

HISTORY

Established during World War II and in continuous use since, White Sands Missile Range (WSMR) is the largest military installation in the United States. WMSR encompasses about 3,400 square miles with two extension areas adjacent to the boundaries adding over 1,700 square miles to the range.

Since it began as a proving ground in 1945, WSMR has been an ordnance and explosives test facility. Prior to that, some areas were used for bombing practice and others as an artillery range. WSMR is a laboratory with a large complex of test ranges, launch sites, impact areas, and instrumentation sites required to develop and test weapons and weapons systems. WSMR has tested nearly every type of deployable ordnance developed in the United States since 1945, as well as many foreign items. By design, many munitions blend in with the environment and may be hard to see.



Photo: Defense Video & Imagery Distribution Systems

Hunters should be aware that given WSMR's long history and continuing operations, they may encounter military munitions. Munitions including submunitions, warheads, practice and high explosive bombs, artillery shells, and rockets can be encountered across the installation. Some areas are closed to hunting due to known explosives hazards, but munitions may remain on other areas as well.

Areas closed to hunting are marked with signs or orange cones. However, hunters are responsible for knowing where they are at all times, refer to the hunt map and signs/markings to ensure you stay within the hunt boundary. If you are uncertain if an area is closed, contact a hunt official so you do not put yourself in danger.

Munitions may be heavily corroded, whole or in parts, buried, or covered by plants, making them difficult to recognize. So, never approach, touch, move or disturb anything encountered that may be a munition or part of one, but carefully leave the area. Consider all munitions dangerous regardless of how long they have been in the environment or how frequently they have been handled. Even old munitions can still kill.

Help protect yourself, and make future hunts safer from explosive hazards by following the **3Rs of Explosive Safety— Recognize, Retreat and Report.**



Bomblet

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 a suspect munition, but carefully leave the area

Report Immediately report to the emergency contacts in the table below

IF YOU ENCOUNTER MUNITIONS

Emergency Contacts

On White Sands Missile Range

On range or from a cell phone	Call WSMR Police (575) 678-1234
From landline	Call 911

On White Sands National Monument

Call 911

For additional information call U.S. Army Technical Center for Explosive Safety at

(918) 420-8919

US Army's UXO Safety Education website

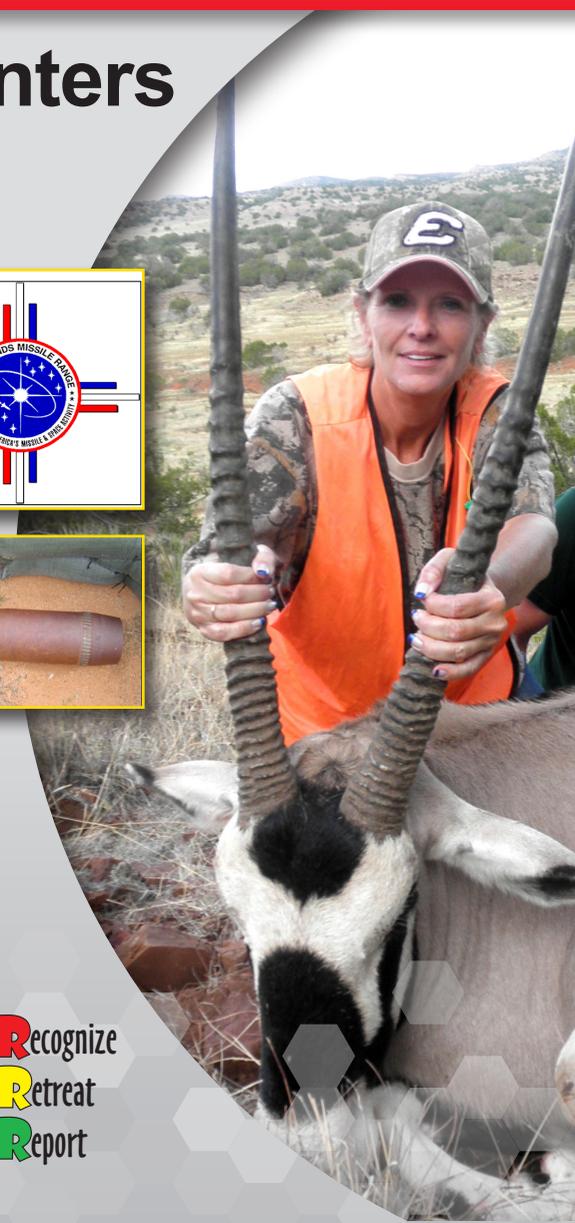
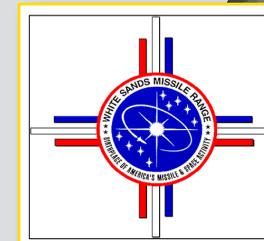
www.denix.osd.mil/uxo

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3Rs Explosives Safety Guide

White Sands Missile Range

Hunters



Follow the 3Rs of Explosives Safety



Bomb



Recognize

Recognize when you may have encountered a munition.



Recognizing when you may have encountered a munition is the most important step in reducing the risk of injury or death. Munitions may be encountered on land or in the water. They may be easy or hard to identify. Although

munitions may be present almost anywhere, hunting area maps identify the areas of highest risk.

To avoid the risk of injury or death:

- Never move, touch or disturb a munition or suspect munition
- Be aware that munitions do not become safer with age, in fact they may become more dangerous
- Don't be tempted to take or keep a munition as a souvenir

Munitions come in many sizes, shapes and colors. Some may look like bullets or bombs while others look like pipes, small cans or even a car muffler. Whether whole or in parts, new or old, shiny or rusty, munitions can still explode. The best way to avoid injury or death is to stay out of areas marked with no entry signs, heed posted warnings and stay in designated hunting areas.

Retreat

Do not touch, move or disturb it, but carefully leave the area.

Avoid death or injury by recognizing that you may have encountered a munition and promptly retreating from the area. If you encounter what you believe is a munition, do not approach, touch or disturb it. Instead, immediately and carefully leave the area by retracing your steps—going out of the way you entered. Once safely away from the munition, mark the path (e.g., with a piece of clothing, GPS coordinate) so response personnel can find the munition.



Rifle Grenade

Report

Notify the police.

Protect yourself, your family, your friends and your community by immediately reporting munitions to the military police, if on a military installation, or the local police.

Help us improve the safety of future hunts by providing as much information as possible about what you saw and where you saw it. This will help the police and military or civilian explosive ordnance disposal personnel find, evaluate and address the situation.

If you believe you may have encountered a munition, report:

- The area where you encountered it.
- Its general description. Remember, do not approach, touch, move or disturb it.
- When possible, provide:
 - Its estimated size
 - Its shape
 - Any visible markings, including coloring

