

Important Safety Message

Castner Range was used as a military training range for decades. The area contains potentially dangerous munitions from that training and is closed during the cleanup process.

While cleanup will take many years, the Army is proud to take the lead on conservation of this unique natural resource. Public access will be permitted only after completion of the cleanup to ensure safety.

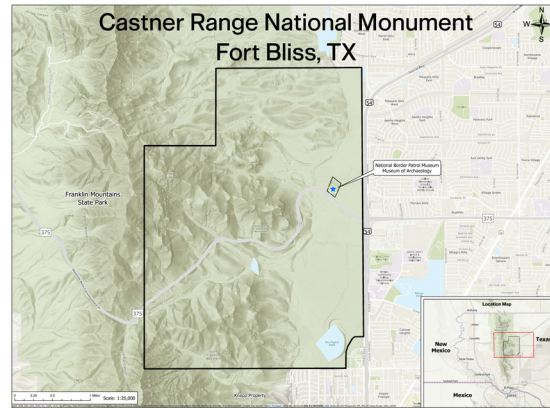
For your safety, always follow the 3Rs of Explosives Safety:



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.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON
CASTNER RANGE
NATIONAL MONUMENT
VISIT:
WWW.DENIX.OSD.MIL/CRNM
OR
SCAN OUR QR CODE

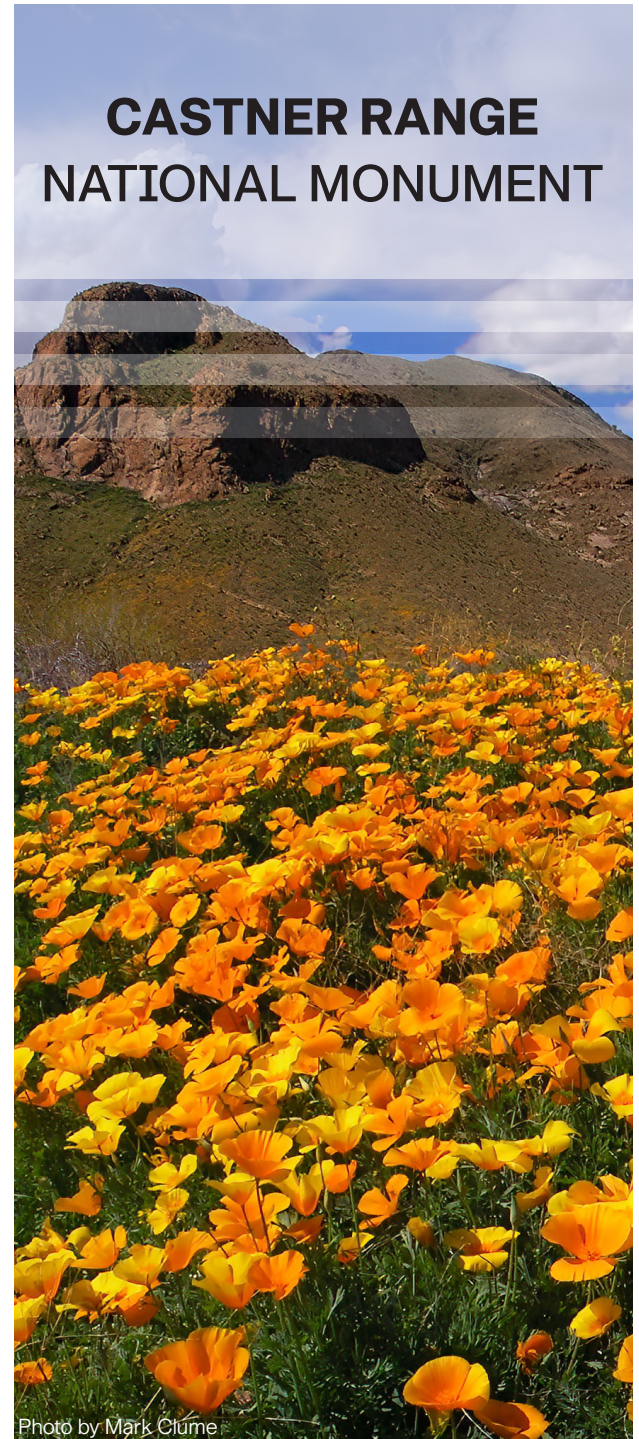
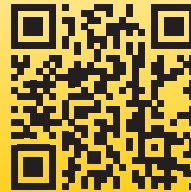


Photo by Mark Clume

Welcome to the Castner Range National Monument (Monument)!

The Monument has the unique distinction as the only National Monument under United States Army (Army) management. It encompasses 6,672 acres on the eastern slopes of the Franklin Mountains on lands administered by Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas. On March 21, 2023, Castner Range was designated a National Monument by Presidential Proclamation and serves as a tribute to our nation's Veterans, and preserves significant natural and cultural resources. The Monument is one of the last remaining undeveloped areas in the El Paso region, providing a unique opportunity to conserve a natural landscape that is representative of the Chihuahuan Desert ecosystem.



U.S. ARMY

Burrowing Owl
Photo by Doug Burkett



Military History:

The Monument is an important part of the history of the United States military, with military training dating back to 1926. The Army established Castner Range when the 1st Cavalry Division was at Fort Bliss, who used it heavily through WWII (in particular the 82d Field Artillery Regiment) and ceased small arms range and artillery live-fire training in 1966.



Texas Horned Lizard

Natural Resources:

This landscape has greatly reverted to natural conditions and is a natural haven for flora and fauna of the Chihuahuan Desert. The Monument is home to a variety of native species, including the Texas Horned Lizard, desert mule deer, desert bighorn sheep, golden eagles, and many other resident and migratory birds. It also supports seasonal wildflower blooms, most notably the vibrant Mexican Gold Poppies that attract visitors and photographers in springtime.

Cultural Resources:

The Monument has cultural and natural features, including archaeological sites, landscapes, objects, plants, and animals, often used at the center of time-honored traditions and stories of sacred significance to Tribal Nations. The continuum of human use and cultural ties are revealed by rock art, lithic scatters, and burial grounds.

Research and Education Opportunities:

The Monument provides opportunities for research and education and serves as a living outdoor classroom for studying its natural, cultural, and geologic resources.

