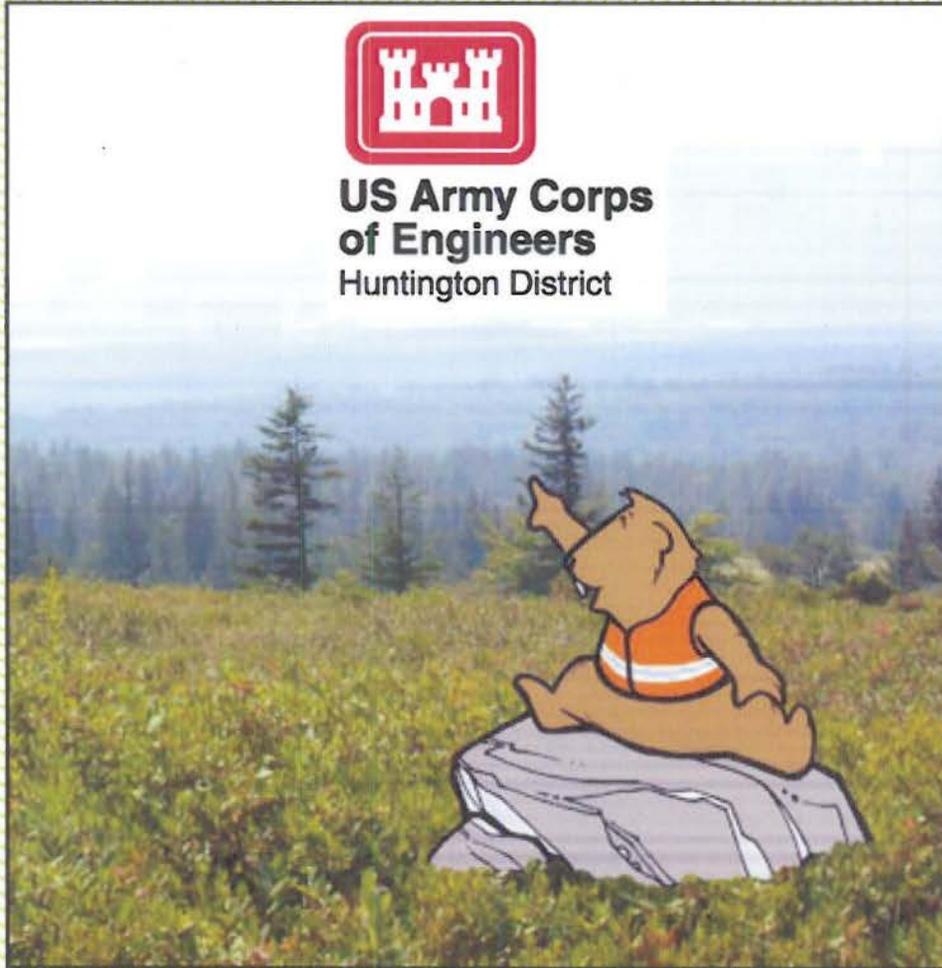


Public Involvement Plan (PIP)
Dolly Sods Region
Former West Virginia Maneuver Area



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Huntington District



Spring 2012



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Huntington District



west virginia department of environmental protection

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Before the 1970s, industry, agriculture, and government managed and disposed of hazardous and non-hazardous waste products by using methods that later were determined to be environmentally damaging. Liquids and dissolved chemical waste leaked into groundwater, contaminated dust and vapors polluted the air, and erosion and flooding washed contaminated soil into waterways. Therefore, environmental issues rose to the top of the national agenda and prompted legislation to cope with a growing number of toxic substances and hazardous waste sites.

1.1 Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)

In 1976, Congress acknowledged that hazardous waste disposal practices can have adverse effects on human health and the environment by passing the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The act mandates the management and accountability of present and future disposal of hazardous wastes. Four years later Congress passed the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) to investigate and remediate areas resulting from past, formerly acceptable hazardous waste management practices. "Superfund" is a term frequently used with CERCLA activities. The Dolly Sods Region of the West Virginia Maneuver Area (WVMA) is not a Superfund site. The Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA), in 1986, amended CERCLA to require public involvement in a defined set of activities.

The Department of Defense (DoD) has been, and is still engaged in, manufacturing activities that involve toxic and hazardous materials. Due to past waste and resource management practices at some current and former DoD installations, some facilities are contaminated by chemicals or hazardous compounds. This prompted DoD to address past, current, and future hazardous waste operations, with the goal to eliminate any threat posed by previously discarded, potentially hazardous materials.

1.2 Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP)

The Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) was established by Congress in 1986 under SARA. It provides the funding necessary for the cleanup of contamination resulting from past disposal practices at DoD facilities in order to protect human health and the environment.

The goal of DERP is to reduce, in a cost-effective manner, the risks to human health and the environment attributable to contamination resulting from past DoD activities.

This goal is being accomplished through the following policies:

- Identify, evaluate, and, where appropriate, remediate contamination resulting from past DoD activities.
- Ensure immediate action to remove imminent threats to human health and the environment.
- Comply with statutes, regulations, Executive Orders, and other legal requirements governing cleanup of contamination.
- Conduct DERP program activities to meet program goals as stated in the Defense Planning Guidance.
- Develop partnerships regarding restoration activities with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and appropriate state, local, and territorial regulatory agencies.
- Support the development and use of cost-effective innovative technologies and improvements in the restoration process.
- Promote and support public participation in the DERP.

1.3 Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS)

The Secretary of the Army was designated as the DoD Executive Agent for the Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) Program. FUDS are facilities that were under the jurisdiction of DoD at the time of actions that caused the release of hazardous substances or other environmental damages. Funds for FUDS are programmed and budgeted in the Defense-wide environmental restoration account.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) serves as the DoD Execution Agent for cleanup of FUDS. USACE manages the cleanup of more than 9,000 potentially contaminated sites ranging from military training sites containing ordnance to industrial operations and production facilities containing solvents, organic materials and petroleum contamination.

The USACE Huntington District is responsible for the environmental investigation and cleanup programs in the Dolly Sods Region, which is located between Canaan Valley and Seneca Rocks within the Monongahela National Forest in Grant, Randolph and Tucker counties of West Virginia. The Dolly Sods FUDS Project is part of a much larger property known as the former West Virginia Maneuver Area (WVMA).

