

# Castner Range National Monument and Fort Bliss

**Ft. Bliss's Castner Range, situated within the Franklin Mountains near El Paso, Texas, contains extraordinary biodiversity and cultural resources, which merit protection for future generations.**

**This site was designated a National Monument by Presidential Proclamation on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023.**

**This National Monument designation honors our Veterans, preserves the area for Indigenous peoples, and provides opportunities for the local community.**

**The U.S. Army is proud to be named the manager of this National Monument.**



## Important Safety Message

Access to Castner Range National Monument is currently restricted while the Army completes the cleanup process.

Always follow the Army's 3Rs (Recognize, Retreat, and Report) of Explosive Safety:

For your safety, always follow the 3Rs of Explosives Safety:



**Recognize:** when you may have encountered a munition and that munitions are dangerous.

**Retreat:** do not approach, touch, move or disturb it, but carefully leave the area.

**Report:** call 911 and advise the police of what you saw and where you saw it.

For CRNM and updates:

<https://www.denix.osd.mil/crnm>

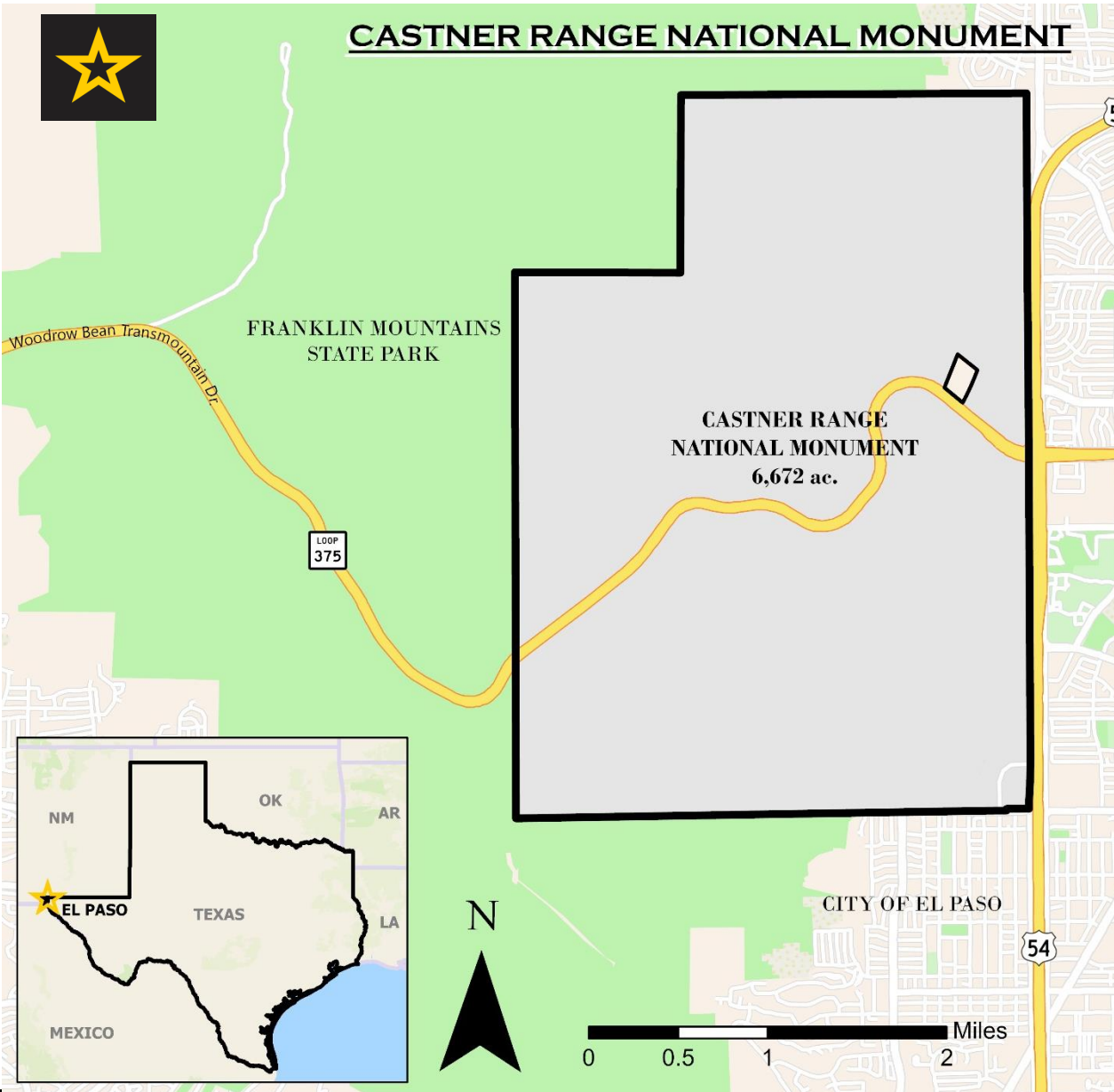


# Castner Range National Monument U.S. Army



Photo by Mark C. Clune

# CASTNER RANGE NATIONAL MONUMENT



President Biden designated Fort Bliss's Castner Range as a National Monument on March 21, 2023.

From 1926 to 1966, the U.S. Army primarily used the land for live-fire training, and military munitions remain on much of the property. Although no longer used for training, approximately 6,672 acres of Castner Range remain under Army control.

Castner Range is an area of great scenic beauty and biodiversity that includes archaeological sites of historic and cultural significance. President Biden's selection of the U.S. Army as the manager of the site will better enable the service to execute its environmental cleanup responsibilities and leverage its strong, preexisting relationships with the El Paso community. It will also be the first national monument that the military has managed in over 90 years, showcasing the ability of the Army to steward our lands for both military use and the general public.

To date, the U.S. Army has undertaken cleanup actions under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process. The Army currently is conducting a feasibility study, which is expected to be completed in FY25. The Army will then identify a preferred remedy and seek formal input from regulators and the public before the formal start of the selected remedy.

The Army is committed to opening parts of the range as they are remediated and as safe and appropriate.



*"It is a proud day for the Army and for the Department of the Defense," said Mr. Gabe Camarillo, Under Secretary of the Army. "This presidential proclamation honors our Veterans and preserves the Castner Range for future generations. We look forward to the day when the Army's munitions cleanup allows for the safe, recreational use of Castner Range National Monument for current and future generations."*