

**FINAL  
OPERATIONAL RANGE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM  
PHASE I QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT REPORT  
CAMP WISMER  
HAYWARD, WISCONSIN**

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Prepared for:

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The United States (U.S.) Army is conducting qualitative assessments at operational ranges to meet the requirements of Department of Defense policy and to support the U.S. Army Sustainable Range Program. The operational range qualitative assessment (hereinafter referred to as Phase I Assessment) is the first phase of the U.S. Army Operational Range Assessment Program. This Phase I Assessment evaluates the operational range area at Camp Wismer to assess whether further investigation is needed to determine if potential munitions constituents of concern (MCOC) are or could be migrating off-range at levels that may pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. In conducting the Phase I Assessment, MCOC sources, potential off-range migration pathways, and potential off-range human and ecological receptors are evaluated as appropriate.

Camp Wismer is located in northwestern Sawyer County in northern Wisconsin, approximately one and one-half miles south of the unincorporated community of Seeley and eight miles northeast of the city of Hayward. According to the Facility Inventory Support Plan (FISP) for Wisconsin (2008), the local training area (LTA) occupies a total of 3,244 acres, including approximately 124 acres of federally owned land and 3,120 acres of county-owned forestland. The federally owned portion of the LTA land is leased to the Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs (DMA) by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The DMA manages the federally owned land, and the Sawyer County Forestry Department is responsible for the county-owned land. The Wisconsin Army National Guard (WIARNG) Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 724th Engineering Battalion is the caretaker and sole user of the federally owned portion of the LTA.

The FISP (2008) identifies five operational ranges at Camp Wismer that together occupy the entire LTA area. The five operational ranges include one small arms range, three training and maneuver areas, and one bridge training area. The small arms range, two training and maneuver areas, and the bridge training area are located within the western, federally owned portion of the LTA, and the remaining training and maneuver area occupies the county-owned portion. Training activities take place approximately two to four times per year at the ranges on the federally owned land; these activities include land navigation, bivouac, and engineering training. The small arms range was used for live-fire training, including rifle and pistol qualification, until 2001, at which time training was suspended due to safety concerns. There is no documented use of pyrotechnics at Camp Wismer; however, some WIARNG personnel indicated that a few soldiers recall using pyrotechnics, including star clusters and grenade simulators, for training activities on the federally owned portion of the LTA. No munitions are currently allowed on any of the ranges at Camp Wismer. The county-owned land is densely wooded and open to the public for recreational purposes; thus, the training that takes place at the training and maneuver area located in that portion of the LTA is limited to troop movement and bivouac exercises (Training Technician, pers. comm.).

The five operational ranges at Camp Wismer are categorized as Unlikely.

### **Unlikely – Five-Year Review**

The five ranges at Camp Wismer are categorized as Unlikely, totaling 3,244 acres. These ranges consist of one small arms range, three training and maneuver areas, and one bridge training area. Ranges where, based upon a review of readily available information, there is sufficient evidence to show that there are no known releases or source-receptor interactions off-range that could present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment are categorized as Unlikely. Ranges categorized as Unlikely are required to be re-evaluated at least every five years. Re-evaluation may

occur sooner if significant changes (e.g., change in range operations or site conditions, regulatory changes) occur that affect determinations made during this Phase I Assessment.