Over the past several decades, several removal efforts managed by the USACE Huntington District have successfully removed ordnance from areas that see the most use in the Dolly Sods. They are, in particular, the trails and campsites that receive the highest amounts of use. Previous remedial actions conducted by the USACE (the most recent action spanned 1997-1998) were the most feasible based on the influencing factors of cost, environmental impact, and reduction of public risk. These past actions by the USACE have significantly reduced the amount of ordnance posing a hazard to the public in the most widely used areas.

An Ordnance and Explosives (OE) Recurring Review was conducted for the Dolly Sods Region project during 2004 in order to ensure the continued protection of human health, safety and the environment. The Huntington District led and managed the review process efforts, with the USACE OE Center of Expertise, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP), and the West Virginia Division of Forestry (WVDoF) also involved and contributing support. The review concluded that the 1997 to 1998 ordnance removal action completed in the Dolly Sods Region is functioning as intended, and is still protective of human health, safety, and the environment. The recurring review report (USACE, 2004) documents the review process methodologies, and presents the findings, conclusions, and recommendations attained through the study. The second OE Recurring Review was completed in September 2011 with the same conclusions as the earlier review (USACE, 2011).

2.0 PURPOSE

The USACE Public Involvement Plan (PIP) identifies issues of community concern regarding the environmental clean-up program at Dolly Sods, and outlines public involvement activities to be conducted during response actions.

This plan is based on information obtained from interviews with a broad cross-section of the community, such as area residents, interested individuals, local elected officials and community leaders. This evolving document will be updated as necessary.

This PIP deals with the associated compliance activities, profiles the surrounding community background, provides a summary of community interviews, and identifies goals, objectives, strategies, and communications tools to implement them.

The USACE Huntington District is the lead agency responsible for the creation, revision, and implementation of this PIP.

The PIP goals are:

- Identify and evaluate community concerns
- Develop a communications strategy to address community concerns
- Identify the communications tools available to deliver key messages to stakeholders

2.1 Regulations

This PIP complies with public affairs policy guidance under a number of laws administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). These laws are the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA); the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA); the Emergency Planning & Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA); and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP).

NEPA assures the government gives proper consideration to the environment prior to undertaking any major federal action that significantly affects the environment.

RCRA gives the USEPA authority to control hazardous waste from "cradle-to-grave." This includes the generation, transportation, treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous waste. RCRA focuses only on active and future facilities and does not address abandoned or historical sites.

CERCLA provides a superfund to clean up uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites as well as accidents, spills, and other emergency releases of pollutants and contaminants into the environment.

SARA reauthorizes CERCLA to continue clean-up activities around the country. It also authorizes the Emergency Planning & Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA).

EPCRA is a law designed to help local communities protect health, safety, and the environment from chemical hazards. It requires each state to appoint a State Emergency Response Commission (SERC). The SERCs are to name a Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for each district. Boards ensure all necessary elements of the planning process are represented.

NCP is the federal government's blueprint for responding to both oil spills and hazardous substance releases. It documents national response capability and is intended to promote overall coordination among the hierarchy of responders and contingency plans.

3.0 DOLLY SODS REGION

3.1 Description

The Dolly Sods Region is located between Canaan Valley and Seneca Rocks within the Monongahela National Forest in Grant, Randolph and Tucker counties of West Virginia. High upon the Allegheny Plateau, with elevations ranging from 2,600 to 4,100 feet, the area of more than 18,000 acres is well known for its extensive rocky plains, upland bogs and sweeping vistas. Annually between 45,000 and 76,000 people visit Dolly Sods. The remoteness, back to nature experience and limited human influences attract adventurous hikers, mountain bikers, anglers, hunters and berry pickers.

3.2 History

The area is named for the pioneer Dahle (Dolly) family, which formerly owned and cleared some of the area for grazing. Logging occurred in the area in the late 1800s and came to an end between 1910 and 1913. Fires from logging operations burned so hot that the topsoil and humus layers were destroyed. This is what helped create this unique environment. The United States Forest Service (USFS) purchased the land, and in the 1930s the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) planted red pine and other conifers as well as aided in the construction of Forest Service Road 75.

Many of the lands now referred to as Dolly Sods were acquired by the U.S. Federal Government between 1916 and 1939, under authority of the Weeks Act of 1911. This act sanctioned the purchase of lands for natural resource management purposes. During 1943 and 1944, military maneuver exercises and artillery/mortar practice were conducted in the area by the U.S. Department of the Army as training for involvement in World War II. Dolly Sods was a part of the 2,181,000 acres that were used for such training, known as the former West Virginia Maneuver Area (WVMA). It is documented that rounds fired during military training in the Dolly Sods Region included 57-mm, 75-mm, 105-mm, and 155-mm projectiles and 60-mm, 81-mm and 4.2-inch mortars. The property was returned to the USFS in 1950.

In 1970, 10,200 acres were congressionally designated as the Dolly Sods Scenic Area that would maintain the scenic qualities of this area. The Dolly Sods Wilderness Area (DSWA) was then created by an act of Congress in 1975 to preserve and protect the area with special opportunities for solitude, primitive recreation and other scientific, educational, scenic and historical values. Management efforts within the 10,215 acre Wilderness Area (its boundaries do not coincide with the 1970 Scenic Area boundaries) focus on allowing the forces of nature to reclaim the land, returning it to a natural appearing state. During 1992 and 1993, 6168.5 acres located north of the Wilderness Area were purchased by the USFS from The Nature Conservancy, and this area is known as the Dolly Sods North Area (DSNA). Today, 2,268 acres of Dolly Sods along Forest Road 75 have the designation of Scenic Area. Recently, in early 2009, an additional 7,156 acres (formerly known as the DSNA) was added to the DSWA.

3.3 Remedial Actions and Outcomes

Immediately following maneuvers in the area, the Department of the Army conducted an ordnance clearance prior to returning the land to the USFS. In 1991, an ordnance removal project was authorized under the DERP-FUDS Program.

Ordnance response actions occur at sites that were contaminated while under the control of the DoD, but were transferred out of DoD control prior to 1986. DoD delegated authority for executing ordnance response activities at FUDS to the USACE through Headquarters, Department of the Army (HQDA). The USACE Huntington District is the Geographic District having project management responsibilities, and technical support is provided by the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center in Huntsville.

The Huntington District managed the following remedial activities.

