EVALUATING THE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF UNDERWATER UXO

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The Department of the Navy has been investigating the environmental effects of munitions in the marine environment for several years. These efforts have been supported by many programs including SERDP/ESTCP, and the Navy Environmental Sustainability Development to Integration (NESDI).

Specific projects conducted under these programs will be described including the ESTCP/NESDI funded effort to develop a model to predict the physical movement of UXO underwater. Other projects that will be discussed are the development of a model to predict UXO casing corrosion, determining the toxicity of munitions constituents (MC) in the marine environment, and evaluating Physico/Chemical properties of MC in Marine Matrices (Sediment & Water).

These efforts are being conducted by a core group of technical experts from: the environmental and ocean departments of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Engineering Service Center (NAVFAC ESC); Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center – San Diego; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Engineer Research and Development Center – Vicksburg; Scott A. Jenkins Consulting; and Sound and Sea Technology.