



Department of Defense INSTRUCTION

NUMBER 3200.21

September 15, 2015

Incorporating Change 3, Effective November 25, 2025

USD(P&R)

SUBJECT: Sustaining Access to the Live Training Domain

References: See Enclosure 1

1. PURPOSE. This instruction implements policy, assigns responsibilities, and provides procedures for sustaining access to the live training domain to meet training mission requirements, pursuant to DoD Directive (DoDD) 3200.15 (Reference (a)) and in accordance with the authority in DoDD 5124.02 (Reference (b)).

2. APPLICABILITY. This instruction:

a. Applies to:

(1) OSD, the Military Departments, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the DoD (referred to collectively in this instruction as the “DoD Components”).

(2) All operational ranges and their associated facilities, authorized radio frequency spectrum allocations, training areas, seaspace, and airspace that the DoD owns, operates, leases, or controls, and uses for training in the live training domain.

(3) The live training domain outside the United States in accordance with applicable international agreements and in accordance with DoD Instruction (DoDI) 4715.05 (Reference (c)).

b. Nothing in this instruction alters or supersedes the existing authorities and responsibilities assigned to the DoD Inspector General in DoDD 5106.01 (Reference (d)) and the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, Title 5, United States Code, Appendix (Reference (e)).

c. Does **not apply** to operational ranges used solely to support contingency operations.

3. POLICY. It is DoD policy, in accordance with Reference (a), to sustain access to and operational use of the live training domain through:
 - a. Comprehensive planning to address current and future encroachment challenges.
 - b. Stakeholder engagement and partnering actions to identify compatible resource uses in the vicinity of training activities. Stakeholders are defined in Reference (a) and may also include Native Hawaiian Organizations as specified in DoDI 4710.03 (Reference (f)).
 - c. Sound resource and environmental management practices that sustain the capability of live training areas provided to DoD.
 - d. Record keeping procedures to account for the training range inventory and operational range activities.
4. RESPONSIBILITIES. See Enclosure 2.
5. PROCEDURES. See Enclosure 3.
6. RELEASABILITY. **Cleared for public release.** This instruction is available on the Directives Division Website at <https://www.esd.whs.mil/DD/>.
7. SUMMARY OF CHANGE 3. This change is administrative and:
 - a. Removes references to climate change in accordance with the March 17, 2025 Secretary of Defense Memorandum (Reference (g)).
 - b. Reassigns responsibilities from the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics to the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment in accordance with DoDD 5135.02 (Reference (h)).
 - c. Updates references and organizational symbols for accuracy.

8. EFFECTIVE DATE. This instruction is effective September 15, 2015.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Carson". The signature is stylized with large, sweeping letters.

Brad Carson
Acting Under Secretary of Defense
for Personnel and Readiness

Enclosures

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ENCLOSURE 1

REFERENCES

- (a) DoD Directive 3200.15, “Sustaining Access to the Live Training and Test Domain,” December 18, 2013, as amended
- (b) DoD Directive 5124.02, “Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)),” June 23, 2008, as amended
- (c) DoD Instruction 4715.05, “Environmental Compliance at Installations Outside the United States,” November 1, 2013, as amended
- (d) DoD Directive 5106.01, “Inspector General of the Department of Defense (IG DoD),” April 20, 2012, as amended
- (e) Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, Title 5, United States Code, Appendix
- (f) DoD Instruction 4710.03, “Consultation with Native Hawaiian Organizations (NHOs),” October 25, 2011, as amended
- (g) Secretary of Defense Memorandum, “Mission Focus of the Department of Defense,” March 17, 2025
- (h) DoD Directive 5135.02, “Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (USD(A&S)),” July 15, 2020
- (i) DoD Directive 4715.21, “Improving Military Installation and Critical Resources Resilience,” January 14, 2016, as amended
- (j) DoD Instruction 4715.28, “Military Installation Resilience,” December 17, 2024, as amended
- (k) Title 10, United States Code
- (l) DoD Instruction 4715.24, “The Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program and Encroachment Management,” November 9, 2016, as amended
- (m) DoD Directive 3030.01, “Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA),” March 5, 2006
- (n) Part 211 of title 32, Code of Federal Regulations, “Mission Compatibility Evaluation Process”
- (o) DoD Instruction 4165.57, “Air Installations Compatible Use Zones,” December 13, 2021, as amended
- (p) DoD Instruction 4715.14, “Operational Range Assessments,” November 15, 2018
- (q) DoD Instruction 4715.06, “Environmental Compliance in the United States,” May 4, 2015, as amended
- (r) DoD Instruction 3200.16, “Operational Range Clearance (ORC),” April 21, 2015, as amended
- (s) Spatial Data Standards for Facilities, Infrastructure, and Environment (SDSFIE)¹