- Findings and Determination of Eligibility by DERP-FUDS (1991-1992)
- Feasibility Study was conducted on 281 acres of the Dolly Sods Wilderness Area. Thirteen (13) ordnance pieces were located within six to 24 inches of ground surface, and a Remedial Action Plan was conceived (1991-1992)

The USACE and USFS evaluated areas most likely to contain ordnance that posed a threat to the public (trails, campsites, cabins). The USFS marked the trails for the Risk Assessment contractor to improve removal efficiency. They also trained a risk assessment contractor to act for the Service in identifying and protecting the Cheat Mountain Salamander. As a result, the Environmental Assessment was expedited and the North Area Risk Assessment was completed at least one year ahead of schedule.

Two environmental assessments were initiated in 1995. The project was divided into two areas: Dolly Sods Wilderness Area (DSWA) with 10,215 acres and Dolly Sods North Area (DSNA) with 6,169.5 acres.

The Environmental Assessments and Finding of No Significant Impact were completed in 1997 for DSWA and 1998 for DSNA.

The DSWA removal action included searching and clearing 21 miles of trails to 20 feet on each side, and to a one-foot depth. One hundred and one campsites were searched and cleared to a four-foot depth.

The DSNA removal action included searching and clearing 23 miles of trails to 20 feet on each side, and to a one-foot depth. Blackbird Knob (99 acres of open land) was searched and cleared to a one-foot depth. Seventy-five campsites and four hunter structures were searched and cleared to a four-foot depth.

The ordnance removal action greatly reduced the risk to the public. The concern was not so much on stepping on ordnance as it was on building a fire near or driving a tent spike through a piece of ordnance. Ordnance removal focused on factors such as cost, environmental impact, and reduction of public risk. As a result:

- Trail risk was reduced by 47.6%; campsite risk reduced by 58.9%.
- Twelve (12) HE 81-mm and two (2) 60-mm HE mortars were found and safely detonated in DSWA; 32,592 anomalies were excavated.
- One HE 60-mm and twenty six (26) 4.2-inch mortars were disposed of in DSNA.
- There were 108 pounds of scrap removed from the DSWA and 1,043 pounds removed from DSNA.

The risk to the public due to military munitions (formerly known as unexploded ordnance (UXO)) is dependent upon the density of ordnance and the number of visitors. Past removal actions have concentrated in locations frequented by visitors to the area such as trails, campsites and other easily accessible and scenic areas.

All designated and maintained trails, including their adjoining known campsites, were cleared of ordnance to the depth and width designated during a removal project conducted May 1997 through November 1998. This remedial action was the most feasible based on the influencing factors of cost, environmental impact, and reduction of public risk and has significantly reduced the amount of ordnance posing a hazard to the public in the most widely used areas. However, due to the following current conditions and facts, this remedial action could not, and was not expected to negate the risk entirely.

Other Considerations:

- The environment has changed over the course of 60 years since WWII
- The movement of the military forces are random in nature and undocumented
- The vast amount of acreage
- A grid by grid search of the entire area would not reduce the risk to zero and could prove to be as expensive as it is environmentally damaging
- Heavy rains could dislodge ordnance which could cause migration
- The course of the cleared trails could change over time due to the effects of erosion and public movement
- Campsites are not permanently marked and there is little restriction upon where camping can occur
- Throughout the North Area numerous trails exist that are undocumented but are used regularly
- Hunters, hikers, and explorers are apt to roam away from established trails

4.0 COMMUNITY BACKGROUND

4.1 County Demographics

2010 Estimated Census Data (Information obtained via www.census.gov)

Demographics	Tucker County		Grant County		Randolph County	
Population	7141		11,937		29,405	
Population Density (per square mile)	17.0		25.0		28.3	
Land Area (square miles)	418.92		477.37		1,039.68	
Gender						
Male	3,578	50.1%	5,933	49.7%	15,144	51.5%
Female	3,563	49.9%	6,004	50.3%	14,261	48.5%
Age						
5 or younger	328	4.6%	633	5.3%	1500	5.1%
18 or younger	1371	19.2%	2555	21.4%	5705	19.4%
19-64	3942	55.2%	6565	55.0%	16966	57.7%
65 and over	1500	21.0%	2184	18.3%	5234	17.8%
Race						
White	7048	98.7%	11662	97.7%	28,611	97.3%
Black	14	0.2%	84	0.7%	353	1.2%
American Indian/Alaska native	14	0.2%	24	0.2%	59	0.2%
Asian	A	A	24	0.2%	88	0.3%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Island	0	0.0%	A	A	A	A
Two or more races	43	0.6%	107	0.9%	235	0.8%
Hispanic/Latino	43	0.6%	119	1.0%	206	0.7%
White persons not Hispanic	7027	98.4%	11,579	97.0%	28,464	96.8%
Households	3,132		4,899		11,319	
Annual Household Median Income	\$32,712		\$35,593		\$36,176	

A Value greater than zero but less than half unit of measure shown

4.2 Community Involvement

The USACE Huntington District has periodically held public meetings in the Grant, Randolph and Tucker county areas. These meetings were advertised in local newspapers (including the Elkins Inter-Mountain, Parsons Advocate, and Grant County Press, for example). The Huntington District has developed a list of interested parties, and periodically mails newsletters updating them on the progress at Dolly Sods. In addition, Huntington District has created and maintains a Dolly Sods project specific Web site (www.lrh.usace.army.mil/projects/current/derp-fuds/wvma).

USACE Huntington District has briefed government agencies and other organizations on Dolly Sods and the West Virginia Maneuver Area on an as-needed basis on the history and new information generated on the project. The USACE Huntington District also participates in community fairs and other special events as part of the public involvement effort to educate the public on Dolly Sods and UXO safety.

The Huntington District has also responded to interested individuals desiring information on the Dolly Sods and West Virginia Maneuver Area. The Huntington District maintains an Administrative Record (AR) which is a compilation of documents that record USACE's decision-making process regarding the selection of the response actions taken at the Dolly Sods and West Virginia Maneuver Areas.

4.3 Summary of Community Interviews

A USACE contractor, S&C Advertising & Public Relations, conducted community surveys in the Dolly Sods Region and surrounding towns to evaluate local and visitor awareness, knowledge, and concerns about potential ordnance at Dolly Sods. During the five-day visit, July 28 - August 1, 2003, 70 people were surveyed face-to-face, and two people by phone. Informational meetings and phone conferences with various opinion leaders and related agencies were also obtained to enhance the study.

