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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
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NMED
Hazardous Waste Bureau

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. David Cobrain
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Hazardous Waste Bureau
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Santa Fe, NM 87505-6303

Dear Mr. Cobrain:

Fort Bliss submits the final Community Involvement Plan (CIP) for your records. The Fort Bliss CIP establishes effective and comprehensive mechanisms for communication and exchange of information about remedial investigations and the restoration program at Defense Environmental Restoration Program sites with all interested stakeholders.

Please contact Mr. Jesus D. Moncada, Chief, Compliance Branch, Environmental Division, Directorate of Public Works, at (915) 568-2632 or email: jesus.d.moncada.civ@mail.mil with any further questions.

Sincerely,

Alfredo J. Riera, P.E.
Director of Public Works

Enclosure

FINAL COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN
FORT BLISS ARMY INSTALLATION
EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS
DOÑA ANA AND OTERO COUNTIES, NEW MEXICO

Prepared Under:

U.S. Army Environmental Command
2450 Connell Road, Building 2264, Rm 107
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Contract No. W912PL-16-D-0042

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September 2018

FINAL

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN

FORT BLISS ARMY INSTALLATION
EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS
DOÑA ANA AND OTERO COUNTIES, NEW MEXICO

DoD Contract Number: **W912PL-16-D-0042, PO 0069**

Reviewed and Approved by:

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This document should be used only with the approval of the United States Army Environmental Command (USAEC) and Fort Bliss Army Installation.

September 2018

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACM	Asbestos-Containing Material
AOC	Area of Concern
AR	Army Regulation
ARAR	Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirement
BAAF	Biggs Army Air Field
BD/DR	Building Demolition/Debris Removal
CC	Compliance-related Cleanup
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CIP	Community Involvement Plan
CMI(C)	Corrective Measures Implementation (Construction)
CMI(O)	Corrective Measures Implementation (Operation)
CMS	Corrective Measures Study
COC	Contaminant of Concern
CRP	Compliance Restoration Program
CS	Confirmation Sampling
DD	Decision Document
DERP	Defense Environmental Restoration Program
DES	Design
DMM	Discarded Military Munitions
DoD	Department of Defense
EOD	Explosive Ordnance Disposal
Fort Bliss	1st Armored Division and Fort Bliss
FS	Feasibility Study
FUDS	Formerly Used Defense Site
FY	Fiscal Year
HE	High Explosive
HSWA	Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendment
IRP	Installation Restoration Program
LTM	Long-Term Management
LUC	Land Use Control
MC	Munitions Constituents
MD	Munitions Debris
MEC	Munitions and Explosives of Concern
MMRP	Military Munitions Response Program
MR	Munitions Response
MRA	Munitions Response Area
MRS	Munitions Response Site
MRSPP	Munitions Response Site Prioritization Protocol
NCP	National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan
NFA	No Further Action
NMED	New Mexico Environmental Department
NPL	National Priorities List
OB	Open Burn
OD	Open Detonation

PCL	Protective Concentration Level
PAO	Public Affairs Office
POC	Point of Contact
POL	Petroleum, Oil and Lubricants
PP	Proposed Plan
RAB	Restoration Advisory Board
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RFA	RCRA Facility Assessment
RFI	RCRA Facility Investigation
RI	Remedial Investigation
RIP	Remedy-in-Place
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
SB	Statement of Basis
SSL	Soil Screening Level
SWMU	Solid Waste Management Unit
TAPP	Technical Assistance for Public Participation
TASC	Technical Assistance Services for Communities
TCEQ	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
USATHAMA	U.S. Army Toxic and Hazardous Materials Agency
USC	United States Code
USEPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USAAC	U.S. Army Air Corps
UTEP	University of Texas at El Paso
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
VCAR	Voluntary Corrective Action Report
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound

1.0 OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLANS

The Department of the Army has prepared this Community Involvement Plan (CIP) for the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) at the 1st Armored Division and Fort Bliss in El Paso County, Texas, and Doña Ana and Otero Counties, New Mexico. The CIP provides guidance for public involvement associated with the Installation Restoration Program (IRP), Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP), and Compliance Restoration Program (CRP), formerly compliance-related cleanup (CC), sites at Fort Bliss. Active sites within the program are currently in various phases of remedial action activities.

The Army has prepared the Fort Bliss CIP in accordance with current U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) guidance. The community involvement requirements of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986, and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) of 1976, as amended by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Act of 1984, are outlined herein.

1.1 Purpose

Effective communication and the timely exchange of information are essential for maintaining community understanding of and support for Fort Bliss cleanup activities, and to ensure effective community input. The purposes of the community involvement process are to:

- Establish effective methods for informing the community of installation cleanup program actions;
- Solicit input and identify concerns that the local community may have regarding current and future cleanup program activities; and
- Maintain a strategy that supports pro-active, two-way communication between the Army and the local community.

Two-way communication and public involvement activities between the Army installation and the local community are identified herein. It also identifies the target audiences including local citizens and neighbors in surrounding communities i.e. Las Cruces, NM, and Alamogordo, NM. Juarez, MX.

; installation residents and tenants; federal, state, and local officials and agencies; and local businesses, civic interest groups, and media outlets.

2.0 INSTALLATION AND CLEANUP BACKGROUND

2.1 Installation Location and Description

Fort Bliss is located on approximately 1.17 million acres of land in El Paso County, Texas, and Doña Ana and Otero Counties, New Mexico. The main military garrison is adjacent to the city of El Paso in far west Texas; the majority of Fort Bliss is used for training and is located in southern New Mexico. The primary missions at Fort Bliss include training, mobilizing, and deploying members of the joint military team to conduct global, full spectrum operations in support of the national military strategy, while providing for the well-being of the regional military community. Fort Bliss also has the capability and flexibility to support Army training; support evolving force structure; potential support of future missions; and support of joint, intergovernmental, and multinational agencies. The location of Fort Bliss is shown on **Figure 1**.

2.2 History of Installation Operations

In 1846 during the war with Mexico the need for a post in El Paso was established. In 1849, the first companies and an infantry took up occupancy at the post. The initial mission was to protect railways, stage routes, and settlers. The post was renamed Fort Bliss on March 8, 1854. The greatest growth of Fort Bliss occurred following the turn of the century when the Army responded to a raid across the border by Pancho Villa, and border patrol and defense became a concern. The addition of Biggs Army Air Field (BAAF) after World War II and the arrival of the Army's new anti-aircraft artillery in 1940 reestablished the mission of Fort Bliss as the largest overland, air defense missile range and training center throughout the free world. The U.S. Air Force closed the BAAF in 1966, and turned it over to Fort Bliss. In 2005, Fort Bliss changed from U.S. Army Air Defense Artillery Center to Heavy Brigade Combat Teams. Also located at the Installation are the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy, William Beaumont Army Medical Center, and several Department of Defense (DoD) liaison officers.

2.3 Overview of the Army Cleanup Program

The DERP was formally established by Congress in 1986 and provides for the cleanup of DoD sites under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Defense. The key objective of the cleanup program is to

reduce, or eliminate when possible, threats to human health and the environment that result from historical use or disposal practices. There are three environmental restoration activities categorized under DERP: the IRP, the MMRP, and the Building Demolition/Debris Removal (BD/DR) program. Additionally, CC addresses cleanup requirements that are legally mandated but not eligible for funding under DERP.

The IRP is a comprehensive program to address required response actions for releases of hazardous substances and pollutants or contaminants; petroleum, oil and lubricants (POL); hazardous wastes or hazardous waste constituents; and explosive compounds released to soil, surface water, sediment, or groundwater as a result of ammunition or explosives production or manufacturing at ammunition plants. The IRP category also includes response activities to address unexploded ordnance (UXO), discarded military munitions (DMM), or munitions constituents (MC) posing an explosive, human health, or environmental hazard that are incidental to an existing IRP site. DERP guidance requires that sites in the IRP be prioritized for cleanup based primarily on relative risk by grouping sites or areas of concern (AOCs) into high, medium, and low priority categories. Relative risk is evaluated using three factors: the contaminant hazard factor (the types of contaminants present and how hazardous they are); the migration pathway factor (whether the contaminants are moving, and in what direction); and the receptor factor (potential of humans or plants/animals to be exposed to the contaminants). For further information on how relative risk is evaluated for IRP sites, refer to the DoD *Relative Risk Site Evaluation Primer* (1996).

The MMRP addresses non-operational range lands that are suspected or known to contain UXO, DMM, or MC. In the MMRP, relative cleanup priorities are assigned using the DoD Munitions Response Site Prioritization Protocol (MRSPP) (32 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 179). Data are gathered during a comprehensive site evaluation to identify munitions contaminant types, sources, transport processes, receptors, and exposure pathways. The data are evaluated to determine if a munitions response (MR) area requires further investigation, and to assign a priority for subsequent action.

Building Demolition/Debris Removal refers to the demolition and removal of unsafe buildings and structures at facilities or sites that are or were owned by, leased to, or otherwise possessed by the DoD. Fort Bliss does not have any sites that fall within this category.

