FINAL
DECISION DOCUMENT FOR THE HAND GRENADE RANGE, RANGE 32, PARCEL 90Q-X FORT McCLELLAN, CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA

ISSUED BY: THE U. S. ARMY

AUGUST 2001

U.S. ARMY ANNOUNCES DECISION DOCUMENT

This Decision Document presents the determination that no further remedial action will be necessary to protect human health and the environment at the Hand Grenade Range, Range 32, Parcel 90Q-X at Fort McClellan (FTMC) in Calhoun County, Alabama. The location of the parcel at FTMC is shown on Figure 1. In addition, this Decision Document provides the site background information used as the basis for the no further action decision with regard to hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste (HTRW). Unexploded ordnance (UXO)-related issues may be present at the site and are being addressed separately by the U.S. Army.

This Decision Document is issued by the U.S. Army Garrison at FTMC with involvement by the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT). The BCT consists of representatives from the U.S. Army, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region IV, and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. The BCT is responsible for planning and implementing environmental investigations at FTMC.

Based on the results of the site investigation (SI) completed at the Hand Grenade Range, Range 32, Parcel 90Q-X, the U.S. Army will implement no further action at the site with regard to HTRW. UXO-related issues may be present at the site and are being addressed separately by the U.S. Army. This decision was made by the U.S. Army with concurrence by the BCT.

This Decision Document summarizes site information presented in detail in background documents that are part of the administrative record for the Hand Grenade Range, Range 32, Parcel 90Q-X. A list of background documents for Parcel 90Q-X is presented on Page 2. A copy of the administrative record for Parcel 90Q-X is available at the public repositories listed on Page 3.

REGULATIONS GOVERNING SITE

FTMC is undergoing closure by the BRAC Commission under Public Laws 100-526 and 101-510. The 1990 Base Closure Act, Public Law 101-510, established the process by which U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) installations would be closed or realigned. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program requires investigation and cleanup of federal properties prior to transfer to the public domain. In addition, the Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act (CERFA) (Public Law 102-426) requires federal agencies to identify real property on military installations scheduled for closure that can be transferred to the public for redevelopment or reuse. Consequently, the U.S. Army is conducting environmental studies of the impact of suspected contaminants at parcels at FTMC. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC follows the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process.

SITE BACKGROUND

FTMC is located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains of northeastern Alabama near the cities of Anniston and Weaver in Calhoun County. FTMC consists of two main areas of government-owned properties: the Main Post and Pelham Range. Until May 1998, the FTMC installation also

PRIMARY BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS FOR PARCEL 90Q-X

Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc. (ESE), 1998, ***Final Environmental Baseline Survey, Fort McClellan, Alabama***, prepared for U.S. Army Environmental Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, January.

IT Corporation (IT), 2001, ***Final Site Investigation Report, Hand Grenade Range, Range 32, Parcel 90Q-X, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama***, August.

IT Corporation (IT), 2000a, ***Final Site-Specific Field Sampling Plan Attachment, Site Investigation at the Hand Grenade Range, Range 32, Parcel 90Q-X, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama,*** August.

IT Corporation (IT), 2000b, ***Final Human Health and Ecological Screening Values and PAH Background Summary Report, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama***, July.

Science Applications International Corporation, 1998, ***Final Background Metals Survey Report, Fort McClellan, Alabama,*** July.

included the Choccolocco Corridor, a 4,488-acre tract of land that was leased from the State of Alabama. The Main Post, which occupies 18,929 acres, is bounded on the east by the Choccolocco Corridor, which previously connected the Main Post with the Talladega National Forest. Pelham Range, which occupies 22,245 acres, is located approximately 5 miles due west of the Main Post and adjoins the Anniston Army Depot on the southwest.