Nearly all locals are aware of and are comfortable with the military's history and earlier restoration efforts at Dolly Sods. Residents who were not familiar with it were fairly new to the area. The majority of people visit Dolly Sods for its recreational value. Many locals use the natural resources to supplement their lifestyle (hunting and berry picking). The locals feel a connection with the land and want to see as little disturbance to it as possible. Many visitors were also familiar with the history and generally had obtained their information from the Internet. Those who had no prior knowledge were intrigued with the story, but not alarmed. No one seemed reluctant to go there because of the past or future risk of military munitions. The majority of people surveyed felt that additional measures to ensure community awareness of military munitions should be taken (41 replied "yes", 31 replied "no"). Of those who did, most said that trailhead signs and posters were the most effective forms of communication. Please see Appendix B for the comprehensive report.

4.4 Restoration Advisory Board

A Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) is generally established when high interest is demonstrated by area residents in the environmental course of action at a particular site. The community survey conducted July 28-August 1, 2003 showed that only 24 percent of the respondents demonstrated an interest in participating in a future RAB.

A major clean-up of the area was performed in 1997-98. There are no intrusive remediation actions currently underway, thereby inferring that human health and safety are not at immediate risk. It can then be concluded that these factors are directly related to the low RAB interest. Fifty seven percent of those interviewed thought USACE had taken the appropriate steps to ensure safety to both visitors and surrounding residents. Area residents are aware of USACE and the past remedial actions performed. USACE has communicated in a concise and effective manner as to not alarm, but to educate and inform.

In secondary interviews with local opinion leaders, results showed that establishing a RAB was not a major concern or priority. For the aforementioned reasons, no Restoration Advisory Board is recommended for this project, unless the current situation changes dramatically.

4.5 Key Community Concerns

- Continue and expand awareness efforts because there are always new visitors coming to Dolly Sods who may be unaware of potential UXO hazards.
- Signs need to be monitored on a regular basis and replaced/updated as necessary.
- Use the Internet to disseminate public information regarding UXO safety at Dolly Sods.

5.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

5.1 Public Involvement Plan (PIP) Objective

The objective of this plan is to manage the risk to public safety from the hazards of any military munitions resulting from past DoD activities at the Dolly Sods area.

This PIP incorporates USACE's suggested format for a PIP, EP 1110-3-8 (April 9, 2004) and reflects the established guidelines set forth.

The Dolly Sods PIP takes into consideration that unlike many FUDS sites, the primary users and stakeholders of the site extend beyond the local communities to include other West Virginia locations and surrounding states. Stakeholders also include people whose main interest is outdoor activities and have traveled a distance for the experience. This PIP focuses on both the general public and the residents in surrounding communities. Its primary focus is on communicating the risks posed by UXO and the necessary steps to avoid being hurt by UXO without alarming the public.

5.2 Partnership for Public Awareness at Dolly Sods

A partnership agreement has been established by the USACE Huntington District, USFS, WVDoF, WVDEP, and U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center in Huntsville to promote awareness of military munitions (formerly known as unexploded ordnance (UXO)) in the Dolly Sods Area of the Monongahela National Forest. The agencies will make visitors and local residents aware of the risks to human health and the environment from the hazards of the military munitions resulting from past DoD operations in this area. The agencies have agreed to develop and foster understanding, trust, cooperation, and the exchange of information with stakeholders to accomplish the following goals:



**Partnership Agreement for
Public Awareness and Organizational Plan (PAP)
of Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) at Dolly Sods
Monongahela National Forest**

MISSION

As partners committed to promoting awareness of unexploded ordnance (UXO) in the Dolly Sods Area of the Monongahela National Forest, we will use the "Public Awareness and Organizational Plan" (PAP) to make visitors and local residents aware of the risks to human health and the environment from the hazards of the unexploded ordnance resulting from past Department of Defense (DoD) operations in this area. We will strive to develop and foster understanding, trust, cooperation, and the exchange of information with stakeholders to accomplish these goals.

GOALS

1. Educate the public without alarming.
2. Ensure that stakeholders understand that public safety is the primary concern.
3. Serve the public's information needs.
4. Foster and maintain trust among stakeholders.
5. Review and update the PAP at least annually to ensure it is consistent with our mission.
6. Support the Federal and State Fire Suppression Objectives in potential ordnance areas.

Wren Wilson

Wally Dean

Eric O. ...

Jeffrey J. ...

Rich Meadows

Jim Maurer

William ...

Carol L. White

Steve ...

Partnership Agreement signed by Dolly Sods project stakeholders in 2004.

5.3 Stakeholders and Communications Charts

Categories	Stakeholders	At Risk *	Media (Top Four)							
			Internet	Video	Brochures/ Pamphlets	Signs	Hunters Safety Course	Briefing / Permit	Maps	News- papers
Recreation	Hikers	HH	x		x	x			x	
	Horse Back Riding	HH	x		x	x			x	
	Mountain Bikers	HH	x		x	x			x	
	Fishing	HH	x		x	x			x	
	Bird Watchers	HH	x		x	x			x	
	Hunting	HH	x			x	x		x	
	Berry Pickers	HH	x		x	x			x	
	Outfitters Clubs / Private Organizations	HH, S/E	x			x		x	x	
		HH, S/E	x	x		x		x	x	
Governmental Special / Interests	Fire Departments	HH, S/E, P	x			x		x	x	
	Forest Service	HH, S/E, P	x			x		x	x	
	WV DEP	HH, S/E, P	x			x		x	x	
	Private Property Owners	HH, S/E, P	x			x				x
	DoD	HH, P	x			x		x	x	
	Nature Conservancy	HH, P	x			x		x	x	
	Sierra Club	HH, P	x		x	x				x
	Schools	HH, S/E	x	x	x					x
	Visitors Centers	HH, S/E	x	x					x	x
	Brooks Clubs	HH, S/E	x			x		x		x
Retail/ Tourism	Sporting Goods	S/E	x	x	x					x
	Restaurants	S/E	x		x					x
	Groceries	S/E	x		x					x
	Gas	S/E	x		x					x
	Motel / Hotel / Cabins	S/E	x	x	x					x

Legend:

- *HH - Human Health
- S/E - Social/Economical
- P - Political

Communications Chart

Media	Location	Responsibility
Internet	www.lrh.usace.army.mil/projects/current/derp-fuds/wvma www.wvweb.com http://www.wvdnr.gov/ http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/sp/dolly_sods_wilderness.htm www.wvforestry.com	USACE STATE STATE FS WVDOF
Video	Visitors Center Internet State Parks Retail Store	USACE initially then FS USACE initially then FS USACE initially then FS USACE initially then FS
Pamphlets	Ranger Station Trail Heads Information Portals	USACE initially then FS
Hunters Safety Course	DNR Offices	DNR
Briefing / Permit	Various	FS, USACE
Maps	www.lrh.usace.army.mil Trail Heads Camp Grounds Visitors Centers Near Dolly Sods Information Portals Internet	FS, USACE
Newspaper	Newspaper	FS, USACE
Schools	In Location	FS, USACE, WVDOF

Legend:
 USACE - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 FS - U.S. Forest Service

The Stakeholders and Communications charts were developed in conjunction with the aforementioned partnering agencies involved in the Dolly Sods Public Awareness and Organizational Plan (PAP). These agencies have agreed to develop and foster understanding, trust, cooperation, and the exchange of information with stakeholders.

