



**Final
Hazardous and Toxic Waste (HTW)
Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC)
Cleanup Team (BCT)
Meeting Minutes
February 26, 2026**



BRAC Conference Room and Microsoft Teams Teleconference
Former Fort Ord, California

Agenda

Reference the handout titled "HTW BRAC Cleanup Team Meeting Agenda, Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 10:00 AM, Former Fort Ord, California."

1. Attendance and Announcements

Last Name	First Name	Organization	In-Person	Remote
Anderson	Thor	Harris Environmental	x	
Arthur	Jennifer	Ahtna		x
Carter	Sommer	Ahtna		x
Cervantes	Christina	Chenega for U.S. Army Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC), Fort Ord Office		x
Clancy	Maeve	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)		x
Corr	Erin	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)		x
Dillon	Holly	Ahtna		x
Facchini	Hudson	Chenega for BRAC	x	
Faulkner	David	California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)		x
Hession	Shaelyn	Ahtna		x
Hibbits	Betsy	USACE		x
Kowalski	Bart	Chenega for BRAC	x	
Lieberman	Derek	Ahtna	x	
Lippa	Antonio	Ahtna	x	
Leary	Brett	DTSC		x
Lobo	Joelle	U.S. Army BRAC, Fort Ord Office	x	
Mauck	Andrew	Ahtna	x	
Martinez	April	USACE		x
No	Jason	Chenega for BRAC	x	
Nozaki	Chieko	JBW Federal for BRAC	x	
Santiago	Stephanie	DASA-ESOH, BRAC		x
Schmidt	Eric	Ahtna	x	
Sellinger	Amber	Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (CCRWQCB)		x
Steckling	Karyn	(CCRWQCB)		x

Last Name	First Name	Organization	In-Person	Remote
Stiebel	Cary	JBW Federal for BRAC	x	
Valdez	Val	Chenega for BRAC		x
Weisenfeld	Greg	Chenega for BRAC	x	

Joelle Lobo announced the Fort Ord Community Involvement Workshop (CIW) videos are now available online at the Fort Ord Cleanup website and will be available for a year.

Joelle announced the Draft Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Remedial Investigation (RI) Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) and Operable Unit Carbon Tetrachloride Plume (OUCTP) Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) have been published and distributed this week with a 60-day review period per the Federal Facility Agreement for primary documents.

2. BCT Minutes Status

The December HTW BCT minutes are in internal Army review.

3. Community Outreach Update

The handout titled “U.S. Army Fort Ord Environmental Cleanup Community Outreach Update” was reviewed by Jason No. Jason presented details for long-term actions, recent activities, and upcoming activities. Additional discussion included:

- Karyn Steckling asked for more information about the February 12 event related to PG&E. Jason clarified that a call was received from PG&E regarding an item that was found that was confirmed to not be munitions-related and was non-hazardous.
- Joelle noted that the contract for the 6th Five-Year Review (6th 5YR) is underway and a preliminary schedule should be available by next BCT meeting.

4. Habitat Restoration

The handout titled “Site 39 Inland Ranges Habitat Restoration Status Update” was reviewed by Thor Anderson. Additional discussion included:

- The 2025 Annual Fort Ord Habitat Restoration report is being drafted with 10 Phase I sites entering their final year of monitoring. The Annual Habitat Meeting will be held on April 9.
- Erosion control activities are ongoing, including broadcasting seed mixes, installing straw wattles, and repairing rills.

5. Operable Unit 2 (OU2)

a. Groundwater Remedy/Monitoring –

The handout titled “Operable Unit 2 Data and Status” was reviewed by Holly Dillon. Additional discussion included:

- Several upcoming key events and future key events were reviewed, including multiple maintenance operations, a GAC change-out, and the dates of the First Quarter 2026 groundwater monitoring event.
- The groundwater treatment plant (GWTP) operational data for December 2025 – January 2026 was reviewed.
- Holly presented plume maps for the A-Aquifer and Upper 180-Foot Aquifer Fourth Quarter 2025 groundwater monitoring program (GWMP) preliminary data.

b. Landfills Operations and Maintenance (O&M) – The handout titled “Former Fort Ord Operable Unit 2 Landfills Data and Status” was reviewed by Eric Schmidt. Additional discussion included:

- Eric presented First Quarter 2026 key events and planned Second Quarter 2026 activities.
 - Owl nest box cleaning was conducted the week of December 15.

- Thermal Treatment Unit (TTU) painting was conducted January 22-27.
 - Quarterly landfill gas probe monitoring was conducted between February 16 and 19.
- Eric reviewed operational data for the TTU.
- Karyn asked if a change to the estimated mass of COC removed could be provided. Eric responded that the data were not available at this time but that the value should be approximately the same as the previous year and will be provided on the slides at the next BCT meeting.

6. Sites 2 and 12 (Sites 2/12)

The handout titled “Sites 2 and 12 Data and Status” was reviewed by Shaelyn Hession. Additional discussion included:

- Shaelyn presented Sites 2/12 recent and future key events including a pump failure at EW-12-05-180M. Operational data were presented for the Sites 2/12 GWTP and soil vapor treatment unit (SVTU) for December – January. The current GWTP pulse pumping regime is operational for four weeks and offline for one week. The SVTU is currently offline.
- Shaelyn presented tetrachloroethene (PCE) and trichloroethene (TCE) groundwater sampling data, time-concentration charts, and plume maps.
- Shaelyn presented the soil gas monitoring plume map.
- There is still more soil gas monitoring to be conducted in the Jetty Street area and the Draft Soil Gas QAPP Addendum describing the activities will be issued in March.
- Karyn asked about the status of the EW-12-05-180M pump failure and when repairs are expected to be completed. Derek Lieberman said the goal is to have the repairs completed before the next BCT meeting.
- Karyn asked if any effort has been made to reach out to Shea Homes regarding their development and plans to decommission two extraction wells. Derek noted that Shea Homes has been contacted regarding the Army’s needs for sampling the wells that will be decommissioned in the footprint of future development. Shea’s development plan as of now would occur in late 2027.

