

**DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM  
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES  
FINDINGS AND DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY**

SALTON SEA BOMB TARGET (FBT 18) (#59)  
IMPERIAL COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
SITE NO. J09CA018900

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. The available information indicates that in approximately 1944, the Eleventh Naval District acquired the South 1/2 Section 14, Township 10 South, Range 12 East, San Bernardino Meridian from the Department of Interior; and the North 1/2 Section 23, Township 10 South, Range 12 East under Revocable Permit from the Southern Pacific Land Company. The two parcels total 640 acres (within the Salton Sea).
2. The Navy used this site for a low-level, practice bomb target. Historical records describe the target as a floating, pyramid, radar-rigged, structure.
3. Historical data suggests that this target site was discontinued from use in 1946. Currently, Section 14 is under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, and Section 23 is owned by the Imperial Irrigation District. Current use of the site is moderate fishing.

**DETERMINATION**

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, this site has been determined to be formerly used by the Department of Defense. It is therefore eligible for the Defense Environmental Restoration Program - Formerly Used Defense Sites, established under 10 USC 2701, et seq.

12 Sep 94  
DATE

DEP HUNTER  
MILTON HUNTER

Brigadier General, U.S. Army  
Commanding

**SITE SURVEY SUMMARY SHEET**  
**FOR**  
**DERP-FUDS SITE NO. J09CA018900**  
**SALTON SEA BOMB TARGET (FBT 18) (#59)**  
**26 July 1993**

**SITE NAME:** SALTON SEA BOMB TARGET (FBT 18) (#59)

**LOCATION:** Salton Sea Bomb Target #59 is located in Imperial County, California, within the boundaries of the Salton Sea, an inland body of water approximately 35 miles long and 15 miles wide. This target site is located 4 miles west and 3.5 miles south of the shoreline, and approximately 6 miles west of Highway 111.

**SITE HISTORY:** In 1944, the Eleventh Naval District acquired this target site from the Department of Interior and by Revocable Permit from the Southern Pacific Land Company. The target was located in open water, and was described as a pyramid, radar-rigged, low-level, practice bombing target. The target was discontinued in 1946, and at that time, action was to be taken to terminate any leases or permits. The target was to be removed, but no site restoration was considered necessary. The current site owners are the Department of Interior and the Imperial Irrigation District. The surface of the site is void of any structures and bares no evidence of former DOD use. Further, representatives of the Imperial Irrigation District and the California Department of Fish and Game indicated that they have seen no evidence of former DOD use. The site is now used for moderate fishing.