One chart outlines key stakeholders involved and affected by Dolly Sods. The stakeholders outlined are those who frequent Dolly Sods for recreational purposes, government and special interest agencies that regulate and hold interest in the area, and retail entities that depend on Dolly Sods for much of their business. A legend is provided to reflect the type of impact the site has on specific stakeholders. These include human health, social/economic and political effects.

The methods of dissemination for the UXO safety messages are also outlined in this chart. The top four include: the Internet, video, pamphlets and signs. The partnering agencies agreed that the Internet will achieve the most widespread effect in disseminating safety messages. Those traveling a distance to visit Dolly Sods will quite often rely on the Internet as the first line of communication to gather general information about the area. The partnering agencies agreed that the safety messages not only be placed on a Dolly Sods specific Web site, but also on their respective agency's Web site to ensure that the reach of this important message is widespread.

An important communications tool was developed during 2004 specifically for this PIP. The final version of the video, titled "Enjoying Dolly Sods Safely", explains the history, use of the area as infantry training ground for WWII, and the steps that the USACE has taken to ensure safety through UXO removal actions. It also includes the Army's 3Rs safety message. The video has initially been provided by the USACE; the USFS will distribute the video to retail stores, state parks, visitor centers, and other points of entry of the Dolly Sods area. This video may also be used when the partnering agencies visit schools and special interest groups to educate them on the Dolly Sods area and UXO safety. The video will also be streamed online, via the project web site, to enable all people with an Internet connection to view it.

Two variations of the brochure/pamphlet were produced during 2004, and finalized in 2005. A children's version includes the character "Wally the Woodchuck," who was specifically created to convey the UXO safety message to children. The adult version includes the same important safety message but in a more straight-forward, and more mature manner. The brochures/pamphlets are initially being provided by the USACE; the USACE and USFS will be responsible for distribution.

Warning signs were cited during the community interviews as being the most important factor in making the public aware of potential dangers of UXO. As a result of this plan, brighter and bolder trailhead signs were designed and produced in 2004-05. Newly developed, blaze orange, warning signs have been posted at frequently visited areas such as campgrounds, trails and information kiosks. Special consideration was given to being able to reproduce the new trailhead signs in black and white, since signs disappear and need to be replaced more often than new replacements are available. The signs warn about possible UXO and include the toll-free contact number (1-888-283-0303) in case UXO is spotted. As part of the Partnership Agreement, instead of three different telephone numbers to call for assistance, the Partnership made available a 24-hour toll free number that can answer emergency UXO reports. New signs now have only one telephone number to call in case of an emergency. The USACE placed new signs at frequently visited areas in the Dolly Sods Region, and provided new signs to the USFS during 2004; the responsibility currently rests upon the USFS to maintain the signs. The USFS has agreed to monitor the trails at Dolly Sods and replace signs that have disappeared.

The WVDEP will include the important safety message in the hunter safety courses.

One of the most important tools developed during 2004 is a map of the Dolly Sods Region which includes hiking trails that were cleared for UXO. It is important to note that previously there had been no detailed map of the area showing trails. Such a map is of great importance to visitors of the area. It will ensure that visitors will know which areas have been cleared. Printable maps of the area have been posted on the new USACE Dolly Sods Web site. The maps include important information such as the "3 Rs of UXO Safety"

which are "Recognize, Retreat, Report." Hard copies of these maps were originally printed in 2005, and are regularly distributed by USACE and the USFS and made available to the public at visitor centers, campgrounds, and information portals. Re-prints of the maps using the latest mapping available for the project are now available at the same locations.

The USFS and USACE will provide local newspapers with the educational information created for Dolly Sods so that stakeholders and the general public can be informed.

The USFS, USACE, and WVDOF will provide local schools and educators with the Dolly Sods educational materials (pamphlets, videos, children's and adult presentations, etc.). The message is especially important to share with educators and students because field trips are often taken to the Dolly Sods area. Also the children that have been informed at school are likely to share the message with their families and loved ones, thereby extending the reach of the important safety message.

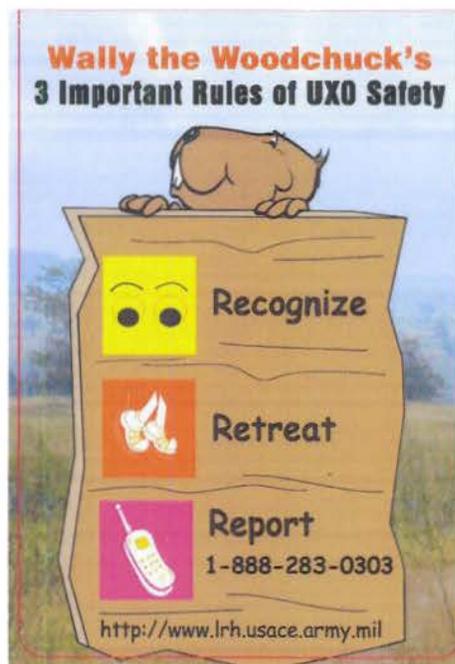
A presentation has also been produced to target educators. This "Train the Trainer" presentation is specifically designed to train teachers, firefighters, and law enforcement on the Dolly Sods area, UXO safety, and methods to convey the messages to the general public.

5.4 Key Message and "Wally the Woodchuck"

The key message is safety. Since UXO is not common, the USACE Huntington District created a character called "Wally the Woodchuck" to explain "The 3 Rs of UXO Safety."



The awareness campaign emphasizes "Recognize, Retreat, Report."



5.5 Public Involvement Action Plan

As a result of the intense interaction, idea sharing, brainstorming and cooperation from the agency representatives who created the Partnership for Public Awareness at Dolly Sods, this comprehensive PIP has been tailor-made to reach out to the multiple stakeholders inside and outside of the State of West Virginia. The participating agencies have agreed to be actively involved in the distribution of the public awareness materials developed specifically for this educational campaign.

