

Fort Ord Environmental Cleanup 2017 Annual Report

Fort Ord BRAC Office

August 2018



Fort Ord back country: Photo by Esmeralda Sanchez

THE FORT ORD CLEANUP PROGRAM

OVERALL PROGRAM GOALS

1. Protect human health and the environment
2. Promote preservation, enhancement and restoration of habitat
3. Transfer property for land uses determined by the community reuse plan

PROGRAM ELEMENTS

Recent activities for the Army's Fort Ord cleanup programs are shown on page 2. For additional information, go to the FortOrdCleanup.com web site for maps, reports, and other information.

MUNITIONS CLEANUP

FortOrdCleanup.com/programs/munitions/

PRESCRIBED BURNS

FortOrdCleanup.com/prescribed-burns/

GROUNDWATER CLEANUP

FortOrdCleanup.com/programs/groundwater/

SOIL CLEANUP AND LANDFILL OPERATION & MAINTENANCE

FortOrdCleanup.com/programs/soil/

HABITAT MANAGEMENT

FortOrdCleanup.com/programs/habitat/

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

FortOrdCleanup.com/community

HEADLINES

- Two areas planned for prescribed burning in 2018
- Munitions cleanup work continues in the northern portion of the Fort Ord National Monument and inside the Impact Area
- Operable Unit 1 (OU1) groundwater cleanup began in 1988 and was complete in 2017
- Operable Unit 2 (OU2) groundwater treatment plant is relocating to the OU2 Landfill to optimize and expedite the cleanup of the groundwater plumes
- The Army continues to conduct habitat restoration activities in areas disturbed by the Army's cleanup activities
- Raptor perches and owl boxes have been installed at the landfill in 2017 to promote rodent control
- The Army completed the 4th Five-Year Review report in September 2017

PARA OBTENER UNA COPIA EN ESPAÑOL, CONTACTE: 831-393-1284
FOR A COPY OF THIS NEWSLETTER IN SPANISH, CALL 831-393-1284

COMPLETED OR UNDERWAY IN 2017

For more information, visit FortOrdCleanup.com

MUNITIONS CLEANUP

- Completed prescribed burns on Unit B (265 acres) and Unit C (143 acres) in the northern portion of the Fort Ord National Monument. Munitions remediation is underway in both of these locations.
- Completed munitions removal in Units 25 and 28 (inside the Impact Area).

HABITAT MANAGEMENT

- To date, the Army has completed prescribed planting and seeding in 29 acres of central maritime chaparral plant community as specified in the Site Specific Restoration Plans.
- The Army is currently restoring 34.4 acres. There are plans to restore an additional 0.45 acres.
 - Collected about 30 pounds of native seed in 2017.
 - Monitored restoration areas and conducted adaptive management to ensure sites meet success criteria.
- Completed seed broadcasting of 3.9 acres at several location inside the Impact Area.
- Completed annual monitoring and restoration reports to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service which indicated habitat restoration and management were effectively working.
 - Monitored 1,249 acres of maritime chaparral following munitions cleanup action. Also monitored 5.88 acres of vernal pools.

GROUNDWATER CLEANUP

- Operable Unit 1: Cleanup is now complete. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved site closure.
- Operable Unit 2: Construction of a new groundwater treatment plant is underway and is expected to be operational by the end of 2018.
- Sites 2 and 12: Soil vapor and groundwater cleanup continue.
- Carbon Tetrachloride: Completed additional enhanced in-situ bioremediation treatment in Deployment Area 3A. Monitoring continues.

