

# Superfund Post-Decision Proposed Plan Interim Action Record of Decision

United States Army

January 2006

## Proposed Change to the 2002 Decision

The primary objective of this plan is to make an amendment to the cleanup remedy selected for MRS-16 in the 2002 Interim Action Record of Decision (ROD).

The Army is proposing to discontinue the voluntary relocation program during a prescribed burn at MRS-16 planned for 2006.

The Army believes that changes it is making in how it will conduct this burn and with special emphasis on smoke management will make it impossible to provide sufficient advance notice to make a voluntary relocation program possible.

## Mark Your Calendar

### Public Comment Period

January 27, 2006 to February 27, 2006

The Army will accept comments on this Post-Decision Proposed Plan during this public comment period.

### Public Meeting

February 15, 2006

6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Oldemeyer Center, 986 Hilby Avenue, Seaside

The Army will hold a public meeting to explain the Post-Decision Proposed Plan and accept public comments.

### Administrative Record Department Location

Fort Ord Administrative Building  
Building 4463 Gigling Road, Room 101  
Ord Military Community (former Fort Ord)  
CA 93944-5008  
831 393-9186

Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Closed 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. for lunch

Closed on all Federal Holidays

Other hours can be arranged by appointment.

### Written Comments

Address all comments on the Proposed Plan to:  
ATTN: Gail Youngblood, BEC  
U.S. Army Fort Ord BRAC Office  
P.O. Box 5008  
Monterey, CA 93944-5008

## For Munitions Response Site 16 Army Proposes Change to Cleanup Plan

### Interim Action for Munitions and Explosives of Concern

Former Fort Ord, CA. The Army has proposed changes to the cleanup plan to remove unexploded munitions and explosives from a site at the former Fort Ord CA. This site is known as Munitions Response Site-16 (MRS-16), and was formerly called OE-16. MRS-16 is approximately 80 acres in size (see map below).

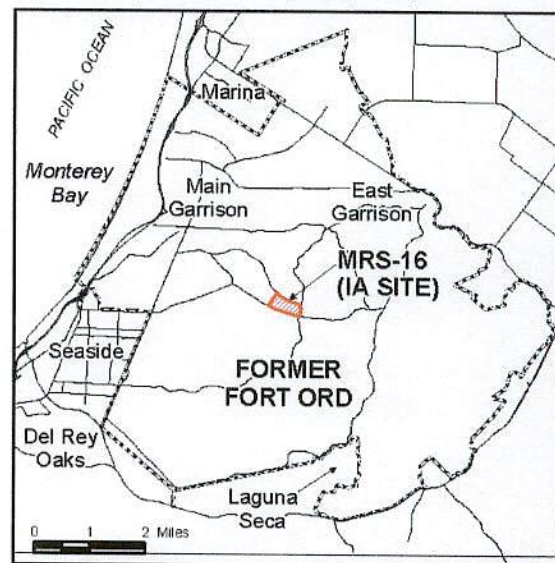


Figure 1. Fort Ord Location Map and MRS-16

The unexploded munitions and explosives are left over from when the Army used Fort Ord to train soldiers to fire artillery and use explosives. Hundreds of thousands of rounds of artillery and rockets were fired while Fort Ord was a training center. Some of the shells and munitions didn't explode. They still remain on the ground, particularly in former firing ranges. They can be detonated if bumped or even by walking over them. In Army terminology, these unexploded munitions and explosives are described as "munitions and explosives of concern," or MEC.

The Army wants to clean up this land as soon as possible. Otherwise, anyone who trespasses on the land could be killed or seriously injured. Children or teenagers are the most likely to trespass. No other uses of the land are possible until the unexploded munitions and explosives have been removed. MRS-16 will eventually be turned over to the Bureau of Land Management to be managed as a habitat reserve.

The Army is responsible for conducting the cleanup of the former Fort Ord. It

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must do so in a manner that complies with federal and state environmental laws and under the supervision of federal and state regulatory agencies.

This Proposed Plan was developed by the Army in consultation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California EPA — Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). The Army is issuing the Proposed Plan as part of its public participation responsibilities under Section 117(a) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980, as amended (commonly known as the federal “Superfund” law), and Section 300.430(f)(2) of the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP).

