

Personnel from the former MCAS El Toro, above, used the former Trabuco Bombing Range for bombing practice

Source: California State Military Museum

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q:** What types of potential hazards exist?

**A:** Military munitions, such as practice bombs with spotting charges and practice rockets, are known or suspected to have been used at the Bombing/Rocket Target. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is unable to rule out the presence of munitions that may pose an explosive hazard.

**Q:** What do I do if I suspect I may have come across a military munition?

**A:** If you suspect you may have come across a military munition, the best way to ensure your safety is to 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 it, but carefully leave the area; and **Report** – call **911** and advise the police of what you saw and where you saw it.

**Q:** Where can I get more information?

**A:** What are the findings of the work that the government has completed?

**A:** Based on historical research and site inspections, military munitions are known or suspected to have been used at this target, and some munitions may

remain on the property. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has determined that further investigation is required for the Bombing/Rocket Target at the former Trabuco Bombing Range.

**Q:** What will be done next?

**A:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will make explosives safety education material that is based on the 3Rs available to landowners and the community. Additionally, it will coordinate with landowners as it plans required response activities.

## Follow the 3Rs of Explosives Safety

**R**  
**Recognize**  
when you may have encountered a munition, and that munitions are dangerous.

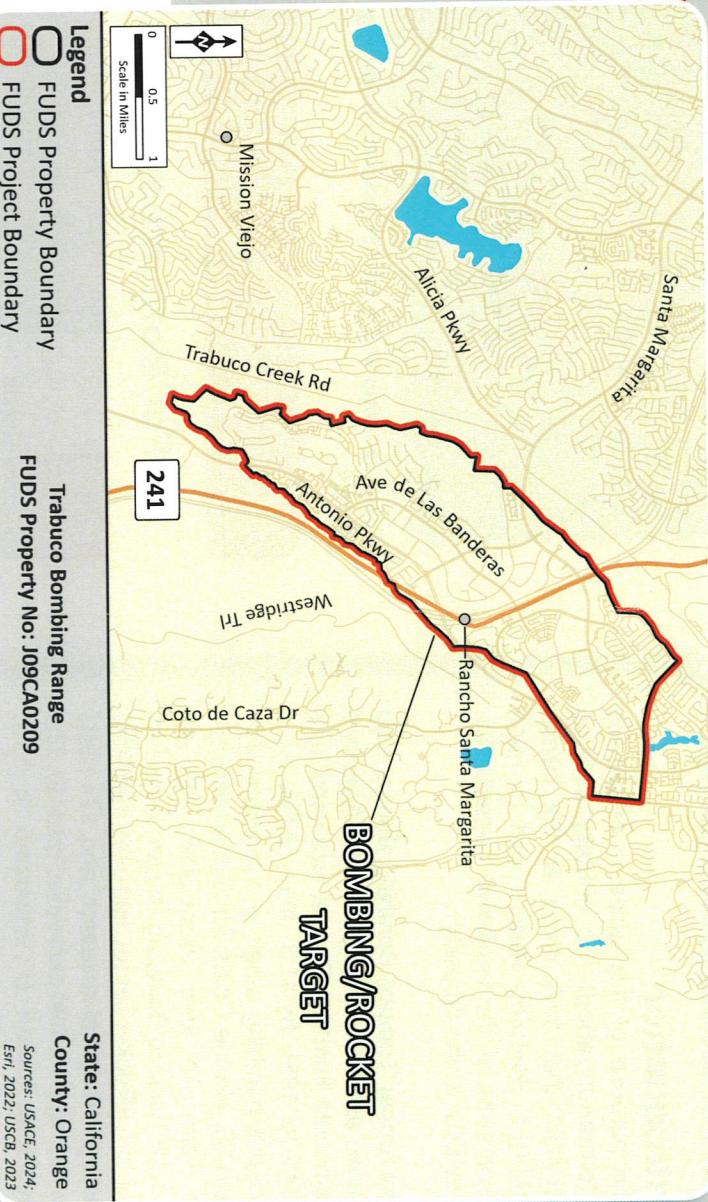
**R**  
**Retreat**  
do not approach, touch, move or disturb it, but carefully leave the area.

## Report

call **911** and advise the police of what you saw and where you saw it.

**Q:** What are the findings of the work that the government has completed?

**A:** For more information, call the Formerly Used Defense Sites Information Center toll-free number 1-855-765-FUDS (3837) or select the GIS Tool on the Interim Risk Management page at [www.fuds.mil](http://www.fuds.mil). Learn more about munitions and explosives safety at <https://3Rs.mil>.



## Introduction

The purpose of this guide is to provide information about the military training activities that took place at the former Trabuco Bombing Range and to raise awareness of the explosive hazards that may exist at the property.

The former Trabuco Bombing Range, also known as Piano Trabuco Target Area and Temecula Bombing Range, was used from 1944 to 1956 by U.S. Navy pilots as a practice bombing range in connection with the U.S. Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) El Toro. An area associated with the former Trabuco Bombing Range, known as Bombing/Rocket Target, has been identified through historical research and site visits as having potential explosive hazards. The munitions known or suspected to have been used at the target include practice bombs with spotting charges and practice rockets.

The Bombing/Rocket Target is located in Rancho Santa Margarita, in Orange County, California. The land is publicly and privately owned. The publicly owned land is used for recreational purposes including use as a wilderness park. The privately owned land is used for residential and commercial purposes.

Because explosive hazards associated with military munitions from past military training may remain at the Bombing/Rocket Target, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recommends that landowners and visitors follow the **3Rs of Explosives Safety** – **Recognize, Retreat and Report.**



Practice bomb at the former Trabuco Bombing Range

## Former Trabuco Bombing Range



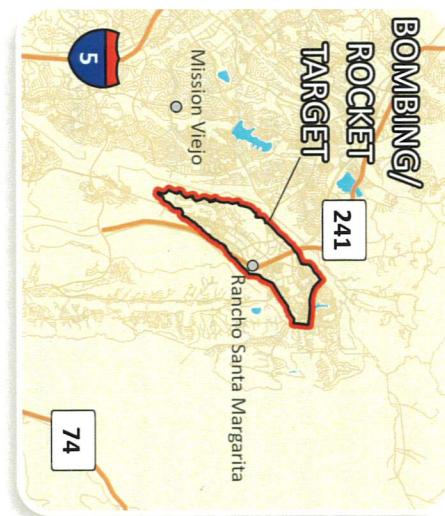
**US Army Corps  
of Engineers.**

### For More Information

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for identifying, investigating and, when necessary, conducting an appropriate response to address contamination and military munitions resulting from past Department of Defense activities at Formerly Used Defense Sites, also referred to as FUDS.

For information about the former Trabuco Bombing Range, contact the FUDS Information Center by calling the toll-free number 1-855-765-FUDS (3837). For general information about the FUDS Program, visit [www.fuds.mil](http://www.fuds.mil).

## Follow the 3Rs of Explosives Safety



### Bombing/Rocket Target

## 3Rs Safety Guide

### Former Trabuco Bombing Range California Orange County



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of Engineers.**