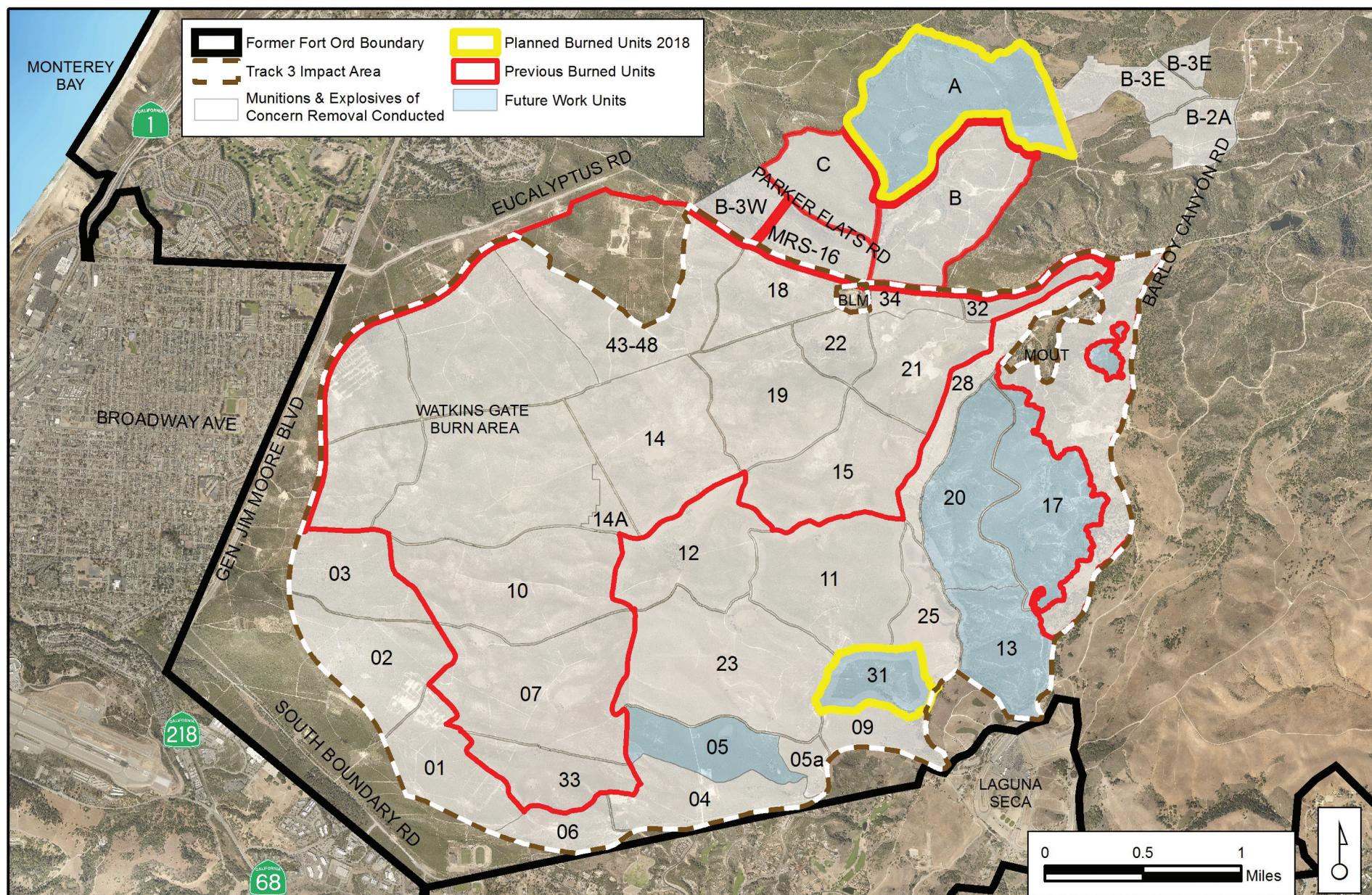
Water pumped from Marina Coast Water District supply wells on former Fort Ord consistently meets Federal and State drinking water standards.

LANDFILL OPERATION & MAINTENANCE

- Installed Owl boxes and raptor perches at the landfill to attract raptors for use in natural pest management of burrowing rodents.
- Routine operation and maintenance to ensure the cover to remain intact and the landfill gas extraction and treatment system is operating efficient.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- 2017 outreach activities included:
- Held two Open House / Bus Tours.
 - The May guided nature walk included 80 participants.
 - The Army provided over 400 local students with a munitions safety briefing.
 - Provided cleanup information booths at: Sea Otter Classic, Earth Day Celebrations, Monterey County Fair, and Bureau of Land Management Public Lands Day.



