

RANGE OVERVIEW

Pinecastle Range Complex is a COMNAV AIRLANT Aircrew Combat Training Range under administrative control of Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Florida.

NOTE: Information contained within this handbook was extracted from FACS FACJAX INST 3000.1 Series.

PURPOSE:

The primary purpose of the Pinecastle Range Complex is to provide an environment wherein aircrews may learn the proper maneuvering tactics and weapons delivery techniques required while delivering weapons to targets within a potentially hostile environment; thus enhancing the potential for increased aircrew survivability and weapons delivery accuracy through proven tactics and maneuvering techniques. The Pinecastle Range Complex is used in support of U.S. Navy and Marine Corps aircrew training requirements. Civilian DoD personnel with reporting responsibilities to the Commanding Officer, NAS Jacksonville, manage the Pinecastle Range Complex. The Operations and Maintenance Service contractor provides operation and maintenance support.

SUPPORT EQUIPMENT:

The support and evaluation of aircrew training and ground target operations is provided by the Training Operations Evaluation Equipment and Systems. The evaluation effort is conducted from within the Range Operations Center (ROC) located at the Centroid facility. Electronic scoring and evaluation systems that support aircrew training consist of the following equipment: the Weapons Impact Scoring Set (WISS), Remote Strafe Scoring System (RSSS), Laser Designator/Simulator System (LD/SS), and Laser Evaluator System (LES).

Target Operations Support Equipment and Systems are used throughout the range complex to enhance the effectiveness and safety of the range. The systems include Safety Surveillance System (SSS), Target Night Lighting, Target Calibration Placards, and various Ground-Air and Ground-Ground communications equipment.

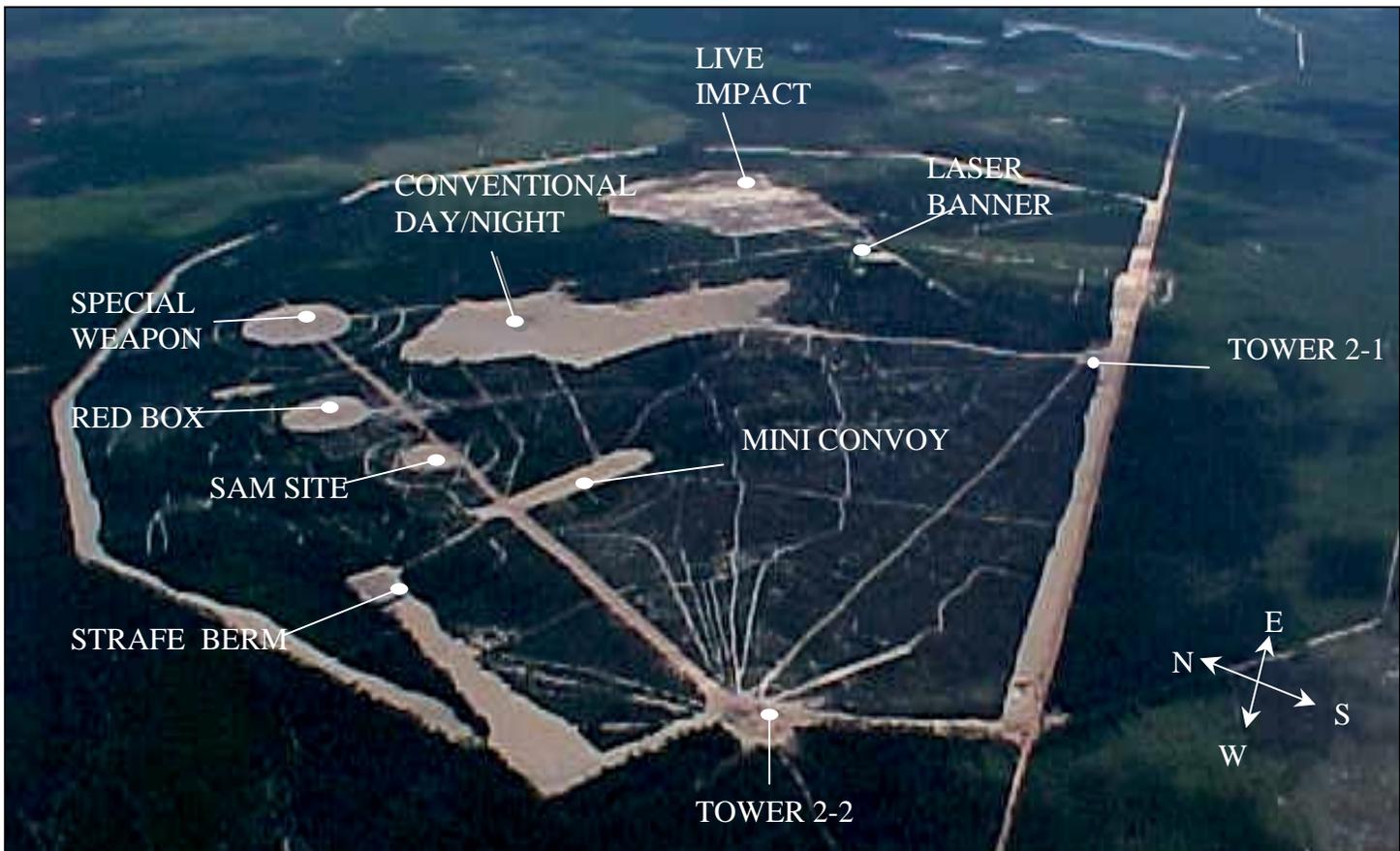
SCHEDULING:

