

Frequently Asked Questions about Wide-Area Assessment for Munitions Response Projects (UXO-6)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The intent of this frequently asked questions (FAQ) technology overview document is to provide state regulators, project managers, and stakeholders with a ready source of information about the wide-area assessment (WAA) process and a description of the tools currently available to conduct WAA within a munitions response area (MRA).

The majority of munitions and explosives of concern within an MRA are often concentrated in or around predictable munitions response sites (MRSs, e.g., targets, aiming circles, etc.). Once the MRSs are identified, the project team can focus resources on those that present the greatest potential hazard.

WAA is a reconnaissance process designed to provide data to assist the project team in selecting MRSs for response action. WAA uses specific tools, either singularly or in combination, to efficiently provide reliable evidence of munitions-related features, such as bomb craters or concentrations of geophysical anomalies. The project team then uses the data generated by WAA to identify, delineate, and prioritize MRSs within the MRA for response action.

This FAQ document will help project teams determine whether WAA is appropriate for their projects and, if appropriate, which tools or technologies are most suitable for conducting WAA at each site. The Unexploded Ordnance Team encourages readers to learn more about WAA by referring to *ESTCP Pilot Project Wide Area Assessment for Munitions Response* (ESTCP 2008) and the other resources listed in this document.