

FINAL
ATLANTIC TEST RANGE
RANGE CONDITION ASSESMENT (RCA)
DECISION POINT 1 RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT UPDATE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

FOR THE
BLOODSWORTH
ISLAND RANGE
(BIR)

AND

STRIKE LAUNCH
COMPOUND (SLC)



December 2015



Approved for Public Release; Distribution is Unlimited (2016-97)



This page intentionally left blank

Executive Summary

INTRODUCTION

This Decision Point 1 Recommendations Report entails the findings of the Atlantic Test Range (ATR) Range Condition Assessment (RCA) update for the Bloodsworth Island Range (BIR) and the Strike Launch Compound (SLC) range area. RCA's are part of the U.S. Navy's Range Sustainability Environmental Program Assessment (RSEPA), which satisfies the requirements of Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 4715.14, Operational Range Assessments.

Based on review of operational data it was verified that there have been no changes in the types or tempo of test operations conducted within the BIR or SLC range area since the 2007 ATR RCA (DON, 2007), therefore the primary focus of the ATR RCA update is on the recently identified historical operational use of the SLC area.

BACKGROUND

The ATR is comprised of land assets, supporting military facilities, restricted military airspace and a water range. Naval Air Station (NAS) Patuxent River, Webster Outlying Field and the BIR encompass the majority of ATR operational land assets. NAS Patuxent River is the headquarters of Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR), the Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division, the U.S. Navy's Test Pilot School, as well as home to four aircraft test squadron tenants. The ATR supports the U.S. Navy's Aviation Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation mission during military aircraft acquisition test phases, including the testing of U.S. Navy aircraft and the integration of weapons with aircraft.

The ATR restricted military airspace overlays restricted and prohibited water range areas or "surface danger zones" in the Chesapeake Bay. These surface danger zones correspond to the Aerial and Surface Firing Range and three water targets – Hooper, Hannibal and Tangiers. In addition to these three water targets, there are three supersonic flight weapons separation aim points and two shallow water test areas. Range assets are scheduled by the ATR organization. Figure ES-1 is a map indicating the locations of the restricted airspace, water and land range assets that make up the ATR.

RCA PHASE I: RANGE SELECTION

In accordance with the 2006 RSEPA Policy Implementation Manual, during RCA Phase I, Navy ranges are selected for assessment if they are land-based, not closed, and have a history of testing or training using munitions. Other considerations are the range's role to the overall Navy mission, known environmental condition and interest to the public. Based upon these considerations, it was determined that BIR and the SLC range area identified within the 2007 ATR RCA Decision 1 Report (DON, 2007) remain the only areas requiring assessment within the ATR RCA Update.

RCA PHASE II: DOCUMENT COLLECTION AND ON-SITE VISIT PREPARATION

The RCA Technical Team conducted Phase II of the ATR RCA update from June – September 2014. ATR and SLC Operational subject matter experts (SMEs) and Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Washington Environmental Division personnel previously interviewed during the 2007 ATR RCA were contracted to verify their current roles and responsibilities and to request any additional points of contacts that the RCA Technical Team should include in the interview process. Prior to scheduling interviews, the RCA Technical Team forwarded the 2007 Phase II completed interview forms to each interviewee for review and comment. Site visits and interviews were scheduled upon review of the updated Phase II interview forms.

RCA PHASE III: ON-SITE VISIT ASSESSMENT

The RCA Technical Team, comprised of on-site support contractors from the NAVAIR Ranges Sustainability Office, began conducting the “On-Site Visit Information Collection and Review”, during the week of 13 June 2014, marking the start of Phase III. During the site visits, the Technical Team interviewed key NAVAIR range managers and NAS Patuxent River environmental program managers for the following United States (U.S.) Navy Environmental Program areas:

- Air Quality
- Water/Wastewater
- Military Munitions/Solid Waste/Hazardous Materials/Hazardous Waste
- Cultural Resources
- Natural Resources
- Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act
- Environmental Planning
- Range Environmental and Explosives Safety Management
- Installation Restoration
- Storage Tank and Petroleum, Oil, and Lubricants Management
- Safe Drinking Water

Based on interviews and review of updated documentation and environmental program plans associated with each of the specific U.S. Navy Environmental Programs, it was determined that SLC and BIR range areas remain in compliance with all environmental program requirements. No issues affecting the ranges sustainability were identified.

The Technical Team determined, based upon interviews and review of current data and updated program plans, that the descriptions of the operational, environmental and land use components of the Operational Range Site Model provided within the 2007 ATR RCA Decision 1 Report remains accurate and unchanged (DON, 2007).

DECISION POINT 1

Are Further Steps Required to Maintain Compliance?

Records review and interviews with NAVFAC Washington environmental compliance managers and range personnel at NAS Patuxent River indicate that installation environmental programs are in compliance with U.S. Navy environmental program requirements and are; therefore, considered to be in compliance with Federal environmental regulatory requirements. No further steps are required to maintain environmental compliance of the BIR and the SLC range area.

