

Fort Ord Environmental Cleanup 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

Fort Ord BRAC Office

June 2010

Prescribed Burns Prepare Way for Munitions Cleanup

Each year during the fall months Monterey Bay Area residents may hear an announcement about a prescribed burn on the former Fort Ord. What's going on? What's on fire?

Each year – weather permitting – the Fort Ord Cleanup Program conducts prescribed burns to clear vegetation so that cleanup workers can safely enter former artillery ranges and remove metal debris and munitions left over from the days when Fort Ord served as a major training facility for the US Army. During the years Fort Ord was a training center, soldiers were trained to fire guns, rockets mortars, and artillery. A small percentage of the military munitions explosives used in training didn't detonate when they were fired. They could still explode if triggered by being kicked or disturbed by people walking near them, or natural events.

All those years of firing weapons means that some areas are covered with metal debris, and in some cases, there are still dangerous munitions and explosives. These items, known in Army language as Munitions or Explosives of Concern (MEC), remain on the surface of the land or are in the ground



Smoke Plume from 2009 Prescribed Burn
(photo courtesy of Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District)

below the surface.

The Army is in the process of cleaning up the land so it can be turned over to the community for other uses. But the vegetation is so tall and dense that cleanup workers can't see where they are working, and could accidentally trigger unexploded ordnance and explosives. So the Army conducts prescribed burns – carefully designed and managed fires — to clear the land of vegetation so that cleanup can begin. Fortunately, most of the vegetation consists of a habitat known as Coastal Maritime Chaparral which is actually rejuvenated by periodic prescribed burns. After cleanup has taken place, the vegetation will grow back and provide habitat for a variety of species. Some of these species are listed by Federal and/or state agencies as threatened or endangered species. So this habitat is very important.

Each year the Army targets an area for cleanup and conducts prescribed burns to start the cleanup process. Once the vegetation is burned off, cleanup can begin right away,

and most of the cleanup can be accomplished within a matter of months. Occasionally an area is identified that requires additional cleanup that may take more time.

The Army's highest priorities for its prescribed burn program are (a) to conduct the prescribed burn without injury to the personnel and the public, (b) to contain the prescribed burn within its intended boundaries, and (c) to minimize any smoke impacts. These priorities are reflected in the planning, preparation for and implementation of each

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Fort Ord Cleanup Program

The Army, in consultation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), carries out a major program to remedy environmental and safety problems left over from the many years of training operations at the former Fort Ord.

The cleanup program has two goals: (1) protect human health and the environment, and (2) transfer land to the community for use. The Fort Ord Cleanup Program meets these goals by completing work in six major program areas:

- Munitions cleanup: Cleaning up munitions and explosives left over from training activities, page 1.
- Groundwater cleanup: Removing contaminants that have leaked into underground water, page 4.
- Soil cleanup: Cleaning up chemicals in the soil, page 5.
- Land transfers: Preparing land for transfer to the community, page 6.
- Management of environmentally sensitive lands: Protecting rare or endangered species and their habitat during cleanup activities, page 6.
- Community Outreach: Keeping the public informed about cleanup activities and providing opportunities for involvement in key decisions, page 7.

Cleanup Program Brings Local Jobs

In these tough economic times, what economic value does the cleanup program have for the local community and region?

The largest benefits will result from transfers of property to the community for future uses. Some of these benefits have already occurred. For example, California State University Monterey Bay is on former Fort Ord property. The Fort Ord Dunes State Park, which – in addition to its value as a community amenity — adds to the tourist value of the Monterey Bay Area, is on former Fort Ord land. Over 7,000 acres of land have been transferred to the Bureau of Land Management for use as open space and recreation. The Army has transferred property to the Fort Ord Re-use Authority which will ultimately be developed for residences, businesses, and non-profit organizations. Several development projects are underway or have been completed: The Dunes (retail

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Prescribed Burns Prepare Way for Munitions Cleanup

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prescribed burn. The prescribed burns are conducted under the direction of the Presidio of Monterey Fire Department

The prescribed burns can affect local air quality and create ash that might affect nearby residents. Some individuals, particularly those with pre-existing respiratory conditions, may be sensitive to the smoke. The Army provides a direct notification program so that people in the community will be notified directly by e-mail or phone call when a prescribed burn is going to occur. More than 3,000 notices were sent out during the 2009 prescribed burns. Once notified, residents can take precautions such as staying indoors during the prescribed burns.

