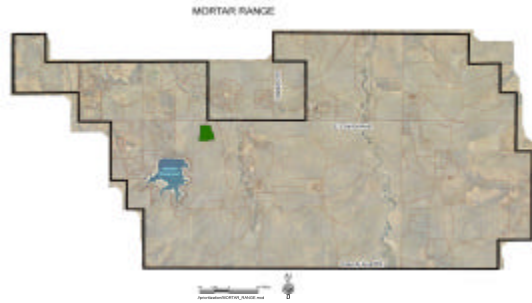


Mortar Range Prioritization Scorecard

Description: Historical accounts of the Mortar Range indicate that it was used as a bombing target during World War II.

Location: The Mortar Range is located on Colorado State Land Board (SLB) property along the unnamed drainage between Senac Creek and Coal Creek (in Section 10, T5SR65W). The Mortar Range is immediately south of East Quincy Avenue. It is roughly bound by the Air-to-Ground Gunnery Range to the south and Bombing Target 2 to the west.



Estimated Extent of Area: The Mortar Range is approximately 143 acres in size.

Clearance Resource Estimate: 2 workweeks

Clearance Considerations: The Mortar Range is easily accessible year round. There are exclusion zones and demolition constraints due to its proximity to East Quincy Avenue.

Mortar Range Prioritization Scoring

Criteria	Infrastructure	Overall Hazard	Type of Hazard	Land Use	Environmental Impacts	Cost	Access	Economic Impacts	Legal Restrictions	Total Score
Weighting	0.179	0.152	0.145	0.138	0.131	0.083	0.069	0.055	0.048	
Score	50	50	50	75	50	25	75	25	50	51.7
Priority Factor	8.950	7.600	7.250	10.350	6.550	2.075	5.175	1.375	2.400	

Mortar Range Prioritization Criteria

Infrastructure: [50] Water pipelines and electrical utilities have been constructed across the Mortar Range. There are also several utility corridors running along section lines in the area. Several surface water storage reservoirs are planned south of the drainages in the Mortar Range area. The ridgeline along the range is a potential transportation corridor for future development in the area.

Overall Hazard: [50] Live ordnance hazards have been confirmed on the surface and subsurface of the Mortar Range. Ordnance hazards include mortars, incendiary bombs, fuzes and practice bombs. The overall hazard for the Mortar Range is considered moderate, based on the types of hazards confirmed at the site. The area is currently used for cattle grazing. Likely people to be exposed to ordnance hazards include the cattle rancher, surface recreational users (Arapahoe Hunt Club and hunters) and workers from adjacent utility projects. A State youth detention campus is located 2 miles northwest of the Mortar Range along Coal Creek. The Cherry Creek School District is constructing high school and middle school campuses approximately 5 miles to the southwest. The schools are scheduled to open in 2003-2004. Arapahoe County is planning county fair grounds and a regional high school sports complex 3 miles west of the Mortar Range.

Type of Hazard: [50] Ordnance hazards identified at the Mortar Range include 60mm mortars, 10-pound incendiary bombs, mortar fuzes and practice bombs. Mortars found at the range include 60mm high explosive (HE) and 60mm illumination rounds with white phosphorus (WP). Mortars with HE and WP charges are hazardous and capable of significant harm if mishandled or abused. The 60mm mortars are relatively small and easily picked up. The 10-pound incendiary bomb has a WP burster and can also have a HE charge. Fuzes can be very sensitive/volatile; uncontrolled exposure is very hazardous. Practice bombs may contain live spotting charges. Spotting charges require mishandling or abuse to ignite and would result in a lower-level, localized hazard. Due to the relative low density of hazards found across the site and the nature of the items found to date, the type of hazard for this site is scored as moderate.

Land Use: [75] Current land use at the Mortar Range is primarily cattle grazing. Sand and gravel mining operations are ongoing in the Coal Creek drainage to the east of the Mortar Range area. The Colorado National Guard conducts some low altitude flight training on the SLB property and has a landing zone immediately east of the Mortar Range. The Mortar Range is owned by the SLB. The SLB released Development and Conservation Requests for Proposals (RFPs) in 2005 and proposals were due April 2006. Subsequent contracts that are awarded under these RFPs may affect land use and development at the Mortar Range area. Concurrently, due to the proximity to East Quincy Avenue, this area may also be expected to become a prime high-density development and infrastructure area.

Environmental Impacts: [50] The site is currently short-grass prairie used for cattle grazing. There is a historic/cultural/archeological site within the Mortar Range area. There is also a prairie dog habitat to the northwest of the Mortar Range area that is not expected to be impacted by the cleanup. Several areas of prairie grass will be disturbed during clearance, but these areas represent a small fraction of surrounding rangeland and should not impact local wildlife.

Cost: [25] The estimated cost to complete the clearance of the Mortar Range is approximately \$1.2 million. The percent complete is 0%.

Access: [75] The range is immediately south of East Quincy Avenue in the unnamed drainage between Senac Creek and Coal Creek. It can be accessed via a dirt road off of East Quincy Avenue that runs along the western perimeter of the Mortar Range. Access to the area is controlled by barbwire cattle fence, no-trespassing signs, and locked gates. Significant land uses adjacent to the Mortar Range area include recreation at the Aurora Reservoir 2 miles to the southwest, and mining along Coal Creek. There is no visible evidence identifying the Mortar Range area.

Economic Impacts: [25] This site is publicly owned by the people of the state of Colorado. The SLB and people of Colorado could incur economic impacts resulting from delays in the development of this site.

Legal Restrictions: [50] The Mortar Range property is owned by the SLB and, as addressed above, is included in the SLB Conservation Trust program. As a government agency, the SLB has a greater ability to implement legally enforceable restrictions or institutional controls on its property.