



New NOSSA Instruction 8020.15B

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Naval Ordnance Safety & Security Activity

RITS Spring 2009

Thank you to those present who—prior to publication of this instruction—provided useful comments and recommendations

Presentation Overview

- **Background**
- **Inside the Instruction**
- **Summary/Conclusions**



UXO technician recovering a 40-mm rifle grenade at the former NAS Adak, Adak Island, AK



Geophysics technicians collecting data at the former Vieques NTR, Vieques Island, PR

All presentation photos courtesy of U.S. Navy.

Here's the outline of where we're going today. I felt a "background" section was appropriate since I anticipated that I'd be addressing the full gamut of RPMs:

- Those that have never worked a munitions response site;
- Those that have worked several and have attended the CECOS Munitions Response Site Management course;
- And RPMs in between.

Consequently, in this presentation I'm seeking to strike the middle ground. Those of you that can't quite figure out the relevance of what I'm addressing are invited to ask questions and sign up for the next CECOS class offering. And those of you that find this just so easy, please don't let your snoring disturb your neighbor.

As an aside, I've sprinkled the presentation with photographs of real-world munitions response projects. If you have questions about what they represent, don't hesitate to ask me.

Definitions

- **Explosives Safety Submission (ESS)**
- **Key organizations:**
 - Naval Ordnance Safety & Security Activity (NOSSA)
 - Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board (DDESB)
- **Munitions Response**
- **Munitions Response Site (MRS)**
- **Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC)**
 - Discarded Military Munitions (DMM)
 - Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)
 - Munitions Constituents (MC) in high enough concentrations to pose an explosive hazard
- **Material Potentially Presenting an Explosive Hazard (MPPEH)**
 - e.g., munitions containers and packaging material; munitions debris remaining after munitions use, demilitarization, or disposal; and range-related debris

Since I'll be throwing out terms and acronyms that may be new or unfamiliar to you, I'd like to start out today's presentation with a mini-glossary.

Topic Purpose Statement

- The average Remedial Project Manager (RPM) may be unfamiliar with munitions response project planning and execution, explosives safety requirements, and the role played by organizations responsible for munitions response oversight



UXO technicians recovering MEC at Jackson Park Housing Complex, Bremerton, WA



UXO technicians conducting a surface sweep at the former Kaho'olawe NTR, Kaho'olawe, HI

A munitions response project can be a challenge to the average RPM. Although a munitions cleanup is undertaken using the same CERCLA process with which every RPM is familiar, the unique technical approach means that project planning and execution may be unfamiliar to you. Compounding this are explosives safety requirements that only a handful of people on the planet truly understand. And in order to make things real hairy, you're forced to deal with Navy and DoD explosives safety technical experts—groups that you've probably never heard of, let alone ever worked with.

Presentation Focus

- **RPMs need to be familiar with NOSSINST 8020.15B, and not just rely on their UXO contractor to interpret and use it**
- **RPMs:**
 - **Must report an MEC find to NOSSA and await their decision regarding continuance of operations or preparation of an ESS (Enclosure 1)**
 - **May request that NOSSA make a determination regarding the need for an ESS (Enclosure 2)**
 - **Must ensure any ESS they or their contractor writes strictly follows the ESS writing guide (Enclosure 3)**
 - **Must prepare an After-Action Report (AAR) that includes all the items in the AAR writing guide (Enclosure 4)**

5 Background

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But I don't want to overwhelm you with project execution, explosives safety details, etc. today. I'll do that when you attend the next CECOS Munitions Response Site Management course.☺ My goal today is to help you RPMs concentrate on a solitary document: NOSSA Instruction 8020.15B—arguably the single most important document you'll need to successfully execute a munitions response project.

I wrote the instruction in a simple and straightforward way because that's the way I am.☺ Hopefully, you'll find it so easy to use that you won't need to rely on your UXO contractor to interpret it for you or to complete the forms and documents it requires.