The Army takes many actions to ensure that each prescribed burn is conducted in a way that will minimize smoke impacts. For example, the Army only conducts prescribed burns on days when weather conditions are appropriate for good smoke management. It also takes into account the moisture levels in the vegetation to ensure that the prescribed burn occurs when there is quick consumption of the vegetation, as this also affects smoke impacts. In the Monterey Bay area, these weather/moisture conditions occur in the second half of the year, usually during the fall months.

The goal is to get the smoke high up in the air where it can disperse away from communities, minimizing exposure to people on the ground. The photo shown on page 1—taken during one of the 2009 prescribed burns—illustrates these ideal conditions.

The Army takes numerous measurements of air quality in nearby areas during and immediately after a prescribed burn. This allows the Army to make adjustments to improve the manner in which future prescribed burns are planned and conducted.

Cleanup Accomplishments During 2009

- Prescribed burn and munitions cleanup conducted on Unit 14 and Unit 19 (486 acres)
- Soil cleanup on Ranges 27, 27a, and 29
- Additional treatment wells at Operable Unit 1 are reducing the size of the groundwater contamination plume
- New remediation process begun at Operable Unit Carbon Tetrachloride
- 3,939 acres of land transferred to the community for other land uses

2009 Prescribed Burns

Workers are currently finishing up the removal of MEC from the surface of the areas where prescribed burns were conducted in 2009. In October 2009, the Army conducted prescribed burns on 280 acres known as Unit 14 (see map). On the first day, the burn was ignited but within an hour the burn was suppressed when the burn extended beyond the target area (but was still within the containment lines). That burn was successfully completed the following day. In November the Army conducted another prescribed burn on 196 acres of land known as Unit 19.

The Army conducted air quality monitoring for particulate matter at seven locations surrounding the Impact Area. The results showed that air quality met the goals established for the program at all but one of the locations.

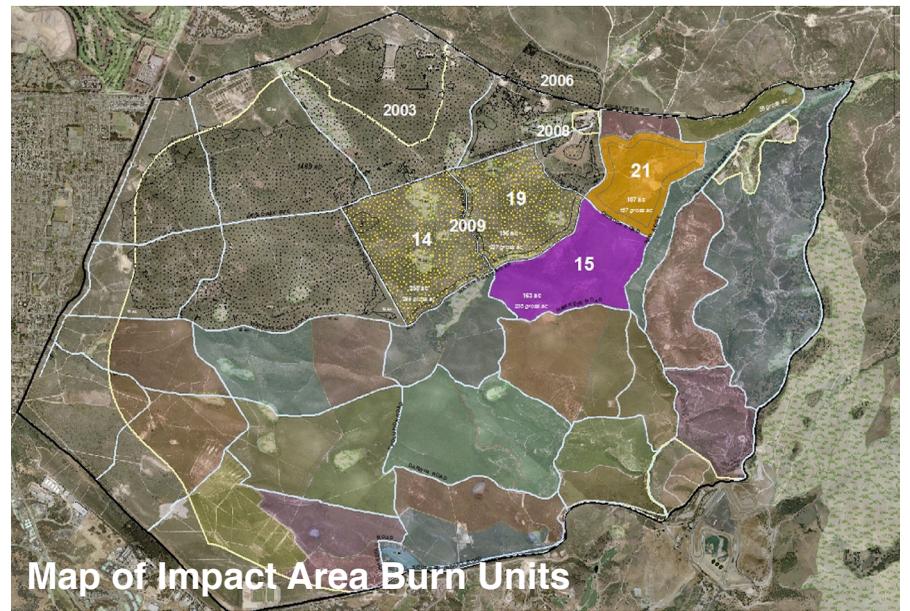
The Army conducts a careful evaluation after each prescribed burn to see what lessons can be learned, and then publishes an “after-action report” which is posted on the cleanup program’s website at www.FortOrdCleanup.com. In its report on the 2009 prescribed burns the Army identified ways to allow for more efficient aerial operations, improve safety for the people managing the prescribed burn, and expand the atmospheric conditions under which prescribed burns can occur while still minimizing impacts on air quality.

