

FACTSHEET: Fort Ord Munitions Response Site Prioritization and Sequencing

Background

The Army conducted live-fire weapons training on areas of the former Fort Ord over 70 years, until the base closed in 1994. As a result of this training, munitions and explosives of concern (MEC), including unexploded ordnance (UXO) and discarded military munitions (DMM), were known or suspected to be present in some areas. Since base closure, the Army has made considerable progress in addressing the risks from MEC by conducting investigations and removing hazards.

In the Fiscal Year (FY) 2002 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), Congress directed Department of Defense (DoD) to develop, in consultation with representatives of the States and Indian Tribes, a protocol for assigning defense sites containing MEC a relative priority for response activities. DoD developed the Munitions Response Site (MRS) Prioritization Protocol (MRSP) in 2005. The Fort Ord Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Office implemented the MRSP in 2008.

The Department of the Army issued guidance in 2011 for sequencing the MRSs for munitions responses. The Fort Ord BRAC Office developed a Sequencing Implementation Plan (SIP) and sequences were assigned to the Fort Ord sites in 2013. The Fort Ord BRAC Office periodically reviews these priorities and sequencing, and informs the regulatory agencies and members of the community about any changes based on cleanup progress.

2023 Update

Recent cleanup progress includes:

- Land use controls, which include requirements for safety precautions in certain areas, continue to be implemented.
- The remaining remedial actions in the Impact Area Munitions Response Area and a portion of the northern portion of the Fort Ord National Monument continue to be implemented.

In September 2021, the Department of the Army approved the priority and sequence recommended in 2019 for the Fort Ord sites. Based on the previous munitions responses and evaluations, MRSP priority is “No Longer Required” for most areas. A priority rating of “Evaluation Pending” is assigned to areas where remedial actions are currently underway (the Impact Area Munitions Response Area and the northern portion of the Fort Ord National Monument). There has been no change to the rating since 2019.

How Community Members Can Contribute to This Process

Community members may review the Fort Ord MRS prioritization and sequencing information at the Fort Ord cleanup website (www.fortordcleanup.com). Interested community members may provide input for consideration by contacting Fort Ord BRAC Field Office, P.O. Box 5008, Monterey, CA 93944-5008, telephone 1-800-852-9699, or via email at outreach@fortordcleanup.com.

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