The Fleet Area Control and Surveillance Facility (FACS FAC) Jacksonville (JAX) is the only scheduling authority for the Pinecastle Range Complex. All squadrons or operational units shall schedule, update and/or cancel flights and operations through FACS FACJAX. Live ordnance must be scheduled thirty-six (72) hours in advance. Laser operations must be scheduled a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours in advance.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

A High Burn Index or High Drought Index (when fire potential is extremely high) at the Pinecastle Impact Range (R-2910) may cause the U.S. Forest Service to close the range to ordnance delivery training. During these periods of high fire potential, all ordnance delivery training will be diverted to the Rodman Ordnance Range (R-2906). However, LIVE Ordnance, Lasers and Gun Ammunition are STRICTLY PROHIBITED at the Rodman Range.

PINECASTLE IMPACT RANGE



DESCRIPTION:

The Pinecastle Impact Range consists of one (1) LIVE Ordnance target and three (3) INERT Ordnance targets that can be scored. Two (2) other targets are available, however they are not scoreable. Also, a STRAFE target and a LASER target are available and can be scored.

PINECASTLE PRE-BRIEF:

Minimum altitude over any building outside the target area is restricted to 500 FT. Minimum altitude in the R-2910 restricted area extension is 1500 FT AGL. Aircrews will be provided the current weather and advised to maintain VFR. Upon initial check-in, the Strike Lead shall inform "Pinecastle" of intended "First Run Hot". Aircrews shall not release ordnance until cleared by "PINECASTLE". Squadron Commanders and Strike Lead shall be responsible for ensuring all aircrew members within the strike force have had familiarization flights over the Pinecastle Range for the purpose of target identification. Once positive target ID is acknowledged, aircrews will then be cleared to release ordnance. Each aircrew is required to report in HOT, OFF SAFE, and state the number of ordnance released. Upon completion of ordnance releases, aircrews will report switches safe, confirm WINCHESTER, and request push to 357.0 for departure.

LASER PRE-BRIEF:

Prior to lasing at Pinecastle Impact Range (R2910) a fly over must be made to ensure there is no encroachment of personnel or standing water puddles in the vicinity of the selected target. Authorized targets are the Red Box, Sam Site, Main Bull, Live T, Mini Convoy, Conventional, and the LES target board. All aircrews shall be familiar with laser hazard zones and firing fans as delineated in the FACSFAC JAX OPERATIONS MANUAL (FACSFACJAXINST 3000.1 Series).