MUNITIONS CLEANUP

From 1917 until base closure in 1994, military units trained on the lands of the former Fort Ord. Types of military munitions used at Fort Ord included artillery projectiles, rockets, hand grenades, practice land mines, pyrotechnics, bombs, demolition materials and other items used by the Infantry. After base closure, the Army identified areas where munitions could still remain, and began conducting investigations and removal of munitions from these areas. The results of these investigations and removal actions were then evaluated, and today, much of the former Fort Ord has been released for reuse as selected by the local community. Munitions cleanup is currently underway in the Impact Area Munitions Response Area and in the northern portion of the Fort Ord National Monument.

Since 2008, the Army has been continually conducting the cleanup of the 6,500 acre Impact Area Munitions Response Area under the Track 3 Record of Decision. This cleanup action is expected to take another 5 to 7 years. In 2017, munitions cleanup was completed in Units 25 and 28.

The Army is preparing Unit 31 for prescribed burning in 2018 followed by munitions cleanup.

In May 2017, the Army completed a Record of Decision for Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Area B and Munitions Response Site 16 (MRS-16), in the northern portion of the Fort Ord National Monument, and immediately began cleanup activities. This area includes land managed by BLM for public recreation; however, trails and areas where munitions operations are occurring are temporarily closed. The Army kicked off the work with extensive outreach efforts to address community input about the cleanup and temporary trail closures including the installation of eight information kiosks at frequently-used recreational access points. The current cleanup work will support the safe use of the Fort Ord National Monument for visitors, workers, and wildlife for years to come. Visitors who comply with posted restrictions and remain on designated trails are safe from munitions hazards. We ask that you **Mind the Signs**. For the latest information on cleanup and trail

accessibility, go to the cleanup programs tab, then select the BLM Area B section of FortOrdCleanup.com.

The Army also regularly provides munitions safety presentations to local schools; provides munitions recognition and safety training to workers conducting ground intrusive activities on the former Fort Ord; and maintains a site security program, working with neighboring municipalities and law enforcement agencies. Also in 2017, two decision documents that support the Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement (ESCA) project were completed: Record of Decision for the Interim Action Ranges Munitions Response Area, and an Explanation of Significant Differences for a portion of the Parker Flats Munitions Response Area.

You can register for the Prescribed Burn Direct Notification Program online, at FortOrdCleanup.com/prescribed-burns/notification/register/ or by telephone at 831-393-9693

