

**Munitions Response (MR) Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT)
Meeting Minutes
10 February 2021**

Due to Covid-19 precautions, the meeting was held via conference call.

Members/Invited Attendees

Maeve Clancy, EPA (phone)	Chris Callaghan, City of Seaside (phone)
Brett Leary, DTSC (phone)	Lesley Milton, City of Seaside (phone)
Bill Collins, Fort Ord BRAC (phone)	Melissa Broadston, Chenega (phone)
Duane Balch, USACE (phone)	Betsy Hibbits, Chenega (phone)
Bridget Floyd, USACE (phone)	Aaron Kochman, Chenega (phone)
Dana Gentry, USACE (phone)	Bart Kowalski, Chenega (phone)
Kyle Lindsay, USACE (phone)	Chieko Nozaki, Chenega (phone)
Curtis Payton, USACE (phone)	Cary Stiebel, Chenega (phone)
Derek Lieberman, Ahtna (phone)	Val Valdez, Chenega (phone)
Abraam Guirguis, City of Seaside (phone)	

Acronyms

BLM	Bureau of Land Management
DTSC	California Department of Toxic Substances Control
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Agenda

<u>Item</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Community Relations	Update	by Melissa Broadston
Property Transfer	Update	by Derek Lieberman
Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement (ESCA)	Update	by Chris Callaghan and Abraam Guirguis
Site Security Program	Update	by Betsy Hibbits
Fieldwork/Impact Area Munitions Response Area	Update	by Curtis Payton
Report Status	Update	by Chieko Nozaki
Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) Schedule	Update	by Chieko Nozaki
Action Items	Review	by Chieko Nozaki
Next meetings	Schedule	by Chieko Nozaki

Community Relations - The Army provided an update on community outreach.

1. Recent Activities: Issued analysis of 2019 community survey results and community involvement activities report. Sent semiannual letter to schools offering online munitions safety training via denix.osd.mil and FortOrdSafety.com. Added Fact Sheet: Preliminary Assessment for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) to the website. Responded to Monterey Herald media inquiry regarding partial NPL deletion proposal. Sent munitions safety reminder via email and posted on News section of the website.
2. Upcoming Activities: Tentative publication of Public Comment Period for Finding of Suitability to Transfer (FOST) Number 11, Amendment Number 1. 11 February Technical Review Committee meeting. 23 February Fort Ord Cleanup Zoom presentation to Environmental Studies class at Pacific Grove High School. A Nature Walk may be scheduled for May. The Army will issue the 2021 community outreach survey.

Property Transfer - The Army provided an update on recent property transfer actions.

1. Finding of Suitability to Transfer (FOST) 11: Parcels L2.3 and L2.4.1
 - a. The FOST had been signed (in 2017) prior to the change that ended Army's participation in the State Covenant to Restrict the Use of Property (CRUP) process. There is a need to amend the FOST to document the changes. The amendment will remove the reference to Army participation in the State CRUP process; and update the processes for response to incidental munitions discoveries and annual reporting of land use controls.
 - b. The Army will hold a 7-day public comment period for the FOST amendment. The Army provided a draft FOST amendment and public notice on 1/13 to USEPA, DTSC, Seaside, and Monterey County for review. USEPA requested an update to USEPA contact information. DTSC provided a comment letter.
2. Finding of Suitability to Transfer (FOST) 12: Parcel S2.1.2
 - a. Draft deeds are in progress at USACE Office of Counsel.
3. Finding of Suitability to Transfer (FOST) 13: Parcel L36
 - a. Draft deeds are in progress at USACE Office of Counsel.
4. CERCLA warranty documents for non-ESCA early transfer parcels are in progress.

ESCA Update - City of Seaside provided an update.

1. Chris Callaghan and Abraam Guirguis are the new ESCA points of contact at the City of Seaside.
2. On 3 February ESCA held the quarterly Land Use Control implementation meeting with the jurisdictions regarding land use control activities and management of signs, trespass, and outreach. The jurisdictions are working to update various signs for consistency. The next meeting will be held on 5 May.
3. ESCA will hold a quarterly Permit, Planning, Police, and Property Management Meeting on 3 March.
4. ESCA is coordinating with the California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery to dissuade any reconstruction or expansion of the unauthorized bike tracks. The illegal bike track on the east side of the cemetery property has been dismantled by Cal-Vet. The Cemetery is conducting regular inspections, and signage is planned. No additional track construction has been found during recent inspections.
5. ESCA plans to visit the location of another illegal bike ramp in the County North Munitions Response Area (MRA), which had been identified by BLM Law Enforcement. ESCA is coordinating with City of Monterey and Laguna Seca operator regarding regular inspections of their respective ESCA properties.
6. Construction support for Phase 2 California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery is complete and an after action report was submitted. For the Cal Am pipeline project, ESCA requested for an after-action report for the completed phase; future phases will need a new excavation permit and a construction support plan. The PureWater project construction support is ongoing for Phase 3.