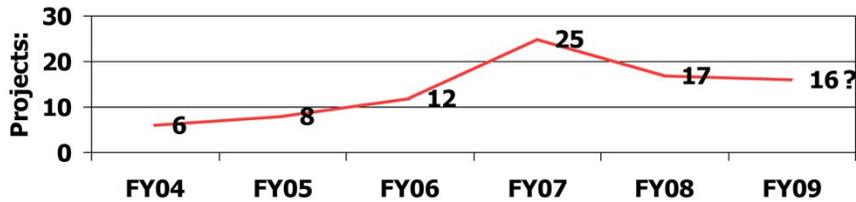
So as you listen to my presentation today bear in mind that you're responsible for using NOSSAINST 8020.15B Enclosure 1 to report finding MEC in the field, Enclosure 2 to request that we make a determination regarding the need for an ESS, Enclosure 3 as a guide for writing an ESS (if NOSSA determines that it is required), and Enclosure 4 for writing an after-action report once the project is complete.

Topic Context – Past RITS

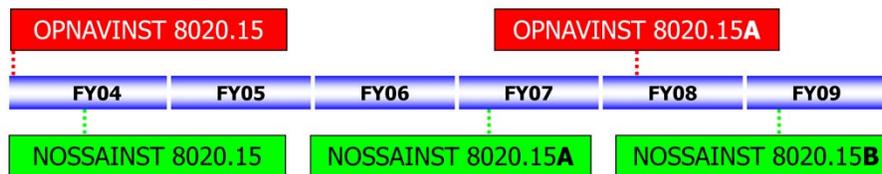
- U.S. Navy UXO Cleanup (Spring 2001)
 - DoD/Regulatory Roles
 - UXO Technologies
 - UXO Working Group
 - Navy UXO Quality Assessment Program
- Introduction to the Navy's Munitions Response Program (Fall 2006)
 - Inside the MRP
 - Explosives Safety Requirements
 - NOSSA and NOSSAINST 8020.15A
 - Potential MRP Project Execution Challenges
 - Help for the RPM
- Munitions Response Program Removal Technologies (Fall 2007)
 - Basic Explosives Safety Concepts
 - Basic Anomaly Detection Concepts
 - Manual Removal Technologies
 - Mechanized Removal Technologies
 - Remotely-Operated Removal Technologies
 - Dredging Operation Removal Technologies
 - Explosive Soil Removal Technologies
 - Final Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC) Disposition
- What's on the Horizon for MRP? (Spring 2008)
 - SERDP and ESTCP
 - Sensors
 - Software Tools
 - Recent Live Site Demonstrations
 - Underwater Technology and Directions

But before we begin, let's put this aspect of the munitions response program in context.

Projects at Navy Munitions Response Sites (MRSs)



Program oversight:



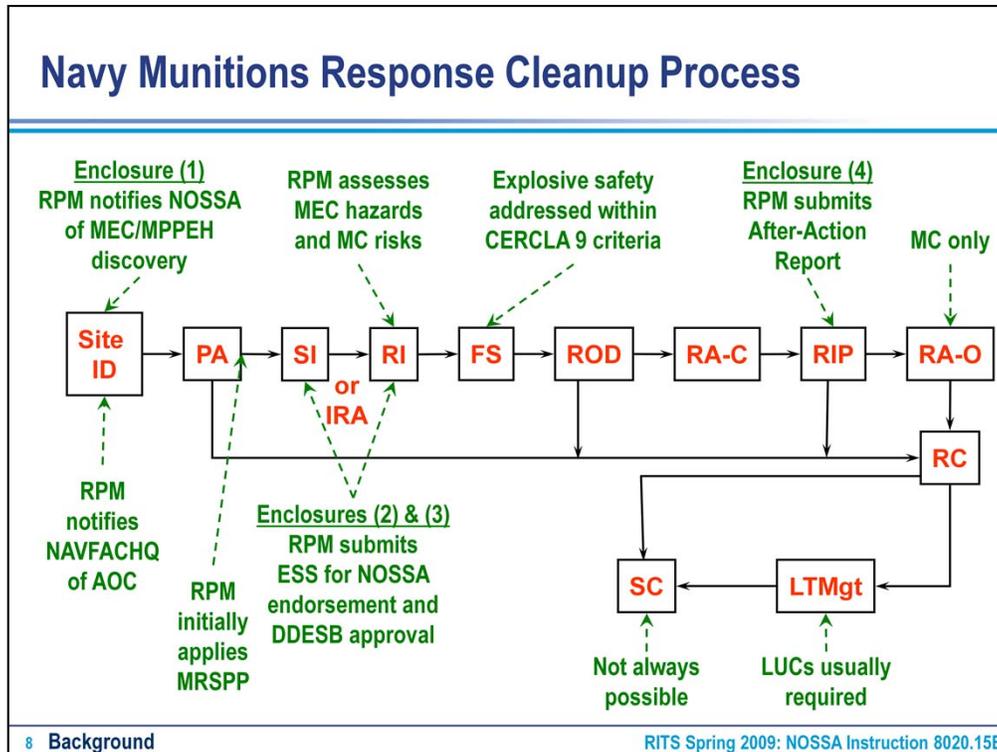
7 Background

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Although the Navy has been cleaning up munitions on closed ranges since 1994, it was done back in those days by a couple of NAVFAC divisions with congressional set-asides or IR monies. In those days there was little centralized programming or oversight.

