Facilitator: Ben Strumwasser, CirclePoint

The below listed material was provided to attendees:
- An agenda
- Presentation Slides – Update Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement (ESCA)
- Presentation Slides – Military Munitions Site Security Update
- Presentation Slides – Military Munitions Response Remaining Sites Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study
- Presentation Slides – Fort Ord Prescribed Burn Program 2008 and 2009
- Document Update
- 2009 What Happens Next Calendar
- BRAC Cleanup Team Meeting Minutes
- Post-Workshop Summary Notes January 9, 2009
- Fact Sheet – Military Munitions Response Sites Remaining Sites Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study

**Agenda Topics**
- Update Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement (ESCA)
- Military Munitions Site Security Update
- Munitions Response Sites Remaining Sites Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study
- Fort Ord Prescribed Burn Program 2008 and 2009

**Attendees**
- Ben Strumwasser, Facilitator
- Gail Youngblood, Fort Ord Base Realignment and Closure Office (BRAC)
- Melissa Broadston, BRAC
- David Eisen, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACE)
- Stan Cook, Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA)
- Peter Kelsall, Shaw Environmental
- Chris Duymich, Presidio of Monterey Fire Department/BRAC
- Roman Racca, California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)
- Rob Robinson, BRAC
- Tamara Voss, Monterey County Water Resources Agency
- Dan Carpenter, Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs Office
- Sean McStay, University of California Fort Ord Natural Reserve
- Patty Velez, California Department of Fish and Game
- Bob Nunes, Monterey Bay Air Pollution Control District
Welcome and Introductions
Mr. Ben Strumwasser, facilitator for the meeting, made introductions and gave an overview of the agenda.

Summary of Community Involvement Workshop
Mr. Strumwasser provided a summary of the key issues and questions raised during the April 8, 2009 Community Involvement Workshop. There were no questions/comments from the Technical Review Committee members.

Presentation: Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement Remediation Program
Mr. Stan Cook, Program Manager for the Fort Ord Reuse Authority Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement (ESCA) Remediation Program, provided an update of this cleanup project. He reviewed the upcoming activities at the Group Two Area -- Parker Flats Munitions Response Area noting the two future users: (1) California State University Monterey Bay off-campus and (2) the Monterey County. In general, the current Parker Flats field work includes vegetation cutting (expected completion: June 2009) as well as debris removal and surface investigation in habitat areas. He also provided a schedule for the Group 2 activities, including reports and meetings. As the ESCA property is very close to being transferred to the Fort Ord Reuse Authority, Mr. Cook provided a review of the safety access corridors and a review of the Fort Ord reuse Authority’s Community Involvement and Outreach Program, “ACCORD” principles.

He provided a map of the ESCA parcels as well as a list of ESCA Remediation Program documents which will soon be issued. These documents will be available for community comment. Upcoming ESCA meetings include: an informal community workshop (June 9, 2009 at the FORA Conference Center) to review the Group 2 draft Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study report. The next user’s group meeting is scheduled for April 29, 2009 at FORA. He recommended checking the ESCA information hotline (883-3506) or the new ESCA web site (www.fora-esca-rp.com) for information.

There were several questions regarding the ESCA presentation. Ms. Valez, California Department of Fish and Game, asked about the recipient of the Group 2 Habitat reserve/corridor. Mr. Cook replied that it will be transferred to Monterey County. He also noted that there is a water tank located within the habitat corridor.
Mr. Oliver, Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, asked for details on the ESCA Safety Access Corridor signs. Mr. Cook replied that, once the property is transferred, signs will be posted in the ESCA areas. ESCA property trails will be closed; however, paved roads will remain open and accessible for recreational activities. Vehicle passes are available from FORA, for special circumstances where a non-emergency vehicle might be necessary on the roads in this area.

Ms. Valez asked about the attendance of the user's group meetings. Mr. Cook responded that the user's group was formed when FORA announced that areas accessible during Army's ownership would be become off-limits when FORA received ownership of the property. This announcement caused concern to many recreational users. As a direct result of these concerns, the attendees of that meeting created the Fort Ord Users Group. FORA established this monthly users group meeting. There are about 24 regular attendees who go to the meeting and provide information to their respective organizations.

