

Warning: Explosives Hazard

SAFETY BULLETIN

Bloodsworth Island Range



For more information, please contact:

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**Unexploded Ordnance:
A Threat to Your Safety**

Military munitions that were used but did not explode are called unexploded ordnance. Unexploded ordnance are dangerous and can cause serious injury or even death.

Due to the presence of unexploded ordnance on BIR, access is not permitted.

For your own safety, there is no trespassing on land or in adjacent waters within 75 yards of BIR without the express consent of the Navy.



Unexploded ordnance come in a variety of shapes and sizes. They are dangerous and may not be easily recognizable. Never touch, move, or disturb a munition or suspect munition.

U.S. GOVERNMENT PROPERTY
NO TRESPASSING

DANGER



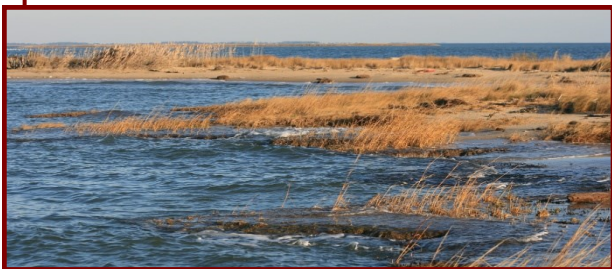
UNEXPLODED
ORDNANCE
301-342-1095

Bloodsworth Island Range

History

Bloodsworth Island Range (BIR) has been a Navy range for more than 70 years. Located in the Chesapeake Bay off the shores of Dorchester County, MD, the range consists of five islands: Bloodsworth, Pone, Adam, Northeast, and the submerged Great Cove Island.

From 1942 to 1995, the Navy used the range as a shore bombardment and bombing range for firing and dropping live ordnance from ships and aircraft. This included bombs, small and large caliber ammunition, rockets, and missiles that contained explosives, propellants, and other energetics.



An Active Range

Although the Navy continues to voluntarily cease impact operations at BIR, including the dropping of live and inert ordnance, it is still an active military range owned and managed by Naval Air Station (NAS) Patuxent River. Unexploded ordnance can be found on the range and in near shore waters.

Prohibited Areas

(33 CFR 334.190)

Federal law prohibits trespassing in areas shown on the map below.

- all land
- waters within 75 yards of land
- waters within a circle 0.5 mile in radius on the west side of Bloodsworth and Pone Islands

Entering these areas is unsafe due to the presence of unexploded ordnance and anyone found within the prohibited areas can be prosecuted under 18 USC Section 1382.

Fishing & Hunting

In addition to the prohibited areas, the surrounding waters are part of a restricted military area called a Surface Danger Zone (SDZ). Fishing, crabbing, and boating are allowed in the waters of the SDZ but users must vacate during military operations. Due to submerged obstructions, use extreme caution when navigating the waters around BIR.

Waterfowl hunting is only authorized by Maryland Department of Natural Resource (MDNR) permit at designated sites in the waters around the islands. At no time may hunters set foot on BIR land. A complete description of the permit application is available from MDNR.

LIVE, unexploded ordnance are found on Bloodsworth Island Range.

For your own safety, **DO NOT ENTER.**