7. Operable Unit Carbon Tetrachloride Plume (OUCTP)

The handout titled “Former Fort Ord Operable Unit Carbon Tetrachloride Plume Data and Status” was reviewed by Holly Dillon. Additional discussion included:

- Holly presented recent and future key events.
- Holly presented Fourth Quarter 2025 OUCTP sampling data, time concentration charts, and plume maps.
- Holly noted that monitoring wells MW-BW-48-A and MW-BW-81-A will have passive diffusion bags (PDBs) added to them for sample collection at different depths in the saturated zone in A-Aquifer Hydraulic Zone 5. The “shallow” sample will be collected from the shallowest saturated PDB station and the wells will be reprofiled in the next quarterly monitoring event to determine which station the “deep” sample should be collected from.
- David Faulkner asked for clarification on the meaning of the bolded values in the handout tables. Holly said the bolded values indicate chemical of concern (COC) concentrations above the aquifer cleanup level (ACL).
- Karyn asked why EISB-EW-09 has no contour around it on Figure 13 [handout slide 2]. Andrew noted that is an error but it will be corrected for inclusion in the annual report.

- Karyn asked if production well FO-30 is extracting more or less groundwater than FO-29. Derek noted that FO-30 and FO-31 both extract more groundwater than FO-29, with FO-31 pumping the most water and running for a longer time each day and FO-29 pumping the least water and running for the least amount of time each day.

8. Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

The handout titled “Summary of Fort Ord Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Activities” was reviewed by Erin Corr. The Draft PFAS RI QAPP is under review. No additional discussion occurred.

9. Basewide Range Assessment (BRA) and Lead Evaluation Status

There was no handout for the BRA and Lead Evaluation Status. Discussion included:

a. BRA – The Draft Final Comprehensive BRA Report is under development by the Army.

b. Lead Evaluation at HA 18D and HA 23D – The Draft Lead Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) is under development by the Army.

c. Explanation of Significant Differences – The Draft OUCTP ESD is currently issued for regulatory agency review.

10. Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) Schedule

a. Status Update – The FFA schedule is provided to the regulatory agencies with a list of the upcoming primary documents with the month the Draft and Draft Final versions will be issued. Draft versions have a 60-day review period and Draft Final versions have a 30-day review period.

b. Document Schedule – The handout titled “Former Fort Ord HTW Document Schedule” was reviewed and near-term documents were identified. Additional discussion included:

- Amber Sellinger asked if the review period for one of the two primary documents (PFAS RI QAPP or OUCTP ESD) can be delayed by one month. Maeve Clancy and David Faulkner echoed Amber’s concerns. Joelle Lobo approved a 30-day extension in the review period for the OUCTP ESD for a total of 90 days. The Draft PFAS RI QAPP will still have the original 60-day review period.
- Chieko Nozaki clarified the agreement on adjustments to FFA schedule.
- Erin reviewed upcoming documents. Erin noted that the upcoming PFAS Site Resolution document is a lower priority.
- Amber asked if the regulatory agency review period for draft responses to community comments could be five (5) days instead of three (3) days. Joelle noted that, depending on the document, it may be possible to adjust those review times. Maeve noted that she tends to not have comments due to the repetitiveness of community comments and responses. Joelle agreed and added that a document can be flagged if the comments do not result in any changes to the document.

11. Action Items

The handout titled “HTW BCT 2026 Action Items” was reviewed by Erin Corr.

- Action Item #3 was discussed and scheduled to take place after the BCT meeting.

12. Calendar Update

The calendar was reviewed for upcoming HTW BCT meeting dates and community events:

- The next HTW BCT meeting is scheduled for May 8 at 10:00 am.
- The Guided Nature Walk is scheduled for May 9.
- The July HTW BCT is tentatively scheduled for July 24 at 10:00 am.

- The CIW bus tour is scheduled for July 25.
- The Technical Review Committee meeting is scheduled for July 28.

HTW Governing Document References

The latest QAPPs in use and decision documents, including Records of Decision (RODs) and ESDs are listed below. These are typically final documents not currently being reviewed. These documents can be used as references for site COCs, ACLs, monitoring, remedies, and project decision criteria. Fort Ord document numbers given below.

- **Current QAPPs:**
 - Landfill Gas Revision 10: Final [OU2-702BB](#) (February 2026).
 - Soil Gas Revision 9: Final [BW-2792Y](#) (December 2024).
 - Groundwater Revision 12: Final [BW-2785Z](#) (August 2024).
 - Groundwater Revision 11, Addendum No. 2, OUCTP Upper 180-Foot Aquifer Extraction Well Installation: Final [BW-2928B](#) (May 2024).
- **Decision Documents:**
 - OU2:
 - ROD: [OU2-480](#) (1994).
 - ESD No. 1: [OU2-406](#) (1995).
 - ESD No. 2: [OU2-458](#) (1996).
 - ESD No. 3: [OU2-523](#) (1997).
 - ESD No. 4: [OU2-656](#) (2006).
 - Sites 2/12:
 - ROD: [RI-025](#) (1997).
 - ESD: [BW-2794](#) (2016).
 - OUCTP:
 - ROD: [OUCTP-0021D](#) (2007).
 - Site 39:
 - ROD: [RI-025](#) (1997).
 - ROD Amendment: [RI-041E](#) (2009).