2010 Prescribed Burns

During 2010 the Army plans to conduct prescribed burns at Units 15, 21, 32 and 34. Unit 15 is approximately 167 acres. Unit 21 is approximately 110 acres. Units 32 and 34 have a combined total of 70 acres. The prescribed burn plan, including the burn prescription, air monitoring plan and community notification plan, was made available for public review in February 2010.

Before the burn season begins the Army will begin site preparation. This includes preparing primary, secondary and tertiary containment lines; removing combustible surface debris (where it is safe to do so); and preparing staging areas and access routes.

The community will receive notification before the burn season begins on July 1. The Army’s prescribed burn announcements include information on how to reduce or minimize exposure to smoke from prescribed burns. These precautions include staying indoors with doors and windows closed and limiting outdoor activity when



Map of Impact Area Burn Units

smoke is present.

After July 1, a burn will be conducted when the conditions meet the burn prescription. More than one prescribed burn may be conducted in 2010. When it looks like the appropriate atmospheric conditions could occur within the next day or so, the Army will mobilize the burn personnel, equipment, and supplies necessary to conduct the burn. Once mobilized, the burn personnel and equipment needed to conduct the burn may be in place and standing by for several days. On the day of the planned burn the fire chief will make a decision to proceed with the prescribed burn when optimum burn conditions are imminent and other factors are in place.

People who register for the Direct Notification Program will receive notice when the initial mobilization occurs. They will also receive notice when the decision is made to ignite the prescribed burn.

2009 Munitions Cleanup

Large areas of the former Fort Ord have already been cleaned up. The Army is now concentrating on cleaning up former artillery ranges where the greatest potential exists for finding MEC. This area is known as the “impact area.” To date, more than 3,570 acres of the 8,000 acres in the historical impact area have been cleared of vegetation as part of the cleanup process. In all these areas the MEC on the surface of the land have been removed. In many cases, a full subsurface cleanup has also been done. Approximately 1,270 acres of the land cleaned up have also been transferred for community use (and, in some cases, additional work has been completed as a part of the Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement remediation program.)

During 2009, field work and MEC removal was completed on Units 18 and 22. These units were the site of prescribed burns conducted in December 2008. A report summarizing this work will be issued during 2010. In addition, munitions clearance began shortly after the 2009 prescribed burns were completed at Units 14 and 19. That work is still on-going.

Cleanup Program Brings Local Jobs

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area), Chartwell School and the Seaside Highlands residential area.

But the cleanup job program also means jobs now, both in Monterey County and in surrounding areas. In fact, in 2009 cleanup activities generated the equivalent of nearly 33 full-time local jobs. Many of these are high-paid technical jobs.

Most of the cleanup work at the former Fort Ord is accomplished through three contractors: Shaw Environmental, Ahtna Environmental, and Chenega Corporation.

The total number of jobs directly generated by the three contractors are:

- Shaw Environmental, 20
- Ahtna Government Service, 5.25
- Chenega Corporation, 7.5

Both Shaw and Chenega advertise all jobs locally before hiring from outside the area. However, because the Fort Ord Cleanup program is a well-established program and jobs in this area are highly prized, the number of new openings each year is small.

Economic benefits to Monterey County and the tri-county area (Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito counties) from these three contracts include checks paid directly to employees as well as payments to local subcontractors and local businesses. These actions distributed \$5.4 million dollars in 2009 and \$6.4 million dollars are projected for 2010.

