



# Badlands Bombing Range Newsletter

U.S Army Corps of Engineers

Omaha District

← May 2003 →

The Badlands Bombing Range Newsletter is produced by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District to present current information about environmental cleanup programs underway at the Former Badlands Bombing Range (BBR). Many state, federal, and tribal agencies are involved in the project including the Oglala Sioux Tribe (OST) and its BBR Project Office, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Air Force, and the National Park Service. Together, they form the BBR Project Team.

The Team has come a long way since the inception of this project. Recently, the investigations used to detect and characterize the ordnance and explosives (OE) at the former BBR in sectors 1-9 have been completed. The final Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) reports detail the findings. You can find a copy of the reports at the information repositories listed on page 4.

The next step in the process is to formulate a response. You can read about the response actions in this newsletter. Check out the map of the former BBR on page 2. It shows the 28 “sectors”, which have been created as smaller focus areas within the large area of the former BBR. Page 3 provides a descriptive overview of the sectors.

Want to learn more? Don't miss the next RAB to receive more information about the project! See page 4 for details.

## ACTION MEMORANDUMS

Based on the results of the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has determined that non-time critical OE removal actions (clearance) are required at specific locations within the 28 units called “sectors” at the former range. The map on page 2 depicts the location of the former BBR and its designated sectors.

The action at the former Badlands Bombing Range will be a multi-year program comprised of six separate projects. For each project, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will issue an Action Memorandum, which details the activities that will occur under that project. The six action memorandums have been prioritized by the BBR Project Team according to the potential risk of tribal and visitor exposure to ordnance and explosives (OE).

The first Action Memorandum addresses the implementation of site-wide institutional controls. Examples of institutional controls include signs posted around the former BBR, classroom education, internet web site and the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meetings. These controls will be used as a component of the overall action to reduce the risk to human health and the environment from the OE remaining at the former BBR.

Clearance actions are detailed in the second through sixth memorandums. Many active homesteads and working structures throughout the former BBR and the access roads leading to them will be cleared as will targets in Sector 1 (Cuny Table), 2 and 10. Primary ranching roads and major highways will also be cleared as funding is allocated.

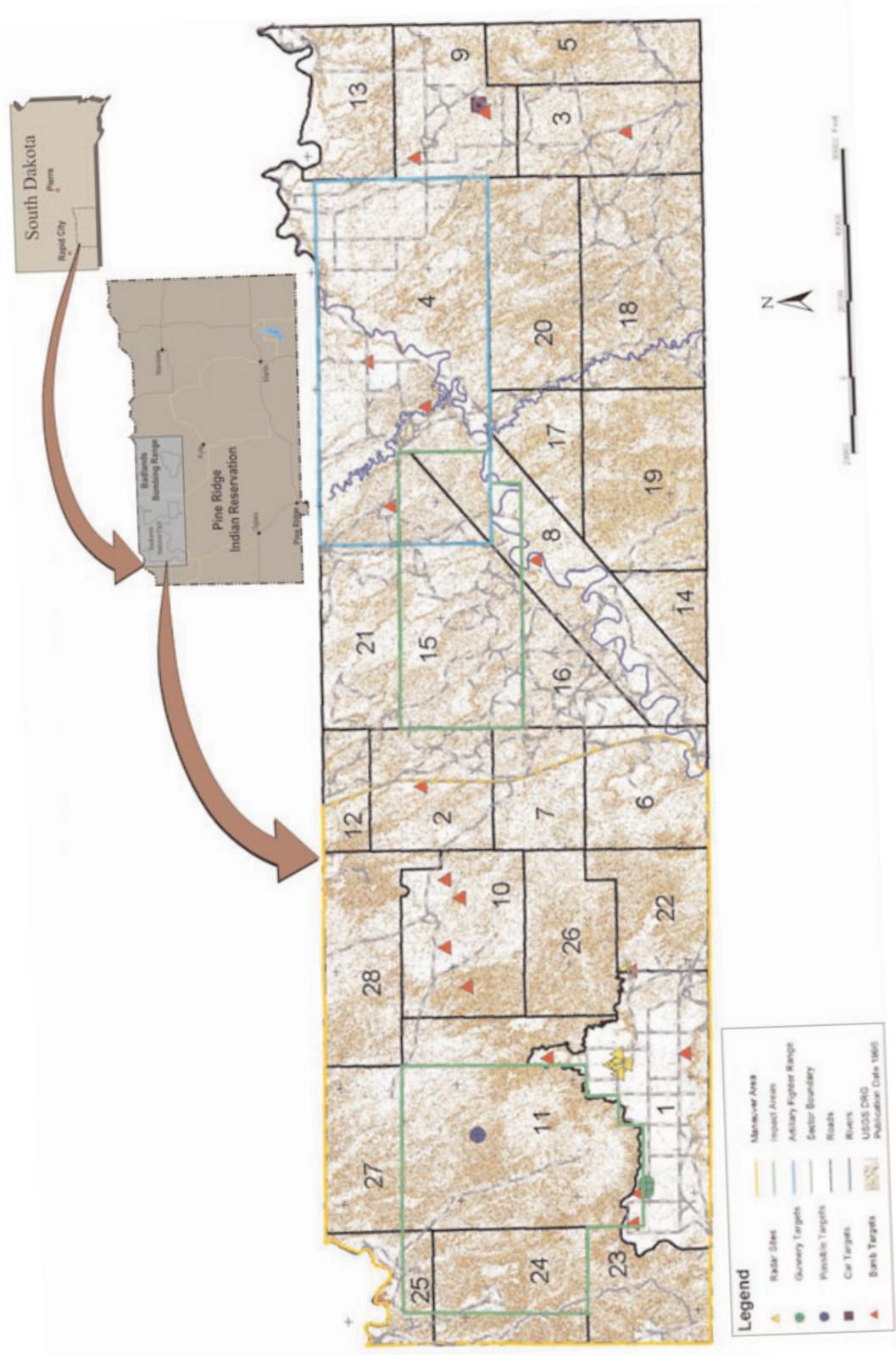
Institutional controls have already been implemented and will continue to be used throughout the cleanup process. The homestead clearance will occur in 2004 and beyond as permission is received from land owners. The other clearance activities will occur in a sequential fashion and will begin in 2004.