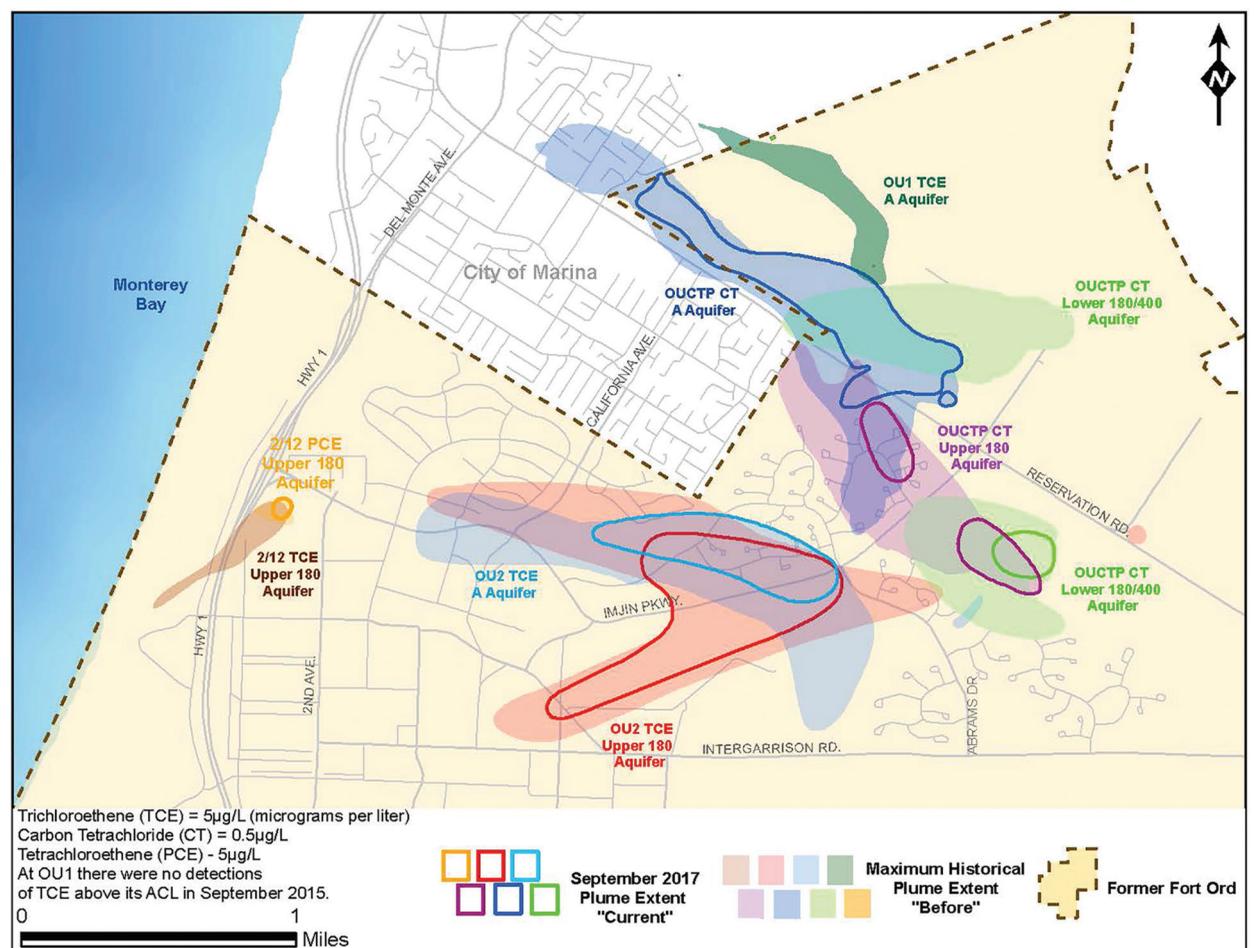
GROUNDWATER CLEANUP

The Army and regulatory agencies identified four areas on the former Fort Ord where chemical releases associated with past Army activities had contaminated groundwater. The Army installed an extensive monitoring well network to identify the area of contamination in affected aquifers and determine flow rates and flow directions. As contaminated groundwater plumes shrink, monitoring wells may be removed from the monitoring program or decommissioned.

Groundwater cleanup will continue until chemical(s) of concern concentration(s) are below the aquifer cleanup level. The four sites are described below.

Operable Unit 1 — Chemicals used for fire-fighting training (which ended in 1985) contaminated the soil and groundwater (in the A-Aquifer) in an area near the Marina Municipal Airport. The primary chemical of concern was Trichloroethene (also known as TCE), an industrial solvent used for degreasing, dry cleaning, and cleaning of mechanical parts. Contaminated soil was removed in 1988. Contaminated groundwater was extracted and treated at the groundwater treatment systems that operated from 1990 through 2014. TCE concentrations in all monitoring wells were below the aquifer cleanup level as of September 2014 and the regulatory agencies concurred in 2017 that cleanup at OU-1 is complete. All remaining groundwater monitoring wells and facilities used to support the remediation effort have been removed.

Operable Unit 2 — The landfill located southwest of the intersection of Imjin Parkway and Abrams Road was the source of the groundwater contamination in the A-Aquifer and Upper 180-Foot Aquifer. An engineered cover system was later constructed to prevent rainwater from contacting the waste



Fort Ord groundwater contamination current and historical

materials and causing additional chemicals to leach through the soil into the underlying groundwater. A gas extraction and treatment system was also installed to remove methane gas and the primary chemical of concern, TCE. A groundwater treatment plant using granular activated carbon began remediation in 1995 and the groundwater plumes have shrunk significantly since then. To optimize the capture of the groundwater plumes and expedite cleanup, new extraction wells have been installed and the groundwater treatment plant is being relocated to the landfill, closer to the source of the groundwater contamination plume. The relocation will also allow Monterey Peninsula College the ability to use the land where

the current plant resides.