The WVDoF has offered to incorporate this educational campaign into their established outreach directly to students in schools located near the Dolly Sods area.

Each agency has agreed to establish a link on their Web sites that contains the products and educational materials prepared for this program

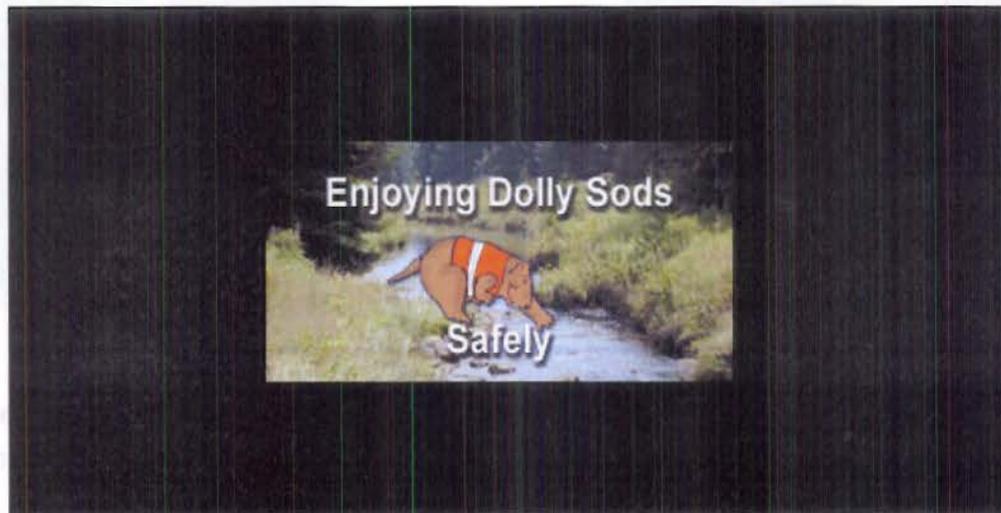
5.5.1 Administrative Record (AR)

The AR is a file containing technical reports and reference documents regarding the environmental sites for public review.

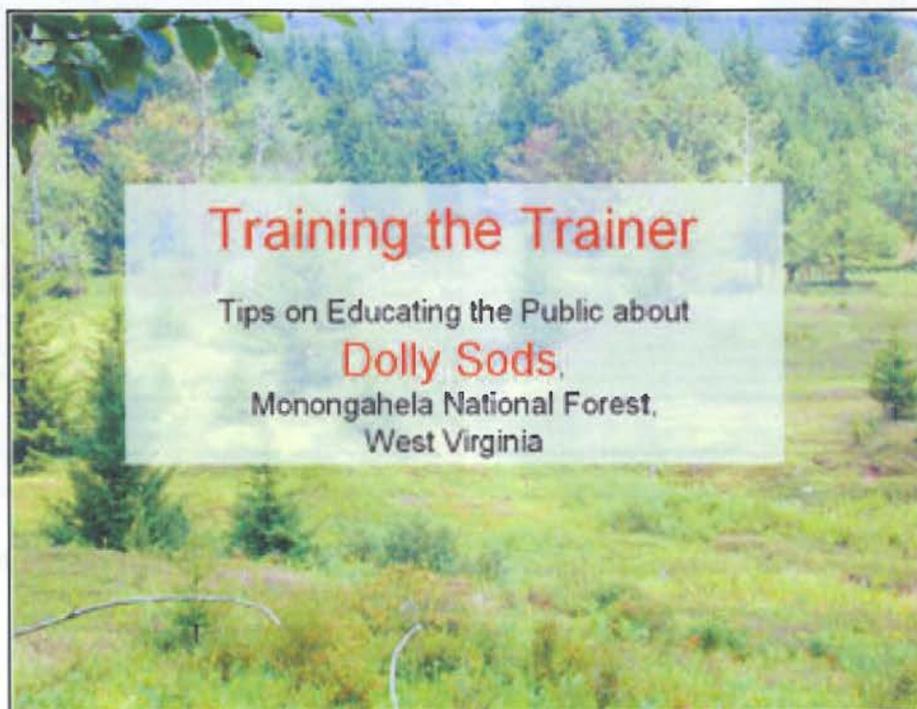
The Administrative Record for the Dolly Sods and West Virginia Maneuver Area is available for public viewing at the following locations:		
U.S. Forest Service Chet-Potomac Ranger District Petersburg, WV	Contact: Julie Fosbender (304) 257-4488 x14	U.S. Forest Service Hours: 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. EST
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Huntington District 502 Eighth Street Huntington, WV 25701	Contact: Jean Read (304) 399-5094	Hours for public viewing Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

5.5.2 Public Awareness Training for Teachers, Firefighters, Law Enforcement, etc.

This public awareness training consists of a video describing Dolly Sods, UXO and safety. A PowerPoint presentation has also been developed specifically to educate teachers, firefighters, law enforcement and other community leaders on UXO safety at Dolly Sods. This training will provide the recipients with tools to educate the general public.



Dolly Sods Video



Train the Trainer PowerPoint Presentation

5.5.3 Community Awareness Educational Products

The following products have been developed specifically to educate the general public on UXO safety at Dolly Sods.

Promotional Products



Can Cozy



Waterproof Case with Snap Link

What is a Danger Zone?

Anywhere there are UXO!

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers performed a clean up in the Dolly Sods area. All Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) found were removed; however, there is still a risk that some undetected UXO could resurface.

What are UXO?

UXO = UneXploded Ordnance
Mortars, bullets, etc.

Where did they come from?
During WWII, the U.S. Army used **Dolly Sods** for target practice.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) performed a clean up of the area.

All **UXO** found were removed. However, there is still a risk that some undetected **UXO** may resurface.

Rules of UXO Safety

Recognize

UXO can be found in many shapes and sizes: They may look new or old, shiny or rusty.

Lengths vary up to 23 inches

Retreat

Go back the way you came.

Do Not Touch!

Stay at least 50 feet away.

Point out **UXO**, mark the area by:

Making an arrow with rocks.

Making an arrow with sticks.

Tying a bandana around something.