**Presentation: Military Munitions Site Security Update**

Lyle Shurtleff gave an overview of the military munitions site security program. He discussed the program elements and tools to limit public access to restricted sites, which include physical controls and administrative controls, data collection and analysis. Mr. Shurtleff provided a review of the military munitions school safety program as well as other public events and public education programs designed to inform people about the dangers of munitions and explosives on Fort Ord.

Mr. Shurtleff reviewed the trespass incidents which occurred in 2008. There were a total of two trespass incidents. Of these, one was evidence of trespass, and for the other, trespassing individuals were apprehended. The fourteen 2008 MEC incidents were generally related to construction activities related to the ESCA project. Mr. Shurtleff also provided an overview of the site security program committee and its members. Most members are from local law enforcement organizations, safety staff, and adjacent land owner representatives. This list has been expanded to include an invitation to the local school districts. Mr. Shurtleff also reviewed the military munitions security actions planned for 2008. The Army will continue to support the munitions and explosives of concern removal actions, maintain and improve physical and administrative controls (signs and fences), continue participation in public events, safety orientation programs and continue to establish relationships with new property owners. The Army will support local schools with information for students to help ensure that they are aware of the possible repercussions of collecting munitions debris and small arms casings from the former Fort Ord property. There will also be an emphasis for the involvement of schools and in coordination to develop jurisdictional boundary maps.

There were a few questions regarding the site security program.

Ms. Ehlers asked for a description of the “cultural debris” item. Mr. Shurtleff responded that it was a plastic training aid that resembled a land mine. It was made of plastic, had no explosive component and was not designated for use on a range.
Mr. Nunes, Monterey Bay Air Pollution Control District, noted that there was a 2009 trespassing incident related to vandalism at one of the air monitoring stations.

Ms. Donahue, California Department of Fish and Game, asked if the Army anticipated finding more munitions items outside the Impact Area and, if this is a concern to the community. Mr. Shurtleff responded that the Impact Area is fenced, however, it is known that Munitions and Explosives of Concern might be found outside the Impact Area fenceline. As such, the Army coordinates with construction contractors and provides Ordnance and Explosives safety recognition training at no cost to the contractors.

**Presentation: Munitions Response Sites Remaining Sites Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study**

Peter Kelsall of Shaw Environmental gave an overview of the upcoming Munitions Response Sites Remaining Sites Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study Plan. This plan is expected to be issued for agency and public comment in April. The purpose of this program is to evaluate areas at the Former Fort Ord where remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study documentation for munitions is not complete. Part of this process is to complete area evaluations which may include site assessments and/or sampling. A final action will be the preparation of Comprehensive Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) documentation in the form of a Track 1 Plug in memorandum or a Track 2 Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study for these remaining areas. Mr. Kelsall presented a series of maps which showed how each area of Fort Ord was evaluated by at least one of the following CERCLA processes for munitions response sites: Track 0/No further action required, Track 1, Track 2, Track 2 (in progress), Track 3, ESCA, and finally, all remaining sites. These remaining sites were subdivided into nine geographic areas. Training and maneuver areas comprise about 6,400 areas; these areas have already undergone limited investigation. Suspected artillery/live fire training areas comprise about 420 areas; and removal has been completed for these areas. About 1,100 acres of other suspected artillery/live fire training areas have already undergone a limited sampling activity. Finally, in about 130 acres of suspected practice training areas, sampling and removal has been completed and will be a part of the remaining RI/FS evaluation. The remaining Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study process has three key stages: (1) prepare the work plan, (2) conduct the Remedial Investigation, and finally, (3) prepare the CERCLA documentation. Mr. Kelsall concluded his presentation by outlining the upcoming activities. There were no questions regarding this presentation.