Sites 2/12 — Improperly disposed solvents contaminated the soil and the underlying groundwater (in the Upper 180-Foot Aquifer) at the former vehicle maintenance facility, which is the current location of “The Dunes on Monterey Bay” shopping center (south of Imjin Parkway and east of Highway 1). Tetrachloroethene (also known as PCE) and TCE are primary chemicals of concern. The remedies include the excavation of contaminated soil in the 1990s and groundwater extraction and treatment with granular activated carbon, which began in 1999. Soil vapor extraction and treatment have been added to enhance and supplement the groundwater remedy to expedite the groundwater cleanup.

Operable Unit Carbon Tetrachloride

— Groundwater in the A-Aquifer, Upper 180-Foot Aquifer, and Lower 180-foot Aquifer located north of Imjin Parkway and along Reservation Road was contaminated by improperly disposed solvents. Carbon Tetrachloride (also known as CT) is the primary chemical of concern. Cleanup includes enhanced in situ bio-remediation (A-Aquifer), groundwater extraction and treatment with granular activated carbon (Upper 180-Foot Aquifer), and monitored natural attenuation with wellhead treatment as a contingency measure (Lower 180-Foot Aquifer). Remediation began in 2009 for the A-Aquifer and in 2011 for the Upper and Lower 180-Foot Aquifers. The latest enhanced in situ bioremediation activity was completed at Deployment Area 3A in 2017.

YOUR FORT ORD DRINKING WATER IS SAFE

Drinking water sources are protected from contaminated groundwater by groundwater treatment systems and institutional controls. Institutional controls include deed restrictions, California State Land Use Covenants, Marina Municipal Code, and Monterey County Code, which prohibits construction of water wells within a specific area.

The Marina Coast Water District supplies drinking water to the City of Marina and former Fort Ord. Drinking water supplied by the Marina Coast Water District meets all Federal and State regulatory standards. Drinking water quality is regularly tested by Marina Coast Water District and results are reported in an annual Consumer Confidence Report found at mcwd.org.

TCE concentrations in drinking water supply wells are at very low levels and are not expected to increase. Groundwater modeling indicates concentrations will remain below drinking water maximum contaminant levels. Monitoring wells upgradient of supply wells show stable or declining concentration trends. Fort Ord drinking water is safe and protected from contamination plumes.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION: OPERABLE UNIT 2 GROUNDWATER TREATMENT PLANT

The relocation of the OU2 groundwater treatment plant to the landfill is nearly complete. The current plant (located just off Imjin Parkway) will continue to operate until the relocation to the landfill is completed. The new plant offers several advantages:

- The new location is closer to the groundwater contamination plume. Since 1995, the size of the contaminated groundwater plumes have been significantly reduced and the location of the most concentrated contamination has shifted closer to the landfill.
- Additional extraction wells were installed closer to the groundwater plumes to reduce the timeframe for groundwater cleanup.
- Finally, after the new plant is opera-



New OU2 groundwater treatment plant

tional, the old plant will be removed and the land (currently owned by Monterey Peninsula College) can be used for a different purpose.

Interested in the groundwater cleanup at the former Fort Ord? Want a tour of the

new groundwater treatment plant? Mark your calendar for February 2, 2019. Event details, such as maps, will be announced later this year on FortOrdCleanup.com. The bus tour will feature a stop at the new treatment plant.

LANDFILL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The Army operated a landfill during the years Fort Ord served as a training base. The landfill provided waste disposal for Fort Ord's housing, offices and support facilities, such as machine shops and motor pools. The Army stopped accepting waste into the landfill in 1987. Like many municipal landfills from this era, Fort Ord's landfill was later found to be leaching hazardous chemicals into the groundwater. The Fort Ord Landfill site also known as Operable Unit 2 or OU2, includes areas of buried waste (called cells) covering approximately 100 acres. Due to the presence of contamination in groundwater, the Army installed a groundwater extraction and treatment facility which has been operating since 1995 as mentioned above. The landfill cells are now covered with an engineered cover system to prevent rainwater from contacting the waste materials and causing additional chemicals to leach through the soil into groundwater beneath the landfill.