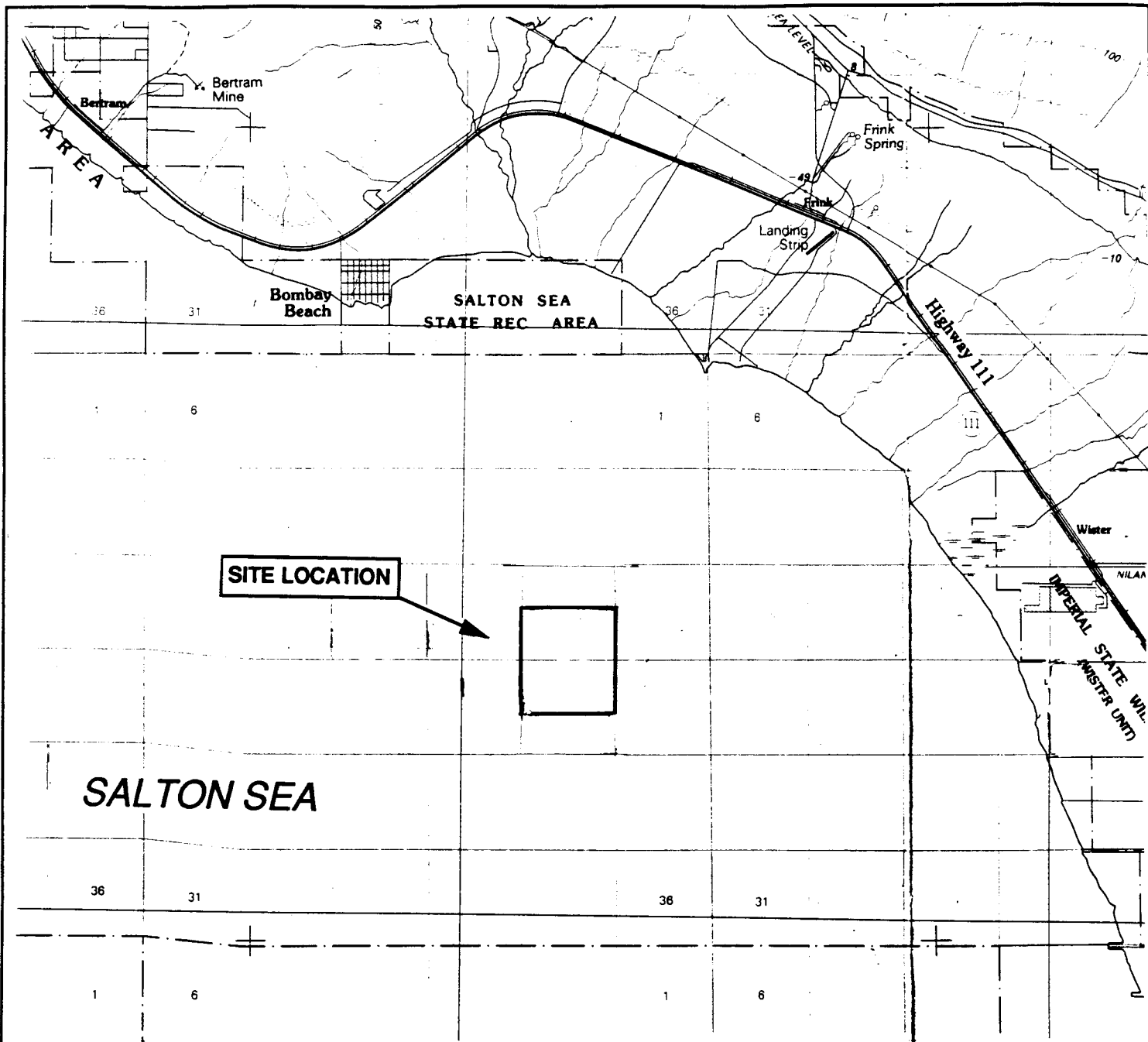
**SITE VISIT:** The site was visited on May 5, 1993, by Ken Goulding of Science Applications International Corporation, San Diego, California.

**CATEGORY OF HAZARDS:** OEW (RAC = 4)

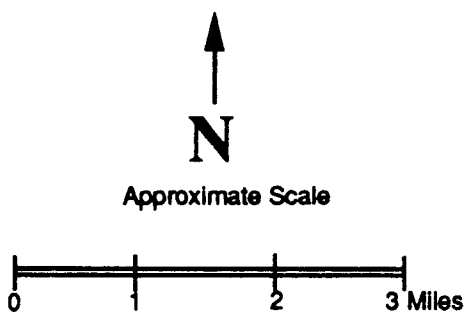
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Recommend the MCX for OEW at Huntsville Division make a determination regarding further investigation at this site.

**AVAILABLE STUDIES AND REPORTS:** Historical information on 11th Naval District bomb targets was obtained from the National Archives office in Laguna Niguel, California. Land acquisition and ownership records were obtained from the Bureau of Land Management, El Centro, California, and the Imperial County Assessor's Office, El Centro California.

**DISTRICT POC:** Jatin Desai, Los Angeles District, (213) 894-6266



Reference:  
 USGS 30X60 Minute Quadrangle, Salton Sea, Calif. ((1:100 000), 1965.



**SAIC**  
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 International Corporation  
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<b>SITE LOCATION</b> <b>SALTON SEA BOMB TARGET</b> (FBT 18) (#59) J09CA018900 33°-17'-33"N 115°-41'-39"W Imperial County, CA		
PROJECT NO.		01-0255-04-1869
DRAWN BY	CHECKED BY	DATE
SR	BCF	6-93