The Hand Grenade Range, Range 32, Parcel 90Q-X, is located in the south-central portion of the Main Post (Figure 1). Parcel 90Q-X occupies an area of approximately 39 acres and is located southeast of Iron Mountain Road along Kellog Drive. The Hand Grenade Range was active from 1987 to 1999. Ordnance used at the site consisted of practice hand grenades, containing blasting-cap-like devices and live hand grenades.

The site is primarily undeveloped. Three unnamed intermittent tributaries of South Branch of Cane Creek converge in the eastern portion of the site and form a single tributary exiting the site to the north-northwest into South Branch of Cane Creek.

Ground elevation at Parcel 90Q-X ranges from approximately 890 to 1060 feet above mean sea level. Surface drainage at the site flows to the north-northwest into South Branch of Cane Creek

SCOPE AND ROLE OF PARCEL

Information developed from the environmental baseline survey (ESE, 1998) was used to group areas at FTMC into standardized parcel categories using DOD guidance. All parcels received a parcel designation for one of seven CERFA categories, or a non-CERCLA qualifier designation, as appropriate. The seven CERFA categories include CERFA Uncontaminated Parcels (Categories 1 and 2), CERFA Contaminated Parcels (Categories 3 through 7), and CERFA Qualified Parcels. Parcel 90Q-X was categorized as a CERFA Category 1 Qualified parcel in the environmental baseline survey. CERFA Category 1 parcels are areas where no storage, release, or disposal of hazardous substances or petroleum products has occurred (ESE, 1998). The parcel, however, was qualified ("X") because of the potential presence of UXO.

With the issuance of this Decision Document, Parcel 90Q-X remains a CERFA Category 1 Qualified parcel.

SITE INVESTIGATION

An SI was conducted at the Hand Grenade Range, Range 32, Parcel 90Q-X to determine whether chemical constituents are present at

PUBLIC INFORMATION REPOSITORIES FOR FORT McCLELLAN

Anniston Calhoun County Public Library
Reference Section
Anniston, Alabama 36201
Point of Contact: Ms. Sunny Addison
Telephone: (256) 237-8501
Fax: (256) 238-0474
Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Houston Cole Library
9th Floor
Jacksonville State University
700 Pelham Road
Jacksonville, Alabama 36265
Point of Contact: Ms. Rita Smith (256) 782-5249
Hours of Operation: Monday – Thursday 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.
Friday 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 3:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

the site at concentrations that present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment (IT, 2000a; IT, 2001).

Five surface soil samples, four depositional soil samples, five subsurface soil samples, and five groundwater samples were collected at the site. Surface and depositional soil samples were collected from the upper 1 foot of soil; subsurface soil samples were collected at depths greater than 1 foot below ground surface. Groundwater samples were collected from five permanent monitoring wells installed at the site during the SI. Samples were analyzed for metals and nitroaromatic explosives. In addition, the depositional soil samples were analyzed for total organic carbon and grain size.

To evaluate whether detected constituents present an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment, the analytical results were compared to human health site-specific screening levels (SSSL) and ecological screening values (ESV) for FTMC (IT, 2000b). The SSSLs and ESVs were developed as part of human health and ecological risk evaluations associated with SIs being performed under the BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC. Additionally, metals concentrations exceeding SSSLs and ESVs were compared to media-specific background screening values (Science Applications International Corporation, 1998).

The potential threat to human receptors is expected to be low. Although the site is projected for passive recreation reuse, the analytical data were screened against residential human health SSSLs to evaluate the site for potential unrestricted land reuse. With the exception of aluminum in one groundwater sample, the metals concentrations that exceeded SSSLs in site media were below their respective background concentrations or were within their range of background values.

The explosive compound 4-amino-2,6-dinitrotoluene (0.00021 milligrams per liter [mg/L]) exceeded its SSSL (0.0000936 mg/L) in one groundwater sample. The compound was not detected in any of the other samples collected at the site. Currently, there is no established EPA drinking water standard or health advisory values for 4-amino-2,6-dinitrotoluene. The hazard index estimated from the SSSL, however, is less than the threshold limit of 1, suggesting that adverse health effects are unlikely. Based on its low concentration and limited spatial distribution at the site, 4-amino-2,6-dinitrotoluene is not expected to pose an unacceptable risk to human health.

