

Introduction

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

The former Port Heiden, also known as Fort Morrow, was used by the U.S. military during multiple time periods for various purposes. Fort Morrow was used from 1942 to 1945 by the U.S. Army as a refueling base and communications branch for the Alaska Defense Command's Air Defense System. An area associated with the former Port Heiden, known as Gun Emplacements and Range Fans, was used for base defense during World War II and 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 area include medium caliber munitions, mortars and small arms ammunitions.

The Gun Emplacements and Range Fans area is located in the city of Port Heiden and extends into surrounding lands and the waters of Bristol Bay and Port Heiden, in Lake and Peninsula Borough, Alaska. The land is publicly and privately owned, and is used for commercial, residential and recreational purposes.

Because explosive hazards associated with military munitions from past military activities may remain at the Gun Emplacements and Range Fans area, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recommends that landowners and visitors follow the **3Rs of Explosives Safety – Recognize, Retreat and Report.**



Example of medium caliber munitions

Former Port Heiden

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 Port Heiden, 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:
<https://3Rs.mil>

3Rs Safety Guide

Former Port Heiden

**Alaska
Lake and Peninsula Borough**



Gun Emplacements and Range Fans



U.S. ARMY



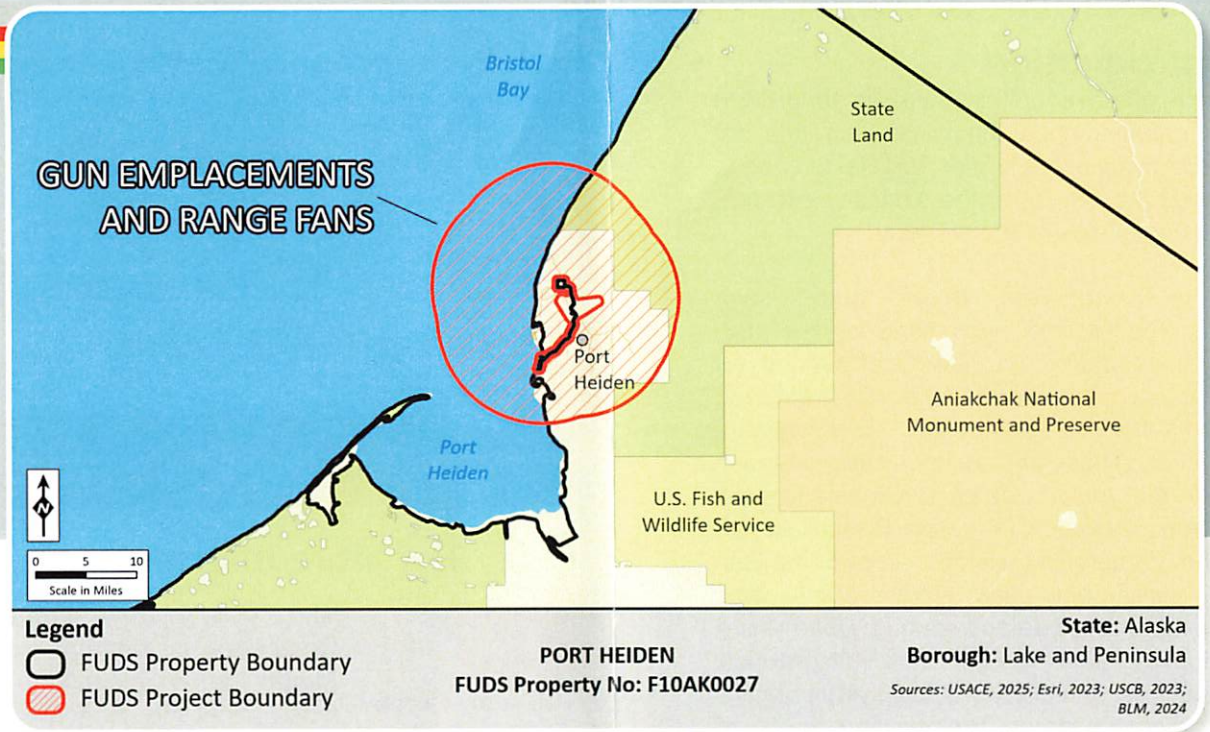
US Army Corps of Engineers®





Source: U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, Alaska

Anti-aircraft gun emplacement at the former Fort Morrow / Port Heiden



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What types of potential hazards exist?