The CRP manages the cleanup of former CC program sites that include remediation of contamination at overseas Army facilities; cleanup of contamination resulting from operations that have occurred since October 1986 (non-DERP) at Active Army, Army Reserve, and Army National Guard federally owned facilities; and cleanup at non-federally owned, federally supported Army National Guard facilities. CRP sites include releases from hazardous waste treatment, storage and disposal facilities or solid waste landfills undergoing RCRA closure, and releases from RCRA underground storage tanks in service prior to 1986. Like the IRP and MMRP, CRP follows CERCLA and RCRA guidelines for cleanup and closure.

Each Army installation must implement a cleanup strategy that protects human health and the environment and reduces relative risk.

2.3.1 Phases of Cleanup Process

The investigation and restoration of sites contaminated by past practices is conducted in steps, or phases, with provisions for emergency removal actions or other rapid responses if an imminent danger to public health is identified. The main steps, or phases, in the cleanup process are briefly described below. The names used here are specific to the RCRA process. The equivalent phase names used in the CERCLA program are provided in **Appendix A**.

- **RCRA Facility Assessment (RFA)** – This is the initial review and analysis of available information to determine whether a release is likely to have occurred. The RFA describes the potential source and nature (type) of releases, includes a preliminary evaluation of threats to the health and welfare of the public and the environment, and recommends subsequent phases in the cleanup process. The relative risk is evaluated during this phase. The decision to close out a site may be made at the end of the RFA phase if there is enough data to support that decision. The rationale supporting a closeout decision should be documented in a No Further Action (NFA) Decision Document (DD) and reviewed by the appropriate

stakeholders.

- **Confirmation Sampling (CS)** – This phase is conducted for AOCs that are identified during the RFA, or for MR areas. The CS determines the relative cleanup priority, characterizes the presence or absence of contamination, and determines the next appropriate phase. Screening level human health and/or ecological risk assessments may be performed for MMRP sites during this phase. A decision to close out a site may be made at the end of the CS phase if there is enough data to support that decision. The rationale supporting a closeout decision must be recorded in an NFA DD.

- **RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI)/Corrective Measures Study (CMS)** – The nature (types) and extent (vertical and horizontal boundaries) of the contamination, and severity of any threat to human health and environment are determined in the Remedial Investigation (RI). Human health and/or ecological risk assessments are conducted during the RFI phase.

Potential remedial (cleanup) alternatives are developed and evaluated during the CMS phase to address any threats to human health and the environment. The remedial alternatives are evaluated based on an established set of USEPA criteria. The criteria evaluation allows the Army to identify the remedial alternative that best meets the applicable, relevant and appropriate requirements (ARARs) and mitigates threats to human health and the environment.

The **Statement of Basis (SB)** is a synopsis of the RFI/CMS that summarizes for the public what the remedial alternatives are, how they were evaluated, how they compared to one another, and which alternative the Army identified as the preferred remedy. The SB is distributed to the public and to the regulatory community for review and comment before a final remedy is selected. A summary fact sheet is also made available to the public at this point in the process. After the public and relevant regulators' review and comment on the SB, the selected remedy is revised as needed and documented in a DD. A DD is a legal document that specifies the selected remedy, its objectives, and its endpoint. While the Army is always a signatory to a DD for one of its installations, federal or state regulatory signatures also may

be required based on a site's National Priorities List (NPL) and/or RCRA status. Further information on this process is available in *A Guide to Preparing Superfund Proposed Plans, Records of Decision, and Other Remedy Selection Decision Documents* (USEPA, July 1999).

- **Design** – This phase begins after the final remedy has been selected and documented in a SB. The DES phase includes establishing information and performance objectives, obtaining design information from the military installation, and discussing the design concept with technical experts.

- **Corrective Measures Implementation (Construction) (CMI[C])** – The CMI(C) phase is the construction of and/or implemented cleanup remedy noted in the SB and designed in the DES phase. When the CMI(C) phase is complete, the Army classifies the site as Remedy-in-Place (RIP).

- **Corrective Measures Implementation (Operation) (CMI[O])** – The CMI(O) phase takes place while the remedy is operating or in progress, and the performance of the remedy is monitored to measure progress toward the remediation goals.

- **Long-Term Management (LTM)** – Post-project activities such as long-term monitoring or LTM may also be required to document the continued effectiveness of the selected remedy. At the point in the restoration process when restoration goals have been met and NFA is warranted, "closeout" occurs. For any site that is not restored to a condition that allows unlimited use/unrestricted exposure, the protectiveness of the remedy is reviewed during the Five-Year Review/Periodic Review process.

2.3.2 Regulatory/Policy

The DERP is the statutory authority that establishes an environmental restoration program for DoD. The scope of the DERP is defined in 10 United States Code (USC) § 2701(b), which states:

"Goals of the program shall include the following: (1) identification, investigation, research and development, and cleanup of contamination from a hazardous substance, or pollutant or contaminant; (2) correction of other environmental damage (such as detection and disposal of

unexploded ordnance) which creates an imminent and substantial endangerment to the public health or welfare or to the environment; (3) demolition and removal of unsafe buildings and structures, including buildings and structures of the DoD at sites formerly used by or under the jurisdiction of the Secretary."

When Congress established the DERP, they directed that DoD cleanup efforts be consistent with the CERCLA. CERCLA requires that cleanup efforts at federal facilities be conducted in accordance with the requirements in Section 120, 42 USC § 9620 of CERCLA. Executive Order 12580 delegates authority for implementing CERCLA to various federal officials, including the DoD. In order to have a common framework for managing a national cleanup program, the Army uses CERCLA as the primary legislative authority for managing environmental restoration. However, the RCRA is also an acceptable legislative authority for managing environmental cleanup. RCRA is implemented by the USEPA, but it allows for the authorization of the state governments to enforce hazardous waste regulatory programs.

This CIP is based on guidance for CERCLA cleanup activities, 42 USC §§ 9601 to 9675, as implemented by the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) 40 CFR Part 300. No NPL sites have been identified at Fort Bliss. The Army serves as the lead agency for the cleanup activities at Fort Bliss, with regulatory oversight provided by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for sites located in Texas and the New Mexico Environmental Department (NMED) for sites located in New Mexico, with support from the USEPA Region VI.

2.4 Cleanup Program at Fort Bliss

The IRP was initiated at Fort Bliss in June 1983 following a February 1983 Installation Assessment conducted by U.S. Army Toxic and Hazardous Materials Agency (USATHAMA). A total of 81 solid waste management units (SWMUs) have been identified throughout the installation; 76 SWMUs have been closed out. Restoration sites at Fort Bliss include areas impacted by historical activities such as disposal, training, hazardous material storage, and open burn/open detonation (OB/OD) activities. The remaining five active cleanup sites include four landfill areas (FTBL-011, FTBL-012, FTBL-013, FTBL-014) and one explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) area (FTBL-015). Contaminants of concern (COCs) include metals and POL in the soil.

The MMRP was initiated in March 2002. Activities which have impacted the eight identified MMRP sites include firing and training, and OB/OD activities. Two of the originally identified sites have received NFA and one site was determined to be Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) eligible. The remaining five active MMRP sites include FTBLS-002-R-01, FTBLS-004-R-01, FTBLS-006-R-01, FTBLS-006-R-02, and FTBLS-007-R-01. COCs include munitions and explosives of concern (MEC) and MC in the soil.

The CRP was initiated in March 2014, following the discovery of waste deposited from unknown and unauthorized sources at Fort Bliss, which is now referred to as the illegal waste dumping site (CCFTBL-001), where piles of debris containing medical waste, batteries, electronic components, tires, burned materials, asbestos-containing materials (ACM) and POL were identified. COCs include metals and pesticides in the soil. Individual site cleanup/exit strategies for the IRP, MMRP, and CRP sites are discussed in Section 3.0.

In accordance with DoD guidance (DoD Manual 4715.20, March 2012) and Army regulation (AR 200-1, REV December 2007), this installation-specific CIP is an integral requirement of the IRP and MMRP, and is implemented by Army personnel. The plan serves as a guide and toolbox for IRP- and MMRP-related personnel and contractors, as well as for installation officials and personnel, in their efforts to inform and involve the local community. This plan is available to the public as part of the Administrative Record and Information Repository. Information Repository and Administrative Record location and contact information are provided in **Appendix B**.

3.0 ACTIVE CLEANUP SITES AT FORT BLISS

The schedule for active Fort Bliss IRP sites are summarized in **Table 1**. The schedule for active MMRP sites are summarized in **Table 2**. The schedule for the active CRP site is summarized in **Table 3**. Site descriptions and cleanup/exit strategies are discussed in the following sections.

3.1 Landfill 11 Doña Ana SWMU-29 (FTBL-011)

Site FTBL-011 is a former trench-type landfill that received wastes including horseshoes, timber, bottles, paper, and other scrap metal from 1918 (when the Doña Ana Range Camp was constructed) until 1945. During the landfill's operation, wastes were placed in a trench until the trench was full

and then burned. The landfill was capped after the construction of the Doña Ana Range Camp. The less than five-acre site is located one mile southwest of the Doña Ana Range Camp in New Mexico. COCs at FTBL-011 are metals and POL in the soil.

On July 8, 1995, the USEPA and the NMED listed FTBL-011 in the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendment (HSWA) portion of the RCRA Subpart X permit. A 1998 RI report and a 2001 additional RI/Feasibility Study (FS) determined that a RCRA release had not occurred at the site. A 2002 Voluntary Corrective Action Report (VCAR) concluded that a risk to human health and the environment was not likely. The NMED accepted leaving the then 60-year old cover in place at the site, but required additional fencing and signage, which were installed in August 2003. The DD was signed in January 2004. In 2007, minor dirt work to divert and prevent surface water run-on was completed per additional NMED requirements. NMED approved NFA with 15 years of post-closure care in 2008. LTM is ongoing at FTBL-011, which includes annual land use control (LUC) inspections and periodic reviews until 2023.