Coming This Summer: Superfund Jobs Training Initiative (Super JTI)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Superfund Jobs Training Initiative provides job training to people who live near Superfund sites. EPA will implement Superfund job training program at Fort Ord this summer. Visit <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/sfjti/> for more information on Super JTI.

Would You Like to Receive Direct Notification of Prescribed Burns?

Call the Fort Ord Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Office at 1-800-852-9699 or visit www.fortordcleanup.com to register for the Direct Notification Program.

Is It Safe to Drink the Water? YES!

The water supplied on Fort Ord meets the drinking water standards established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). These standards are established to ensure that drinking water does not pose either a short-term or long-term health risk.

Several water supply wells that augment the water supply for the Marina Coast Water District are located on the former Fort

Ord. Very low concentrations of trichloroethylene (TCE) – in amounts significantly below health safety standards es-

tablished in federal and state drinking water regulations — have been found in the three drinking water supply wells on the former Fort Ord. TCE is a solvent that was commonly used for cleaning engine parts in years past.

The water supply wells are monitored by the Marina Coast Water District (MCWD) four times per year, and by the Army, four times per year, for a total of 8 monitoring events

per year. This monitoring frequency is appropriate because groundwater only flows at a rate of a few feet per year. The MCWD includes the information in its annual Consumer Confidence Report to the community. This report is available at www.MCWD.org.

The Army conducts two types of water monitoring for the Fort Ord groundwater: (1) monitoring the three water supply wells, as noted above, and (2) monitoring the Army's several cleanup actions at Fort Ord. To monitor site cleanup, the Army conducts groundwater monitoring four times per year at over 250 monitoring well locations to evaluate the progress and effectiveness of the cleanup actions. Monitoring results indicate generally decreasing contaminant concentrations. With the oversight and approval of the EPA, the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board and Department

of Toxic Substances Control, the Army continues to add monitoring wells and evaluate the monitoring results to ensure and improve the effectiveness of the treatment systems as well as the protection of the drinking water wells. Groundwater monitoring data are compiled in quarterly monitoring reports and are available at www.FortOrdCleanup.com.

The Army has recently coordinated with a laboratory that is certified by the

United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State of California to analyze drinking water samples, directing the laboratory

to re-evaluate the groundwater analysis results the Army collected between 2006 and present to determine the possible presence of and

estimate the concentration of carbon tetrachloride (also a commonly used solvent) in those samples. Using USEPA approved Standard Methods, carbon tetrachloride (CT) had not been detected in these samples historically because the CT concentrations are below the USEPA de-

defined Method Detection Limit (see insert for definition). The laboratory was able to estimate very low concentrations of CT below the Method Detection Limit in two of the three drinking water wells. These estimated CT concentrations are also below Federal and State Safe Drinking Water Act maximum allowable contaminant levels.

The Army operates groundwater extraction and treatment systems to remove contaminants from the groundwater. These systems are successfully lowering the concentrations of contaminants. This program will continue for a number of years. As stated above, the Army samples and analyzes water from more than 250 monitoring wells to measure the success of its program to remove groundwater contamination. For more information about the groundwater cleanup program, see page 4.

For Drinking Water Questions:

Marina Coast Water District, (831) 384-6131, www.mcwd.org

California Department of Public Health — Monterey District, Jan Sweigert, District Engineer, (831) 655-6939, www.cdph.ca.gov

Monterey County Department of Health, (831) 755-4505, www.co.monterey.ca.us/health/EnvironmentalHealth

Method Detection Limits

The method detection limit (MDL) is defined as the minimum concentration of a substance that can be measured and reported with 99% confidence that the chemical concentration is greater than zero and is determined from analysis of a sample in a given matrix containing the chemical.