**Presentation: Fort Ord Prescribed Burn Program**

Ms. Chris Duymich, Presidio of Monterey Fire Department, gave an update on the prescribed burn program. She began by showing the location of the 2008 Burn Unit locations: 3, 18 and 22. The Impact Range is approximately 6,500 acres mostly covered by vegetation called Maritime Chaparral. Since this is such a large area, the Impact Area is divided into units of about 100 acres in size. Some units are smaller than 100 acres and some are larger. Specific burn units are prioritized for prescribed burns to create a safety
buffer between nearby residents and businesses. Burn Unit 3 was selected because it is directly adjacent to previously burned areas and close to areas soon to be developed. The difficulty with Burn Unit 3 as the Army’s highest priority is that the weather conditions required for smoke management are rather rare. As such, the Army selected two other units with different weather conditions which occur more frequently than the conditions at Burn Unit 3. The Army mobilized personnel and equipment for a prescribed burn at Burn Unit 3; however, on the day the burn was to be conducted, the proper prescribed burn weather conditions were not met. The relative humidity was too low to safely conduct the burn and the operation was cancelled. A few months later, in December, the proper conditions for a prescribed burn at Burn Units 18 and 22 occurred and a prescribed burn was completed on December 10, 2008.

Ms. Duymich provided an overview of the key conditions necessary for a burn including: timing, specific weather conditions, availability of local emergency services and also availability of contract resources such as helicopters. She provided a review of the weather conditions and described the meteorological support. The presentation continued with a description (accompanied by photographs) of the December prescribed burn including, the test burn, smoke behavior, mixing height, and lessons learned. Before and after photos for both burn units were also provided. The goals of the prescribed burn were also noted. There was a review of a helitorch malfunction and the effect upon the operations as other lessons learned.

The presentation continued with a description of the proposed 2009 prescribed burn which includes Burn Units 3 (since it remains the highest priority) as well as Burn Units 14 and 19. Ms. Duymich provided a maps of these units and discussed site attributes.

She outlined the documents under review or soon to be available that related to both the 2008 and 2009 prescribed burns. Ms. Broadston provided information on the upcoming activities related to the Direct Notification Program as well as an overview of the community notification program specific to prescribed burns.

There were several questions.

Mr. Carpenter, Presidio of Monterey Public Affairs Office, asked about the duration of the smoldering phase. Ms. Duymich responded that smoldering can typically last from 24-36 hours, however it may be as long as 72 hours. Mr. Carpenter also asked if clearance at units 18 and 22 have been completed. Ms. Duymich responded that the clearance activities are underway and will be completed before the prescribed burns take occur at units 14 and 19.

Mr. Nunes stressed the advantages of the sonic detection and ranging (SODAR) equipment used for the Fort Ord project. He noted that under prescriptive conditions, early morning weather over Fort Ord can be affected by drainage flow from the Salinas Valley, which can limit the desired vertical development of the smoke column. The drainage creates a temporary wind shear situation where winds may be deceptively light at the surface and yet at the same time increase rapidly to 15 to 20 knots at heights as low
as 50 meters (~165') above the surface. The start of the prescribed burn needs to be timed such that this shear layer, and accompanying temperature inversion, dissipate before entering full ignition, otherwise smoke will be held close to the surface where it can impact the community. The SODAR is a very effective tool to monitor this particular weather condition.

Ms. Youngblood added that the all 2008 participants of the Prescribed Burn direct notification program must update their information in order to participate in the 2009 program. This renewal is necessary because contact information, such as cell phone and email addresses, will likely change over one year’s time.

Mr. Oliver noted that it appeared that there was incomplete combustion in some areas. Does this have an effect on munitions clearance actions? Ms. Duymich responded that some areas don’t burn. In these circumstances, the tree limbs close to the ground will be trimmed and the skeletons of burned plants will be cut prior to clearance. Some of the detection equipment is attached to a cart that is pulled across the burn units, therefore the ground can not be restricted by low lying limbs and the burned remains of plant hulls.

In response to a question from Mr. Nunes, Ms. Youngblood noted that prescribed burns are considered for certain areas requiring vegetation clearance, however, in some cases, the Army can conduct investigations with our the use of prescribed burns.

The following events were noted:
April 10, 2009 – Technical Review Committee
April 22, 2009 Fort Ord Cleanup Information Booth at California State University Monterey Bay
Marina Festival of the Winds May 9-10, 2009
Open House and Bus Tour June 27
Community Involvement Workshop July 8, 2009
Technical Review Committee July 9, 2009

An informal gathering of the attendees was held, then the workshop was closed.