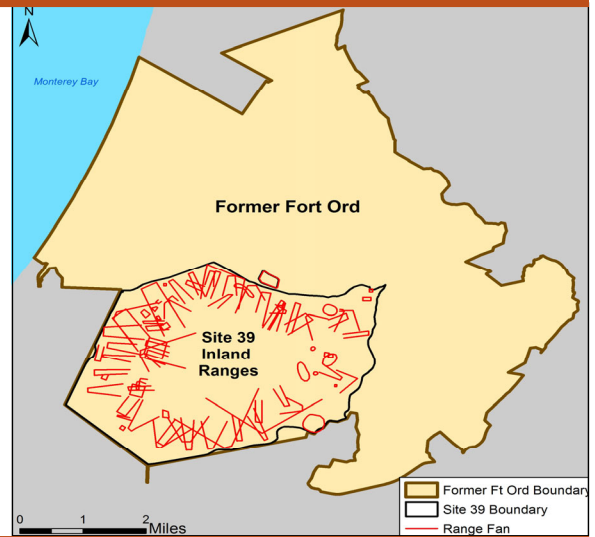


Fort Ord Cleanup Fact Sheet: Cleanup of Soil at Site 39, Inland Ranges

History

Fort Ord was a major training and staging facility for infantry troops from its opening in 1917 until closure in 1994. Portions of Fort Ord were used by infantry units for maneuvers, target ranges, and other training purposes. The Site 39 Inland Ranges are a former historical Impact Area used for live fire training exercises with a variety of military munitions and small arms. Soil contamination may have occurred in the areas where military munitions were fired into, fired upon, or used on the facility in the form of artillery and mortar projectiles, rockets, guided missiles, rifle and hand grenades, demolition materials, and small arms.

Assessment and Cleanup of Site 39 Soil Contamination



The Site 39 historical range assessment is designed to investigate ranges and training areas for possible soil contamination related to various types of military munitions and small arms. The overall range investigation process developed for Fort Ord consists of three phases -- site assessment, remedial investigation, and remediation. In 1996, the Army and regulatory agencies signed a Record of Decision that specified cleanup levels for primary contaminants of concern, or COCs, in soil. Lead, antimony, and copper are primary COCs related to small arms ranges based on possible risk to human health. Explosive compounds, metals, and hydrocarbons could also be present in areas where munitions-related training occurred. In 2009, the Army further refined the cleanup effort by establishing ecological cleanup levels. The Final Feasibility Study Addendum, Site 39 Inland Ranges (2008) and Final Record of Decision Amendment (2009) documented the amended remedy based on ecological screening levels and recognized the need to manage a greater volume of soil than was anticipated and documented in the 1996 Record of Decision.

The process starts with identifying ranges and training areas where soil contamination is suspected. Then, the area is investigated for possible soil contamination, and where necessary, remediated by excavating contaminated soil. Several ranges have been remediated under the 1996 Record of Decision. The 2009 Record of Decision Amendment identified several soil cleanup areas in habitat areas of Site 39, and remediation of those areas was completed in 2013. The excavated soil has been transported to and deposited in the Operable Unit 2 Landfills. As the munitions cleanup progressed in the former Impact Area, the Army continued to evaluate those areas for potential soil contamination. Two additional soil cleanup areas have been identified in the habitat area. Two other areas in designated future development areas are under further review based on recent changes in federal and state screening levels for lead.

What Happens Next

There are two activities linked to the Site 39 soil cleanup:

- (1) Evaluating the remaining areas in the former Impact Area after munitions cleanup is completed, and conducting soil remediation where necessary; and
- (2) Habitat restoration and monitoring of restored areas.