Report

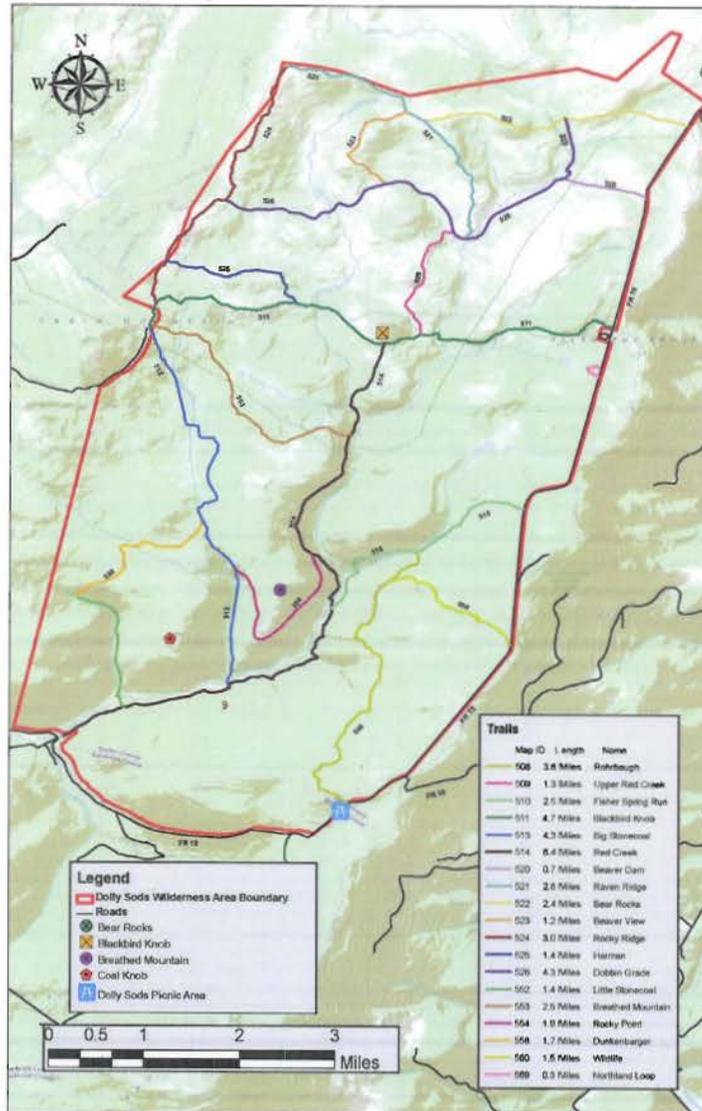
1-888-283-0303
Report the location of the **UXO**.

Take Precautions!
Leave no unexploded ordnance. Stay at least 50 feet away. Do not touch or move anything in area.

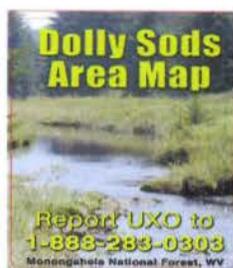
Sponsored by
US Army Corps of Engineers
Huntington District
<http://www.34.usace.army.mil>

Back of Dolly Sods Area map with safety information.

Dolly Sods Map

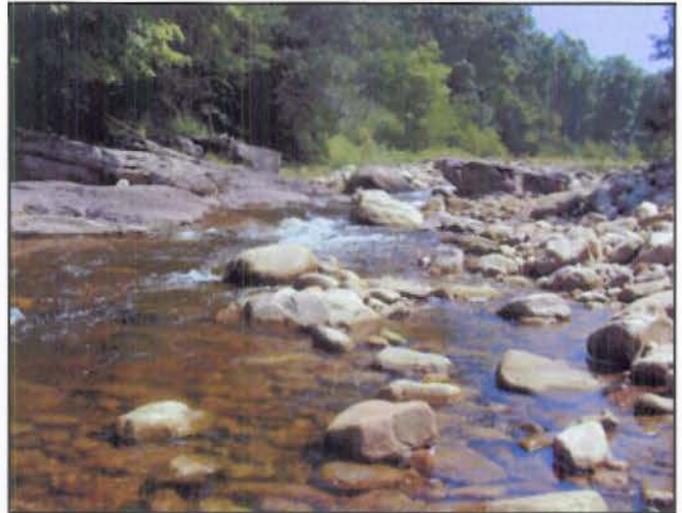


This double-sided map is designed to fold down to 3.5" X 5." The front and back sections (shown here) are printed on water repellant paper stock. When the map is opened to its full size, it is 13.75" X 25".



Scenic Photography

New and updated photography was generated as part of the original PIP (2005). The scenic photos can be displayed at events, schools, fairs, and other functions to educate the public on Dolly Sods. They can also be used in the development of new fact sheets, presentations, and other educational materials.



Warning Signs

WARNING

Highly explosive
LIVE BOMBS
from WWII training
can still be found
in Dolly Sods.
DO NOT TOUCH!



Lengths vary up to 23 inches

Report it immediately to:
1-888-283-0303

WARNING

Highly explosive
LIVE BOMBS
from WWII training
can still be found
in Dolly Sods.
DO NOT TOUCH!



Lengths vary up to 23 inches

Report it immediately to:
1-888-283-0303

5.6 Implementation Recommendations

Create a New Dolly Sods Web site

The government agencies who created the PAP for Dolly Sods are the USFS, WVDEP and WVDoF, in addition to USACE Huntington District and U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville District. The partnering agencies collectively decided that the Internet is the optimal method of dissemination of all Dolly Sods educational and outreach materials.

The rationale for the development of a West Virginia Maneuver Area, and Dolly Sods Region, Web site is simply because a very large number of visitors to Dolly Sods come from other states. People traveling to visit Dolly Sods will most likely access the Internet to obtain all relevant information for their visit. The Web site enables anyone to print the Dolly Sods educational material, including the brochures and maps at his or her convenience.

Another key reason for establishing the Dolly Sods Web site was for dissemination of the map created in conjunction with the USFS and by the USACE, which is the only current map in existence that reflects the current terrain and safe trails. Twenty-five thousand copies of the map have been printed and distributed to local area businesses, stakeholders and partner agencies. As noted in Section 5.3, 25,000 additional copies of new mapping have been produced. A downloadable and printable map available on the project's website can continue to ensure the safety of visitors to the Dolly Sods Area.

This Web site saves the government thousands of dollars in reprinting and distribution costs, and ensures that current maps, brochures and other training materials that have been developed jointly with these agencies remain available for years to come at no additional cost to the government. As an added benefit, schoolteachers, civic organizations, environmental groups, firefighters, and law enforcement officers can easily download the Dolly Sods educational and outreach materials for instructional purposes at no cost. By making the educational and outreach materials available on the Internet, it increases the reach beyond the West Virginia state borders to achieve a level of dissemination not possible without a massive advertising or direct mail campaign.