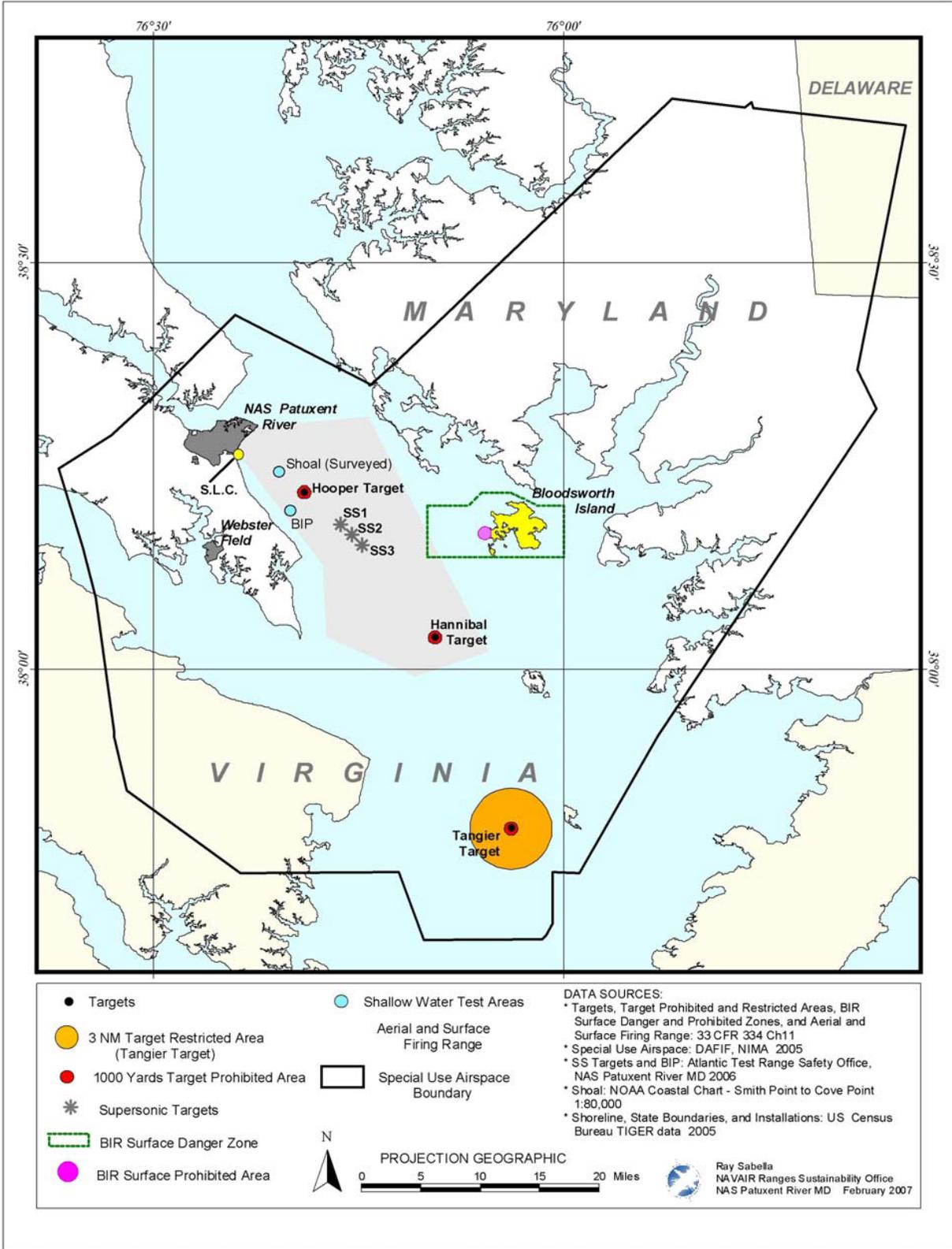


Figure ES-1. The Atlantic Test Range Inner Range

This page intentionally left blank

Acronym List

°	Degrees
§	Section
A/G	air-to-ground
ATR	Atlantic Test Range
AST	Above Ground Storage Tank
BIR	Bloodsworth Island Range
CAA	Clean Air Act
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CNO	Chief of Naval Operations
CRE	Comprehensive Range Evaluation
DoD	Department of Defense
DoDD	Department of Defense Directive
DoN	Department of the Navy
EOD	Explosive Ordnance Disposal
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
HM	Hazardous Material
HW	Hazardous Waste
MC(s)	Munitions Constituent(s)
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAS	Naval Air Station
NAVAIR	Naval Air Systems Command
NAVFAC	Naval Facilities Engineering Command
NGFS	Naval Gunfire Support
OPNAVINST	Office of the Chief of Naval Operations Instruction
OPNAV N45	Office of the Chief of Naval Operations Energy and Environmental Readiness Division
ORSM	Operational Range Site Model
PM	Program Manager
POL	Petroleum, Oil and Lubricants
POTW	Publicly Owned Treatment Work
PRC	Patuxent River Complex
RCA	Range Condition Assessment
RSEPA	Range Sustainability Environmental Program Assessment
SECNAV	Secretary of the Navy
SLC	Strike Launch Compound
SME(s)	Subject Matter Expert
SPECWAR	Special Warfare
SO	Sustainability Office
SRO	Sustainable Range Oversight
U.S.	United States
UST	Under Ground Storage Tank
UXO	Unexploded ordnance