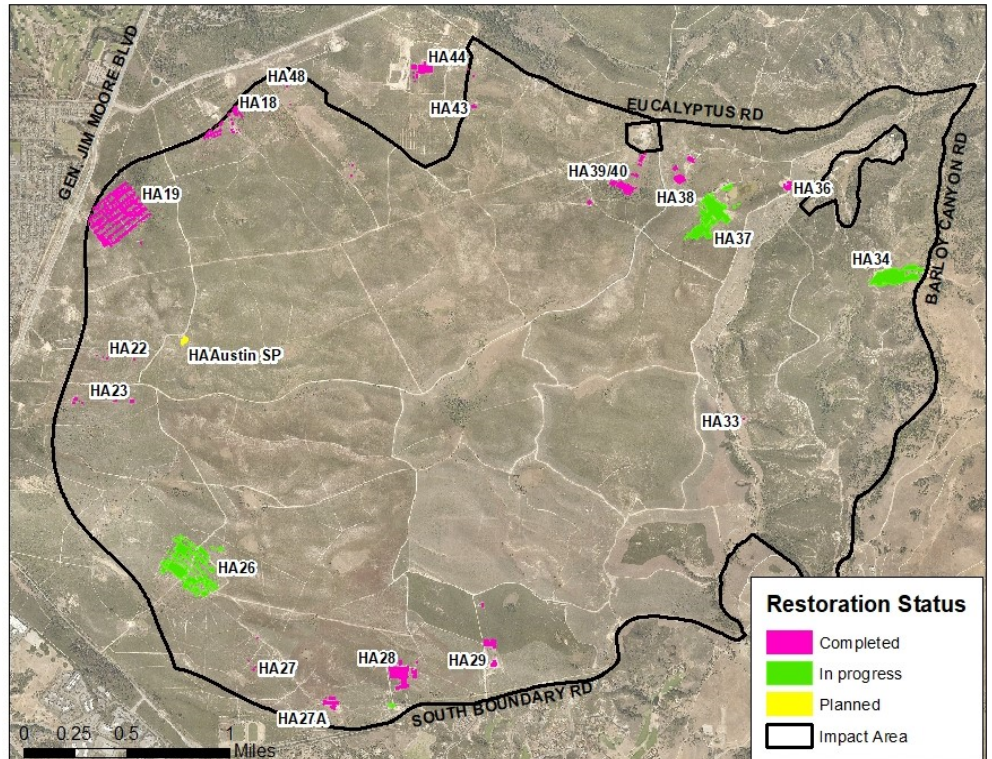
As more munitions cleanup activities in the former Impact Area are completed, the Army will continue to evaluate the area for potential soil contamination and conduct soil remediation, if necessary.

Para obtener una copia en Espanol contacte 831-393-1284.

Habitat Restoration and Monitoring

The majority of Site 39 is a habitat reserve area which has been designated as part of the Fort Ord National Monument. The habitat within the impact area primarily consists of a central maritime chaparral plant community with many listed and rare species. When designated habitat areas require soil cleanup, the Army completes a habitat assessment of the area. Upon completion of soil cleanup, restoration and monitoring activities are conducted according to the Habitat Restoration Plan (Administrative Record number: BW-2450G).

To date, the Army has restored 27.1 acres of central maritime chaparral plant community. The Army is currently restoring 35 acres, and plans to restore an additional 0.7 acres. All restored sites (shown in the map on the right and labeled “HA”s, which stands for Historic Areas) are monitored to ensure plants are growing back successfully, as specified in the Habitat Restoration Plan. The Army works closely with regulatory agencies (see contacts below) to ensure successful restoration.



To Learn More About the Site 39 Soil Cleanup

The document search tool at www.FortOrdCleanup.com provides access to important cleanup documents:

- For areas where excavated Site 39 soils have been placed, download the Final Construction Quality Control and Quality Assurance Report, Area E, Phase I Operable Unit 2 Landfills (OU2-687B).
- For investigation and cleanup of Site 39, download
 - Final Basewide Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (BW-1283),
 - Final Feasibility Study Addendum, Site 39 Ranges (BW-2423F),
 - Final Record of Decision Amendment, Site 39 Inland Ranges (RI-041E), and
 - Final Remedial Action Completion Report, Site 39 Inland Ranges Habitat Reserve (RI-047c)
- Annual reports for restoration and monitoring are also available at www.FortOrdCleanup.com.

For more information contact:

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