For the Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) project, ESCA requested for an after-action report for the completed phases.

7. The City of Seaside has finalized an ordinance prohibiting metal detecting. Monterey County and the City of Monterey are working on similar ordinances.

Site Security Program – The Army provided a description of recent munitions, trespass, and security incidents, community education events, and related training.

1. Status of follow-up actions from Annual Security Committee Meeting and past BCT meetings
 - a. BRAC staff are conducting site inspections 3 or more times weekly.
 - b. Presidio of Monterey (POM) Police Department (PD) officers are patrolling the Impact Area MRA daily and nightly.
 - c. BLM Law Enforcement continues to deploy a surveillance camera near the Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT) site.
 - d. Purchases in progress
 - i. “Danger” signs for Unit A perimeter
 - ii. Five multi-lock gate systems and installation
 - iii. Six motion-activated cameras
 - iv. Concertina wire; large and small coils
 - e. Safety signage
 - i. Gate name signs for 12 high use perimeter gates
 - ii. “No Parking Fire Lane” signs for gates at 8th & Gigling
 - iii. Explosives Storage Location (ESL) replacement signs
 - f. BRAC is coordinating with POM Police and Fire Departments to provide in-person site specific munitions recognition and safety training.
 - g. The Security Committee Annual Meeting will be held on February 23rd at 1:00 p.m.
 - h. Trespass data from 2019 and 2020 was analyzed in preparation for the Annual Security Meeting. Trespass reports increased dramatically in 2019 and 2020. In 2019 additional site inspections and a focus on reporting were implemented. In 2020 POMPD and BLM began additional patrols, BRAC installed more concertina wire on the fence in key locations, and BLM deployed a surveillance camera. These measures coincided with to an increase in trespass incidents detected.
2. Anticipated issues in the near future
 - a. Deterring and/or citing trespass into restricted areas with explosive hazards.
3. Trespass incidents overview
 - a. Total new trespass incidents since last BCT report: 19
 - i. Trespass incidents reported since the last BCT meeting (13 Jan – 5 February 2021; 24 days): 7
 - ii. Trespass incidents that took place before the last BCT meeting but were discovered subsequently upon review of surveillance camera footage: 12
 - b. 15 of the 19 incidents were discovered through BLM’s surveillance camera footage near the MOUT site.
 - c. 18 incidents in Impact Area MRA; 1 in BLM Area B.
 - d. On 2/1/2021, three teenaged males were discovered (by project personnel) preparing to enter the Impact Area MRA by the Impossible Canyon Gate near the MOUT site. They received a warning and departed the site.
 - e. No citations issued.
 - f. Year to date (1/1/2021 through 2/5/2021): 18 trespass incidents
4. Trespass Incidents Details
 - a. 1/5/2021: 35 PVC fuel break markers missing or broken along Bitter and Nowhere Roads.
 - b. 1/5/2021: Bicycle tracks off-trail in BLM Area B, Units A and B.

- c. 1/19/2021: Bicycle tracks inside Impact Area MRA near Impossible Canyon South Gate.
 - d. 1/19/2021: One missing gate sign and a missing PVC pipe from a fuel break marker inside the Impact Area MRA near Nowhere Gate.
 - e. BLM Law Enforcement’s review of surveillance camera photographs provided evidence of 15 trespass incidents inside the Impact Area MRA near the MOUT site:
 - i. 12/31/2020 at 1:03 p.m.: one female entered area. One female (probably the same individual) exited area at 2:11 p.m. *Note: This incident occurred in 2020 but was discovered in 2021 upon review of camera footage.*
 - ii. 1/1/2021 at 1:54 p.m.: two unidentifiable individuals entered area. One male and one female exited the area at 2:50 p.m.
 - iii. 1/2/2021 at 11:57 a.m.: two males and one unidentifiable individual entered the area. Three individuals exited the area at 4:36 p.m. Picture quality was poor; may or may not be the individuals from earlier in the day.
 - iv. 1/4/2021 at 12:39 p.m.: two females entered the area and later exited at 1:24 p.m.
 - v. 1/8/2021 at 1:59 p.m.: one male with backpack entered the area, paused, and looked around. A second male carrying shopping bag entered area. A possible third individual entered. Three males exited the area at 5:14 p.m. Picture quality was poor; may or may not be the individuals from earlier in day.
 - vi. 1/9/2021 at 12:11 p.m.: one unknown gender very short haired individual with a pink backpack entered area.
 - vii. 1/9/2021 at 3:09 p.m.: one male and one female exited area.
 - viii. 1/10/2021 at 11:04 a.m.: two females entered area (no identifying pictures available).
 - ix. 1/10/2021 at 11:23 p.m.: at least two males and one unidentified individual entered the area. One of the males had a pink backpack and short hair and is probably the same individual as on 1/9. On 1/10/21 from 2:42 – 2:45 p.m., at least three individuals exited (one male and probably others from both previous groups that entered).
 - x. 1/10/2021 at 3:19 p.m.: two males wearing camouflage BDUs, one wearing a camouflage military style backpack, the other wearing a shemagh style scarf along with a camouflage shirt, exited the area.
 - xi. 1/14/2021 at 3:31 a.m.: an unidentifiable moving light, possibly a flashlight or headlamp.
 - xii. 1/14/2021 at 3:00 p.m.: a young male on a bicycle entered area. On 1/14/21 at 3:36 p.m., two young males on bicycles exited area. One was the individual seen entering earlier.
 - xiii. 1/14/2021 at 4:08 p.m.: two males on bicycles entered area and exited at 4:30 p.m. Not the same individuals as earlier.
 - xiv. 1/20/2021: One male on a bicycle entered the area at 2:20 p.m. and exited at 2:53 p.m.
 - xv. 1/23/2021: One male on bicycle entered area at 12:25 p.m. He was not seen exiting the area.
5. Monterey Peninsula College (MPC) is preparing to install a barbed wire fence and “No Trespassing” signs at the perimeter of the MOUT property.
6. Munitions Incidents
- a. Munitions incidents reported since the last BCT meeting (13 Jan – 5 February 2021; 24 days): 0
 - b. Year to date (1/1/2021 through 2/5/2021): 0
 - c. Following the 12/25/2020 munitions debris incident on Trail 50 of the Fort Ord National Monument, additional email and website public outreach was conducted to remind the public to follow the 3 R’s of explosive safety.

