

PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

FACT SHEET

Former Skeet Range

Munitions Response Site TS002

Bellows Air Force Station

May 2023

The U.S. Air Force:

- Is dedicated to protecting human health and the environment
- Is committed to soliciting and receiving input from the Waimānalo Community and utilizing that feedback during decision making
- Will continue outreach to the Waimānalo Community including public meetings, participation in community events, and making project related materials available to the Community

For more information please contact:

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Former Skeet Range Munitions Response Site TS002

The TS002 site is approximately 7.4 acres and is located in the east-central portion of Bellows Air Force Station. The site was historically operated as a skeet range in the 1940s and possibly into the early 1950s. The range was composed of a single station of firing positions, flanking high and low skeet houses, and a range control building. Skeet range related debris (e.g., shotgun shell fragments, expended shotgun shell casings, clay target fragments, burned clay target piles) have been found at the site.

Prior to the establishment of Bellows, the area was utilized by Native Hawaiians for residential, food procurement, and ceremonial activities including cemeteries. Currently, the TS002 site consists of undeveloped land that is unused by the U.S. Air Force. The site is largely inaccessible due to dense vegetation present on three sides and Waimānalo Stream on the remaining side of the site. The majority of the site is comprised of the Pu'ewai wetlands except for the north western portion where the former firing station stood. Bellows is continuing the process of restoring the Pu'ewai wetlands for improved use by endemic and native wetland birds.



Project Status

A remedial investigation and feasibility study and three supplemental investigations have been completed at the TS002 site since 2013. The goal of the investigations was to determine the nature and extent of contamination at the site and to evaluate its potential risks to human health and the environment. Through visual surveys, soil sampling, and bioassay studies (i.e., measuring the concentration of lead at the site through its effect on invertebrates) it was determined that unacceptable risks to receptors (humans and animals) exist at the TS002 site due to polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and lead in the soil. Three remedies were proposed and evaluated for the site during the feasibility study including no action, removal of contaminated soil, and partial removal of contaminated soil in conjunction with land use controls. However, further site characterization activities are required to fully understand the nature and extent of the contamination prior to selection of a final remedy. The additional site characterization activities are currently underway and include the following:

- **Soil/Sediment Sampling** using current State of Hawai'i Department of Health methodology; and
- **Lead Pellet Sieving** to determine the presence/absence of lead pellets and to refine the extent of lead pellets within the TS002 site.

The human health and ecological risk assessments are currently being updated based on the results of these site characterization activities and the previously performed feasibility study to determine the potential risks posed by polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons/lead. The United States Air Force is evaluating additional remedial alternatives based on input provided by the community at the November 2022 Restoration Advisory Board meeting.

The United States Air Force will provide additional updates on site activities at the TS002 site during future Restoration Advisory Board meetings. The meetings include in-person and virtual attendance options and the Community is encouraged to attend and participate as it is an opportunity to provide feedback to the United States Air Force. When site investigations are complete at the TS002 site and a preferred remedy is selected, the United States Air Force will seek input from the Community regarding the proposed remedy.