Ten metals (aluminum, barium, beryllium, chromium, iron, manganese, selenium, thallium, vanadium, and zinc) were detected in site media at concentrations exceeding ESVs and their respective background concentrations. However, with the exception of beryllium at two sample locations and zinc at one sample location, the concentrations of these metals were within the range of background values. The site is located within a wooded area of the Main Post and is expected to support a viable ecological habitat. However, based on the low levels of metals detected the potential threat to ecological receptors is expected to be low.

SITE REMEDIAL ACTIONS

Remedial actions were not conducted at the Hand Grenade Range, Range 32, Parcel 90Q-X.

DESCRIPTION OF NO FURTHER ACTION

Remedial alternatives were not developed for Parcel 90Q-X. No further action is selected because remedial action is unnecessary to protect human health or the environment at this site. The metals and chemical compounds detected in site media do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. Therefore, the site is released for unrestricted land reuse with regard to HTRW. UXO-related issues may be present at the site and are being addressed separately by the U.S. Army. With regard to HTRW, the U.S. Army will not take any further action to investigate, remediate, or monitor the Hand Grenade Range, Range 32, Parcel 90Q-X.

The following costs are associated with implementing the no-action alternative:

Capital Cost:	$0
Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs:	$0
Present Worth Cost:	$0
Months to Implement:	None
Remedial Duration:	None.

DECLARATION

Remedial action is unnecessary at the Hand Grenade Range, Range 32, Parcel 90Q-X. The no further action remedy protects human health and the environment, complies with relevant federal and state regulations, and is a cost-effective application of public funds. This remedy will not leave in place hazardous substances at concentrations that require limiting the future use of the parcel, or that require land-use control restrictions. The site is released for unrestricted land reuse with regard to HTRW. UXO-related issues may be present at the site and are being addressed separately by the U.S. Army. There will not be any further remedial costs associated with implementing no further action at the Hand Grenade Range, Range 32, Parcel 90Q-X.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Any questions or comments concerning this Decision Document or other documents in the administrative record can be directed to:

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Environmental Coordinator
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ACRONYMS

BCT	BRAC Cleanup Team
BRAC	Base Realignment and Closure
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CERFA	Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act
DOD	U.S. Department of Defense
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ESE	Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc.
ESV	ecological screening value
FTMC	Fort McClellan
HTRW	hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste
IT	IT Corporation
mg/L	milligrams per liter
SI	site investigation
SSSL	site-specific screening level
UXO	unexploded ordnance