3.2 Rubble Pit 12 Doña Ana SWMU-27 (FTBL-012)

Site FTBL-012 is a former trench-type landfill that received refuse, rubble, and other materials beginning in the early-1950s. Wastes were placed in trenches until the trench was full and then burned. The most recent trench was closed in 1984. The site has been covered with natural soil and graded to match the existing contour. The five-to seven-acre site is located southwest of the Doña Ana Camp in New Mexico. COCs at FTBL-012 are metals and POL in soil.

On July 8, 1995, the USEPA and the NMED listed FTBL-012 in the HSWA portion of the RCRA Subpart X permit. A 1998 RI report and a 2001 additional RI/FS determined that a RCRA release had not occurred at the site. A 2002 VCAR concluded that a risk to human health and the environment was not likely, and that there is no surface to groundwater pathway. The NMED required groundwater monitoring, and the installation of caps, fencing and signs at the site. Groundwater monitoring was initiated in 2003. The DD was signed in March 2004, and the installation of the caps, signage and fencing was completed in September 2004. Storm water run-on to the landfill from the nearby tank trail was required to be captured and diverted around the landfill. NMED approved NFA with post-closure care in 2007, and determined that groundwater monitoring was not required at the site during

the post-closure period. LTM is ongoing, which includes biannual LUC inspections and periodic reviews. The post-closure care period is expected to last for 15 years (until 2022).

3.3 Rubble Pit 13 McGregor SWMU-18 (FTBL-013)

Site FTBL-013 is a former trench-type landfill that received refuse, rubble, and other materials beginning in the early-1960s. In 1994, the site was covered with natural soil and graded to match the existing contour. The approximately 20-acre site is located southeast of the McGregor Range Camp in New Mexico. COCs at the site include metals and POLs in soil.

On July 8, 1995, the USEPA and the NMED listed FTBL-013 in the HSWA portion of the RCRA Subpart X permit. A 1998 RI report and a 2001 additional RI/FS determined that a RCRA release had not occurred at the site. A 2002 VCAR concluded that a risk to human health and the environment was not likely, and that there is no surface to groundwater pathway. The NMED required groundwater monitoring, and the installation of caps, fencing and signs at the site. Groundwater monitoring was initiated in 2003. The DD was signed in March 2004, and the installation of the caps, signage and fencing was completed in September 2004. NMED approved NFA with post-closure care in 2007, and determined that groundwater monitoring was not required at the site during the post-closure period. LTM is ongoing, which includes annual LUC inspections and periodic reviews. The post-closure care period is expected to last for 15 years (until 2023).

3.4 Rubble Pit 14 Oro Grande SWMU-25 (FTBL-014)

Site FTBL-014 is a former trench-type landfill that received various building materials, packaging materials, and demolition debris from 1964 to 1994. The 0.29-acre site is located southwest of the Orogrande Range Camp in Otero County, New Mexico. It is estimated that the landfill contains a total of 2,075 cubic yards of waste. COCs at FTBL-014 include package materials, building materials, and demolition debris, which are present in soil.

In 2013, NMED originally requested closure of the landfill under federal regulations applicable to hazardous waste disposal facilities, but the closure request was later modified as there is no hazardous waste present. NMED recommended complete removal of waste as the best remedy for the site. The

Corrective Action work plan was approved by NMED in May 2016, and Fort Bliss plans to remove the waste and dispose of it in the Otero County, New Mexico, Sub Title D landfill. Following waste removal, samples will be collected from the excavation area to ensure that no contaminants are left in place and the area will be backfilled with clean soil to grade. FTBL-014 is in the CMI(C) phase. It is expected that no post-closure care will be required once corrective actions have been completed.

3.5 EOD Open Demo Area SWMU-20 (FTBL-015)

Site FTBL-015 consists of two earthen pits and some small trenches. Records state that the site was closed in 1958, but the presence of Hawk missile components indicate that it was used at least until the early-1960s. Empty 55-gallon drums, scrap metal, construction rubble, and parts of Nike and Hawk missiles are found across the site. The approximately 10-acre site is located north of McGregor Range Camp in New Mexico. COCs at FTBL-015 are metals and POL in soil.

On July 8, 1995, the USEPA and the NMED listed the site in the HSWA portion of the RCRA Subpart X permit. The HSWA permit required an RFI to be conducted. Results from soil samples collected during the RFI did not identify COCs in exceedance of the NMED soil screening levels (SSLs). The NMED identified the need for additional investigation due to data gaps in the RFI. A 2002 VCAR concluded that there has been no release of contaminants at the site. Fort Bliss agreed to complete additional work at the site prior to site closure, including a Screening-Level Ecological Risk Assessment, debris removal, a geophysical survey of the pit area, sampling of the kick-out area, and documentation of UXO clearance. NMED approved NFA with 15 years of post-closure care in 2009. LTM is ongoing at FTBL-015, which includes biennial LUC inspections and periodic reviews until 2024.

Table 1. Fort Bliss Active IRP Sites and Schedule

Site ID	Site Name	Phase	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22+
FTBL-011	Landfill 11 Dona Ana SWMU-29	LTM					
FTBL-012	Rubble Pit 12 Dona Ana SWMU-27	LTM					
FTBL-013	Rubble Pit 13 McGregor SWMU-18	LTM					
FTBL-014	Rubble Pit 14 Oro Grande SWMU-25	DES					
		CMI(C)					
FTBL-015	EOD Open Demo Area SWMU-20	LTM					

- phase underway

3.6 Former Maneuver Area 1&2 (FTBLS-002-R-01)

Site FTBLS-002-R-01 was part of an expansion area acquired in phases by Fort Bliss beginning in 1939, and was used for military training until the 1970s. By 1980, the Army relinquished control of a large part of the original Munitions Response Area (MRA); the areas outside of the installation boundary are referred to as the Former Maneuver Area MRA and encompass 72,520 acres. COCs at FTBLS-002-R-01 are MEC and MC in soil.

A site inspection conducted in 2010 recommended further investigation for MEC for Former Maneuver Area 1 and NFA for Former Maneuver Area 2. The two areas within the MRA were addressed as separate Munitions Response Sites (MRSs); Former Maneuver Area A (FTBLS-002-R-01) and Uncontaminated Former Maneuver Area A (FTBLS-002-R-01A). A 2013 RI recommended an FS for MEC and munitions debris (MD) at the MRSs. During the development of the FS, the MRA was divided into four new MRSs: FTBLS-002-R-01A was re-designated as the Former Maneuver Area A (FTBLS-002-R-01), and FTBLS-002-R-01 was divided into FTBLS-002-R-03, -002-R-04, and -002-R-05. The FS recommended a Public Awareness Program for FTBLS-002-R-01. The Public Awareness Program is designed to promote communication between the public and the Installation, and to inform receptors of the risks associated with the COC[1]. MEC surface clearance

[1] The Fort Bliss MMRP Public Awareness Program may consist of, but is not limited to, maintaining the Administrative Record and Information Repository, preparing and issuing press releases, preparing and distributing fact sheets, updating the Public Affairs Mailing List, and public meetings. Public meetings will be held as required to discuss any additional information pertaining to the public regarding the MRSs. Public notices announcing public meetings will be placed in appropriate local media and meetings will be held at locations convenient to the community.

and subsurface removal was recommended for FTBLS-002-R-03, -002-R-04, and -002-R-05. The FS for FTBLS-002-R-01 was approved in July 2016. A Record of Decision (ROD) has been finalized and the site is undergoing planning for remediation. Five-year reviews are required to evaluate the continued effectiveness and permanence of the selected remedy.

3.7 Closed Castner Firing Range (FTBLS-004-R-01)

Acquisition of the land that is encompassed by site FTBLS-004-R-01, approximately 8,325 acres, began in 1926 and was finalized by 1939. The site was used as a small arms artillery firing and impact area from 1926 until 1966, at which time ordnance use was discontinued and range operations were transferred to the Meyer Range Complex. The Army declared the site excess to its needs in 1971. The property was returned to the Army in 1983 from a non-DoD entity as non-disposable since no actions had been taken towards remediation. The site is located in El Paso, Texas in the foothills of the Franklin Mountains. COCs at FTBLS-004-R-01 are MEC and MC in soil.

The site poses a very high hazard to people in the area as it is located near residential areas, is transected by U.S. Highway 54, and is bordered by Franklin Mountain State Park. Trespassing is common, and incidents have been reported since 1955, due to encounters with remaining ordnance and explosive materials. Isolated clearance operations have been performed at the site and approximately 1,244 acres have been transferred to non-DoD entities. The remaining 7,081 acres are currently classified as unsuitable for transfer as the area has been found to contain munitions items in addition to soil contamination. Further site characterization and installation of fencing and signs has been recommended for the site, but it was determined that action should be deferred until the completion of an RI/FS. The cleanup strategy for FTBLS-004-R-01 will be based on conclusions in the RI/FS; a Proposed Plan (PP) and DD are expected in fiscal year (FY) 19.

