

Introduction

The purpose of this guide is to provide information about the military training activities that took place at the former Wurtsmith Bombing and Gunnery Range and to raise awareness of the explosive hazards that may exist at the property.

The former Wurtsmith Bombing and Gunnery Range was used between 1943 and 1959 by the U.S. Army Air Corps and U.S. Air Force for bombing, gunnery and strafing training. An area associated with the former Wurtsmith Bombing and Gunnery Range, known as Bombing and Gunnery Range, has been identified through historical research and site visits as having potential explosive hazards. The munitions known or suspected to have been used at the range include general purpose bombs, practice bombs, medium caliber munitions, rockets, practice rockets, pyrotechnics and small arms ammunition.

The Bombing and Gunnery Range is located partially within the Huron National Forest and the Au Sable State Forest, approximately 2 miles north of Au Sable River, in Alcona and Iosco counties, Michigan. Portions of the range are located within Mikado and Oscoda townships. The land is publicly owned and is used for forest management and recreational purposes.

Because explosive hazards associated with military munitions from past military training may remain at the Bombing and Gunnery Range, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recommends that landowners and visitors follow the **3Rs of Explosives Safety – Recognize, Retreat and Report.**



Example of a general purpose bomb

Former Wurtsmith Bombing and Gunnery Range

For More Information



US Army Corps of Engineers.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for identifying, investigating and, when necessary, conducting an appropriate response to address contamination and military munitions resulting from past Department of Defense activities at Formerly Used Defense Sites, also referred to as FUDS.

For information about the former Wurtsmith Bombing and Gunnery Range, contact the FUDS Information Center by calling the toll-free number 1-855-765-FUDS (3837). For general information about the FUDS Program, visit www.fuds.mil.

Follow the 3Rs of Explosives Safety

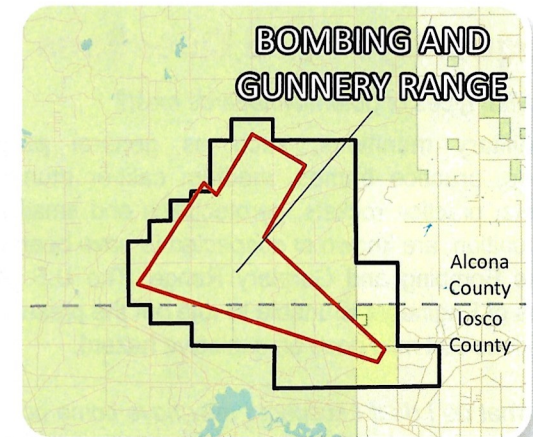


Visit the U.S. Army's Explosives Safety Education website:
<https://3Rs.mil>

3Rs Safety Guide

Former Wurtsmith Bombing and Gunnery Range

**Michigan
Alcona and Iosco Counties**



Bombing and Gunnery Range



U.S. ARMY



US Army Corps of Engineers®





Source: <http://www.2db.com>

U.S. Army pilots flying Curtiss P-40 Warhawk fighters over the former Wurtsmith Bombing and Gunnery Range

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What types of potential hazards exist?

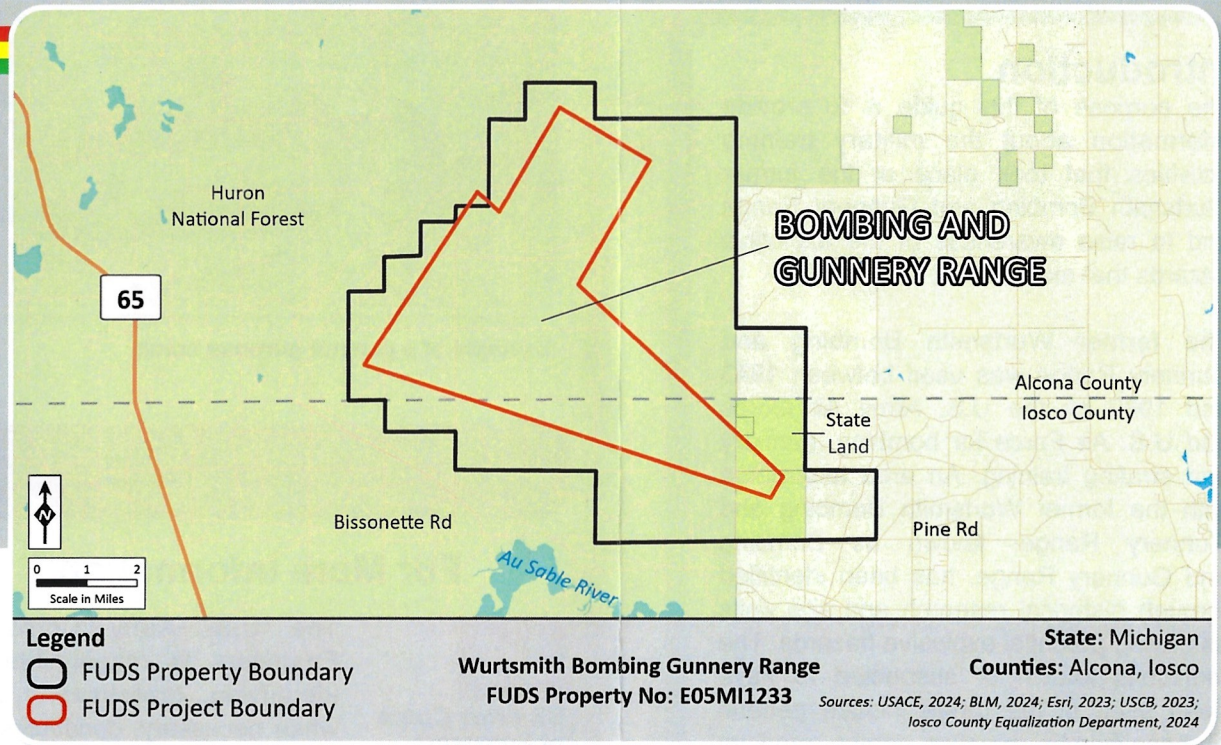
A: Military munitions, such as general purpose bombs, practice bombs, medium caliber munitions, rockets, practice rockets, pyrotechnics and small arms ammunition, are known or suspected to have been used at the Bombing and Gunnery Range. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is unable to rule out the presence of munitions that may pose an explosive hazard.

Q: What do I do if I suspect I may have come across a military munition?

A: If you suspect you may have come across a military munition, the best way to ensure your safety is to follow the 3Rs of Explosives Safety: **R**ecognize – when you may have encountered a munition, and that munitions are dangerous; **R**etreat – do not approach, touch, move or disturb it, but carefully leave the area; and **R**eport – call **911** and advise the police of what you saw and where you saw it.

Q: What are the findings of the work that the government has completed?

A: Based on historical research and site inspections, military munitions are known or suspected to have been



used at this range, and some munitions may remain on the property. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has determined that further investigation is required for the Bombing and Gunnery Range at the former Wurtsmith Bombing and Gunnery Range.

Q: What will be done next?

A: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will make explosives safety education material that is based on the 3Rs available to landowners and the community. Additionally, it will coordinate with landowners as it plans required response activities.

Q: Where can I get more information?

A: For more information, call the Formerly Used Defense Sites Information Center toll-free number 1-855-765-FUDS (3837). Additional information can be found by searching on the property name, Wurtsmith Bombing Gunnery Range, in the GIS Tool that is available by clicking on the Interim Risk Management link at www.fuds.mil.

Follow the 3Rs of Explosives Safety

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 the police of what you saw and where you saw it.