As with most landfills, decay of organic waste produces gases (primarily methane and carbon dioxide) that could potentially ignite at high concentrations and endanger landfill workers and nearby residents. Over time, as wastes continue to decay, less methane will be produced and eventually will decline to near zero. In 2006, the Army installed a landfill gas extraction and treatment system to prevent landfill gas from reaching high concentrations and migrating off the landfill. The system consists of a thermal treatment unit that extracts landfill gas from around the perimeter of landfill cells and destroys methane and organic gases collected from under the landfill cover. The Army is operating the

thermal treatment unit to maintain methane concentrations at the acceptable level at the perimeter of the landfill and to remove chemicals that might otherwise migrate to groundwater.

The Army conducts inspections routinely and performs repairs when necessary to make sure the cover remains intact and the landfill gas extraction and treatment system is operating efficiently.

SPECIAL STORY: HOW RAPTORS HELP WITH LANDFILL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Rodents burrow into soil cover and create erosions at the landfill. Reducing rodent populations helps maintain the integrity of the landfill cover. Therefore, owl boxes and raptor perches were installed at the landfill in 2017 to attract raptors and encourage the natural removal of gophers, ground squirrels and other rodents.

Raptors are a group of predatory birds including hawks, owls, eagles, and falcons. These birds often prey upon rodents and control rodent populations. Raptors alone do not completely eliminate a rodent problem, but attracting raptors as part of a pest management strategy can reduce the cost of conventional control methods and it is also an environmentally-friendly way to reduce rodent populations.



SOIL CLEANUP AT SITE 39

The former Impact Area was used by infantry units for maneuvers, target ranges, and other training purposes and was the designation for live fire training exercises with a variety of military munitions and small arms. Firing military munitions and small arms contaminated the soil with lead and constituents of explosives in some areas. The Army has designated the

Impact Area as Site 39, and has been identifying and remediating areas of contaminated soil since 1997. The goal is to remediate the site to allow the reuse of Site 39 as a habitat reserve that protects both human health and the environment – including animal and plant life.

Over 200 areas have been identified as potential firing ranges or training areas. Ar-

reas are initially cleared of munitions and explosives of concern. Then, each area is investigated for possible soil contamination, and where necessary, is remediated by excavating contaminated soil. Although the majority of contamination areas have been remediated, the Army will continue to evaluate additional areas for soil excavation as areas are cleared of munitions and explosives of concern.

HABITAT

The Fort Ord area is biologically significant because of its rich biodiversity supporting a diverse group of rare and endemic species of plants and animals. Over 14,000 acres of Fort Ord is designated as habitat reserve. The central maritime chaparral plant community is the most extensive and unique. Plants within this community are well adapted to periodic fires and sandy soil conditions present on Fort Ord. Some of these plants occur only in the Monterey Bay area, and several are so rare they have been listed as threatened or endangered. Annual plants such as sand gilia and Monterey spineflower thrive in areas within the central maritime chaparral where periodic fire, or other disturbance, expose the sandy soils, while vernal pools provide breeding habitat for the federally threatened California tiger salamander and many other species.

In accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, the Army consulted with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USF-

WS). The USFWS issued a Biological Opinion directing the Army to develop and implement an Installation-Wide Multispecies Habitat Management Plan (HMP) for former Fort Ord. The Army initially published the HMP in February 1994 with input from various regulatory agencies, such as California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and future recipients of former Fort Ord lands. In April 1997 the Army revised the HMP to address changes in the reuse plan and incorporate additional data and analysis related to the land disposal activities identified in the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the closure of Fort Ord.

The general goal of the HMP is to "promote preservation, enhancement, and restoration of habitat and populations of HMP species while allowing development on selected properties that promotes economic recovery after closure of Fort Ord." The HMP identified areas that could be developed with or without restrictions and areas set aside as habitat reserves or corridors

with specific management guidelines. The HMP and Programmatic Biological Opinion issued by the USFWS outline management guidelines and specific minimization measures the Army must implement to mitigate impacts on natural resources that may be affected during the environmental cleanup of the installation. Several Biological Opinions have been issued over time to incorporate the Army's environmental cleanup process. The current Programmatic Biological Opinion was issued in 2017.