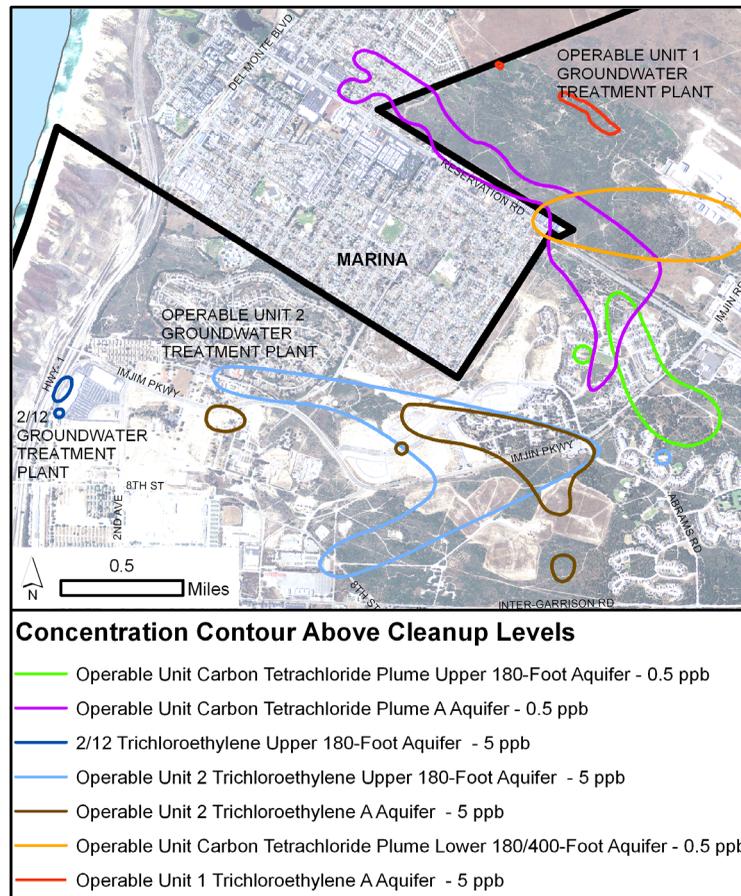
Groundwater Cleanup Program

When rain falls on the land, some of the water – especially where there is sandy soil like that found on the former Fort Ord – passes into the ground. The water percolates through the soil until it reaches an underground layer of clay or rock, and can go no further. When this happens, water accumulates in the ground and can be pumped from the ground. Geologists refer to water stored in the ground in this way as groundwater. The areas where the water accumulates are known as aquifers.

The land at Fort Ord has been underwater several times in geologic history. Each time the land was covered a layer of clays was deposited. Subsequently groundwater was trapped above that layer of clay, only to have another layer of clay deposited at a later date. As a result water is held in the soil at several different levels – each referred to as an aquifer.

Chemicals of concern have leaked into the groundwater at four known sites on the former Fort Ord. The Army has built treatment facilities to extract water from the ground and remove contamination from the water. The Army will continue to treat the water until the concentrations of contaminants are low enough to meet cleanup standards that were identified in Records of Decision issued for each site.

At the fourth site, discovered more recently, carbon tetrachloride is present in three different aquifers. Three different methods are used to remove and monitor carbon tetrachloride from each of the three aquifers.



In the aquifer closest to the surface (known as the “A Aquifer”), contamination is removed using a technique known as “in situ biodegradation.” “In situ” simply means “in place.” That is, the treatment doesn’t require extracting the water to remove the contaminant. Instead, treatment is accomplished by injecting lactate (a form of lactic acid found in milk) into the groundwater. The lactate works with bacteria already in the groundwater to remove the carbon tetrachloride. One kind of bacteria in the groundwater eats (metabolizes) the lactate, and in the process

removes oxygen from the groundwater. Once the oxygen is removed, another kind of bacteria in the groundwater also begins to metabolize the lactate. But since there is no longer oxygen in the soil, these bacteria use other compounds in the soil, including carbon tetrachloride, to metabolize. As part of this process, the carbon tetrachloride is broken down into harmless compounds.