The cleanup the Army is proposing is officially known as an “interim action.” Under federal Superfund law, agencies may take expedited action to cleanup properties if the site poses an imminent threat to public health, safety or the environment. Although MRS-16 is fenced and patrolled, the Army, as the lead agency, has determined that an interim action is warranted at MRS-16 for the following reasons:

- This area contains sensitively fuzed, highly dangerous MEC present on the ground surface or mainly within the uppermost one foot of soil.
- Existing access deterrents such as chain link fence and gates posted with warning signs discourage, but do not prevent entry

in to MRS-16. Trespassers may come in contact with MEC items and cause them to explode.

- Documented trespassing incidents include instances where persons, including children, have removed training items and ordnance-related scrap. MRS-16 is less than two miles from residential neighborhoods and is located within 1-1/2 miles of several schools.

## The Original Record of Decision

This Plan is officially known as a “Post-Decision Proposed Plan.”

This is because it is proposing a revision to a decision known as the “September 2002 Record of Decision Interim Action (Interim Action ROD) for Ordnance and Explosives at Ranges 43-48, Range 30A, and Site OE-16 at Former Fort Ord, California.”

As this title indicates, the 2002 decision covered cleanup at three sites: Ranges 43-48, Range 30A, and MRS-16 (OE-16). Cleanup at Ranges 43-48 was begun in 2003 and continued into December 2005. Cleanup at Range 30A will be deferred until completion of a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study for the Impact Area, scheduled for 2006-2007. The changes proposed in this Proposed Plan apply only to MRS-16.

## Fort Ord and Site Background

The former Fort Ord is located in northwestern Monterey County, California, approximately 80 miles south of San Francisco. The former Fort Ord occupies approximately 28,000 acres of land adjacent to Monterey Bay and the cities of Seaside, Sand City, Monterey and Del Rey Oaks to the south and Marina to the north. A Southern Pacific Railroad track and Highway 1 pass through the western portion of the former Fort Ord, separating the beach from the rest of the base. Laguna Seca Recreation Area and Toro Park border the former Fort Ord to the south and southeast, respectively, as well as several small communities such as Toro Park Estates and San Benancio.

Since it was established in 1917, Fort Ord primarily served as a training and staging facility for infantry troops. From 1947 to 1975, Fort Ord was a basic training center. After 1975, the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division was based at Fort Ord. Fort Ord was selected for closure in 1991. The majority of the soldiers were reassigned to other Army posts in 1993. The active Army division is no longer stationed at the former Fort Ord.

*Pre-World War II training photo from Fort Ord Archives.*



Because cavalry, field artillery and infantry units used portions of the base for maneuvers, target ranges and other purposes, MEC including artillery and mortar projectiles, rockets and guided missiles, rifle and hand grenades, land mines, pyrotechnics, bombs and demolition materials, may be present in those areas.

Fort Ord was placed on the National Priorities List (NPL) of Superfund sites by EPA on February 21, 1990, due to evidence of contaminated soil and groundwater. A Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) was signed in 1990 by the Army, EPA and California EPA — California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). The FFA established procedures and

schedules for conducting remedial investigations (RIs) and feasibility studies (FSs) and requires remedial actions be completed as expeditiously as possible. The former Fort Ord was selected in 1991 for base

realignment and closure (BRAC), and the base was officially closed in September 1994. In April 2000, an agreement was signed between the Army, EPA and DTSC to evaluate MEC at the former Fort Ord subject to the provisions of the FFA.

Munitions Response Site-16 is a World War II (WWII) era rocket range. The area is identified as a “bazooka practice” area on Fort Ord Training Facilities maps dating from 1945 and 1946. Available training maps after 1946 do not identify the bazooka practice area. According to Fort Ord Range Control, this range was probably used as an anti-tank rocket range during and shortly after WWII.

Vegetation at MRS-16 consists mainly of central maritime chaparral, with some grassland areas.



The 2002 Record of Decision described three steps in the cleanup program for each of these three sites:

- 1. PRESCRIBED BURN:** Prescribed burning is defined as: fire applied in a knowledgeable manner to vegetation fuels on a specific land area under selected weather conditions to accomplish predetermined, well-defined management objectives. Prescribed burns will be used to burn off vegetation so workers can safely enter the land and cleanup the unexploded munitions and explosives. The prescribed burn will include such tasks as preparation of a burn plan, preparation of primary, secondary and tertiary fuel breaks, conducting air monitoring and offering voluntary temporary relocation during the burn.
- 2. SURFACE AND SUBSURFACE REMOVAL OF MUNITIONS AND EXPLOSIVES OF CONCERN (MEC):** Cleanup workers locate and remove MEC on both the surface of the land and several feet below the surface.
- 3. DETONATION OF MEC, USING ENGINEERING CONTROLS:** Any MEC items found are detonated in place, using an explosive charge and engineering controls (covering the MEC with tamped dirt, sandbags, contained water or other materials prior to detonation) to reduce the blast and any associated fragmentation, emissions or noise.

