Swiss Armed Forces Unexploded Ordnance Call Center

Statistics 2019

The UXO Call Center and its partners are responsible for the disposal of unexploded ordnance, abandoned ordnance and ammunition scrap metal throughout Switzerland. The Swiss EOD Center works in cooperation with the Regional Division Commands in regularly conducted range area clearances (RAC) on firing ranges of the Swiss Armed Forces.

The following pages provide an overview of the activities in 2019 and a comparison of the last ten years.

Facts & Figures
- Vergleich der letzten 10 Jahre der Blindgängermeldungen
- Fundorte der eingegangenen Meldungen
- Top 10 der gefundenen Munitionsobjekte
- Meldungen nach Zustand und meldenden Personengruppen
- Vergleich der letzten 10 Jahre der Geschoss- und Aufräumaktionen

Kontakt
## Facts & Figures 2019

### Reported unexploded ordnance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of reports</td>
<td>738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposed UXO / AXO / Inert ordnance and FFE (in item numbers) *</td>
<td>2241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performed work in hours (EOD, Infra Centre, Military Police and other partners)</td>
<td>4727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilometers driven with service vehicles (EOD, Infra Centre, Military Police and other partners)</td>
<td>108168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Compensations (in CHF)</td>
<td>5050</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Battle area clearance (BAC) campaigns (with support of personnel of Swiss EOD Centre)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of RAC campaigns</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposed UXO</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inert munitions or FFE (in kilograms)</td>
<td>45890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of involved persons (EOD, partners and military units)</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helicopter operations (in hours)</td>
<td>51.38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UXO = unexploded ordnance: ammunition may have been fired, dropped, launched or projected yet remains unexploded through malfunction, design or for other reason.

AXO = abandoned ordnance: Explosive ordnance that has not been used. It may or may not have been primed, fuzed, armed or otherwise prepared for use.

FFE = free from explosives: Inert ammunition or parts without explosives.
UXO Reports
Received reports: 738 (24% above 10-year average). Reasons could be:
- Increasing outdoor activities within former firing ranges;
- Favorable weather;
- Melting snow and receding glaciers;
- Increasing police/ law enforcement agencies requests.

UXO
Destroyed UXO: 297 (16% above 10-year average). Despite reduced live firing exercises, UXOs can surge locally depending on range conditions and ordnance used. On the long term the amount of UXO is expected to sink.

Ammunition scrap
Disposes ordnance scrap: 1426 Items (25% above 10-year average). Reasons could be:
- Favorable weather;
- Melting snow and receding glaciers;
- Clearance of former firing ranges

Abandoned Explosive Ordnance (AXO)
Disposed AXO: 518 Items (30% above 10-year average). Reasons could be:
- Increasing police/ law enforcement agencies requests.
- Increasing turn-ins from civilians.
Statistics 2019

UXO locations according reports

Top Ten among the Cantons, related to the number of reports:

- BE: 133
- GR: 100
- VS: 87
- SG: 67
- VD: 52
- ZH: 33
- AG: 26
- TI: 26
- UR: 26
- SZ: 22
## Statistics 2019

### Top 10 most found ordnance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Total Reported</th>
<th>Thereof UXO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>120mm Mortar HE Practice 68</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rocket Anti-Tank Practice 95</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81mm Mortar Smoke</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81mm Mortar HE Practice 66</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>155mm Howitzer HE 74</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81mm Mortar HE 66</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35mm Anti-Aircraft Practice-T</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75mm Fieldcannon Shrapnel</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60mm Mortar ILLUM</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83mm Rocket Practice</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other pictures of ammunition, click the link: [Identifizierungshilfe](#)
Statistics 2019

Reports according to condition of ordnance, reporting persons and locations

Condition of ordnance

- Inert ordnance or free from explosives (FFE): 1426 (64%)
- Unexploded ordnance (UXO): 297 (13%)
- Abandoned ordnance (AXO): 518 (23%)

Reporting persons and locations

- Civilian: 530 (72%) (Shooting ranges, private buildings)
- Police: 130 (18%) (turn-in by civilians, house searches)
- Mil Units: 73 (10%) (UXO during training)
Statistics 2019

Comparing the last ten years of range area clearance
(with support of personnel of the Swiss EOD Center)

Number of BAC
Possible reasons:
• Reduced/ insufficient ressources

Number of found UXO
Possible reasons:
• Depending on type of firing range*

Number tons of scrap metal
Possible reasons:
• Depending on type of firing range*

* The annual fluctuation of the quantity of UXOs and FFE depends on the type of firing range and weapon systems in use.
Contact details

Do you have any questions?
The UXO Call Center is at your disposal

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https://www.vtg.admin.ch/en/service/was-koennen-wir-fuer-sie-tun-/blindgaenger-melden.html

Phone Police: 117

Or download our unexploded ordnance app from the
Apple App Store or the Google Play Store by searching for the term «Blindgänger»