



**US Army Corps
Of Engineers**
Mobile District

News Release

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct Ordnance and Explosives remediation

MOBILE, AL – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and their contractor, ZAPATA ENGINEERING are currently conducting Ordnance and Explosives remediation on approximately 140 acres of land North of State Highway 130 in Moore County between Tullahoma and Lynchburg, TN.

The area being cleared is part of the Former Motlow Range. The Motlow Range Area was a training range for Camp Forrest, located west of Tullahoma. The area was a major training site used by troops just prior to being transferred to the European front in World War II. Anti-tank, anti-aircraft, and machine gun ranges were located on the site. Firing ranges for 37mm projectiles, mortars, and small arms weapons were also established. At the end of WW II, the property was no longer needed and the leases were terminated. Today, the majority of the land has reverted to its natural state with some small areas for agricultural use and some residential dwellings.

Because of safety concerns while excavating and/or detonating live military ordnance that may be uncovered during the remediation effort, periodic temporary closure of Highway 130 may be necessary.

“If an item is found requiring demolition, the road would only be closed for approximately 10-15 minutes,” explained E. Patrick Robbins, Chief of Public Affairs, Mobile District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

“Since traffic counts indicate the road receives its heaviest use between 6am and 9am and again between 3pm and 6pm, all work will be done between 9am and 3pm,” continued Robbins.

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During routine searches of the property for munitions, the road will be monitored by on site personnel who will notify the excavation teams when vehicles approach.

“Disruptions to the community should be minimal or even unobserved,” said Robbins. “The only way the situation could change would be if concentrations of explosives were found.

“In that situation we would work with local law enforcement personnel to close the road to all traffic during the 9am to 3pm time frame. Eastbound traffic would be rerouted to Highway 55 via Ledford Mill Road. Eastbound traffic entering Highway 130 from Highway 55 would be restricted to local residents and traffic bound for the local airport,” continued Robbins. “This rerouting would only occur if absolutely necessary.”

The work in this area is expected to result in periodic road closures during the next several months. Residents having specific questions about road closures should contact Doug McCue of Zapata Engineering @ 931-393-1900. For project specific information, residents should contact Ellis Pope, Project Manager, with the Corps of Engineers Mobile District @ 251- 690-3077.

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