All that changed in the early years of this decade. By 2004 the MR program had been separated from its IR “parent” and two key publications hit the street, one right after the other. In Oct 03 CNO published “Explosives Safety Review, Oversight, and Verification of Munitions Response” (OPNAVINST 8020.15). In it NAVSEA—through NOSSA—was directed to write the implementing instruction (NOSSAINST 8020.15) which we did in Mar 04.

Recognizing the need to stay ahead of the rapidly growing program, NOSSA republished the implementing instruction in Feb 07 as NOSSAINST 8020.15A. This was then followed in Feb 08 by an updated version of the OPNAVINST. Leaning forward yet again, NOSSA published NOSSAINST 8020.15B in Jan 09.



The regulatory authority under which we conduct a munitions response is CERCLA, adapted somewhat because explosives safety issues take precedence over managing other pollutants or contaminants. I won't walk you through every CERCLA step, or even through the screen notes which identify MR-unique steps or documents.

What I will do, however, is point out that enclosures to NOSSAINST 8020.15B take care of three critical process steps:

- Enclosure (1) is sent by the RPM to notify NOSSA of the discovery of MEC/MPPEH on a site not known or suspected to contain them;
- Enclosure (2) is used by the RPM to request a NOSSA determination that an ESS isn't required or the RPM uses Enclosure (3) to write an ESS which is submitted for NOSSA endorsement to the DDESB for their approval; and
- Enclosure (4) is used by the RPM as a guide for writing an after-action report.

Presentation Overview

- Background
- **Inside the Instruction**
- Summary/Conclusions



UXO technician identifying general purpose bomb at the former Nomans Land Island NTR, Chilmark, MA



Transportable explosives storage magazine at the former Cecil Field, Jacksonville, FL

Now its time to climb inside the instruction.

Scope of NOSSAINST 8020.15B

- Applies to DON munitions responses involving MEC or MPPEH at sites other than operational ranges
- Does not apply to operational ranges, except to pre-existing military munitions burial sites located on them
- Does not specifically address munitions responses involving chemical agents (CA) or military munitions containing CA, although these items are considered MEC and are included within the DON Munitions Response Program
- Marine Corps activities may follow this instruction with the approval of COMMARCORSYSCOM Program Manager for Ammunition (PM Ammo)

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This instruction applies to you if you're working a munitions response project at a site categorized as an "other than operational range". You may know these sites by their former names: closed, transferred, or transferring ranges.

The reason it doesn't apply to "operational ranges" is because these facilities are "maintained" (not cleaned up) and the regulatory framework is RCRA (not CERCLA). There is a big fat exception, however, and that is if you've got an old military munitions burial site on an operational range.

Although both chemical agents and chemical warfare materiel are considered MEC, NOSSAINST 8020.15B doesn't specifically address munitions responses to them because the Army is the DoD lead agency. The instruction provides the RPM direction regarding "who ya' gonna call" and what to do if you encounter either.

NOSSAINST8020.15B was written in coordination with MARCORSYSCOM and specifically allows Marine Corps activities to follow it once they touch bases with MARCORSYSCOM.

Backhoe Encounters of the Scary Kind

- **MRS Identification and Notification Report – Enclosure (1)**
 - Sent by RPM to NOSSA within 1 week after first encounter with MEC or MPPEH at a site where presence is neither known nor suspected
 - Report must be either enclosed in a letter, faxed, or attached to a digitally-signed e-mail
- **Within 2 weeks NOSSA will direct RPM to either:**
 - Resume operations or
 - Submit an ESS

NOSSAINST 8020.15B

MUNITIONS RESPONSE SITE IDENTIFICATION AND NOTIFICATION REPORT

Instructions: Project managers shall complete all blocks in this report and enclose it in a letter or memo, fax it, or attach it to a digitally signed e-mail, and send to either:

NOSSA (NS3) 4238 Stone's Bay, Ste 121 Indian Head, MD 20640-5058 Fax: 301-744-6749 (DSN 354) E-mail: richmond-ess@navy.mil	COMNAVSTACOM (PM ANMO) 2200 Senter Street Quantico, VA 22134-5010 Fax: 703-432-3166 (DSN 378) E-mail: ess@navstac.navy.mil
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Site name/number, activity, city, State and ZIP Code:

Date submitted:

Project manager, contact information:

EOD unit, contractor, contract information:

Site history: Briefly describe when site was first reported to MRS or MPPEH:

Work task/project name, personnel and equipment involved, activity, location, and conditions:

Summary of actions taken to date and planned actions:

Note: NOSSA (NS3) concurrence that an ESS is not required must be obtained prior to resuming operations.

Enclosure (1)

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Each RPM has their particular nightmare scenario: the uncooperative project team member; the contractor that appeared qualified on paper to do the job, but now is proving to be incompetent; and the excavator bucket that goes “clunk” and then brings up a UXO capable of blowing to smithereens everyone within 150 ft.

If the MEC item doesn't detonate (and you're still in the land of the living) you'll want to stop the operation, evacuate all personnel, and request that your nearest EOD unit respond. Once those essentials are out of the way you've got a week to fill out and submit Enclosure (1) “Munitions Response Site Identification and Notification Report”. Within 2 weeks of receiving the completed Enclosure (1), NOSSA will provide you written directions to either resume operations or prepare an ESS for NOSSA review and endorsement and DDESB review and approval.

This form (as a Word document), as well as the instruction (as a PDF document) are available at the NOSSA secure website.

When an ESS is Required

- Placement of explosives on a site
- Intentional physical contact with MEC or MPPEH, including the decontamination and demolition of buildings and installed equipment potentially contaminated with residual MEC
- Conduct of ground-disturbing or other intrusive activities, including dredging, in areas known or suspected to contain MEC or MPPEH

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All right. Let's say you've made all the notifications and NOSSA tells you that an ESS is required. You must prepare, submit, and get approval of it before:

- You bring any donor explosives on site;
- Make any intentional physical contact with either MEC or MPPEH; or
- Stick a shovel (or anything else) into the ground in an area known or suspected to contain MEC or MPPEH.

When an ESS *is not* Required

- Explosives or munitions emergency responses
- Maintenance and clearance activities on operational ranges
- Construction or non-munitions response activities, including dredging, in an area not known or suspected to contain MEC or MPPEH
- Demolition of magazines where there is no evidence of residual MEC contamination or historical record of explosives spills
- Operation, maintenance, or cleanup of ammunition and explosives operating buildings in an active, standby, or layaway status

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Having said that, an ESS isn't always required. You don't need to submit one for:

- An EOD emergency response;
- Work on an operational range (except if you're digging up a military munitions burial site);
- Construction activities (including dredging) in an area where MEC or MPPEH are not known or suspected to be present;
- Demolishing magazines that never stored raw explosives; and
- Operating, maintaining, or cleaning up operating buildings in an active, standby, or layaway status.

When an ESS *may not be* Required

- Operations taking place in areas known or suspected to contain MEC or MPPEH when the preponderance of evidence indicates the likelihood of encountering the MEC or MPPEH is *low*:
 - On-call construction support and, when included as a conservative measure, on-site construction support
 - Ground disturbing activities on former ranges used exclusively for testing or training with small arms ammunition
 - Anomaly avoidance employed during vegetation removal, cultural/natural resources survey, PA site reconnaissance or SI, and sign or fence installation, etc.
 - Demolition of magazines where there is evidence or an historical record of a spill or other residual MEC, but where the spill or contamination was removed
 - Demolition of operating buildings where operations exclusively involved all-up rounds (no exposed explosives) and did not generate explosive residues

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Now for the gray area between those two extremes. NOSSA will approve your conducting operations in areas known or suspected to contain MEC or MPPEH so long as the likelihood of encountering the little nasties is “low”. With NOSSA approval you may:

- Contract for on-call construction support to have a UXO technician on standby and (if it makes you feel more comfortable) even bring that technician on site;
- Collect soil samples, drill monitoring wells, install fences, etc. in and around a small arms range providing it's only been used for firing small arms ammunition;
- Collect the same samples, drill the same wells, and install the same fences, etc. in areas known or suspected to contain MEC or MPPEH so long as you contract with a UXO technician who will support these activities using anomaly avoidance techniques;
- Demolish magazines where there was a raw explosives spill which was cleaned up; and
- Demolish operating buildings that only produced all-up, or completely enclosed, rounds.