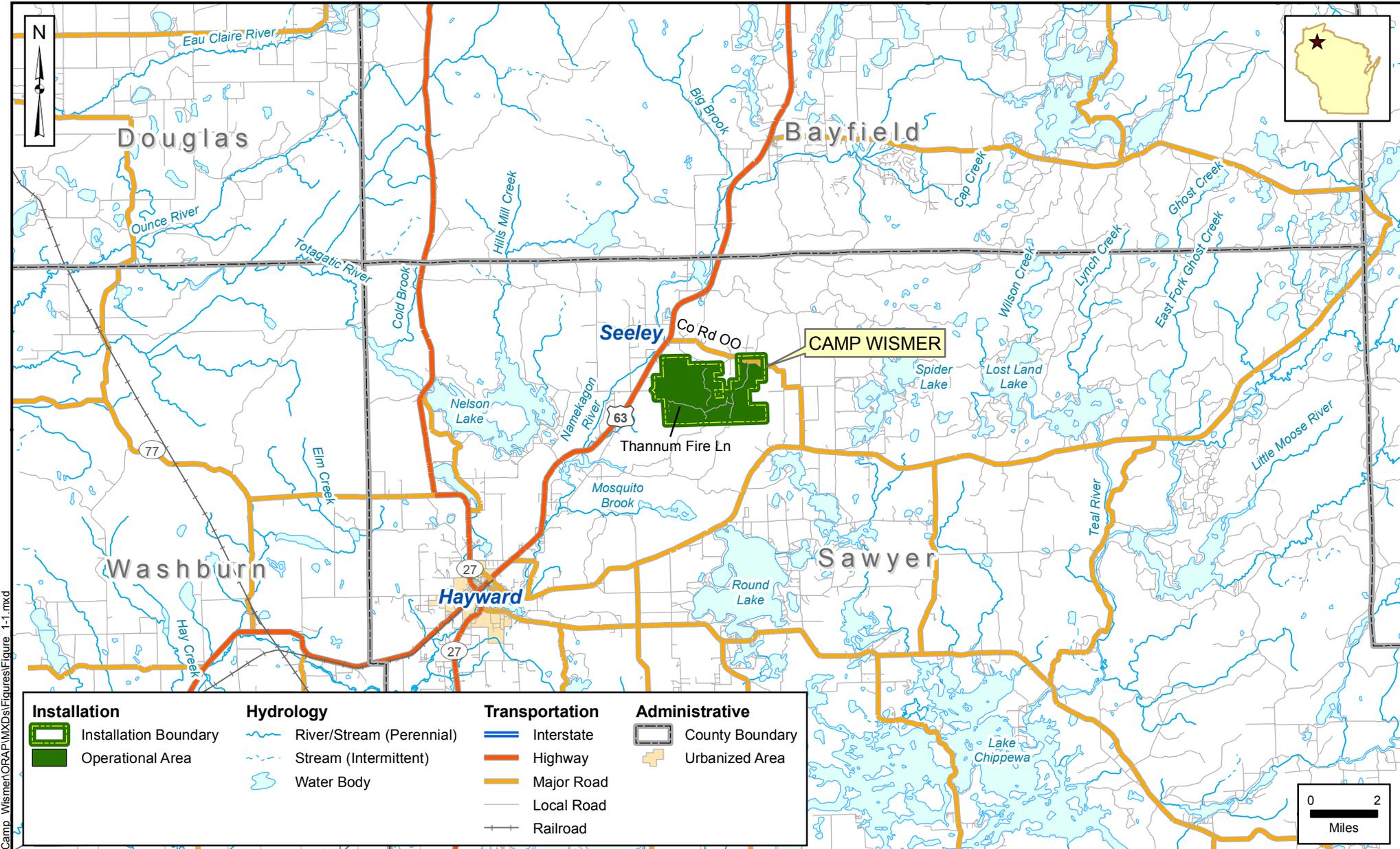
**Table ES-1** summarizes the Phase I Assessment findings.

**Table ES-1: Summary of Findings and Conclusions for Camp Wismer**

Category	Total Number of Ranges and Acreage	Source(s)	Pathway(s)	Human Receptors	Ecological Receptors	Conclusions and Rationale
Unlikely	One operational range; 4.37 acres	Firing points, targets, and impact areas	None	Not evaluated (no pathway identified)		Re-evaluate during the five-year review. No pathway was identified.
	Four operational ranges; 3,239.63 acres	No source—limited or no military munitions use	Not evaluated (no source identified)		Re-evaluate during the five-year review. No source was identified.	

**ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS**

amsl	Above Mean Sea Level
ARID-GEO	Army Range Inventory Database-Geodatabase
bgs	Below Ground Surface
CSM	Conceptual Site Model
DMA	Department of Military Affairs
DoD	Department of Defense
DODI	Department of Defense Instruction
E	Ecological receptors identified. (This refers to range grouping; pathway designation always precedes E designation.)
FISP	Facility Inventory Support Plan
GIS	Geographic Information System
GW	Groundwater pathway identified. (This refers to range grouping; M designation always precedes GW designation.)
H	Human receptors identified. (This refers to range grouping; pathway designation always precedes H designation.)
HHC	Headquarters and Headquarters Company
LS	Limited Source
LTA	Local Training Area
M	Munitions used. (This refers to range grouping; M designation always precedes applicable pathway.)
MCOC	Munitions Constituents of Concern
mm	Millimeter
NG	Nitroglycerin
ORAP	Operational Range Assessment Program
PU	Pathway unlikely or incomplete. (This refers to range grouping; M designation always precedes PU designation.)
SW	Surface water pathway identified. (This refers to range grouping; M designation always precedes SW designation.)
U.S.	United States
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USACHPPM	United States Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine
USAEC	United States Army Environmental Command
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
WDNR	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
WIARNG	Wisconsin Army National Guard
°F	Degrees Fahrenheit



**Operational Range Assessment Program  
Phase I Qualitative Assessment  
Camp Wismer, WI**

**Figure 1-1  
General Camp Wismer Location**

Data Sources:  
FISP, 2008  
ESRI, StreetMap USA, 2005

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