In the next lower aquifer, the Upper 180-Foot Aquifer, the carbon tetrachloride is being removed by extracting the water using wells and treating the water with granular activated carbon which removes the contaminants. The treated water is then re-injected into the Upper 180-Foot Aquifer.

In the third level aquifer, the Lower 180-Foot Aquifer, the concentrations of carbon tetrachloride are very low and contamination coming from higher aquifers has been stopped. The levels of the remaining carbon tetrachloride are getting lower through naturally occurring processes. For this reason, the water is not being treated. Instead the Army has installed monitoring wells that allow it to check and make sure concentrations are continuing to get lower. If natural processes don’t remove the carbon tetrachloride, the Army retains the option of extracting water and treating it, as it is doing in the Upper 180 Aquifer.

In addition to this work to remove contaminants, additional protection is provided through “institutional controls.” These institutional controls include deed restrictions, land use covenants, and municipal and county codes restricting wells in these areas.

How Long Will Groundwater Treatment Last?

The good news is that treatment is reducing the size of the plumes of contamination in the groundwater. The groundwater contamination plume (TCE) at Sites 2 & 12 shrunk considerably during the period 1999 through 2009.

The contamination plume (TCE) is also shrinking at Operable Unit 2.

Based on groundwater modeling, the Army’s technical experts estimate that Sites 2 & 12 will be cleaned up to acceptable standards in 5-7 years. Acceptable standards at OU 2, a much bigger site, should be achieved in 26 years. The Army is considering various ways to reduce this time; such as, installing additional extraction wells in areas of high contaminant levels.

No estimates are yet available for Operable Unit 1 and Operable Unit Carbon Tetrachloride plume.

LOCATION	CLEANUP METHOD
Operable Unit 1: A former fire fighting training area at Marina Municipal Airport	Groundwater is extracted using wells and then passed through granular activated carbon, which removes contaminants. Treated groundwater is re-injected into the ground.
Operable Unit 2: A former base landfill south of the corner of Imjin and Abrams Roads	Groundwater is extracted using wells and then treated with granular activated carbon which removes contaminants. Treated groundwater is re-injected into the ground.
Sites 2 and 12: A former truck and auto maintenance facility just east of Highway 1	Groundwater is extracted using wells and then treated with granular activated carbon which removes contaminants. Treated groundwater is re-injected into the ground.
Operable United Carbon Tetrachloride Plume	A Aquifer: In situ biodegradation Upper 180 Aquifer: Groundwater is extracted using wells and then passed through granular activated carbon which removes contaminants. Treated groundwater is re-injected into the ground. Lower 180 Aquifer: Monitored Natural Attenuation. The contamination is already degrading as the result of natural processes. The Army is carefully monitoring this natural degradation, with the option of extraction and treatment with granular activated charcoal.

Soil Cleanup at Site 39

Site 39 is in the southwest portion of Fort Ord and includes the Inland Ranges (approximately 8,000 acres) and the 2.36-inch rocket range (approximately 50 acres). The inland ranges were used since 1917 for military training exercises. Over the years, various types of military munitions have been used or found in these ranges including hand grenades, mortars, rockets, practice mines, artillery projectiles, and small arms rounds.

The Army not only has to cleanup munitions and explosives from this land (see story, page 1), it also has to remove soil contamination. Sampling of soil in these areas detected explosive compounds, organic compounds, and metals such as lead and beryllium in shallow soils near target areas.

In 2009 the Cleanup Program made two major steps forward on the cleanup of Site 39:

- Preparing a revised plan for soil cleanup for the entire Site 39, and getting regulatory approval for that plan, and
- Successfully excavating contaminated soil from Ranges 27, 27A, and 29 (part of Site 39)

Completion of Cleanup Plan

In 2009 the Fort Ord Cleanup Program completed the Record of Decision Amendment for Site 39 inland ranges, and received approval of the plan from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). An earlier plan, completed in 1997, addressed actions needed to protect human health. The amended plan was needed to address increased soil volumes and protect important species of plants and animals. The plan for cleanup of the soil at Site 39 remains largely the same, although some



A closer look at the soil removal and cleanup at Site 39

area will be excavated to greater depths than in the previous plan.

