



## *State of Wyoming Military Department Office of the Adjutant General*

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## **WyARNG begins site inspections of old training areas**

CHEYENNE – The Wyoming Military Department announced today they will begin environmental site inspections this spring, of training areas located on various federal, state and private properties around the state.

According to spokeswoman, Deidre Forster, these sites were used for National Guard small arms and munitions training, but were not owned by either the state or federal government at that time. "Private landowners offered up their land for training opportunities, as far back as 1900, and through historical records and recent interviews with landowners and National Guard retirees, we have been able to determine that there still may be some clean up, in terms of environmental and safety regulations, of small arms and artillery training rounds needed," Forster said.

The Military Department has identified 40 sites - 17 private and 23 corporate, federal or state-owned properties - around the state that will be inspected. Steve Walls, project manager for the program, said, "We have sent letters to private property owners and local communities asking permission to enter their property to inspect it for possible impacts. We will call the landowners and confirm receipt of the letter, and schedule appointments to meet face-to-face.

“During the site inspection, small soil samples will be taken to determine concentrations of various munitions constituents, such as lead, metal fragments, chromium and phosphorous,” Walls said. “Once results of those tests are received, a plan will be developed to cleanup those sites, based on the significance of the findings.”

The property inspections are scheduled to be completed this year.