Inhaling smoke does create some health risks. Health impacts from short-term exposure to smoke are believed to be temporary. The Army and the environmental regulatory agencies believe these health risks need to be balanced with health and safety risks to cleanup workers, visitors and residents, and the need to remove the risks from the presence of MEC.

Cleanup workers are at risk of accidentally triggering unexploded ordnance and explosives if they cannot see where they are walking. Children from nearby residences could trigger explosives if they trespass on the land. In addition, fire safety experts predict that the brush on the former Fort Ord will burn at some point. A naturally occurring or accidental fire would be difficult to control because fire fighters would not be able to aggressively fight the fire due to the presence of MEC. The fire itself could be a threat to homes and property.

In the 2002 Record of Decision, the Army agreed to: (1) provide notification to the community before each prescribed burn occurs, and (2) carry out a voluntary relocation program for Monterey County residents. Temporary voluntary relocation of residents was provided during the Ranges 43-48 prescribed burn conducted in 2003. Under the voluntary relocation program the Army paid the travel expenses of people who wanted to be out of the area during the fire. More than 1,000 people relocated during the 2003 fire.

## Proposed Changes

For the MRS-16 prescribed burn the Army plans to implement a comparable program to notify the community when a fire will occur this year. However, the Army is proposing to discontinue the voluntary relocation program. The reasons for this proposal to drop the relocation program are:

- Inability to provide an exact date for relocation
- The duration of the 2006 fire
- Minimal health impacts from the smoke

More information on each of these reasons is provided below:

### *Inability to Provide an Exact Date for Relocation*

The Army recognizes exposure to smoke does create some health risks, and will conduct the prescribed burn in a manner that mini-



*Typical munitions response site gate and warning sign.*

mizes smoke exposure and will continue to monitor the air for the major indicator of smoke — particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) — during the prescribed burn at MRS-16.

Because the area to be burned is small, less than 60 acres, the total amount of smoke that is expected to be generated should be significantly reduced from the amount of smoke generated from the Ranges 43-48 burn, which burned nearly 1,500 acres, over several days.

The Army is also taking a major step to reduce the smoke impacts of the 2006 prescribed burn. For the 2003 prescribed burn we tried to predict meteorological conditions (mixing heights) that would minimize smoke impacts. Unfortunately, several elements of the meteorological predictions for that burn did not occur or were of a short duration. The result was that the smoke was held close to the ground, impacting local communities.

To eliminate dependence on the inexact science of meteorological predictions for the 2006 effort, the Army will not ignite the prescribed

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*Munitions and debris exposed after a prescribed burn.*





burn until all the prescribed conditions are present for a successful burn. Equipment, supplies and personnel may be in place and standing by for a number of days prepared to take advantage of an optimum burn period. This is an acceptable situation for those tasked to conduct the burn, but an impractical one for conducting a voluntary relocation program.

Several weeks in advance of the “season” during which a prescribed burn could occur the Army will send out a mailing to the community, letting people know that “burn season” has arrived. This season is determined by atmospheric conditions — the goal is to burn it under those conditions where the least possible smoke reaches the ground. The Army will also inform local healthcare providers that a prescribed burn is coming up.

As soon as the Army sees a window of opportunity during which a fire could be ignited, the Army will issue press releases, will inform local radio and television stations, will inform people through e-mail, telephone and the Website and will place ads in local newspapers announcing that a prescribed burn is considered imminent. Fire and management personnel, equipment, and supplies may be in place and standing by for several days after these announcements. However, a burn will be started only when optimum burn conditions are confirmed.

Because the Army will be waiting for appropriate atmospheric conditions rather than trying to anticipate them, the Army won’t know for sure until moments before the fire is lit that the burn will occur that particular day. By the time the Army can notify the community



that a fire has been lit — via the phone, e-mail, media or Internet — the smoke will already be in the air.