How to Get a “Hall Pass”

- Request for an ESS Determination
 - Enclosure (2)
 - Sent by RPM to NOSSA to request NOSSA determine that an ESS is or is not required for a project
 - Must be either enclosed in a letter, faxed, or attached to a digitally signed e-mail
- Within 2 weeks NOSSA will direct RPM to either:
 - Proceed with operations or
 - Submit an ESS

NOSSAINST 8020.15B

**REQUEST FOR AN
EXPLOSIVES SAFETY SUBMISSION DETERMINATION**

Instructions: Project managers shall complete all blocks in this request and enclose it in a letter or memo, fax it, or attach it to a digitally signed e-mail, and send to either:

NOSSA (NS3) 4234 Steve's Way, Ste 121 Indian Head, MD 20640-5058 Fax: 301-744-6749 (DSN 354) E-mail: info@nossa-usenavy.mil	COMNAVSYSRON (FM ANSO) 2200 Lester Street Quantico, VA 22134-5010 Fax: 703-432-3160 (DSN 378) E-mail: explosivesafety@navy.mil
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Site name/number, Activity, City, State and ZIP code: Date submitted:

Project manager: EOD/VVO contractor:
 Contact information: Contact information:

Site history:
 Briefly describe past MEC or MPFH use at the site

MEC or MPFH known or suspected to be present. Quantity, type/nomenclature, and condition.

Work task/project being proposed:
 Briefly describe proposed work:
 Identify encumbering ESQ area

Likelihood of encumbering MEC or MPFH: Low, medium or high

Enclosure (2)

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If you have one of the projects just described, you can request that NOSSA make a determination whether or not an ESS is required by completing and submitting to us Enclosure (2), “Request for an Explosives Safety Submission Determination” or ESS DR.

As with Enclosure (1), within 2 weeks of receiving the completed Enclosure (2), NOSSA will provide you written directions to either resume operations or prepare an ESS.

And like Enclosure (1), this form is available as a Word document from the NOSSA secure website.

Writing an ESS in 12 Easy Steps

• Guide for Preparing an ESS – Enclosure (3)

NOSSAINST 8020.15B

GUIDE FOR PREPARING AN EXPLOSIVES SAFETY SUBMISSION

Instructions for use:
This enclosure is a guide to assist the project manager in writing an ESS. The following steps describe how this is done:

1. Select from among the reference (d) munitions response operational categories the category which best characterizes the proposed munitions response project. If the project involves more than one category, select all that are applicable. The five categories are listed in the table, below.
2. Identify the sections which shall be addressed in the ESS. Those have an X at the intersection of the ESS section row and the ESS category column.
3. Address each section. The text following the table identifies the minimum information required. If a section is not identified with an X, indicate "N/A" meaning the section is not applicable. Use the numbering scheme provided. Do not separate between sections.

ESS section	ESS category				
	Site characterization or characterization	RIA/7/PA	Time-critical removal action	Support construction	Removal or disposition of munitions
1. Background					
1.1. Project name	X	X	X	X	X
1.2. MRE identifier and description	X	X	X	X	X
1.3. Munition name	X	X	X	X	X
1.4. Scope of munitions response	X	X	X	X	X
1.5. History of MRE use	X	X	X	X	X
1.6. Previous studies of extent of MRE or MFRF contamination	X	X	X	X	X
1.7. Justification for RIA/7/PA decision	X	X	X	X	X
2. Project data					
2.1. Project dates	X	X	X	X	X
3. Scope of MRE and MFRF					
3.1. Type and quantity of MRE and MFRF	X	X	X	X	X
3.2. MRE	X	X	X	X	X
3.3. Maximum credible event	X	X	X	X	X
3.4. Explosive soil and contaminated buildings	X	X	X	X	X
4. MRE and MFRF migration					
4.1. MRE and MFRF migration	X	X	X	X	X

Enclosure (3)

