

FACT SHEET  
**DERP-FUDS Culebra, Puerto Rico**  
 Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP)  
 Congressional District: Puerto Rico

### **1. DESCRIPTION**

Program and projects are appropriated under Environmental Restoration – Formerly Used Defense Sites (ER-FUDS). The Culebra property was approved for inclusion in the Defense Environmental Restoration Program by an Inventory Project Report (INPR) and Findings and Determination of Eligibility (FDE) dated May 1991. In July 2005, the INPR was revised to clarify further the military’s use of Culebra and divided it into 14 separate Munitions Response Sites (MRS). The Culebra projects were approved under the Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) and the Installation Restoration Program (IRP). Culebra is located about 17 miles east of the main island of Puerto Rico. The Culebra property, consisting of Culebra Island and surrounding cayos, was acquired via land transfers, purchases, donations and leases, and was utilized as a coaling and communications station, for aerial bombing, maneuvers, naval gun and artillery firing, and amphibious training by the U.S. Marine Corps and the U.S. Navy during various periods between 1903 and 1975. All lands were transferred from Navy control prior to 1986 except for 87.5 acres near Flamenco Point. Based on historical research and US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Site Inspection, the Culebra property has been prioritized for Remedial Investigation for munitions and explosives of concern (MEC) and munitions debris (MD), with the exception of the area on Culebra Island designated as the Northwest Peninsula (NWP). Per Public Law (PL) 93-166, the NWP cannot be remediated using federal funding; however, that was modified by Fiscal Year (FY) 15 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) language (PL 113-291). Section 317 of PL 113-291 states the Secretary of the Army may expend funds to decontaminate certain public use areas within the NWP of unexploded ordnance (UXO). The specific areas authorized within the NWP are portions of Carlos Rosario Beach, Flamenco Beach, Tamarindo Beach, the campground, and Carlos Rosario Trail. The intent is to ensure UXO are removed from these areas, thereby allowing their safe use for their current recreational purposes. This authorization does not allow cleanup of other environmental contaminants, including munitions constituents. The remaining acreage of that portion of the NWP controlled by the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico remains the responsibility of the Commonwealth to restrict access and/or provide remediation. The Culebra property also has one area that is being investigated for possible hazardous materials under the IRP.

### **2. FUNDING**

Estimated Total Cost	\$128,355,700
Estimated Total Cost to Complete	\$89,144,200
Allocated thru FY15	\$33,066,500
Allocation for FY16	\$6,145,000

### **3. STATUS**

- a. The MMRP Site Inspection was completed in 2007 on areas not within the NWP footprint. The MMRP Site Inspection recommended twelve of thirteen munitions response sites (MRSs) to proceed to the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) phase; 10 sites are on land with 4 having a water component, and 2 sites are totally within the water. The RIs fieldwork effort at the ten land sites are underway and expected to be completed in FY16. Contracts have been awarded for RIs in the water areas and USACE is currently working with Commonwealth and Federal regulatory and resource agencies to implement these actions. Initial investigations in the water areas were started in the fall of 2012. The water area RIs' fieldwork effort are scheduled to be completed in FY16. The IRP RI fieldwork effort is also in progress and scheduled for completion in FY16. Current status for the various projects are shown in the table below.

<b>FUDS Site</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>RI Fieldwork Effort Completion Schedule (Land/Water)</b>	<b>RI/FS Reports, and Decision Document Schedule</b>
00 - Navy HQ Area	Land	IRP	FY16	FY17
01 - Not Used				
02 - Cerro Balcon and Cayos	Land/Water	MMRP MRS	FY16/FY16	FY17/FY18
03 - Flamenco Bay	Water	MMRP MRS	FY16	FY18
04 - Flamenco Maneuver Area	Land	MMRP MRS	FY16	FY17
05 - Mortar and Combat Range	Land	MMRP MRS	FY16	FY17
06 - Artillery Firing Area	Land	MMRP MRS	FY16	FY17
07 - Culebrita	Land/Water	MMRP MRS	FY16/FY16	FY17/FY18
08 - Cayo Norte Impact Area	Land	MMRP MRS	FY16	FY17
09 - Soldado Point Mortar and Bombing Area	Water/Land	MMRP MRS	FY16/FY16	FY17/FY18
10 - Defensive Firing Area 1	Land	MMRP MRS	FY16	FY17
11 - Defensive Firing Area 2	Land	MMRP MRS	FY16	FY17
12 - Luis Peña Channel	Water	MMRP MRS	FY16	FY18
13 - Cayo Luis Peña Impact Areas	Water/Land	MMRP MRS	FY16/FY16	FY17/FY18

FUDS Site	Area	Type	RI Fieldwork Effort Completion Schedule (Land/Water)	RI/FS Reports, and Decision Document Schedule
14 - Airport	Land	No DOD Action Indicated	NA	NA

- b. A Congressionally-mandated study specified by Public Law 111-383, Section 2815, was completed in April 2012 relating to that portion of the former bombardment area on the Culebra NWP that was transferred to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico by quitclaim deed. This portion, consisting of some 408 acres, is part of the area for which expenditure of federal funds for ordnance remediation is prohibited by Public Law 93-166. The study findings included an estimate of some \$49M for removal of ordnance from the 408-acre tract, in addition to addressing the potential impacts to the public and the environment. This estimate to remediate the entire Commonwealth of Puerto Rico portion of the NWP is not included in the estimated total Cost-to-Complete number in funding section above, since it is not authorized. Once the precise boundaries of the areas authorized by Section 317 of PL 113-291 are defined, then USACE will finalize a new Cost-to-Complete amount.
- c. A Preliminary Assessment/Inventory Project Report (PA/INPR) to delineate and determine site boundaries of the NWP areas authorized by Section 317 of PL 113-291 is underway. A boundary survey was completed in September 2015 in order to define the exact areas. The PA/INPR report is being prepared and is scheduled to be completed in FY16. It will include the boundaries for each area, the number of MRSs, and draft Munitions Response Site Prioritization Protocol scores for each MRS established. It will also recommend the appropriate next phase to meet Congress's requirement to decontaminate these areas of UXO.