3.8 Biggs OB/OD Site I (FTBLS-006-R-01)

Site FTBLS-006-R-01 was discovered in April 2013. Historical use of the site began with Army operations during World War II; the site was later transferred to the U.S. Air Force and was part of the U.S. nuclear deterrent force until 1966. The 40-acre site is located west of the main BAAF runway. COCs at FTBLS-006-R-01 are MEC and MC in soil.

A visual survey conducted in 2013 recorded mounds containing several types of detonated/burned munitions, as well as unknown buried waste in trenches and detonation pits. An RI is ongoing at the site, which will be followed by an FS. The cleanup strategy for FTBLS-006-R-01 will be based on conclusions in the RI/FS; a PP and DD are expected in FY19.

3.9 Biggs OB Site II (FTBLS-006-R-02)

Site FTBLS-006-R-02 was discovered in April 2013. It is believed that the site was part of U.S. Army Air Corps (USAAC) before it was transferred to the Army in July 1966. The approximately 14-acre site is located north of the main BAAF runway. COCs at FTBLS-006-R-02 are MEC and MC in soil.

The PA for the site identified unknown burned debris potentially containing munitions and trenches with unknown buried waste. An SI is ongoing at the site, which will be followed by an RI/FS. The cleanup strategy for FTBLS-006-R-02 will be based on conclusions in the RI/FS; a PP and DD are expected in FY20.

3.10 Area of Interest North of Castner Range (FTBLS-007-R-01)

Site FTBLS-007-R-01 is a new MRA/MRS of approximately 4,909 acres adjacent to the northern boundary line of the Closed Castner Range (FTBLS-004-R-01). The site was not part of the Closed Castner Range or owned by the Army, but contamination attributable to the DoD has been identified. An MEC reconnaissance survey was conducted in 2012, which identified evidence of past military training activity and high explosive (HE) munitions. The survey recommended an RI for 1,504 acres of the site; evidence of explosive hazard was not identified for the remaining area. Fieldwork for an RI is ongoing at the site.

Table 2. Fort Bliss Active MMRP Sites and Schedule

Site ID	Site Name	Phase	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22+
FTBLS-002-R-01	Former Maneuver Area 1&2	RI/FS					
		RD					
		RA(C)					
		LTM					
FTBLS-004-R-01	AREA B SMALL ARMS RANGE	RI/FS					
		RD					
		RA(C)					
		LTM					
FTBLS-006-R-01	Biggs OB/OD Site I	RI/FS					
FTBLS-006-R-02	Biggs OB Site II	SI					
		RI/FS					
FTBLS-007-R-01	North Castner Area of Interest (AOI)	RI/FS					

- phase underway

3.11 Far East Illegal Dump Site (CCFTBL-001)

Site CCFTBL-001 was originally discovered in the summer of 2004 when several low piles of weathered debris were identified. The debris is suspected to contain medical-type wastes, cans, bottles, lead/acid batteries, electronics, burnt materials, ACM, and vehicle tires and parts. The source and parties responsible for the illegal dumping are unknown. Based on aerial photography data, the dumping activities are expected to have occurred prior to 2000. The material was likely dumped on the ground surface and has been partially covered over time with wind-blown deposits and scattered desert shrub vegetation. The 2.24-acre site is located northeast of the main cantonment in El Paso, Texas. COCs at CCFTBL-001 are metals and pesticides in soil.

Due to the nature of the material discovered, there were concerns that the site might present a health and ecological hazard. In October 2006, limited sampling was conducted for metals, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and ACM. A second sampling event was conducted in March 2014. Results from soil samples collected identified concentrations of COCs above Texas protective concentration levels (PCLs) and lead at concentrations exceeding the USEPA industrial SSL. In May 2014, fencing and signage were installed to restrict access to the site. The site is currently in the RI/FS phase; a PP and DD are expected to be completed by FY19.

Table 3. Fort Bliss Active CRP Site and Schedule

Site ID	Site Name	Phase	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22+
CCFTBL-001	Far East Illegal Dump Site	RI/FS					

- phase underway

4.0 COMMUNITY PROFILE

The following subsections present an overview of the surrounding community and a general chronology of community participation and communications to date, as well as the results of the community interviews conducted for this CIP.

4.1 El Paso County

El Paso County is the westernmost county in Texas. The southernmost portion of Fort Bliss is located in El Paso County.

Census data from 2010 for El Paso County showed the following:

- 800,647 people
  - 48.4% male
  - 51.6% female
- 270,307 housing units

El Paso County Population by Race:

- 82.1% Caucasian
- 3.1% African American
- 13.0% Other[2]
- 0.8% American Indian/Alaska Native
- 1.0% Asian

El Paso County Population by Age:

- 16.4% - 0 to 9 years
- 32.1% - 10 to 29 years
- 19.4% - 30 to 44 years
- 22.1% - 45 to 64 years

[2] Other includes native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander, some other race, and two or more races.

- 10.0% - 65+ years

4.1.1 City of El Paso

The southern portion of Fort Bliss is located near the City of El Paso.

Census data from 2010 for the City of El Paso showed the following:

- 649,121 people
  - 48.0% male
  - 52.0% female
- 227,605 housing units

The City of El Paso Population by Race:

- 80.8% Caucasian
- 3.4% African American
- 13.9% Other
- 0.7% American Indian/Alaska Native
- 1.2% Asian

The City of El Paso Population by Age:

- 15.9% - 0 to 9 years
- 31.1% - 10 to 29 years
- 19.2% - 30 to 44 years
- 22.8% - 45 to 64 years
- 11.0% - 65+ years

4.2 Doña Ana County

Doña Ana County is located in the southern portion of New Mexico. Fort Bliss is located in the eastern portions of Doña Ana County.

Census data from 2010 for Doña Ana County showed the following:

- 209,233 people
  - 49.0% male
  - 51.0% female
- 81,492 housing units

Doña Ana County Population by Race:

- 74.1% Caucasian
- 1.7% African American
- 21.6% Other
- 1.5% American Indian/Alaska Native
- 1.1% Asian

Doña Ana County Population by Age:

- 14.7% - 0 to 9 years
- 32.3% - 10 to 29 years
- 17.2% - 30 to 44 years
- 23.4% - 45 to 64 years
- 12.4% - 65+ years

4.2.1 Chaparral

Chaparral is a census-designated place within Doña Ana and Otero County, NM. Chaparral is an unincorporated community located west of the eastern portion of Fort Bliss and south of the western portion of Fort Bliss.

Census data from 2010 for Chaparral showed the following:

- 14,631 people
  - 49.3% male
  - 50.7% female
- 4,222 housing units

Chaparral Population by Race:

- 58.5% Caucasian
- 1.1% African American
- 39.5% Other
- 0.7% American Indian/Alaska Native
- 0.2% Asian

Chaparral Population by Age:

- 19.3% - 0 to 18 years
- 33.2% - 19 to 29 years
- 17.8% - 30 to 44 years
- 22.4% - 45 to 64 years
- 7.3% - 65+ years

4.3 Otero County

Otero County is located in the southern portion of New Mexico. A majority of the portion of Fort Bliss that is located in New Mexico is located in Otero County.

Census data from 2010 for Otero County showed the following:

- 63,799 people
  - 50.5% male
  - 49.5% female
- 30,992 housing units

Otero County Population by Race:

- 72.7% Caucasian
- 3.5% African American
- 15.9% Other
- 6.7% American Indian/Alaska Native
- 1.2% Asian

Otero County Population by Age:

- 14.4% - 0 to 18 years
- 28.1% - 19 to 29 years
- 17.0% - 30 to 44 years
- 25.5% - 45 to 64 years
- 15% - 65+ years

4.4 History of Community Involvement

A Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) is a partnership between the surrounding community, the installation, the States, and the USEPA that provides a forum for discussions to increase community understanding and support for cleanup efforts. It helps with improving the soundness of government decisions and ensuring cleanups are responsive to community needs. Community involvement at Fort Bliss began with the first RAB information meetings held on December 4, 1996 at Fort Bliss and December 5, 1996 in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Notices advertising the information meeting were mailed to 175 individuals and placed in the El Paso, Las Cruces, and Alamogordo newspapers. The Public Affairs Office (PAO) also submitted press releases to local television and radio stations, and local newspapers. The RAB was established on October 6, 1997, and meetings are held approximately once a year or as needed.

Fort Bliss Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division maintains a website, available at: http://www.bliss.army.mil/DPW/Environmental/

Fort Bliss maintains a public Facebook page, available at:

www.facebook.com/FortBlissGarrison/

Fort Bliss maintains a public Twitter page, available at: http://twitter.com/FortBlissTexas

The Installation has also participated in additional public involvement activities, such as public comment periods, mailing lists, and maintenance of an Information Repository and Administrative Record. These activities are discussed in Section 5.0.

4.5 Community Feedback

This section describes the methodology that Fort Bliss used to collect community input during the CIP process. This section also summarizes the communication preferences and concerns of the interviewees.

4.5.1 Interview Participants

To prepare this CIP, the Army conducted community interviews from May 4 to May 15, 2018, with people who work and/or live in the communities near Fort Bliss. Interviewees included general community members and residents who live in close proximity to the installation, local government officials, local business owners, retirees, and business persons. Interviews were conducted telephonically, with the exception of one respondent who emailed their response.