As part of the PAP approved by the partnering agencies, the Internet was considered to be the optimal method of dissemination. Current information on Dolly Sods is available on Huntington District's Web site. As part of this outreach program, the partnering agencies have agreed to include Web links to all "Wally the Woodchuck" training and outreach materials on their respective Web sites. This will increase the campaign's reach, more than tripling its own Web visitors.

It is evident that a Dolly Sods specific Web site is not only important to the partnering team, but is also considered to be extremely effective by USACE Headquarters, as referenced from the "Public Participation in the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) for Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) EP 1110-3-8, dated April 9, 2004. "Web sites/project home pages are very effective community relations tools. They can be used to disseminate to and receive from the public various types of information. They can, for example, be used in conjunction with various other communication techniques (fact sheets, news releases, response to queries, etc.)."

The new West Virginia Maneuver Area and Dolly Sods Region website was implemented in 2006 and incorporated on the Huntington District's internet site (www.lrh.usace.army.mil/projects/current/derp-fuds/wvma). The site was developed by S&C, under contract with the USACE Huntington District, and the partnering team provided input through a review process.

Promotional materials

Another campaign component is to generate awareness through the use of promotional materials. The important UXO safety message is displayed on each promotional item including the toll free number to call if UXO is spotted. Items were selected because they are useful items to the visitors of Dolly Sods. Promotional items were produced during 2004 and again in 2011, and have been, and will continue to be,

distributed in the Dolly Sods Region, and at fairs and other special events to promote awareness of the UXO safety message.

Brochures (pamphlets)

Two variations of the brochure have been produced. A children's version includes the character "Wally the Woodchuck," who was specifically created to convey the UXO safety message to children. This brochure includes several educational exercises to reinforce the safety message. The adult version includes the same important safety message but in a more straightforward manner. These brochures are currently being distributed by USACE, and it is recommended that these brochures be distributed at the USFS offices, visitors' centers, schools and other public places to promote awareness of the safety message. These brochures are also downloadable from the project website.

Video

The Dolly Sods video is an important educational tool. It provides the history of the area, including its unique name. It also describes the important role Dolly Sods played during WWII as a site for infantry training. The video also features members of the USACE providing first-hand experiences at Dolly Sods and explaining the role of the USACE in the clean-up effort. The video also features the very important UXO safety message. It is recommended that copies of the video be readily available to educators, civic organizations, and visitor centers. The video is also streamed on the Dolly Sods Web site. The USACE should coordinate with other relevant organizations such as the USFS, and WVDEP to provide the streamed video on their respective Web sites.

Safety Presentations

The children's Flash (animated) presentation features "Wally the Woodchuck" explaining UXO safety in a fun and exciting way. Wally is extremely important in order to convey the serious message in such a way to maintain the interest and attention of children. Upon viewing the Flash presentation, the children will know what UXO is and what to do if they find it. The "3 Rs of UXO safety" which are "Recognize, Retreat and Report" are intended to be simple, allowing even children to remember them easily. This presentation will prove useful to visitor centers, schools, and organizations such as the Boy Scouts to name only a few. A professional voice over creating "Wally the Woodchuck's" persona has been integrated to make this presentation even more effective.

The adult PowerPoint presentation uses the same simple messages featured in the children's Flash presentation. The adult version features beautiful photos of the Dolly Sods area, real pictures of UXO, an explanation of FUDS and safety precautions. The presentation is short and simple to keep the interest and attention of those viewing it. This presentation will prove useful to visitor centers and environmental clubs such as the Sierra Club, to name a few.

A "Train the Trainer" PowerPoint presentation has been developed specifically to educate teachers, firefighters, law enforcement and other community leaders on UXO safety at Dolly Sods. The presentation explains useful methods to present the difficult subject matter to the general public in a fun and interesting way. The presentation also outlines steps of good presentation preparation and execution to help the trainer be as informative as possible. It is recommended that the USACE actively seek opportunities to show this presentation to educators and community leaders in the effort to promote the important safety message.

All three presentations are streamed on the Dolly Sods specific Web site. USACE should coordinate to provide the streamed presentations to other relevant organizations such as the USFS, WVDEP and the Sierra Club, and should include links to the video and presentations on their respective Web sites.

Trade Show Booth

The trade show booth was created to promote the UXO safety message at fairs and special events that the USACE attends. The booth features "Wally the Woodchuck," the "3 Rs of UXO safety," photos of UXO, and beautiful scenic photos of Dolly Sods. This trade show booth is very important because it is something that the USACE can bring to different events and generate awareness. USACE should

continue to give occasional public and conference presentations regarding the Dolly Sods project to solicit input from the community and educate the public regarding UXO safety.

New Dolly Sods Trails Map

Previously, there were no maps outlining Dolly Sods trails and campgrounds. This map is extremely important to visitors and residents alike because it enables them to see the established trails, campsites and other important landmarks. Without this map visitors have an increased chance of wandering into "danger zones." The two-sided, easy to carry pocket size map is a must have for all Dolly Sods visitors. The front includes the "3 Rs of UXO safety," the 1-800 number, photos of UXO that might be found, beautiful scenic photos and "Wally the Woodchuck." It also includes the national awareness campaigns "Leave No Trace" and "Smokey the Bear." The reverse side has a large map of the Dolly Sods area including all trails, campsites, boundaries, streams, roads and picnic areas. Hard copies of the map were originally produced 2005, and were updated and reprinted in 2011. The map is located on the Dolly Sods website so that it may be downloaded and printed from any computer with an Internet connection. The map should also continue to be distributed to visitor centers, ranger stations and be posted at the beginning of each trail; plans are to continue them in out years.

New Warning Signs

Two trailhead signs were developed for use at Dolly Sods. These trailheads warn of UXO and also provide the toll free number in case UXO is spotted. Bright orange was the color of choice for these signs because it is eye-catching and it creates a sense of urgency to heed the important safety message. The USFS has the trailhead artwork in the event that the signs initially placed and provided are stolen or destroyed.

Conclusion

This PIP has been tailored to meet the specific needs of the Dolly Sods FUDS project. All public awareness communications tools have a common theme and look. In order to reinforce the key safety messages each product has been tailored to the specific audience for which it is intended. The messages created are intended to promote awareness comprehensible to people from all walks of life.

Timing

All above-described educational materials have been completed and are currently being implemented. Spring and summer visitors are the key target of this plan. The educational campaign should continue to be explored and physical/hard copies of educational products should continue to be distributed.