¹ Available at <https://www.sdsfionline.org>

ENCLOSURE 2

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PERSONNEL AND READINESS (USD(P&R)). The USD(P&R):

a. Establishes policy and oversees implementation of DoD procedures to identify, assess, and report the impact of encroachment on training capability.

(1) Evaluates training impacts and recommends mitigation strategies in coordination with the DoD Components.

(2) Coordinates across DoD Components to evaluate the effectiveness of encroachment mitigation strategies implemented in accordance with Enclosure 3 of this instruction.

b. Establishes procedures and provides oversight for implementing training range sustainment and range management practices by DoD Components to preserve training range capability.

c. Maintains the DoD operational training range inventory reported by DoD Components in accordance with Enclosure 3 of this instruction.

d. Serves as the OSD advocate for sustaining live training domain resources to support military training requirements.

e. In coordination with the DoD Components, establishes criteria and procedures to identify the significance of training resources within the live training domain, providing the basis for DoD advocacy of training requirements when encroachment threatens these resources.

2. UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR ACQUISITION AND SUSTAINMENT (USD(A&S)). In accordance with military installation and critical resource resilience requirements in DoDD 4715.21 and DoDI 4715.28 (References (i) and (j)), the USD(A&S):

a. Oversees DoD-wide installation facility issues and implements environmental programs to support the training mission

b. Manages the Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program, pursuant to section 2684a of Title 10, United States Code and DoDI 4715.24 (References (k) and (l)) to mitigate or avoid incompatible land use activity and encroachment impacts on training capability.

c. Establishes and maintains a stakeholder engagement strategy to identify and mitigate potential encroachment issues before they affect training capability.

d. Administers the Defense Economic Adjustment Program in accordance with DoDD 3030.01 (Reference (m)) and provides DoD community planning assistance when authorized and needed by communities to promote compatible civilian development.

e. Manages mission compatibility evaluations, pursuant to Part 211 of Title 32, Code of Federal Regulations (Reference (n)).

f. Manages the integration of Air Installation Compatible Use Zone compatible land use strategies into the live training domain to support training mission requirements in accordance with DoDI 4165.57 (Reference (o)).

3. DOD COMPONENT HEADS. The DoD Component heads:

a. Apply the procedures in Enclosure 3 of this instruction in order to preserve and sustain access to the live training domain to support mission requirements, in accordance with the policy established in Reference (a) and this instruction.

b. Plan, program, and budget to address encroachment and military installation resilience challenges. This may include planning and budgeting for actions pursuant to sections 2684a and 2864 of Reference (k).

c. Establish an overarching cross-functional management framework that administers the planning, implementation, and record keeping procedures in Enclosure 3 of this instruction to address encroachment challenges.

d. Develop and implement partnerships with stakeholders. Consistent with foreign policy practices on contacting foreign organizations and individuals, conduct early strategic engagements with those stakeholders to identify and mitigate or avoid actions that would compromise military training or operations. For stakeholders outside the United States, work with the commanders of the geographic combatant commands to use established bi-national forums or other appropriate engagements, including through the U.S. mission, as required.

e. Plan, program, and budget for range modernization, range operations, and range maintenance to support requirements of a trained and ready force.

f. Conduct monitoring and assessments in accordance with DoDI 4715.14 (Reference (p)) on operational training ranges.

g. Maintain an accurate, up-to-date inventory of operational training ranges in accordance with paragraph c of Enclosure 3 in this instruction.

h. Participate in integrated product teams that are established by USD(P&R), USD(A&S), and Director, Operational Test and Evaluation in accordance with Reference (a) and are designed to act as coordinating bodies on encroachment issues.

4. CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF (CJCS). The CJCS integrates planning for mission capability and encroachment into strategies, planning, policy, and exercises. The CJCS is exempt from the responsibilities in paragraph 3 of this enclosure in accordance with the scope of CJCS responsibilities established in Reference (k).

ENCLOSURE 3

PROCEDURES

1. PLANNING. The DoD Components will:

a. Conduct comprehensive planning to address current and future encroachment challenges. At a minimum, planning outcomes will:

(1) Identify the mission footprint needed to support current and anticipated future training requirements, including those on withdrawn or leased land.

(2) Identify current and emerging internal and external encroachment challenges. Planning outcomes will prioritize resultant risks and impacts to training, range capability, readiness, and access to the live training domain.

(3) Evaluate mitigation and avoidance tools, technologies, and existing programs, and develop a response plan to address encroachment risks and impacts. Elements of the response plan may include:

(a) Recommendations for local zoning, ordinances, and State legislation.

(b) Facilitating joint land use studies.

(c) Engaging with local and regional planning boards.

(d) Stakeholder partnerships.

(e) Early stakeholder engagements.

(f) Conservation easements.

b. Evaluate the risks to training and range capability from the impacts of energy and water disruptions, extreme weather, and other disruptions to transportation or logistical resources essential to mission assurance readiness.

(1) In accordance with Reference (i), identify the mission impacts from trends such as:

(a) Increases in severe weather events and temperature.

(b) Increases in sea level.

(c) Changes to land cover and vegetation.

(d) Impacts to threatened and endangered species and species at risk.

(e) Shifts in precipitation levels.

(2) As environmental sciences advance and as future weather-related scenarios and predictive tools are adopted by DoD, incorporate scenarios and predictive tools into evaluations to improve military installation and critical resources resilience.

c. Integrate environmental considerations, including National Environmental Policy Act planning requirements, into range design, siting, revitalization, and modernization to avoid or mitigate impacts to the environment.

d. In accordance with Reference (i), incorporate risk management decision-making into planning for extreme weather events and critical resource disruptions that may affect current and future training.

2. IMPLEMENTATION. The DoD Components will:

a. Partner with internal and external stakeholders to identify sustainable uses of the live training domain that are compatible with current and future training requirements, range capability, and range access.

(1) Conduct early engagement and develop strategic partnerships with stakeholders to identify and avoid or mitigate actions that would inadvertently compromise military training.

(2) Develop a communication strategy that identifies internal and external audiences, stakeholder engagement opportunities, and proposed public affairs guidance.

(3) Coordinate with the DoD Office of Economic Adjustment to work with State and local governments to prevent incompatible civilian development in accordance with Reference (m).

(4) Collaborate with other DoD Components to develop a coordinated approach to encroachment challenges that affect multiple DoD Components across the live training domain.

(5) Establish, where appropriate, State and regional level forums where installation and range commanders may collaborate on regional and State-wide encroachment challenges. These forums will engage, as collective bodies, with localities, regional and State governments, tribes, NHOs, and non-DoD agencies to communicate mission requirements and collaboratively develop solutions to current and emerging encroachment challenges.

b. Carry out formal procedures that incorporate range sustainment considerations and environmental principles into operational range sustainment objectives, in accordance with Reference (p), DoDI 4715.06 (Reference (q)), and Reference (j).

(1) Integrate natural and cultural resource conservation principles into range operations and maintenance procedures, where applicable.

(2) Facilitate range access for authorized personnel to perform operational range assessments in accordance with Reference (p).

(3) Apply, where appropriate or recommended as a result of an operational range assessment, proactive management practices to prevent or mitigate actual or potential migration of munitions constituents beyond the range boundary.

c. Apply sound resource management practices for land, air, and sea space to sustain access to the live training domain.

d. Execute a comprehensive approach to operational range clearance in accordance with DoDI 3200.16 (Reference (r)).

e. Adopt strategies identified in accordance with Reference (i) to avoid or mitigate impacts from extreme weather and critical resource disruptions.

f. Prohibit the use of munitions or targets containing depleted uranium (DU) on training ranges, except on those specifically designated as Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)-licensed target or impact areas. DoD Components are responsible for operating within the NRC license conditions on these designated ranges.

g. Prohibit the use of improved conventional munitions (ICM) or munitions that contain submunitions on operational training ranges unless specifically authorized by the DoD Component head or their delegated representative. When authorized, live-fire training activities involving ICM or submunitions will establish sole-use target or impact areas where feasible.