4.5.2 Issue Identification Approach and Findings

The primary purpose of collecting input from the community is to identify issues and concerns so that the Army can address them via community involvement efforts. To obtain this information, a total of 25 people from the surrounding communities were surveyed and interviewed regarding the issues and concerns associated with the installation's cleanup progress. The comments and insights from members of the community provided information to help design the Fort Bliss community involvement program. These findings are representative only of the individuals who participated in the community interviews and should not be construed as directly representative of

the larger population. The interview questions and responses are provided in **Table 4**, and are further discussed in sections 4.6 and 4.7

Table 4. Community Interview Responses

Question	Response
1.) How long have you lived in this community?	Less than 5 years = 5 5 to 10 years = 3 10 to 20 years = 6 20+ years = 11
2.) What is your occupation?	Answers included the following (several professions listed were used in multiple answers): Professor, AmeriCorps Vista, manager, retired, admissions counselor, director, museum director, county employee, event sales coordinator, firefighter, convention sales manager, receptionist, student, public servant, motorcycle shop owner, sheriff's station secretary, oversees military efforts for chamber, retail manager, office manager, 911 dispatch supervisor, sales
3.) How would you characterize the relationship between the Army/Fort Bliss and the surrounding communities?	Positive = 20 Neutral = 2 Negative = 1 Don't know = 2
4.) a) What do you know about the Army's cleanup and environmental restoration activities at Fort Bliss? b) Are you interested in learning more about the environmental restoration activities at Fort Bliss?	a) Nothing = 20 Somewhat familiar = 2 Familiar = 3 b) Yes = 18 No = 4 Somewhat = 3

Question	Response
5.) a) How would you prefer to get information regarding the cleanup and environmental restoration activities at Fort Bliss?	a) Email = 13 Website = 5 TV = 4 Social media = 2 Radio = 1 Through a military partnership = 1 Mail = 1 Directly from Fort Bliss = 1 (Note: Some interviewees indicated multiple answers)
b) What is the best way to distribute information about the cleanup and environmental restoration activities to the community? Feel free to name specific social media and news outlets.	b) TV = 13 Social media = 8 Local newspapers (print and online) = 4 Email = 4 Radio = 4 Fliers/Mail = 3 Participate in community events = 2 Website = 1 Newsletters = 1 (Note: Some interviewees indicated multiple answers)
6.) a) If you had questions about the Army's cleanup and environmental restoration activities, who would you ask/where would you go for assistance?	a) Internet search = 13 Call Fort Bliss = 4 Don't know = 3 Call the environmental office = 2 Fort Bliss website = 1 Ask personal contacts = 1 311 = 1 Military outreach parent at child's school = 1 Post newspaper for information = 1 Total Response = 27
b) What channels/venues do you prefer to use when you have questions/concerns (for example: email, direct phone call, website comment submission, etc.)?	b) Email = 13 Phone Call = 10 Website = 8 Social media = 1 (Note: Some interviewees indicated multiple answers for 6b)

Question	Response
7.) Are you aware Fort Bliss has a public Information Repository containing documents pertaining to the investigation and restoration efforts at Fort Bliss?	a) Yes = 5 No = 20
8.) a) Are you aware that Fort Bliss has a formal Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) that serves as a forum for two-way communication between the installation, the community and other stakeholders, such as the state, private landowners and private organizations, regarding the investigation and restoration? b) Is this something that interests you?	a) Yes = 3 No = 22 b) Yes = 12 No = 10 Maybe = 3
9.) Do you have any suggestions for how the Army could more effectively communicate regarding its cleanup and environmental restoration activities in El Paso, Doña Ana, and Otero Counties?	Not sure = 7 Social media = 6 TV = 5 Website = 5 Fliers/mailers = 4 Radio = 2 Newspaper = 2 Emails = 2 More varied media = 1 Community service = 1 Town Hall = 1 Billboards = 1 Information in Spanish and English = 1 Work with environmental groups to disseminate information = 1 Designate a community liaison = 1 More frequent RAB meetings = 1 (Note: Some interviewees indicated multiple answers)

Question	Response
10.) Who in the community do you trust most to provide information about the restoration activities at Fort Bliss?	The Army/Fort Bliss = 20 Local media = 2 Community liaison = 1 Office of Emergency Management = 1 PAO = 1 City of El Paso = 1 Veteran-based organization = 1 Center for Environmental Resource Management = 1 Not Sure = 1 (Note: Some interviewees indicated multiple answers)
11.) Do you trust the Army's handling of the Fort Bliss restoration?	Yes = 22 No = 1 Not sure = 2
12.) Are you familiar with your neighbor's/other community members' thoughts regarding Army restoration activities on Fort Bliss?	Yes = 3 No= 22
13.) What would be the best location for Fort Bliss to hold any public meetings related to environmental restoration?	On-post = 5 Town Hall/City Hall = 3 Chapin High School = 2 University of Texas El Paso = 2 Convention Center = 2 Local high schools = 2 Special event center = 1 Sun Bowl Stadium = 1 Austin High School = 1 Archeological Museum = 1 National Border Patrol Museum = 1 Downtown El Paso Venues = 1 Popular Restaurant = 1 Painted Dunes Restaurant = 1 Library = 1 Fires Station = 1 Community Center = 1 Westside Community Park = 1 El Paso Community College = 1 Colquitt Gardens = 1 No opinion = 1 (Note: Several interviewees indicated multiple answers)

4.6 Responses to Concerns

Based on the results of the interview process, the surrounding community is generally unaware of the restoration program's existence and process. The two respondents who indicated that they were somewhat familiar with the cleanup and restoration activities were aware of the remediation project at Castner Range. Three respondents indicated familiarity with the cleanup and restoration activities. One of these individuals was on the RAB. Another indicated they are aware cleanup was going on and felt it was nothing out of the ordinary for military installations, especially armory-type facilities. This individual felt the restoration activities were not well publicized. The third respondent felt that the Army focuses on prevention of hazardous spills more than anything, and does a good job of educating people about it. Overall, community members expressed a positive reaction toward the possibility of increased information flow regarding the environmental restoration program. Some individual's level of interest included a desire to simply hear about progress and keep up with restoration activities on the news.

The majority of interviewees believe that there is a good working relationship between the installation and the surrounding community; many categorized the relationship as excellent, and some stated the relationship between the community and installation was very strong. One individual stated that both the City of El Paso and the County enjoy an excellent relationship with Fort Bliss. One individual felt that the relationship was especially good in the northeast. Several respondents referenced the economic benefit that Fort Bliss brings to the area. One respondent stated that the community is very aware that "El Paso is Fort Bliss, and Fort Bliss is El Paso." The respondent who felt that the relationship was more neutral felt that Fort Bliss tended to "keep to themselves." The respondent who felt that there was a negative relationship was in law enforcement, and stated that they do not have a good image because they deal with military individuals that have broken the law. Three individuals were not sure how to characterize the relationship between the Army/Fort Bliss and the surrounding communities.

While the consensus regarding the installation/community relationship was primarily positive, most interviewees were unaware of the information available to them (such as the information repository). Many interviewees expressed that they were not surprised that something like the information repository existed, but had not specifically known it existed. Most respondents felt that with some research, they would be able to figure out who to contact at the installation if they had

questions. Most respondents would conduct an internet search for the appropriate contact information, followed by those who would call Fort Bliss (various departments or numbers, including the environmental office directly). Additional responses included looking for contact information on Fort Bliss' website, asking personal contacts, calling 311, contacting the military outreach parent at their child's school, and looking in the post newspaper for contact information. One respondent expressed the desire to have a liaison between the community and Fort Bliss to address any issues. This person felt that the commander only spoke to the mayor when there was a crisis.

Approximately half of respondents indicated that they would be interested in participating in the RAB. A couple respondents felt that restoration was being taken care of by Fort Bliss appropriately, and did not feel the need to participate/be involved. Some individuals stated that they might be interested in participating in the RAB in the future, but not at this time.

Three interviewees indicated they were familiar with their neighbor's or other community members' thoughts. Two of these respondents specifically mentioned concerns regarding Castner Range. One of these individuals is active in several local organizations and campaigns to conserve Castner Range. The other individual stated that people are concerned about the risks for people hiking, and want Castner Range to be cleaned up and accessible. A third respondent indicated that some hunters would talk about the restoration activities with regard to areas they could or could not access. This respondent stated that the feeling towards restoration activities was generally okay, as people know there is a need to have UXO cleared, and appreciate the value of "clearing out the area."

Most interviewees indicated that they would trust the Army/Fort Bliss the most to provide information about restoration activities. A few respondents mentioned specific individuals, such as the Environmental Division Chief or the Commander, or the PAO. One individual stated they preferred to hear information from the Army so that the "message isn't muddled." Two respondents listed the local media as a trusted source to provide information. The remaining respondents listed other organizations such as the Office of Emergency Management, the City of El Paso, a veteran-based organization, the Center for Environmental Resource Management through the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP), and a community liaison. The majority of interviewees expressed trust

in the Army's handling of Fort Bliss' restoration efforts. One respondent stated that they trusted the Army as long as they are having their performance measured. Another said they had no reason not to trust the Army, and another felt that the Army was doing their due diligence. Two respondents were not sure if they trusted the Army's handling of restoration activities at Fort Bliss. One of these individuals felt that the Army is so large and therefore may not be able to give the environmental restoration the attention it needs.

