SAFRsignage@azdeq.gov

This presentation was produced by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality in cooperation with the Arizona State Land Department and the Arizona Department of Administration.