7. Community Education Participants
 - a. Year to date (1/1/2021 through 2/5/2021): 0
8. Munitions Recognition and Safety Training Participants
 - a. (1/1/2021 through 2/5/2021): 2

Fieldwork / Impact Area Munitions Response Area – USACE provided an update on the status of fieldwork.

1. The 2020 Annual Surface Monitoring field activities were completed in December and a draft report is under internal review. Preliminary recommendations are to continue monitoring in all 2020 units. One item was categorized as material potentially presenting an explosive hazard, and was placed in a storage location. A detonation will be scheduled at a future date. No MEC items were found. MEC-like munitions debris (MD) was found in Ranges 43-48 South, WGBA-NE, and Units 18/22, 14/19, 21, and 11/12.
2. USACE provided a presentation on the analysis of digital geophysical mapping (DGM) data density in portions of the Impact Area MRA. This is a part of the evaluation of areas where there are high density anomalies associated with impact areas where military munitions with sensitive fuzes were fired. The Track 3 Record of Decision includes subsurface removal in selected areas to address specific risk and/or land use needs. Portions of the site that are associated with high density of anomalies and sensitive fuze-type unexploded ordnance (UXO) would be a candidate for subsurface removal using excavation and sifting. The Track 3 ROD estimated approximately 85 acres of the Impact Area MRA could be subjected to excavation and sifting. The Army has been evaluating potential alternatives to the sifting method because sifting would cause a significant impact to the habitat, and would require an extensive effort to restore the habitat. Preliminary results of the DGM data density analysis indicate that the advanced geophysical classification (AGC) is a viable alternative to sifting, to address the risk to BLM workers from potentially encountering sensitive fuze-type UXO that could have become exposed from erosion or changes in site conditions.

Report Status – The Army provided a review and update including the changes to the previous status reports.

1. The FFA schedules are current.
2. Draft Impact Area MRA Non-Burn Fuelbreaks TIP Volume 2 was issued on 26 June. Army provided responses to comments by DTSC and EPA. The draft-final version is planned for publication in March.
3. Draft Impact Area MRA Non-Burn Fuelbreaks TIP Volume 1 was issued on 29 June. Army provided responses to comments by DTSC and EPA. Additional data review was necessary due to discrepancies detected. The draft-final version is planned for publication in March.
4. Draft final Ranges 43-48 South RAR was issued on 18 September. DTSC and EPA provided no comment letters. USACE signed a transmittal on 2/3 which finalized the draft final version.
5. Draft Impact Area MRA Surface Remediation Area Annual Monitoring Report (2020) will be provided in March.
6. A working draft Track 3 RD/RA Work Plan – Interim LUCIP for the Impact Area MRA was issued on 6 October and discussed during the 22 Oct 2020 BCT.
7. BLM Area B RAR was issued on 2 October. The Army has responded to community comments. DTSC and EPA provided letters indicating no comment. USACE signed a transmittal on 2/3 which finalized the draft final version.
8. Track 2 BLM Area B & MRS-16 Annual LUC Monitoring Report (2020) is scheduled to be issued by 30 April 2021.
9. Track 2 Parker Flats MRA (three parcels) Annual Monitoring Report (2020) is scheduled to be issued by 28 February 2021.

10. MRS Security Program Annual Report (2020) is scheduled to be issued on 31 May 2021.
11. Deed releases and CERCLA warranty document status will be tracked.

Action Items – Due action items were described as complete and pending items were reviewed.

The next meeting of the MR BCT was scheduled for 14 April 2021.

BH 2/18/2021