

Introduction

The purpose of this guide is to provide information about the military activities that took place at the former Fort Standish and to raise awareness of the explosive hazards that may exist at ranges associated with the property.

The former Fort Standish was used by the U.S. Army from 1897 to 1949, as part of the Harbor Defenses of Boston. Several gun batteries, a rifle range, and an ammunition storage facility were constructed at the fort. An area of the former Fort Standish, known as Rifle and Battery Ranges Area - Water, 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 ranges include medium to large caliber munitions, cannonballs and small arms ammunition.

The Rifle and Battery Ranges Area - Water is located in the waters of Boston Harbor and Massachusetts Bay, in Essex, Norfolk, Plymouth and Suffolk counties, Massachusetts. The water and land areas within these former Fort Standish ranges are publicly managed and privately owned and used for recreation.

Because explosive hazards associated with military munitions from past military activities may remain in the waters and land areas of Boston Harbor and Massachusetts Bay, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recommends that the water body manager, landowners and visitors follow the **3Rs of Explosives Safety – Recognize, Retreat and Report.**



Example of large caliber munitions

Former Fort Standish

For More Information



US Army Corps of Engineers

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 Fort Standish, 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.

Follow the 3Rs of Explosives Safety

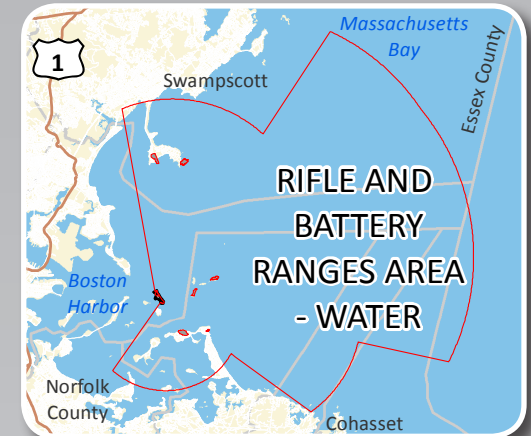


Visit the U.S. Army's Explosives Safety Education website:
3Rs.mil

3Rs Safety Guide

Former Fort Standish

**Massachusetts
Essex, Norfolk, Plymouth
and Suffolk Counties**



Rifle and Battery Ranges Area - Water

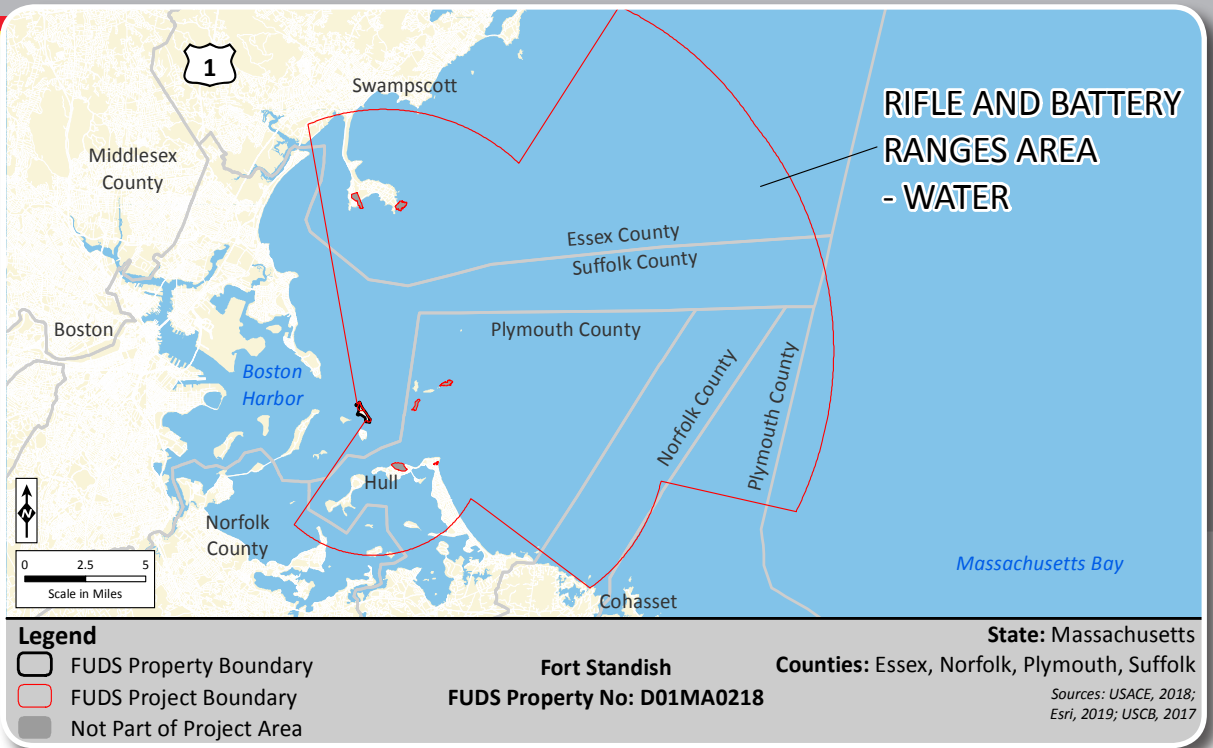


US Army Corps of Engineers



Aerial view of the former Fort Standish, Lovells Island, 1944

Source: Ft. Standish, Lovells Isl. [Photograph]. (1944). Retrieved from <https://ark.digitalcommonswealth.org/ark:/60959/cn69mr847>



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What types of potential hazards exist?

A: Military munitions, such as medium to large caliber munitions, cannonballs and small arms ammunition, were potentially used at the former Fort Standish. 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: **R**ecognize – when you may have encountered a munition and that munitions are dangerous; **R**etreat – do not approach, touch, move or disturb it, but carefully leave the area; and **R**eport – 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: Historical research and site inspections indicate that military munitions were potentially used at these ranges, and some munitions may remain in the waters and land areas of Boston Harbor and

Massachusetts Bay. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has determined that further investigation is required for the Rifle and Battery Area Ranges - Water at the former Fort Standish.

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 the water body manager, landowners and the community. Additionally, it will coordinate with the water body manager and landowners as it plans required response activities.

Q: Where can I get more information?

A: For more information, call the Formerly Used Defense Sites Information Center toll-free number 1-855-765-FUDS (3837). Additional information can be found by searching on the property name, Fort Standish, in the Geographic Information System tool on the Formerly Used Defense Sites website at www.fuds.mil.

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.

Report

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