This means that it won’t be possible to issue advance notice that a prescribed burn will occur or issue an alert to relocate on a specific day. The fire will be ignited before the Army will be able to inform the community that a prescribed burn has been initiated.

As a result, the voluntary relocation program seems impractical. The Army thought of relocating people temporarily during the day, but this might have to be done over and over for a number of days before there is an actual prescribed burn.

### **The Duration of the 2006 Fire**

Another reason the Army believes the voluntary relocation program will be unnecessary is the expected short duration of the fire. Ignition is expected to last only three hours, and the smoke will likely be in the air for only several more hours.

### **Minimal Health Impacts from the Smoke**

The Army conducted extensive air monitoring during the Ranges 43-48 prescribed burn. In particular, measurements were made during the October 2003 fire to determine if there were contaminants in the smoke.

Air quality measurements were made for contaminants that are present in all burning vegetation, as well as contaminants that would be put in the air only if there was detonation of munitions and explosives of concern. A prescribed burn is hot enough to detonate a percentage of unexploded munitions and explosives lying on the ground. Some community members were concerned that this would expose the community to toxic substances that they believed made a fire at Fort Ord a greater health risk than any other fire that exposed the community to smoke.

The air monitoring program provided the following results:

- Munitions-related chemicals (i.e., explosives residues) were not detected in any of the air samples (MACTEC, 2004). The smoke from the Fort Ord prescribed burn was no different from any other vegetation burn of similar vegetation type.
- Particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) was observed at nearly every monitoring station at levels above the 24-hour California Ambient Air Quality Standard (CAAQS) of 50 micrograms per cubic meter (ug/m<sup>3</sup>) used as a screening level (MACTEC, 2004). The Army will continue to monitor PM<sub>10</sub> in future fires.
- The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) conducted an independent evaluation of the Ranges 43-48 prescribed burn air monitoring results and concluded that the effect of the Ranges 43-48 burn was “no apparent public health hazard,” and no adverse health effects are expected from exposure to smoke. Short-term exposure to the smoke could cause minor respiratory and eye irritation in sensitive individuals, but these effects would have been temporary and would have dissipated shortly after exposures ended. ATSDR recommended the Army continue with the community notification program and best fire management practices; and recommended that people who have respiratory illnesses or are especially sensitive to smoke should stay indoors or move to another area during burn events (ATSDR, 2005).

*(The full text of ATSDR’s Health Consultation is available on ATSDR’s web site at [www.ATSDR.cdc.gov/](http://www.ATSDR.cdc.gov/). You can also access the document through a link on the [Fort Ord Cleanup Program web site](http://www.FortOrdCleanup.com/) at [www.FortOrdCleanup.com.](http://www.FortOrdCleanup.com/))*

The Army recognizes exposure to smoke does create some health risks. Health impacts from short-term exposure to smoke are believed to be temporary. The Army and the environmental regulatory agencies believe these health risks need to be balanced with health and safety



risks to cleanup workers and homes, and the need to remove the risks from the presence of MEC.

Based on the analysis of the air monitoring results and an evaluation of applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements (ARARs) specified in the original Record of Decision, the Army has determined that prescribed burning — with or without a voluntary temporary relocation program — can be conducted in a manner protective of human health and the environment and complies with the ARARs.

## Community Role in the Selection Process

The Army is required, under the National Contingency Plan, to obtain public input on an announced preferred alternative to ensure that the concerns of the community are considered during selection of an effective remedy. This Plan is provided to the public for public comment. The comment period begins January 27, 2006 and concludes on February 27, 2006.

A public meeting will be held at the Oldemeyer Center in Seaside on February 15, 2006 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Comments received at the public meeting, as well as written comments received during the public comment period will be documented in the Responsiveness Summary section of the Record of Decision Amendment, the document which will formalize the final decision about the change in remedy.

## Summary of Alternatives

CERCLA (“Superfund” law) requires that each selected site remedy:

- Be protective of human health and the environment
- Be cost-effective
- Comply with other statutory laws, and

- Utilize permanent solutions and alternative treatment technologies and resource recovery alternatives to the maximum extent practicable.

In addition, the statute includes a preference for the use of treatment as a principal element for the reduction of toxicity, mobility or volume of the hazardous substances.