The Army monitors rare plant and animal species both before and after cleanup activities and uses the monitoring data to assess whether the success criteria specified in the HMP have been met. Every year the Army publishes annual reports of the monitoring results and presents them at a meeting to USFWS, CDFW, and other agencies. The Army continues to consult with the USFWS any time a new proposed action may affect listed species and was not addressed by prior documents. You can find these documents at FortOrdCleanup.com

CHECKING UP ON THE FORT ORD SUPERFUND CLEANUP: THE FIVE-YEAR REVIEW PROCESS

Every five years as required by EPA, a review is conducted to evaluate if the remedies implemented at the former Fort Ord are still protective of human health and the environment. It is also a chance for the community to discuss site conditions and concerns. The first Five-Year Review was issued in 2002. In September 2017, the Army issued the 4th Five Year Review Report.

During this review, the Army and regulatory agencies reviewed information from the last five years, including the completed activities, on-going cleanup efforts, the laws and regulations, and site inspections to ensure the remedies are protective of human health and the environment. The Army collected public input via questionnaires and conducted interviews with community members.

The remedies for all of the sites evaluated in the 4th Five-Year Review were deemed protective of human health and the environment or were expected to be protective upon cleanup completion. Potential exposure pathways that could result in unacceptable risks are being controlled. EPA concurred on the findings. The next five-year review is scheduled for 2022.

PRESCRIBED BURN ROAD AND TRAIL CLOSURES

Some roads and trails will be closed for a short time when the Army mobilizes for a prescribed burn. See page 8 for further information and to sign up for notifications.

UNIT 31

- **AUTO TRAVEL/COMMUTE:** South Boundary and Rancho Saucito roads will be closed to commuter and recreational traffic during prescribed burn operations. You will not be able to access Ryan Ranch via Fort Ord.
- **RECREATIONAL USERS:** South Boundary, Rancho Saucito, Barloy Canyon, and Eucalyptus roads will be closed. Some trails may be closed during burn operations.

UNIT A

- **AUTO TRAVEL/COMMUTE:** Intergarrison Road is subject to closure in case of emergency.
- **RECREATIONAL USERS:** Pedestrian, recreation, and non-project vehicle use of the following roads will be unavailable until the completion of burn operations: Eucalyptus, Barloy Canyon, 8th Avenue Extension, Parker Flats and Parker Flats Cutoff roads will be closed. All areas within this perimeter and south of Intergarrison will remain closed during burn activities, including Gigling Road east of 8th.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Fort Ord's Community Outreach program includes assessing the interest of the community through surveys, public meetings and information sessions. The Army also provides displays, presentations, and tours where community members can learn about the cleanup and share their ideas and concerns with cleanup officials. The Army addresses these concerns by providing information, developing alternatives, responding to comments, and monitoring results. In 2017, the Army sent out a community survey. The results of this survey plus a summary of outreach-related activities will be published in late 2018. This document will be

available in the community section of FortOrdCleanup.com.

Here are some of the ways you can participate:

- Join us at one of our outreach events, FortOrdCleanup.com/public-meetings/2018-public-meetings/
- View Fact Sheets, FortOrdCleanup.com/factsheets/
- Participate in our public survey, FortOrdCleanup.com/community/public-survey/
- Send us your comments on our outreach program, FortOrdCleanup.com/community/online-comment-form/

OPEN HOUSE/BUS TOUR/GUIDED NATURE WALK DATES AND DESCRIPTIONS EVENT DETAILS ARE AT FORTORDCLEANUP.COM



FEBRUARY 2, 2019

Free Open House/Bus Tour 90 minute guided bus tours of the groundwater and soil cleanup sites on the former Fort Ord. Highlight stop is planned for the new groundwater treatment plant.

MAY 4, 2019

Free Guided Nature Walks inside the Impact Area. Your choice of a 1 mile or 3 mile walk with cleanup personnel in areas that are currently off limits to public access. Several local biologists accompany each tour group as a bonus!