When asked about potential locations to hold public meetings, many interviewees suggested a location on-post. The remaining top responses included Town Hall/City Hall, Chapin High School, UTEP, a side room at the Convention Center, and any local high school. Several respondents suggested that meetings be held at multiple locations.

4.7 Summary of Communication Needs

Email was the preferred way for respondents to receive updates on cleanup and restoration activities, followed by websites, TV, and social media (Facebook, Twitter, Snap Chat, and Instagram). When asked about the best way to distribute information about the restoration activities to the community, respondents listed TV as the top response, followed by social media, local newspapers, email, and radio. One respondent stated that many people in the community watch the news on TV. Another stated that not many people get the newspaper. Specific television stations mentioned included Channel 4, Channel 7, and Channel 9; specific newspapers mentioned included the El Paso Times and El Paso Inc. (print and online). One respondent stated that El Paso Inc. readers are more responsive than El Paso Times readers, and felt that younger generations do not read any print media. Another respondent felt that more millennials could be reached through social media. One respondent indicated a preference for a website or Facebook so that people could visit independently. One individual suggested posting fliers at grocery stores, gas stations, and laundromats. One person stated that El Paso was a retirement city, and older people would appreciate mail and fliers. One respondent mentioned the monthly El Paso flier 'What's Up Magazine'. Of the respondents who suggested that Fort Bliss participate in community events, one suggested engaging with nonprofit groups, volunteers, and golf tournaments to get the word out to the community about restoration activities.

When asked for suggestions regarding how the Army could more effectively communicate regarding its cleanup and environmental restoration activities in El Paso, Doña Ana, and Otero Counties, some individuals suggested using a range of outreach methods. The most popular suggestions were social media, followed by TV, websites, and fliers/mailers. The following suggestions were also made: Fort Bliss should have a civilian in a city or county relationship position to act as a go-between liaison to represent the community; run commercial advertisements on TV; offer opportunities for high school students to participate in community service; use direct mailing lists with links to social media or websites with information; have an ad blitz campaign; provide information in English and Spanish[3], as there is a large population of Spanish speakers; run an ad campaign; the RAB should meet more often (twice a year); work with environmental groups in town to disseminate information; use the internet to reach more people.

A majority of respondents indicated that they would like to be able to relay any concerns regarding restoration by email, followed by a direct phone call and a website comment. Some interviewees suggested the preferred method of contact depends on the sensitivity/severity of the issue; one respondent who preferred a phone call was concerned that email could be manipulated.

5.0 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

The community involvement activities presented in this section are based on regulatory guidance outlined in the USEPA's *Superfund Community Involvement Handbook* (USEPA, 2016) and the *RCRA Public Participation Manual* (USEPA, 2017). The activities are presented below in the order of those required to occur at particular milestones throughout the program followed by those that are appropriate for the program based on community interest or project circumstances.

5.1 Point of Contact (POC)

For questions related to the environmental cleanup actions at Fort Bliss, community members should contact the following office:

[3] Note: The Installation provides fact sheets and flyers, and publishes public notices in local media outlets in English and Spanish. Spanish translators are provided for public meetings. Specific community involvement activities are detailed in Section 5.0.

Fort Bliss Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division
Building 622 Taylor Road at Pleasonton
Fort Bliss, Texas 79916
915-568-6185

Additional contact information including media, citizens groups, and regulatory and federal, state and local elected officials are provided in **Appendix C.**

5.2 Information Repository/Administrative Record

An Information Repository is established at the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Building on Fort Bliss. An online repository is currently available at http://www.bliss.army.mil/DPW/Environmental/. The online repository is in the process of being moved, but the final location has not been determined. A public Information Repository is required under CERCLA to provide interested parties with background and technical information about the environmental cleanup program at Fort Bliss. The Information Repository includes work plans, technical reports, summary documents, and other information of public interest (e.g., fact sheets and news releases). Examples of items currently contained in the Information Repository include:

- The Installation Action Plan;
- Facility Assessments;
- Facility Investigation Reports;
- Cleanup Work Plans and Reports;
- Site Closure Documentation;
- Correspondence with the regulatory community; and
- Collections of press releases, community notices, public meeting minutes, and fact sheets.

The Administrative Record for Fort Bliss is located and maintained at the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division at Building 622. For sites undergoing CERCLA investigations, the NCP requires that an Administrative Record be established at or near the facility under investigation. The Administrative Record includes information that may form the basis for selecting a response or remedial action. It includes all documents leading to the selection of any

response action at the installation and contains documents similar to those located in the Information Repository.

The addresses for the locations of the Information Repository and Administrative Record are presented in **Appendix B**.

5.3 Fact Sheets

Fact sheets will be prepared, as appropriate, to support Fort Bliss' community outreach program. Fact sheets are designed to provide information about site history, planned technical activities, schedule updates, and special-interest items. Fact sheets and flyers are prepared in English and Spanish, and are sent to community members listed in the Public Affairs Mailing List. Fact sheets are also available during public meetings.

5.4 Public Notices, Meetings, and Comment Periods

The installation will comply with the requirements for public notification, the review of SBs and public comment periods. Public notices will be placed in local newspapers to serve as official notification to the local community of plans for environmental activities, upcoming public involvement opportunities, and the availability of documents at the Information Repository. The Installation publishes public notices of availability for documents in English and Spanish in local media outlets. Local media outlets are provided in **Appendix C**.

Public meetings, both informal and formal, are intended to inform the community about ongoing site activities and to discuss and receive feedback from the public on proposed courses of action. All meetings will be announced through public notices, news releases, direct mailings, or a combination of the three. Meetings will be held at a location that is easily accessible to the general public. Fact sheets, including contact information for additional information, will be prepared to support all SBs and, as necessary, to support other meetings and presentations. The Installation provides Spanish translators for public meetings. Suggested meeting locations are provided in **Appendix D**.

Public comment periods will be held at specific phases or milestones in the cleanup process depending on the regulation that is guiding the cleanup at a particular site. A public comment period lasts for at least 45 calendar days under RCRA guidance and 30 calendar days under CERCLA guidance, allowing time for public review and comment on the proposed action. A public meeting may be held during the public comment period; comments made at public meetings and during the public comment period will be responded to through a responsiveness summary.

5.5 Responsiveness Summaries

A responsiveness summary will be prepared and issued to address comments received from the public. At the conclusion of public comment periods, the Army will prepare, or support the state regulator in preparing, a responsiveness summary or minutes that summarize and respond to the comments received during the public comment period, including those comments given at the public meeting. The responsiveness summary is issued as part of the document under comment and made available in the Information Repository listed in **Appendix B**.

5.6 Mailing List Update

Mailing lists are an important component of effective community outreach which ensure that interested community members, as well as other stakeholders and communities impacted by or interested in response activities, are kept informed of activities and opportunities for community involvement. A mailing list can be used to distribute news releases, fact sheets, and other types of pertinent information for project activities.

The installation will add individuals upon request to the Public Affairs Mailing List, and will update the list as necessary and appropriate. The installation will provide information during all community participation activities as to how individuals and groups can be added to the mailing list. Additionally, an email mailing list will be maintained for those community members and stakeholders who prefer to receive project information in an electronic format.

5.7 Speaker Bureaus/Open House

As program milestones are achieved, project representatives notify and meet with stakeholders (including regulatory agency representatives and the public, as needed) to discuss project status and field questions about proposed restoration actions. Additionally, speakers from the installation

may be available upon request to meet with and discuss restoration program activities with civic and/or environmental organizations. Interested organizations should contact the POC listed in Section 5.1.

5.8 CIP Updates

The CIP will be updated at least every five years or earlier if there are significant program changes. This CIP is a working document to guide the project staff. All or part of this plan may require revision due to new information or changes in community concerns and needs. The plan will be re-evaluated at these times to ensure that the method and schedule of community participation activities is appropriate.

5.9 Activity Schedule

The public will be notified of any SBs, public meetings and comment periods. Exact dates of the cleanup activities are not provided for two reasons. First, the exact date that each phase in the Army cleanup process will be completed is not known. Second, different sites can be in different phases in the process depending on when each site was discovered, the relative risk or cleanup priority of the site, and funding available for cleanup.

5.10 Community Grant Opportunities

The Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) is DoD funding available to community members of an established RAB who need technical assistance in interpreting scientific or engineering issues connected with proposed cleanup activities. If an Army installation does not have an established RAB, community members are not eligible for TAPP. Community members of an established RAB who are interested in applying for TAPP must contact their applicable POC to confirm eligibility and request Army funding.

The Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) program, which is partially funded by grants from the USEPA, helps communities understand the environmental cleanup and site reuse process. This program provides communities with independent educational and technical information needed to actively participate in solving environmental problems. While TASC primarily supports the Superfund program, support may also be provided to communities impacted

by the RCRA or federal facilities, or dealing with air or water environmental problems. Specific information regarding the TASC program is available at the following website:

https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-technical-assistance-communities

6.0 REFERENCES

DoD Manual 4715.20, *Defense Environmental Restoration Program Management*, March 2012.

DoD *Relative Risk Site Evaluation Primer*, 1996.

Office of the Secretary of Defense, *Restoration Advisory Board Handbook*, February 2007.

U.S. Army, Army Regulation 200-1, *Environmental Protection and Enhancement*, 2007.