This proposed Plan does *not* alter the previously selected remedy of (1) prescribed burning for vegetation clearance, (2) surface and subsurface removal of MEC, and (3) detonation of MEC with engineering controls. Rather, this Proposed Plan considers alternatives to offering a voluntary relocation plan during the prescribed burn, and applies only to MRS-16.

The alternatives considered were:

### No Action

The Superfund program requires that a “No Action” alternative be considered as a baseline for comparison with the other alternatives. In this case, the “No Action” alternative is to take no action to clear vegetation at the site. The “No Action” alternative was considered in the Interim Action ROD and compared against Prescribed Burning, Mechanical Cutting, and Manual Cutting. The “No Action” alternative is not effective in that no vegetation clearance activities would be conducted to facilitate the surface and subsurface MEC removal.

### Notification and Relocation

Under this alternative, which is the selected remedy in the 2002 Interim Action ROD, the Army would monitor atmospheric conditions and provide as much advance notice to the community as possible, while still implementing all components of prescribed burning identified in the Interim Action ROD. Under this alternative, the public would be notified through a variety of channels, via phone

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## Fire Management for the 2006 Prescribed Burn

The Ranges 43-48 prescribed burn in 2003 was originally planned to burn approximately 500 acres but expanded to 1,500 acres after the fire escaped the primary control boundary. The prescribed burn at the 80-acre MRS-16 will use improved procedures to manage the fire.

While MRS-16 is approximately 80 acres, the area

burned on burn day will be less than 60 acres. The primary fuel break covers approximately 22-acres of the site.

For the Ranges 43-48 prescribed burn, primary fuel breaks



*Blacklining to enhance burn containment line.*

were 50 feet wide. For MRS-16, the primary fuel break will be increased to 150-foot wide.

Vegetation within the primary fuel break will be cut. Blacklining will be used in specific areas within the primary fuel break area to enhance the containment line of the prescribed burn with minimal impact to the

habitat. Effective containment of the prescribed burn will help minimize smoke impacts to the local communities.



calls, e-mails, the website or the media, as well as provided with opportunities to temporarily relocate voluntarily during the burn. However, the decision to burn will be made only when all conditions are confirmed suitable. If the atmospheric conditions were not met, people who relocate in advance of a burn might be subjected to cancellation following notice.

### **Notification without Relocation**

Similar to the prior alternative, the Army would monitor atmospheric conditions and provide as much advance notice to the community as possible, while still implementing all components of prescribed burning identified in the Interim Action ROD except offering voluntary temporary relocation. Under this alternative, members of the public would be notified through a variety of channels, via phone calls, e-mails, the website or the media. But there would be no voluntary temporary relocation program.

### **Evaluation of Alternatives**

In selecting a remedy for a site under Superfund law, the lead agency is required to conduct an analysis of how well each alternative addresses nine criteria and must make a comparative analysis of the relative performance of each alternative against those criteria. These criteria are set forth in CERCLA Section 121, 42 U.S.C. Section 9621. The detailed analysis of the viable remedial alternatives is conducted pursuant to the NCP and 40CFR Section 300.430(e)(9).

Here is the Army's evaluation of the alternatives relative to the nine criteria:

#### **Overall Protection of Human Health**

The "No Action" alternative would not provide for adequate protection of human health or the environment. Either of the two remaining alternatives — prescribed burning with or without voluntary temporary relocation program — will be protective of human health. The ATSDR evaluation of the Ranges 43-48 air monitoring results concluded that the Ranges 43-48 prescribed burn posed "no apparent public health hazard". The prescribed burn in the substantially smaller area of MRS-16 would be conducted in a manner that is protective of human health. Workers would conduct the burn from a safe distance and emissions from detonated MEC are not of a concern to human health, as data collected during the Ranges 43-48 burn indicates.

#### **Protection of the Environment**

The "No Action" alternative is not protective of the environment. Either of the two remaining alternatives — prescribed burning with or without voluntary temporary relocation — will be protective of the environment. Central Maritime Chaparral, the primary vegetation at MRS-16, has evolved with fire as a critical part of its natural life cycle and is actually rejuvenated by fire.

#### **Compliance with ARARs**

No ARAR is applicable to the "No Action" alternative. Either of the two remaining alternatives — prescribed burning with or without voluntary temporary relocation will comply with the ARARs.

#### **Short Term Effectiveness**

The "No Action" alternative is not effective. The two remaining alternatives are very effective in clearing vegetation thoroughly and quickly.

