Swiss Armed Forces Unexploded Ordnance Alert Centre

Statistics 2018

The UXO Alert Centre 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 battle area clearances (BAC) on firing ranges of the Swiss Armed Forces.

The following pages provide an overview of the activities in 2018 and a comparison of the last ten years.

- Facts & Figures 2018
- Comparison of the last 10 years
- Location of reported UXO
- Top 10 of reported items
- Type of items and reporting persons
- Comparison of the last 10 years in target area clearance
- Impressum
# Facts & Figures 2018

## Reported unexploded ordnance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of reports</td>
<td>631</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposed UXO / AXO / Inert ordnance and FFE (in item numbers) *</td>
<td>2128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performed work in hours (EOD, Infra Centre, Military Police and other partners)</td>
<td>4608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilometers driven with service vehicles (EOD, Infra Centre, Military Police and other partners)</td>
<td>91190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Compensations (in CHF)</td>
<td>9650</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of BAC campaigns</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposed UXO</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inert munitions or FFE (in kilograms)</td>
<td>33'000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of involved persons (EOD, partners and military units)</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helicopter operations (in hours)</td>
<td>47</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 - ammunition may or may not have been primed, fuzed, armed or otherwise prepared for use
* FFE: free from explosives - Inert ammunition parts without explosives
Statistics 2018

Comparison of the last ten years of UXO reports

UXO Reports
The amount of announcements has remained steady along the years. In some years the numbers might slightly change. This depends on a number of factors, like weather and outdoor activities.

UXO
The amount of reported UXOs is slowly sinking due to reduced training activities for the armed forces. Nevertheless in the last few years a slight increase has been registered. Possible reasons could be:
- Good weather and increased outdoor activities

Ammunition scrap
The amount of ammunition scrap is rising. Possible reasons are:
- Good weather
- Snow melting in higher mountain regions
- Construction works at former shooting ranges

Abandoned Explosive Ordnance (AXO)
The amount of AXO being reported is sinking. Possible reasons could be:
- Better control mechanisms
- Sinking turn ins/ handover by civilians

Centre of Excellence NBC-EOD
Swiss Armed Forces Unexploded Ordnance Alert Centre - Statistics 2018
Statistics 2018

UXO locations according reports

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

- BE: 69
- GR: 41
- SG: 41
- VS: 38
- UR: 15
- VD: 15
- TI: 10
- OW: 8
- SZ: 8
- FR: 6
Top 10 most found ordnance

- **Rifle Grenade Exercise 58**: 34 total, 11 UXO
- **81mm Mortar HE 66**: 43 total, 11 UXO
- **120mm Mortar HE 68**: 47 total, 15 UXO
- **81mm Mortar HE Practice 66**: 52 total, 8 UXO
- **75mm Fieldcannon Shrapnel**: 63 total, 1 UXO
- **81mm Mortar HE 12**: 70 total, 66 UXO
- **155mm Howitzer HE 74**: 70 total, 63 UXO
- **81mm Mortar Smoke**: 85 total, 6 UXO
- **60mm Mortar ILLUM**: 117 total, 20 UXO
- **83mm Rocket Practice**: 455 total, 43 UXO

Other pictures of ammunition, click the link: [Identification chart](#)
Statistics 2018

Reports according to condition of ordnance, reporting persons and locations

Condition of ordnance

- Inert ordnance or free from explosives (FFE): 1392; 65%
- Unexploded ordnance (UXO): 384; 18%
- Abandoned ordnance (AXO): 352; 17%

Reporting persons and locations

- Civilian: 494; 78% (Shooting ranges, private buildings)
- Police: 77; 12% (Handing over by civilians, house searches)
- Mil Units: 60; 10% (UXO during training)
Statistics 2018

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

Number of BAC
Possible reasons:
• Reduced/ insufficient resources

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 Alert Centre is at your disposal

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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»