U.S. Army, Army Regulation 360–1, *Army Public Affairs Program*, October 15, 2000.

USAEC, *Fort Bliss Installation Action Plan*, October 2016.

USAEC, *Restoration Advisory Board and Technical Assistance for Public Participation Guidance*, 2005.

USEPA, *A Guide to Preparing Superfund Proposed Plans, Records of Decision, and Other Remedy Selection Decision Documents*, July 1999.

USEPA, *National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (The NCP)*, January 1992.

USEPA, *Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Public Participation Manual*, 2017.

USEPA, *Superfund Community Involvement Handbook*, January 2016.

Doña Ana County at https://www.donaanacounty.org/

El Paso County at http://www.epcounty.com/

Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce at http://www.elpaso.org/

Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce at http://www.lascruces.org/

Otero County at http://www.co.otero.nm.us/

The City of El Paso at https://www.elpasotexas.gov/

U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder at http://factfinder.census.gov

USEPA, Official Website Home Page at http://www.epa.gov

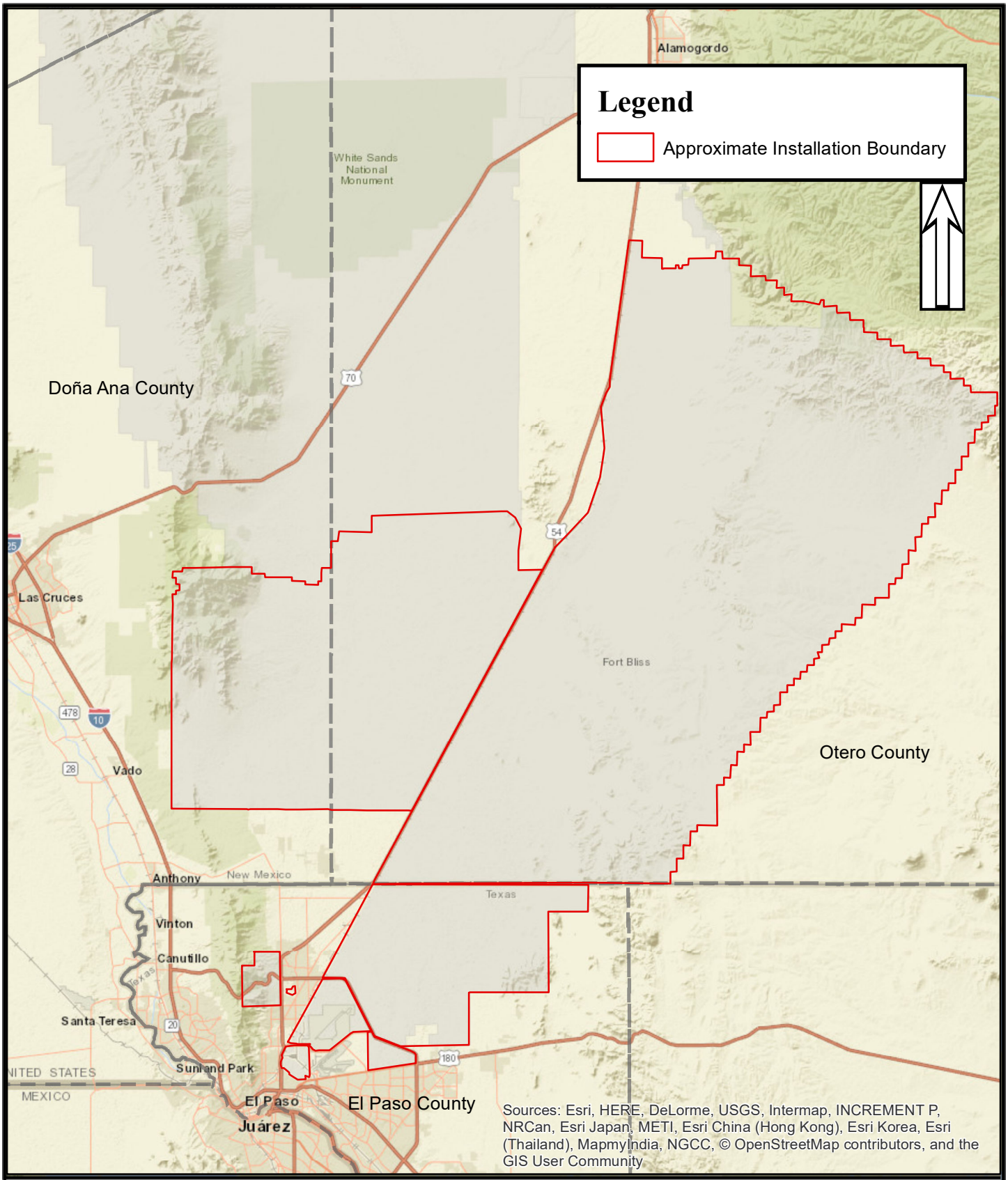


FIGURE 1. INSTALLATION LOCATION MAP

DAWSON

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN
1st ARMORED DIVISION AND FORT BLISS
EL PASO COUNTY TEXAS
DONA ANA AND OTERO COUNTIES NEW MEXICO

1 inch = 12 miles
Miles
0 4.5 9 13.5 18

APPENDIX A

CERCLA/RCRA Equivalents

CERCLA	RCRA
Preliminary Assessment (PA)	RCRA Facility Assessment (RFA)
Site Inspection (SI)	Confirmation Sampling (CS)
Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS)	RCRA Facility Investigation/Corrective Measures Study (RFI/CMS)
Proposed Plan (PP)/ Record of Decision (ROD)	Statement of Basis
Remedial Design (RD)	Design (DES)
Remedial Action (Construction) (RA-C)	Corrective Measures Implementation (Construction) (CMI-C)
Remedial Action (Operation) (RA-O)	Corrective Measures Implementation (Operation) (CMI-O)
Long-term Management (LTM)	Long-term Management (LTM)
Interim Remedial Action (IRA)	Interim Measure (IM)

CERCLA	RCRA UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK (UST) TERMS
Preliminary Assessment (PA)	Initial Site Characterization (ISC)
Remedial Investigation (RI)	Investigation (INV)
Feasibility Study (FS)	Corrective Action Plan (CAP)
Remedial Design (RD)	Design (DES)
Remedial Action (Construction) (RA-C)	Implementation (Construction) (IMP-C)
Remedial Action (Operation) (RA-O)	Implementation (Operations) (IMP-O)
Long-term Management (LTM)	Long-term Management (LTM)
Interim Remedial Action (IRA)	Interim Remedial Action (IRA)

FIGURE

APPENDIX B

Information Repository and Administrative Record Locations

Information Repository:

Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division
Bldg. 622, Taylor Rd. at Pleasonton Rd.
Fort Bliss, Texas 79916
915-568-6185

and

http://www.bliss.army.mil/DPW/Environmental/

Administrative Record:

Directorate of Public Works-Environmental Division
Bldg. 622, Taylor at Pleasonton Rd.
Fort Bliss, Texas 79916
915-568-7979

APPENDIX C

Additional Contact Information

Media Contacts:

Newspapers/Print Media

- Fort Bliss Bugle
  Laven Publishing Group
  7717 Lockheed Drive, Suite A
  El Paso, Texas 79925
  915-772-0934
  susan@lavenpublishing.com

- El Diario de El Paso
  Paso del Norte Publishing, Inc.
  1801 Texas
  El Paso, Texas 79901
  1-800-956-9009
  http://diario.mx/directorio/

- El Paso Times
  500 West Overland Street, Suite 150
  El Paso, Texas 79901
  1-800-351-1677
  https://www.elpasotimes.com/

- El Paso Inc.
  120 Porfirio Diaz Street
  El Paso, Texas 79902
  915-534-4422
  web@elpasoinc.com
  http://www.elpasoinc.com/

- El Paso Herald-Post (online only)
  915-315-1478
  https://elpasoheraldpost.com/

- What's Up Magazine
  120 Porfirio Diaz Street
  El Paso, Texas 79902
  915-534-4422
  http://whatsuppub.com/

- Alamogordo Daily News

518 East 24th Street
Alamogordo, New Mexico 88310
575-437-7120
https://www.alamogordonews.com/

- Las Cruces Sun News
  256 West Las Cruces Avenue
  Las Cruces, New Mexico 88004
  575-541-5400
  https://www.lcsun-news.com/

Television

- KDBC-TV (Channel 4, CBS)
  200 South Alto Mesa Street
  El Paso, Texas 79912
  915-833-8585
  http://www.cbs4local.com/

- KVIA-TV (Channel 7, ABC)
  4140 Rio Bravo Street
  El Paso, Texas 79902
  915-496-7777
  www.kvia.com

- KTSM-TV (Channel 9, ABC)
  801 North Oregon Street
  El Paso, Texas 79902
  915-532-5421
  www.ktsm.com

- KFOX-TV (Channel 14, FOX)
  200 South Alto Mesa Street
  El Paso, Texas 79912
  915-833-8585
  www.kfoxtv.com

Radio

- KTEP 88.5 FM
  500 West University Avenue
  Cotton Memorial Building, Suite 203
  El Paso, Texas 79968
  915-747-5152

- KRWG 90.7 FM (NPR)
  2915 McFie Circle
  Milton Hall #117
  Las Cruces, NM 88003
  575-646-2222