#### **Long Term Effectiveness and Permanence**

The "No Action" alternative is not effective. The two remaining alternatives are effective in the long term, because of beneficial effects on central maritime chaparral (CMC) growth and long-term health of the plant community, as well as their ability to facilitate removal of risks from the presence of MEC

### **Reduction of Toxicity, Mobility or Volume Through Treatment**

These criteria are not applicable to vegetation clearance.

### **Implementability**

The "No Action" alternative is implementable but would not facilitate the surface and subsurface removal of MEC. Prescribed burning is relatively easy to implement for small areas and has been performed for many years at Fort Ord.

The "Notification and Relocation" alternative is difficult to implement. While advance notice that a burn is likely may be possible, the Army will not ignite the 2006 prescribed burn until all the prescribed conditions are present. Since such conditions are not 100 percent predictable, advance notification of the public will be conditional and may be cancelled or adjusted to meet the requirements for a successful burn and effective smoke management. Notifying the community when the burn is initiated would not provide sufficient time to allow the public to plan to relocate. On the other hand, people who would relocate in advance of actual burn would be greatly inconvenienced if the burn did not occur as planned, since the Army may be in a "stand-by" mode for several days, depending on weather conditions.

The "Notification Without Relocation" alternative is implementable. Timely notification of the projected burn and decision to burn will be provided to the community through a variety of channels, via phone calls, e-mails, the website or the media that can be accessible from any location. Information about reasonable precautions one can take about smoke exposure will be provided to the community ahead of time. Individuals will take precautions they determine appropriate.

### **State and Community Acceptance**

State and community acceptance will be evaluated during the public and regulatory agency review of this proposed plan and Interim Action ROD Amendment process.

### **Cost**

The projected cost of the Interim Action at MRS-16, including the prescribed burn and follow-on munitions response, is approximately \$3.15 million. The estimated relocation cost could be up to \$500,000.

### **Preferred Alternative**

Based upon an evaluation of the various alternatives, the Army recommends removing temporary voluntary relocation from the prescribed burning-component of the selected remedy for MRS-16. The Army believes that the preferred alternative is protective of human health and the environment, will comply with ARARs and will be cost effective.

### **Approval Process**

The Army will solicit public comments on this Proposed Plan for a 30-day public comment period and during a public comment meeting. The Army, EPA and DTSC will consider all public comments received on the Proposed Plan during the public comment period. The final decision about the change in remedy will be documented in the Interim Action ROD Amendment. A summary of public comments and the Army's responses to comments will be included in the Interim Action ROD Amendment. The Army will request DTSC review of the Interim Action ROD Amendment and will request EPA's concurrence in the Amendment.

A signed copy of the Interim Action ROD Amendment will be placed in the Administrative Record and a notice of availability will appear in a major local newspaper. It will also be available online at [www.fortordcleanup.com](http://www.fortordcleanup.com).



# How to Make Comments Regarding the Plan

The local community and interested parties are encouraged to comment on this Proposed Plan and the Preferred Alternative summarized herein. One public meeting regarding the Proposed Plan will be held. Representatives from the Army, EPA and DTSC will be present at this meeting to explain the Proposed Plan, hear concerns and answer questions. The public is invited to submit comments on the Proposed Plan during this public meeting to be held on:

**February 15, 2006, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**  
**Oldemeyer Center, 986 Hilby Avenue**  
**Seaside, California**

Written comments will be accepted at the public meeting and throughout the 30-day public comment period that begins on January 27, 2006 and ends on February 27, 2006. All correspondence should be postmarked no later than February 27, 2006, and should be sent to the attention of the U.S. Army representative at the address provided in the following section.

## Information Access

U.S. Army Representative  
**Department of the Army**  
**Fort Ord BRAC Office**  
ATTN: Gail Youngblood, BEC  
P.O. Box 5008  
Monterey, CA 93944-5008  
(831) 393-1284  
*Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*

## Regulatory Representatives

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Region IX)**  
Contact: Claire Trombadore  
Superfund Federal Facilities Cleanup Branch  
75 Hawthorne Street, Mail Code SFD-8-3  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
(415) 972-3013  
*Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*

**Department of Toxic Substances Control, Region II**  
Contact: Roman Racca  
8800 Cal Center Drive  
Sacramento, CA 95826-3200  
(916) 255-6407  
*Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*

