

# FY23 ANNUAL MONITORING

This spring, a portion of the annual biological monitoring tasks at Ft. Ord was completed by USACE biologists.

USACE biologists were brought in from May through August 2023 to address a gap in contract coverage.

For many species, such as rare annual wildflowers, there is only a small window for monitoring in spring and early summer, when the plants are in bloom or the vernal pools are at specific levels.



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# 2023 ANNUAL MONITORING

With the approval of both USFWS and CDFW, USACE biologists from Sacramento's Military Projects and Installation Environmental Services Section (MPIES), with specialized training and appropriate certifications, completed surveys of rare annual wildflowers, California Tiger Salamanders, non-native grasses, as well as maritime chaparral and seasonal wetland vegetation.

The 2023 Biological Monitoring tasks are split between USACE biologists and the new contractor, Harris Environmental Group, Incorporated (HEG Inc.). Both organizations are following the same SOPs and coordinating closely as the work continues.

The USACE Biologists and HEG Inc. will seamlessly combine the monitoring data and conclusions in the 2023 Annual Report that HEG Inc. will produce in early 2024. Both USACE and HEG Inc. staff will attend the Annual Meeting in early 2024.