NOSSAINST 8020.15B

ESS section	ESS category				
	Site characterization or characterization	RIA/7/PA	Time-critical removal action	Support construction	Removal or disposition of munitions
5. Detection techniques					
5.1. Detection equipment, method, and standards	X	X	X	X	X
5.2. Navigational equipment, method, and standards	X	X	X	X	X
5.3. Equipment removal	X	X	X	X	X
5.4. Data collection and storage	X	X	X	X	X
6. Response actions					
6.1. Response technique	X	X	X	X	X
6.2. Response cost	X	X	X	X	X
6.3. MRE and MFRF hazard classification, cleanup, and transportation	X	X	X	X	X
6.4. MRE and MFRF disposition processes	X	X	X	X	X
6.5. Explosive soil	X	X	X	X	X
6.6. Contaminated buildings	X	X	X	X	X
6.7. Contingencies	X	X	X	X	X
7. O&M					
7.1. O&M implementation	X	X	X	X	X
7.2. O&M implementation	X	X	X	X	X
8. Technical support					
8.1. EEO	X	X	X	X	X
8.2. EEO contractor	X	X	X	X	X
8.3. Physical security	X	X	X	X	X
9. Environmental, ecological, cultural and/or other considerations					
9.1. Regulatory statute, phase, and oversight	X	X	X	X	X
9.2. Environmental, ecological, cultural and/or other considerations	X	X	X	X	X
9.3. Nonregulatory soil	X	X	X	X	X
10. Medical risk management					
10.1. Area assessment	X	X	X	X	X
10.2. Contaminant management	X	X	X	X	X
11. Safety education program					
11.1. Safety education program	X	X	X	X	X
12. Stakeholder involvement					
12.1. Stakeholder involvement	X	X	X	X	X
Appendices					
A. Signature page	X	X	X	X	X
B. Disposition/soil Data Review Form(s)	X	X	X	X	X
C. EDO maps	X	X	X	X	X

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The heart and soul of the instruction is Enclosure 3 which is the guide for preparing an ESS.

Since this new format has only been out for a couple of months we have several ESS's in draft, but none are in final form. Once we get one to that point we'll make it available on the MR portal.

And on the subject of making it available, until approved by the DDESB an ESS is a "working document" and should not be released outside of the DON. It states that in the instruction.

Bye-bye Site Approval Request

- **Table A-1 (signature page) replaces NAVFAC Forms 11010.45, Part I and Part II**

- Requires signatures of cognizant safety officer, planning department, and RPM
- First two signatures affirm the ESS meets all applicable explosives safety and planning criteria, respectively
- RPM affirms the ESS represents the facts as known to them

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Table A-1. Signature page

NAVFAC Project		BRAC PMO Project	
Project name:		Project name:	
Explosive Safety Officer or UMD Contractor Safety Officer:		Explosive Safety Officer or UMD Contractor Safety Officer:	
Signature		Signature	
Printed name	Date	Printed name	Date
Public Works Office Planning Department		Program Management Office Planning Department	
Signature		Signature	
Printed name	Date	Printed name	Date
Remedial Project Manager		Remedial Project Manager	
Signature		Signature	
Printed name	Date	Printed name	Date

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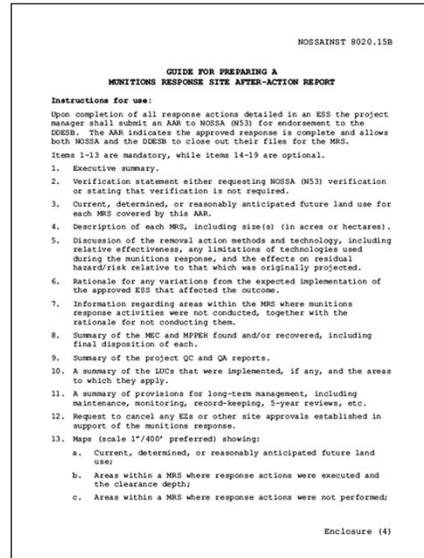
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As I pointed out to you while we walked through Enclosure (3), the ESS has three appendices. The first appendix is the signature page and it replaces the dreaded Site Approval Request embodied in NAVFAC Forms 1101.45, Parts I and II. The reason we replaced the Site Approval Request with a signature page for an ESS is because the Site Approval Request is intended to be used to request siting of permanent structures and/or permanent operations and not at all suited for a munitions response project where the structures and operations are temporary.