A: Military munitions, such as medium caliber munitions, mortars and small arms ammunition, are known or suspected to have been used at the Gun Emplacements and Range Fans area. 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: Based on historical research and site inspections, military munitions are known or suspected to have

been used at this area, and some munitions may remain on the property. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has determined that further investigation is required for the Gun Emplacements and Range Fans area at the former Port Heiden.

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.

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) or select the GIS Tool on the Interim Risk Management page at www.fuds.mil. Learn more about munitions and explosives safety at <https://3Rs.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.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ALASKA DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 6898
JBER, AK 99506-0898

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February 20, 2026

SUBJECT: Regarding parcels associated with DOCUMENT NO. 1988-000143-0 and DOCUMENT NO. 2010-000257-0 located in LAKE AND PENINSULA Borough, AK

Dear BRISTOL BAY HOUSING AUTHORITY:

This letter advises you that the property listed above is located on property that has been identified as being eligible under the Department of Defense's Formerly Used Defense Sites Environmental Restoration Program. The Formerly Used Defense Sites property name and project property identification number are PORT HEIDEN FUDS PROPERTY, GUN EMPLACEMENTS AND RANGE FANS, and F10AK002706.

Congress established Department of Defense's Formerly Used Defense Sites Program as part of the Defense Environmental Restoration Program to address properties formerly owned by, leased to, or otherwise possessed by the Department of Defense that may contain environmental contamination or military munitions resulting from past Department of Defense-related activities. Department of Defense has assigned the Army responsibility for the Formerly Used Defense Sites Program, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers executes this program on behalf of Army and Department of Defense. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for identifying, investigating and, when necessary, conducting an appropriate response to address such contamination or military munitions at approximately 5,400 Formerly Used Defense Sites across the country.

Available information indicates military munitions may be present on or near your property as a result of past munitions-related activities that Department of Defense conducted on this Formerly Used Defense Sites property. More specific information is enclosed. Should military munitions remain on this Formerly Used Defense Sites property, they are most likely below the ground surface; however, there is a possibility that some may have become partially or fully exposed. If present, these military munitions may pose an explosive hazard to you, your family, other property users, or the public. The Army recommends you share the enclosed information with those who use your property, including those who lease or rent your property.

To protect yourself, your family, and other property users, please review the enclosed explosive safety education materials, be aware of the potential hazards present, and follow the 3Rs of explosive 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. Local law enforcement will arrange for Department of Defense Explosive Ordnance Disposal or police bomb squad personnel to remove and destroy it. Learn more about munitions and explosives safety at <https://3Rs.mil>.

The Army is committed to investigating and, when determined necessary, conducting an appropriate environmental response at Formerly Used Defense Sites properties. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will coordinate its investigation with the appropriate regulators and determine whether an environmental response may be required at this Formerly Used Defense Sites property. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will seek your approval prior to conducting response activities, including an investigation, if determined necessary on your property. However, because of the large number of Formerly Used Defense Sites it may be some time before U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is able to investigate this Formerly Used Defense Sites property further to determine whether military munitions are present and a response is required.

If you have any questions about the Formerly Used Defense Sites Program or explosives safety, please contact our toll free information center, 1-855-765-FUDS (3837). Additional information on the Formerly Used Defense Sites Program can be found at www.fuds.mil.

Sincerely,

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Joshua Barsis
Alaska District
FUDS Program Manager

Enclosure