### Partners in Progress

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers • Oglala Sioux Tribe • National Park Service • U.S. Air Force

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# Site Location and Sector Breakdown



# Sector Identification

Sector	Brief Description
1 (Cuny Table)	Contains 18,202 acres of predominantly flat terrain used for primarily agricultural purposes. Homes and farm buildings are located within a two-mile radius of several targets.
2 (Scenic Bombing Range)	Contains 10,135 acres that consist of rolling grassland and areas transitioning into badlands. Investigations have identified homes and farm buildings located within a two-mile radius of several targets.
3 (Radar Bombing Range)	Contains 11,445 acres that are predominantly used for cattle grazing and ranching. This sector includes one target.
4	Contains 38,486 acres that are mostly flat with some rolling terrain used mostly for agricultural purposes. The White River extends through the sector. Black-tailed prairie dog colonies occupy almost 500 acres of the sector. Investigations have identified homes and farm buildings located within a two-mile radius of several targets.
5	Contains 8,911 acres of rolling grasslands primarily used for cattle grazing. There are no known targets in this sector.
6	Contains 10,215 acres used mostly for ranching, recreation and homesteading. The White River runs through the southeast corner of the sector. There are no known targets in this sector.
7	Contains 7,603 acres used for ranching and recreation. The homesteads in this sector are located near BIA Route 27, which runs through the middle of this sector. There are no known targets in this sector.
8 (Bomb Target)	Contains 17,134 acres located along a 22-mile stretch of the White River. Primarily used for ranching and recreation. It is suspected that this sector was used for both bombing and gunnery practice.
9 (Circle of Cars Target)	Contains 11,534 acres used primarily for farming and ranching. The known target consists of a ring of vintage automobiles.
10 and 11	The majority of the investigations occurred in 2002. Final studies will occur in 2003.
12 - 28	Investigations on these sectors will continue throughout the summer of 2003. The findings from these studies will be published in an Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis Volume IV.

# JOIN US FOR THE NEXT RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

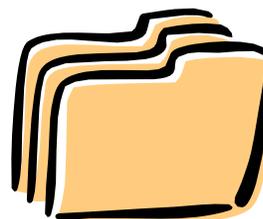
The next Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting will be held on  
Thursday, September 11, 2003  
from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
in Porcupine Village, South Dakota.  
Call Thomas O'Hara for additional information at  
1-888-835-5971 or 402-221-3918

## ACRONYMS

<b>BBR</b>	Badlands Bombing Range
<b>EE/CA</b>	Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis
<b>EMI</b>	Environmental Management, Inc.
<b>EOD</b>	Explosives and Ordnance Demolition
<b>EPA</b>	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
<b>OE</b>	Ordnance and Explosives
<b>ORNL</b>	Oak Ridge National Laboratory
<b>OSRWSS</b>	Oglala Sioux Rural Water Supply System
<b>OST</b>	Oglala Sioux Tribe
<b>RAB</b>	Restoration Advisory Board
<b>ROE</b>	Right-of-Entry
<b>USACE</b>	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
<b>UXO</b>	Unexploded Ordnance

## WANT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE BBR PROJECT?

Visit one of the BBR Project Document Repositories:



**Badlands Bombing Range Project Office**  
*Pine Ridge, South Dakota*

**Oglala Lakota College**  
*Kyle, South Dakota*

**Rapid City Public Library**  
*Rapid City, South Dakota*

Public Affairs Office  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
CENWO-PA (T.O'Hara)  
106 South 15th Street  
Omaha, NE 68102-1618