



## *Nevada Site Office News*

### **Characterization and Remediation of Unexploded Ordnance on the Tonopah Test Range**

**(Video Run Time: 1 min. 17 sec.)**

An unexploded ordnance (UXO) crew of eight performs a visual sweep for UXO from historic activities in the Flightline Target Area on the Tonopah Test Range (U.S. Air Force land) in February 2010. This area is undergoing remediation as part of the U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office's Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 408 activities. The UXO crew is conducting the sweep in a 100 meter by 100 meter grid and places any bomblets discovered in a trench excavated for the detonation of the UXO. The bomblets and trench were surveyed to confirm no radiation was present. A total of 513 BLU 63 bomblets were placed and detonated in the one-foot deep by three-foot wide by 30-foot long man-made trench. These bomblets are "dummy bomblets" which could cause bodily harm due to possible live fuses. C-4 explosives are placed on top of the bomblets which are bluish-green in color. Once ignited, the length of the time fuse gives the specially-trained explosive ordnance disposal workers approximately 10 minutes to retreat to a safe distance two miles away. To ensure all C-4 charges detonate, a minimum of five minutes must elapse before returning to the site. Detonation resulted in a 500 to 600-foot high plume of smoke which gradually dissipated.

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