JULY 13, 2019

Free Open House/Bus Tour Join us at the open house then take a 90 minute guided bus tour that includes a drive through portions of the Fort Ord National Monument (which includes the Impact Area) and on-board presentations on the munitions cleanup and prescribed burns. This is our most popular tour.

FORT ORD AGENCY CONTACTS

The Army is responsible for conducting cleanup of the former Fort Ord, but it must do so in a manner that complies with federal and state laws and under the supervision of federal and state regulatory agencies. The Fort Ord cleanup is being conducted under the Superfund or "CERCLA" cleanup process. CERCLA is an acronym for the federal law entitled the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, also known as Superfund. It encompasses cleanup of soil and groundwater that contain hazardous substances such as metals, pesticides, and other chemical contaminants common to landfills, firing ranges, and other military sites. At Fort Ord, the Superfund cleanup is supervised by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, California Department of Toxic Substances Control and the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Under an agreement between the Army and regulatory agencies, each agency assigns a representative to the Base Cleanup Team. Contacts for each of the participating agencies in Fort Ord's cleanup are listed below.

The Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement (ESCA) is an Army grant to the Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA) for munitions remediation on 3,340 acres that have been transferred to FORA. The FORA ESCA Remediation Program is supervised by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and California Department of Toxic Substances Control.

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Fort Ord Environmental Cleanup

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ARMY ANNOUNCES INTENT TO CONDUCT TWO BURNS IN 2018

The Army has identified two areas for prescribed burning in 2018. These burns are an important part of munitions cleanup and are also required under an agreement between the Army and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a part of the Installation-Wide Multispecies Habitat Management Plan. The prescribed burns will make the ground surface accessible for safe munitions removal and encourages recovery of rare, threatened and endangered fire-dependent plant species. In addition, prescribed burns reduce overgrown vegetation, which, in turn, reduces the risk of wildfire.

The Army intends to conduct prescribed burns as soon as weather permits. Burn season at Fort Ord is between July 1 and December 31 unless extended by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. A prescribed burn will be initiated when conditions provide for safe operations and good fire and smoke behavior.

The two areas proposed for prescribed burning in 2018 are Unit 31 inside the Impact Area and Unit A in the northern portion of the Fort Ord National Monument. Note: Some roads and trails will be closed for a short time when the Army mobilizes for a prescribed burn.

The Army strives to minimize the amount of smoke from these fires. A prescribed burn may be initiated when



Smoke from a 2017 prescribed burn conditions provide for safe operations and good fire and smoke behavior. Those conditions occur only a few times a year, and some years not at all. To protect sensitive species the Army will only conduct prescribed burns during the period from July 1 through Dec. 31— the “burn season.” Burns can’t be scheduled ahead of time since the Army must wait for specific weather conditions and fire fighting resources.

Please be aware that some smoke may be present in nearby areas during and following the burn. The Army has created a Direct Notification Program. Once you have enrolled in the Direct Notification Program, the Army will send up to three notices for each burn event — (1) that a prescribed burn could occur shortly (within a day or two), (2) once the burn begins, and (3) when the burn is complete.

You can register for the direct notification program online, at FortOrdCleanup.com/prescribed-burns/notification/register/ or by telephone at 831-393-9693. Because phone numbers and email addresses change, you will need to register each year. Note: The Army will not share your personal contact information. To stay informed during the burn season, periodically check the prescribed burn section of FortOrdCleanup.com.

As this report is being prepared for publication, several California wildfires are on-going. We appreciate all of the hard work and commitment by the fire community as they continue to battle wildfires. The Army will not consider a prescribed burn unless all weather requirements, fuel moistures, and adequate fire resources (trucks, helicopters, water tenders, etc.) are available to ensure that the burn is ignited and extinguished safely. The decision to burn is made in consultation with California Department of Toxic Substances Control, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, local police and fire departments, meteorologists, and the Monterey Bay Air Resources District. The Army has an extensive fuel break system in place to protect nearby residents during a prescribed burn. The burn is conducted in a manner that reduces smoke impacts to the community.