MRS Site Close-out

- **Guide for Preparing a MRS After-Action Report – Enclosure (4)**
 - Sent by RPM to NOSSA within 6 months of completing munitions response actions authorized by ESS
 - AAR permits NOSSA and the DDESB to:
 - Disestablish any project-specific Explosives Safety Quantity-Distance arcs
 - Close out MRS project files



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The next part of NOSSAINST 8020.15B that you need to be concerned with is Enclosure (4), a guide for preparing an MRS after-action report. RPMs must complete this and send it to NOSSA within six months of completing the munitions response actions that were authorized by an ESS. For example, if the ESS was only for the RI (but not for the RA), you're still required to submit an after-action report even though you've not achieved RIP/RC.

The purpose of the after-action report is to allow NOSSA and the DDESB to disestablish any project-specific ESQD arcs that were set up for the project, as well as to allow NOSSA and DDESB to close out the files associated with the ESS for that MRS.

What does that term mean?

- **Definitions and Abbreviations – Enclosure (5)**
 - Includes terms, acronyms, and cross references, where applicable, e.g.,

MGFD – Munition with the Greatest Fragmentation Distance. See Munition with the Greatest Fragmentation Distance.

Munition with the Greatest Fragmentation Distance – The munition with the greatest fragment distance that is reasonably expected (based on research or characterization) to be encountered in any particular area. (Reference (d)).

NOSSAINST 8020.15B

DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

The following definitions and abbreviations appear in this instruction. Definitions that do not include a reference are unique to this instruction.

AAR – After-Action Report. See After-Action report (AAR).

After-Action report (AAR) – A document required by reference (d), that shall be submitted to NOSSA (NSI) within six months of the completion of a munitions response. The AAR documents that the explosive safety aspects of the response have been completed as outlined in the approved IES and addresses the MEC and MPPEH found, effectiveness of the response techniques, any LOCs, long-term management provisions for the residual risk, and other pertinent information.

Anomaly avoidance – Techniques employed by SOO or TOO-qualified personnel at sites known or suspected to contain MEC or MPPEH in order to avoid contact with potential surface or subsurface explosive hazards. Anomaly avoidance often will be practiced in support of sampling well installation, surveying, site reconnaissance, etc. Intrusive anomaly investigation is not authorized during anomaly avoidance operations. Anomaly avoidance is sometimes referred to as TOO avoidance. (Reference (d)).

Authorized visitor – Personnel conducting project or mission-related functions that require them to be present in the EI for a specific purpose and for a limited time. (Reference (d)).

BAC – Base Reassignment and Closure.

C/D – Class/Division.

CA – Chemical Agent.

CEMRA – Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act.

CO – Commanding Officer.

Collection points – Collection points are areas inside an MRS where recovered MEC or MPPEH items that are determined to be safe to move are temporarily held in the open, pending movement to another area for storage or destruction. Collection points do not require siting unless the inhabited building distance (IBD) (IAD) for the total MW of the MEC or MPPEH items anticipated to be collected is the distance greater than the IBD of the single MGF. The IBD exclusion zone and arms, ammunition and explosive security controls for the collection point must be maintained if the recovered MEC or MPPEH items are to remain at the collection point when there are no intrusive munitions response operations taking place. Multiple collection points must be separated by at least IBD based on the total MW of the MEC or MPPEH items in each collection point. (Reference (d)).

Enclosure (5)

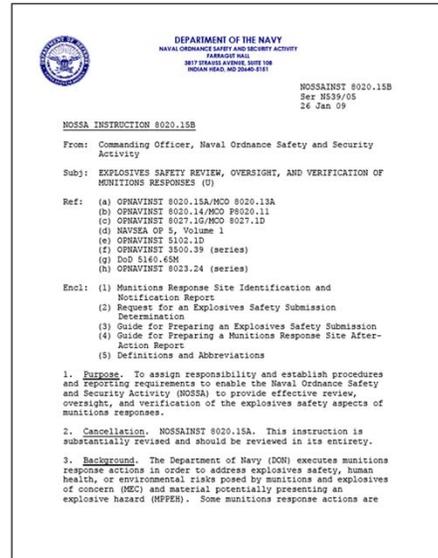
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The last enclosure contains the definitions and abbreviations of environmental and explosives safety terms used in the instruction. Because some users may only know a term by its acronym—while others may only know it by its full title—this enclosure allows the user to look it up both ways. For example, if you look up “MGFD” you’ll find it on p. 6...spelled out, but not defined. Now that you know what “MGFD” stands for you can flip a couple more pages and find the definition under “munition with the greatest fragmentation distance”.