# DERP-FUDS Culebra, Puerto Rico

## Formerly Used Defense Sites Program

### Congressional District: Puerto Rico

### Remedial Investigations/Feasibility Studies (RI/FS) Currently in Progress for Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) Areas

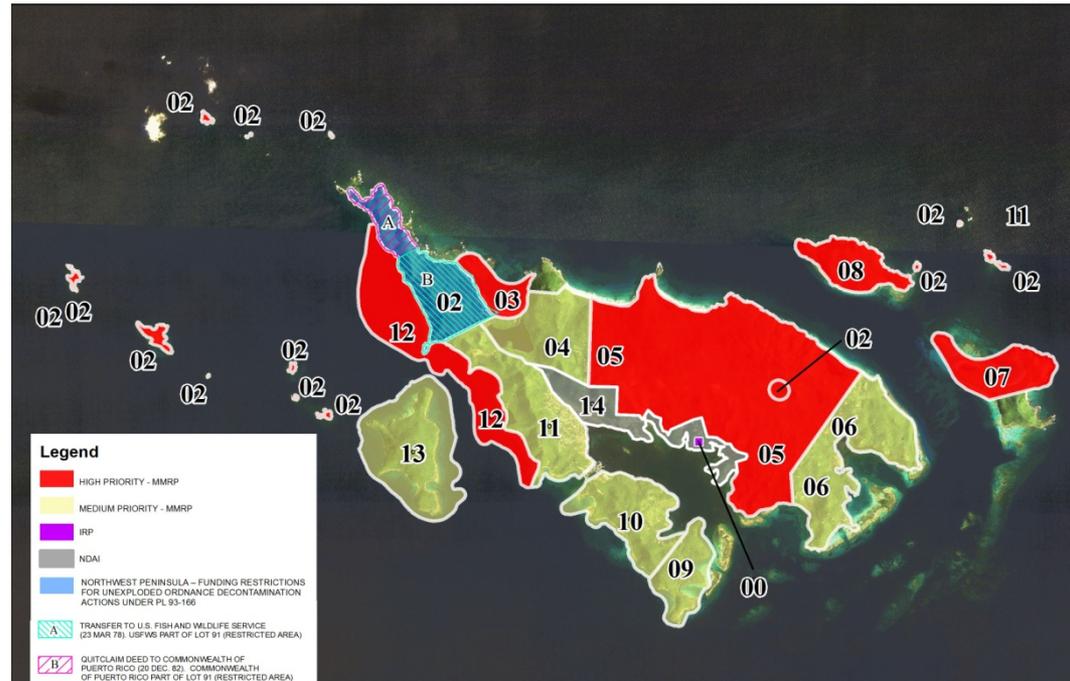
#### Land Areas

- 02-Cerro Balcon and accessible cays (Northwest Peninsula area is excluded)
- 04-Flamenco Lagoon Maneuver Area
- 05-Combat & Mortar Range Area
- 06-Artillery Firing Area
- 07- Culebrita Artillery Impact Range
- 08-Cayo Norte Impact Area
- 09-Soldado Point Mortar & Bombing Areas
- 10-Defensive Firing Area #1
- 11-Defensive Firing Area #2
- 13-Cayo Luis Pena Impact Area

#### Water Areas

- 02-Water adjacent to accessible cays
- 03-Flamenco Bay
- 07-Culebrita adjacent waters
- 09-Soldado Point adjacent waters
- 12-Luis Pena Channel
- 13-Cayo Luis Pena adjacent waters

Completed in FY 12 Congressionally-mandated study, per PL 111-383, regarding unexploded ordnance possibly remaining on the Puerto Rico-controlled portion of the Northwest Peninsula.



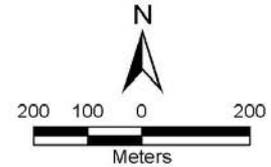
Installation Restoration Program (IRP)  
Remedial Investigation effort currently in progress for Former Camp Area - Project 00.



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Data is projected to the UTM Coordinate System:  
NAD 1983 UTM Zone 20N

### Southern Portion Of Northwest Peninsula Public Access Map

- Legend**
- - - Fence Line
  - Carlos Rosario Trail
  - + Access Point
  - Beach
  - Campgrounds
  - NW Peninsula Boundary

US Army Engineering  
And Support Center  
Huntsville, Alabama

Drawn By: CLH	Scale: 1" = 200 m	Rev:
Checked By:	Date Drawn: 10/31/2011	
Submitted By: MT	Revision Date:	

Path: S:\Culebra\Northern Peninsula SI 2011\NWP Public Access Points Map.mxd

Areas within the Northwest Peninsula authorized for remediation in accordance with Section 317 of the FY 15 NDAA. The specific areas that could be addressed are portions of Carlos Rosario Beach (green), Flamenco Beach (green), Tamarindo Beach (green), the campground (blue), and the Carlos Rosario trail (yellow).