3. RECORD KEEPING. The DoD Components will:

a. Maintain permanent records, at the installation or range level, of the following operational range activities to facilitate range clearance and document potential areas of contamination in the event the range is transferred from DoD control:

(1) Military munitions expended, including an estimated dud rate, by type, quantity, location, and using organization.

(2) The coordinates of all range clearance operations and explosives ordnance disposal incidents conducted on the operational range.

(3) The coordinates of areas known or suspected to contain unexploded ordnance (UXO) or DU (e.g., impact areas, targets, berms) in the Military Service's operational range inventory.

(4) The findings from operational range assessments in accordance with Reference k.

b. Establish and maintain an updated inventory of DoD Component and Service operational ranges consistent with the Spatial Data Standards for Facilities, Infrastructure, and Environment (SDSFIE) (Reference (s)).

(1) Update the DoD Component’s inventory of operational training ranges at least every 5 years by providing, at a minimum, the specifications in the Table to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Readiness) (OASD(R)).

Table. Specifications for Operational Range Inventory

Inventory Category	General Information	Range Description	Range Type
Training Range Complex	Military Service Range Complex Name State/Country Command/Component	Land Area for Ranges (acres) Special Use Airspace (sq nm) Sea Surface Area (sq nm) Underwater Tracking Area (sq nm)	Air-to-Air Air-to-Ground Air-to-Surface Amphibious Area C2 Warfare/Electronic Warfare Land Maneuver Land Firing Range Land Impact Area Military Operations on Urban Terrain Operating Area Surface-to-Air Surface-to-Surface Underwater Tracking Range Other
Military Training Route	MTR Identifier Originating Agency Scheduling Agency	MTR Effective Times Length (nautical miles)	
Special Use Airspace	SUA Name Using Agency Controlling Agency Range Complex/ Installation Name Military Service	Upper Altitude Lower Altitude SUA Area (sq nm)	Alert Area Military Operations Area Restricted Area Warning Area
Key: Sq nm – square nautical miles C2 – command and control MTR – military training route SUA – special use airspace			

(2) Report operational range inventory changes to OASD(R) annually, and submit copies of associated geospatial data as requested. All geospatial data depicting the location and extent of DoD ranges must conform to SDSFIE community data standards.

GLOSSARY

PART I. ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CJCS	Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
DoDD	DoD directive
DoDI	DoD instruction
DU	depleted uranium
ICM	improved conventional munition
NRC	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
OASD(R)	Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Readiness)
SDSFIE	Spatial Data Standards for Facilities, Infrastructure, and Environment
USD(A&S)	Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment
USD(P&R)	Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness
UXO	unexploded ordnance

PART II. DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise noted, these terms and their definitions are for the purpose of this instruction.

access. Defined in Reference (a).

dud rate. The proportion of military munitions used during live-fire training expected to fail to function as intended and to remain present as UXO.

encroachment. Defined in Reference (a).

extreme weather. Defined in Section 101(a)(20) of Reference (i).

joint land use study. Defined in Reference (m).

live training domain. Defined in Reference (a).

military installation resilience. Defined in Section 101(f)(8) of Reference (k).

military training route. Defined in Reference (a).

mission footprint. The spatial extent of land, airspace, and seaspace used to complete DoD training objectives within the live training domain.

operational range. Defined in section 101(e)(3) of Reference (k).

range. Defined in section 101(e)(1) of Reference (k).

range activities. Defined in section 101(e)(2) of Reference (k).

stakeholder. Defined in Reference (a).

sustainment. Actions undertaken to preserve the access to, or use of, training ranges, seaspace, and airspace to support recurring performance of military training objectives and requirements.

UXO. Defined in section 101(e)(5) of Reference (k).