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Date

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Date

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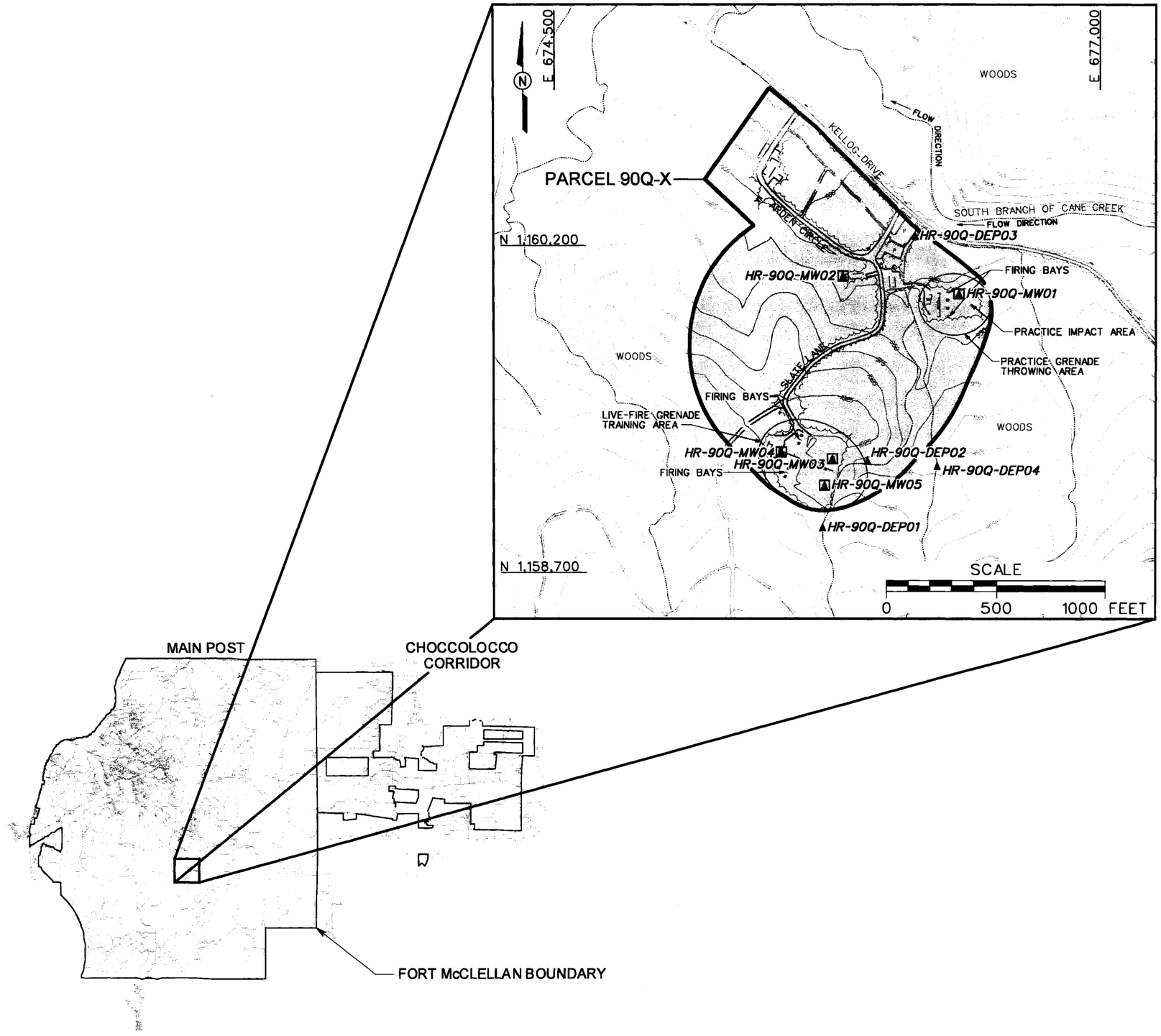
Date



LEGEND

- UNIMPROVED ROADS AND PARKING
- PAVED ROADS AND PARKING
- REMOVED BUILDINGS
- TOPOGRAPHIC CONTOURS (CONTOUR INTERVAL - 25 FOOT)
- TREES / TREELINE
- PARCEL BOUNDARY
- SURFACE DRAINAGE / CREEK
- UTILITY POLE
- BERM
- GROUNDWATER, SURFACE AND SUBSURFACE SOIL SAMPLE LOCATION
- DEPOSITIONAL SOIL SAMPLE LOCATION

FIGURE 1
SITE MAP
HAND GRENADE RANGE, RANGE 32
PARCEL 90Q-X

U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
MOBILE DISTRICT
FORT McCLELLAN
CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA
Contract No. DACA21-96-D-0018

IT CORPORATION
A Member of The IT Group

DRAWN BY: D. BOMAR	DRAFT. CHCK. BY:	INITIATOR: T. WINTON	DWG. NO.: ...\796887es.136
DATE LAST REV.: 08/30/01	ENGR. CHCK. BY: S. MORAN	PROJ. MGR.: J. YACOUB	PROJ. NO.: 796887
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STARTING DATE: 08/31/01
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