## Information Repositories

### California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB)

Library Learning Center  
100 Campus Center, Building 12  
Seaside, CA 93955  
(831) 582-3872

*Hours: Monday thru Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.*  
*Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*  
*Saturday 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.*  
*Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.*

### Seaside Branch Library

550 Harcourt Avenue  
Seaside, CA 93955  
(831) 899-2055

*Hours: Monday thru Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.*  
*Friday and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.*  
*Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.*

### Administrative Record Department Location

Fort Ord Administrative Record  
Building 4463 Gigling Road, Room 101  
Ord Military Community (former Fort Ord)  
CA 93944-5008  
(831) 393-9186

*Hours: Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.*  
*Closed 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. for lunch*  
*Closed on all Federal Holidays*  
*Other hours can be arranged by appointment*

## References

- Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), 2005. *Health Consultation, Public Health Evaluation of October 2003 Prescribed Burn, Former Fort Ord, California.* February 3.
- Harding ESE, Inc. (Harding ESE, formerly Harding Lawson Associates [HLA], now MACTEC), 2002. *Final Interim Action Ordinance and Explosives Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study for Ranges 43-48, Range 30A, Site OE-16, Former Fort Ord, California.* March 7.
- MACTEC Engineering and Environmental Services, 2004. *Draft Final Ranges 32-48 Prescribed Burn Air Monitoring Report, Former Fort Ord, California.* June 16.
- U.S. Army (U.S. Department of the Army), 2002. *Record of Decision Interim Action for Ordinance and Explosives at Ranges 43-48, Range 30A, and Site OE-16, Former Fort Ord, California.* September.



*Public meeting for Interim Action Proposed Plan*



# Glossary of Terms Used in This Publication

**Administrative Record** – The official collection of documents related to investigation and cleanup activities at Fort Ord relied upon to select a remedial action pertaining to the investigation and cleanup of the former Fort Ord.

**Coastal Maritime Chaparral (CMC)** – The CMC plant community is a rare plant community characterized by manzanita and California lilac. This plant community is adapted to the moist coastal conditions, and has been substantially reduced in size by development. The CMC plant community supports several plant and animal species proposed for listing or listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act.

**Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)** – A federal law that addresses the funding for and cleanup of abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. This law also establishes criteria for the creation of decision documents such as the RI, FS, Proposed Plan, and ROD.

**Feasibility Study (FS)** – An evaluation of potential remedial technologies and treatment options that can be used to clean up a site

**Habitat Management Plan (HMP)** – The document developed as a mitigation measure for impacts to vegetation and wildlife resources caused by the closure and disposal of land at former Fort Ord.

**Interim Action** – A remedial action that can be implemented quickly and that, although not necessarily intended as a final remedial measure at a site, substantially reduces potential immediate risks to human health or the environment.

**Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC)** – This term, which distinguishes specific categories of military munitions that may pose unique explosives safety risks, means: (a) Unexploded Ordnance (UXO), (b) Discarded Military Munitions, or (c) Explosive munitions



MEC removal crew

constituents (e.g., TNT, RDX) present in high enough concentrations to pose an explosive hazard. This definition replaced the old definition of OE, necessitating changing the name of the clean-up action and site.

**Munitions Response Site (MRS)** – A discrete location within a munitions response area that is known to require a munitions response.

**Ordinance and Explosives (OE)** – Anything related to munitions designed to cause damage to personnel or material through explosive force or incendiary action including bombs, warheads, missiles, projectiles, rockets, antipersonnel and antitank mines, demolition

charges, pyrotechnics, grenades, torpedoes and depth charges, high explosives and propellants, and all similar and related items or components explosive in nature or otherwise designed to cause damage to personnel or material.

**Proposed Plan** – A report specifically prepared for public review and comment that summarizes the content and conclusions of a Plan of Action or Study.

**Record of Decision (ROD)** – A report documenting the final action, approved by the regulatory agencies, that will be required at a particular Superfund site.

**Remedial Investigation (RI)** – Exploratory inspection conducted at a site to delineate the nature and extent of chemicals and in this case OE present.

**Superfund** – See Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) above.

**Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)** – A military munition that contains an explosive or pyrotechnic charge and has been primed, fuzed, armed, or otherwise prepared for action, and that been fired, placed, dropped, launched, projected, and remains unexploded by design or malfunction.

## Post-Decision Proposed Plan

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### Fort Ord Environmental Cleanup

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