Be the First on Your Block to Get One

- Hard copies available here today



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Those of you excited with the prospect of having your very own copy of NOSSAINST 8020.15B can pick it up from me after my presentation. If you'd like it electronically you can download it from the NOSSA secure website.

Things to Come

- Later this year NOSSA will roll out WebESS
 - Intranet-based application on which all future ESSs will be prepared and submitted to NOSSA
 - Same look and feel as NOSSAINST 8020.15B
 - Cognizant safety officer, planning department, and RPM will “sign” electronically

The screenshot displays the WebESS application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with buttons for 'Home', 'Submit Draft for Review', 'Submit for Approval', and 'Report'. The main content area is titled 'ESS Project Checklist' and shows the project title 'Active Facility Explosive Safety Submission #2 # 10'. Below the title is a list of checklist items, each with a plus sign icon and a status indicator (a plus sign in a blue circle or a plus sign in a red circle with an 'X'). The items are: 'ESS Overview', 'Background', 'Project Dates', 'Types of MEC and MPPEH', 'MEC and MPPEH Migration', 'Detection Techniques' (expanded to show '5.1. Detection equipment, methods, and standards' and '5.3. Equipment check-out'), 'Response Actions', 'Technical Support', 'Environmental, Ecological, Cultural and/or other Considerations', 'Residual Risk Management', 'Safety Education Program', and 'Appendices'.

Later this year we'll be launching a web-based tool that'll assist you in writing an ESS. It's structured exactly like Enclosure (3) of NOSSAINST 8020.15B, so it'll have the same look and feel. Because this “virtual” ESS will be electronically routed through both the cognizant explosives safety officer and planning department, their electronic signatures will satisfy the requirements of Appendix A, the signature page.

Presentation Overview

- Background
- Inside the Instruction
- Summary/Conclusions



UXO technicians inventorying explosives at the former NAS Adak, Adak Island, AK



UXO QC Specialist performing QC check at former NAS Alameda, Alameda, CA

Well, that about wraps 'er up. Let's now summarize.

Summary

- **RPMs need to be familiar with NOSSINST 8020.15B, and not just rely on their UXO contractor to interpret and use it**
- **RPMs:**
 - **Must report an MEC find to NOSSA and await NOSSA's decision regarding continuance of operations or preparation of an ESS (Enclosure 1)**
 - **May request that NOSSA make a determination regarding the need for an ESS (Enclosure 2)**
 - **Must ensure any ESS they or their contractor writes strictly follows the ESS writing guide (Enclosure 3)**
 - **Must prepare an AAR that includes all the items in the AAR writing guide (Enclosure 4)**

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I wrote NOSSAINST 8020.15B with you in mind. Once you've attended the CECOS Munitions Response Site Management class you'll be so comfortable with it that you won't have to rely on your contractor to interpret and use it.

- You'll use Enclosure (1) to report that you've recovered a munitions item in an area not known or suspected to contain MEC or MPPEH; NOSSA will tell you how to safely proceed.
- Enclosure (2) is completed by you to request NOSSA permission to do work in an area known and/or suspected to contain MEC and/or MPPEH; NOSSA will tell you how to safely proceed.
- Enclosure (3) is your guide for writing an ESS.
- And Enclosure (4) tells you what must be included in an after-action report.

Conclusions

- **NOSSAINST 8020.15B is the Navy RPM's premier munitions response project guide; other useful Department of Navy documents include:**
 - Department of Navy Environmental Restoration Program (NERP) Manual, Chapter 12, Munitions Response Program
 - NAVFAC Business Management System (BMS), B-9.1.2, Munitions Response Program
 - NAVSEA OP 5, Volume 1, Chapter 14, Response Actions Involving MEC
- **Meeting NOSSAINST 8020.15B requirements and working with NOSSA (Codes N53 and N54) will ensure your munitions response project operates safely and efficiently**

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Besides NOSSINST 8020.15B, other documents you'll find useful in planning for and executing a munitions response include:

- Chapter 12 of the NERP – the 30,000-ft view of the munitions response program
- The B-9 series of the NAVFAC BMS – containing programmatic detail regarding how to execute a munitions response project
- Chapter 14 to OP 5 – containing technical detail regarding explosives safety requirements

Meeting the requirements of the NOSSA instruction and working closely with NOSSA (Codes N53 and N54) will go a long way toward ensuring your munitions response project is executed safely and efficiently.