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Hapuna Beach reopens after Navy EOD removes unfused projectile

The Navy's Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Mobile Unit 3, Detachment Middle Pacific, in coordination with the Army, State Dept. of Land and Natural Resources, Hawaii County Fire and Police Departments and ocean safety lifeguards, successfully eliminated a potential hazard when explosives technicians removed a World War II-era, unfused projectile this morning at Hapuna Beach.

A team of two Pearl Harbor-based Navy EOD divers confirmed the object was a probable World War II ordnance item, measuring 8 inches in diameter and 16 inches in length. The object was embedded in lava rock, sand and marine growth and could not be lifted. The technicians used a small explosive charge to ensure the item contained no residual explosives, eliminating any potential hazard to fishermen, divers and other ocean users. No protected marine species were seen in a search around the item before and after the charge was initiated. The work was completed at about 10:30 a.m. today.

The beach has since reopened to the public.

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