Introduction

The U.S. Department of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration’s Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) offers a wide range of training scenarios and “one-of-a-kind” test beds. The Special Activities Support (SAS) group hosts and array of military and other training activities at the NNSS.

Multi-Purpose Training Complex (MPTC):

The NNSS is an extremely large, secure, and isolated location with extensive desert/mountain terrain. With restricted air space and more than 1,375 square miles surrounded by federal land, the NNSS is ideally suited to host classified combating terrorism operations and integrated exercises. Permits are in place for high-hazard projects. Inside the NNSS complex is a wide range of existing infrastructure that includes airstrips, industrial-type facilities for exercises, and an extensive tunnel complex. The abundance of varying terrain, developed target sets, known-distance shooting ranges, and a 360° live fire range make the NNSS an ideal training location. A secluded forward base (with dormitory-type barracks, cafeteria, and support buildings) provides a secure and isolated operations site.

Additional life-fire areas provide moving and pop-up targets capability and an explosive door breaching rack. The NNSS has existing airstrips, tunnels, and an extensive network of roads. These realistic venues provide opportunities for challenging, complex training for military and other government units.

The Big Explosives Experimental Facility (BEEF) allows up to 70,000 pounds of net explosive weight with high-speed photo optics and diagnostics capability. The Nonproliferation Test and Evaluation Complex (NPTEC) allows the open-air release of hazardous materials, an excellent venue for chemical and biological training.
The T-1 site includes ten crash scenarios with more than 50 props to simulate radiological transportation incidents. The SAS group supports mobility training, land navigation, readiness training exercises, close-quarter combat, marksmanship, demolition, and patrol training.

The uniqueness of the NNSS facility allows for the integration of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), life-fire, close air support, and aerial operations into training activities.