- News Radio 690 KTSM
  4045 North Mesa
  El Paso, Texas 79902
  915-351-5400

Social Media/Others

- Fort Bliss Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division
  http://www.bliss.army.mil/DPW/Environmental/

- Facebook
  www.facebook.com/FortBlissGarrison/

- Twitter
  http://twitter.com/FortBlissTexas

- Next Door
  https://nextdoor.com/city/el-paso--tx/

Environmental and Active Citizens Groups:

- El Paso Chamber of Commerce
  0 Civic Center Plaza
  El Paso, Texas 79901
  915-534-0500
  info@elpaso.org

- Frontera Land Alliance
  1201 North Mesa Street, Suite D-3

El Paso, Texas 79902
915-351-8352
www.fronteralandalliance.org

- Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce
  150 East Lohman Avenue #134
  Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001
  575-524-1968
  www.lascruces.org

- Franklin Mountains Wilderness Coalition
  https://franklinmountains.wordpress.com/

- Fort Bliss Rod and Gun Club
  3730 Roy Johnson Lane
  Fort Bliss, Texas 79916
  915-568-2983
  https://bliss.armymwr.com/programs/rod-and-gun-club

Regulatory Contacts:

- New Mexico Environmental Division (NMED)
  District III Main Office
  2301 Entrada Del Sol
  Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001
  575-288-2050
  www.env.nm.gov

- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
  Region 6, El Paso Office
  401 East Franklin Avenue, Suite 560
  El Paso, Texas 79901
  915-834-4940
  www.tceq.texas.gov

Federal Elected Officials:

Texas:

- Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX)
    - Washington, DC Office
      404 Russell Senate Office Building
      Washington, DC 20510
      202-224-5922

    - San Antonio Office
      9901 1H-10W, Suite 950
      San Antonio, Texas 78230
      210-340-2885

- Senator John Cornyn (R-TX)
    - Washington, DC Office
      517 Hart Senate Office Building
      Washington, DC 20510
      202-224-2934

    - San Antonio Office
      600 Navarro, Suite 210
      San Antonio, Texas 78205
      210-224-7485

- Representative Beto O'Rourke (D-TX, District 16)
    - Washington, DC Office
      1330 Longworth House Office Building
      Washington, DC 20515
      202-225-4831

    - El Paso District Office
      303 North Oregon Street, Suite 210
      El Paso, Texas 79901
      915-541-1400

- Representative Will Hurd (R-TX, District 23)
    - Washington, DC Office
      317 Cannon House Office Building
      Washington, DC 20515
      202-225-4511

    - Socorro District Office
      124 South Horizon
      Socorro, Texas 79927

915-235-6421

New Mexico:

- Senator Martin Heinrich (D-NM, District 1)
  - Washington, DC Office
    303 Hart Senate Office Building
    Washington, DC 20510
    202-224-5521

  - Las Cruces Office
    Loretto Towne Center
    505 South Main Street, Suite 148
    Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001
    575-523-6561

- Senator Tom Udall (D-NM, District 3)
  - Washington, DC Office
    531 Hart Senate Office Building
    Washington, DC 20510
    202-224-6621

  - Las Cruces Office
    201 North Church Street, Suite 201B
    Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001
    575-526-5475

- Representative Stevan Pearce (R-NM, District 2)
  - Washington, DC Office
    2432 Rayburn House Office Building
    Washington, DC 20510
    202-225-2365

  - Las Cruces Office
    570 North Telshor Boulevard
    Las Cruces, New Mexico 88011
    855-473-2723

<u>State Elected Officials:</u>

Texas Governor

- Governor Gregg Abbott

Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711
512-463-2000

Texas State Senate

- Senator José Rodriguez (D, District 29)
  State Capitol Extension E1.610
  P.O. Box 12068
  Capitol Station
  Austin, Texas 78711
  512-463-0129

  El Paso District Office
  100 North Ochoa, Suite A
  El Paso, Texas 79901
  915-351-3500

Texas State House

- Representative Mary González (D, District 75)
  State Capitol Extension E2.204
  P.O. Box 2910
  Austin, Texas 78768
  512-463-0613

  San Eliario District Office
  1498 Main Street
  San Eliario, Texas 79849
  915-790-2299

- Representative César Blanco (D, District 76)
  State Capitol Extension E1.218
  P.O. Box 2910
  Austin, Texas 78768
  512-463-0622

  El Paso District Office
  9440 Viscount, Suite 205
  El Paso, Texas 79925
  915-599-9807

- Representative Lina Ortega (D, District 77)
  State Capitol Extension E2.704
  P.O. Box 2910
  Austin, Texas 78768
  512-463-0638

- Representative Joseph E. Moody (D, District 78)
  State Capitol Extension E1.420
  P.O. Box 2910
  Austin, Texas 78768
  512-463-0728

  El Paso District Office
  5675 Woodrow Bean, Suite 12
  El Paso, Texas 79925
  915-751-2700

- Representative Joe C. Pickett (D, District 79)
  State Capitol Extension CAP 1W.5
  P.O. Box 2910
  Austin, Texas 78768
  512-463-0596

  El Paso District Office
  1790 Lee Trevino, Suite 307
  El Paso, Texas 79936
  915-590-4349

New Mexico Governor

- Governor Susana Martinez
  Office of the Governor
  490 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 400
  Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
  505-476-2200

New Mexico State Senate

- Senator Joseph Cervantes (D, District 31)
  409 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 328B
  Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
  505-986-4861

- Senator Cliff R. Pirtle (R, District 32)
  409 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 414B
  Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
  505-986-4391

- Senator William F. Burt (R, District 33)
  409 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 415A
  Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
  505-986-4366

- Senator Ron Griggs (R, District 34)
  409 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 414A
  Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
  505-986-4369

- Senator John Arthur Smith (D, District 35)
  409 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 325B
  Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
  505-986-4365

- Senator Jeff Steinborn (D, District 36)
  409 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 416E
  Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
  505-986-4862

- Senator William P. Soules (D, District 37)
  409 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 328C
  Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
  505-986-4834

- Senator Mary Kay Papen (D, District 38)
  409 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 105
  Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
  505-986-4733

New Mexico State House

- Representative Bealquin Bill Gomez (D, District 34)
  409 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 313A
  Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
  505-986-4341

- Representative Nathan P. Small (D, District 36)
  409 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 203CN
  Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
  505-986-4254

- Representative Rebecca Dow (R, District 38)
  409 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 203H
  Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
  505-986-4453

- Representative Rodolpho S. Martinez (D, District 39)
  409 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 206B
  Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
  505-986-4248

- Representative Yvette Herrell (R, District 51)
  409 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 204B
  Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
  505-986-4210

- Representative Doreen Y. Gallegos (D, District 52)
  409 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 134A
  Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
  505-986-4780

- Representative Rick Little (D, District 53)
  409 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 202B
  Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
  505-986-4220

- Representative Zachary J. Cook (R, District 56)
  409 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 204A
  Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
  505-986-4233

Local Elected Officials:

El Paso County, Texas

- Ruben John Vogt County Judge
  500 East San Antonio, Suite 301
  El Paso, Texas 79901

915-546-2098
CountyJudge@epcounty.com

- David Stout Commissioner Precinct 2
  500 East San Antonio, Suite 301
  El Paso, Texas 79901
  915-546-2111
  commissioner2@epcounty.com

Doña Ana County, New Mexico

- Ramon S. Gonzalez County Commissioner District 2
  845 North Motel Boulevard
  Las Cruces, New Mexico 88007
  575-525-5804
  rgonzalez@donaanacounty.org

- Benjamin L. Rawson Commissioner District 3
  845 North Motel Boulevard
  Las Cruces, New Mexico 88007
  575-525-5807
  brawson@donaanacounty.org

Otero County, New Mexico

- Janet White County Commissioner District 1
  1101 New York Avenue
  Alamogordo, New Mexico 88310
  575-415-7774
  jwhite@co.otero.nm.us

Mayors/City Council [1]

El Paso, Texas

- Mayor Dee Margo
  300 North Campbell
  El Paso, Texas 79901
  915-212-0021
  www.elpasotexas.gov/mayor/contact

- Representative Peter Svarzbein District 1 (West)
  300 North Campbell
  El Paso, Texas 79901
  915-212-0001

1 Chaparral is a census-designated place and does not have a mayor or city council.

- Representative Alexsandra Annello, District 2 (Central/East)
  300 North Campbell
  El Paso, Texas 79901
  915-212-0002

- Representative Sam Morgan, District 4 (Northeast)
  300 North Campbell
  El Paso, Texas 79901
  915-212-0004

- Representative Dr. Michiel Noe, District 5 (East)
  300 North Campbell
  El Paso, Texas 79901
  915-212-0005

APPENDIX D

Meeting Locations

Meeting Locations:

Note: Locations were recommended by three or more interviewees

Fort Bliss*
El Paso, Texas 79916

El Paso City Hall
300 North Campbell Street
El Paso, Texas 79901
915-212-0000

Captain John L. Chapin High School
7000 Dyer Street
El Paso, Texas 79904
915-236-4400

The University of Texas at El Paso
500 West University Avenue
El Paso, Texas 79968
915-747-5000

El Paso Convention Center
One Civic Center Plaza
El Paso, Texas 79901
915-534-0609

*A total of five interviewees suggested holding meetings on-post, but did not specify a location.