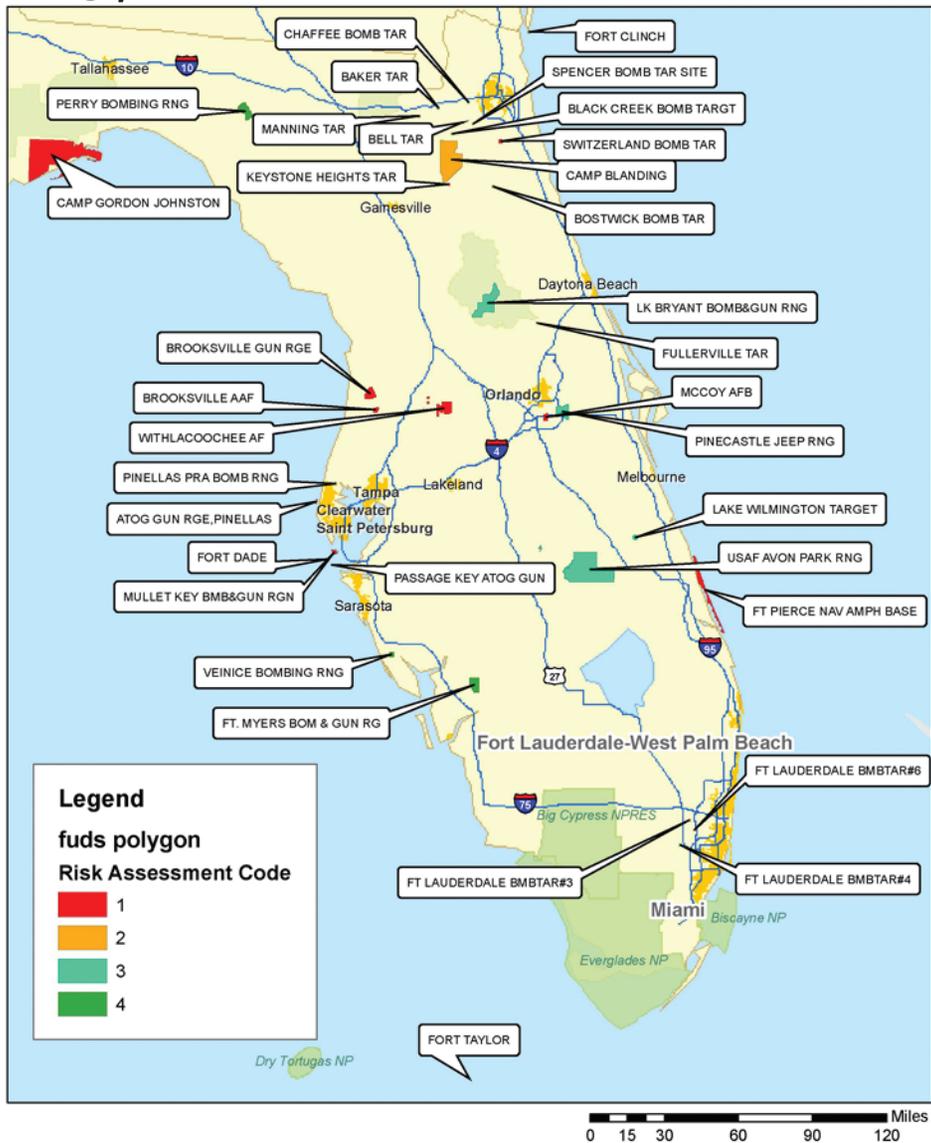


DERP/FUDS in Florida



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Jacksonville District

Public Involvement Program Restoration Advisory Board



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Jacksonville District
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019
(904) 232-2235

Public Involvement Program **Restoration Advisory Board**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District is committed to ensuring opportunities for public involvement in environmental restoration decisions and activities. A Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) is one means of establishing a forum for two-way discussion and exchange of information between agencies and affected communities about activities conducted under the Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS).



The Jacksonville District Commander is responsible for establishing a RAB when it is determined that sufficient, sustained community interest in participation in the project exists. Membership should reflect all segments of the community, and may include representatives from:

- Federal, state, local and tribal governments as appropriate, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Stakeholders such as property and business owners
- School districts and the religious community
- Community groups, civic organizations and professional associations
- Special interest groups
- Local residents and community members

Restoration Advisory Boards are co-chaired by a representative of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and a representative of the community, who is chosen by the RAB community members. Members will be selected in a fair and open manner, and their responsibilities may include:

- Providing individual advice on environmental restoration issues to the Corps and other regulatory agencies
- Conducting regular meetings at convenient times and locations, which are announced and open to the public
- Encouraging community involvement
- Reviewing and evaluating technical documents
- Identifying project requirements and priorities

Establishing a RAB

- Step 1** - The Corps, in consultation with partner agencies, organizes a selection panel of community leaders to identify diverse community interest groups to be represented on the RAB, and to nominate potential RAB members.
- Step 2** - The selection panel works with the Corps to establish criteria for RAB member selection and to develop a solicitation process that includes public announcements and a public meeting to discuss the purpose, process and responsibilities of a RAB. The panel receives community interest forms identifying local concerns, levels of interest and applications for membership.
- Step 3** - The selection panel submits a list of recommended RAB members to the Corps. The district commander, in consultation with partner agencies, accepts the membership list once it is determined that all community interests are represented.
- Step 4** - Letters of invitation are mailed to selected groups and individuals. The RAB membership list will also be placed in local Information Repositories and on the Corps' website, and announced in a news release.
- Step 5** - Selection panel is disbanded.
- Step 6** - The RAB schedules their first meeting and develops their mission statement and operating procedures.

Technical Assistance for Public Participation

A Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) program provides RABs with access to independent technical support in interpreting scientific and engineering issues with regard to the nature of restoration activities at the DERP-FUDS property. Eligible TAPP projects may include:

- Interpreting technical documents
- Assessing technologies
- Interpreting health and safety information
- Training of certain types and as appropriate