Under the new plan the Army will excavate the soil at areas that have been contaminated, and will transport the excavated soil to a former landfill at Operable Unit 2 (OU2), where it will be placed in an area known as Area E. Area E is part of a landfill that operated during the period Fort Ord served as a training facility. Like many municipal landfills of that era, the landfill leaked contaminants into the groundwater. The Army is cleaning up this contamination (see story, Operable Unit 2, page 4). But to prevent further contamination from reaching the groundwater, the Army covered the landfill with an engineered cover system that includes a virtually impermeable geomembrane that prevents water from reaching the waste contained in the landfill. That way, there's no water to transport contamination into the groundwater. The capping design of the landfill has proved to be successful as no additional contamination has leaked into the groundwater and no damage has occurred that affected the integrity of the geomembrane on the OU2 Landfills.

To handle the additional soil from Site 39, the Army developed a plan to place the soil on top of the existing cover. In consultation with EPA, DTSC, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board, the Army and agencies have concluded that the best solution is to place soil from Site 39 on top of the geomembrane at Area E. When all the contaminated soil from Site 39 is in place, the Army

will put a new geomembrane and a vegetative layer of clean soil on top of the Site 39 soil. This will continue to stop rainwater from reaching any of the contaminated soil or waste in the landfill, preventing further contamination from reaching the groundwater. It will also confine the contaminated soil to an area that is already dedicated to safely containing waste.

Soil Cleanup at Ranges 27, 27A, and 29

During 2009 the Army completed soil cleanup (remedial action) at Ranges 27, 27A, and 29, which are part of Site 39. These ranges served as small arms

firing ranges for the Army at Fort Ord. These ranges were used for training activities that required soldiers to fire at targets in front of man-made dirt backstops. This means that there were large quantities of bullets embedded in the soil.

The Army is required to clean up these ranges to a level that is protective of human health and the environment for the proposed reuse of the land. This means that the cleanup at these ranges has to be protective of human health and the environment when this land becomes a Natural Resource Management Area with restricted public access.

The Army has now completed the required remedial action on Ranges 27, 27A and 29. The cleanup included:

- Excavating soil containing accumulated spent ammunition and residual lead from Ranges 27, 27A, and 29
- Disposing of the excavated soil at the OU2 landfill (discussed above)

Approximately 5,000 cubic yards of soil were excavated during the soil cleanup at Ranges 27, 27A and 29. Laboratory tests were conducted on samples taken from the cleanup areas and the cleanup was adequate to protect human health and the environment for the intended future use.

Additional excavations are ongoing at many other ranges and will continue until the cleanup is completed in accordance with the Record of Decision Amendment.

Land Transfers Completed in 2009

The cleanup program at the former Fort Ord has two purposes: 1) protect human health and the environment, and (2) transfer land to the community for other uses. The Army not only has to clean up the land, it must also complete extensive documentation before it can legally transfer this property to the community.

The Army does not decide to whom the land is turned over, or how the land is used once the land is transferred. These decisions are made by the Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA). FORA was established

by the California State Legislature and has a board of directors consisting of representatives of local governments, elected officials, and major users of the land.

In May 2009 the Army transferred 3,337 acres of land to FORA as part of an Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement (ESCA). Under this agreement, FORA receives the land but also accepts responsibility for final cleanup of munitions and explosives of concern on this land. The Army has provided funds to FORA to pay for this cleanup.

In 2010 the Army expects to transfer

27 acres of land in the Parker Flats area (described in the Finding of Suitability to Transfer (FOST) Parker Flats Munitions Response Area Parcels L2.3 and L2.4.1, FOST 11) as well as 116 acres of property described in FOST 10. The Army will also be issuing warranties which state that cleanup activities are complete for approximately 2,285 acres of property that were transferred earlier, using the Army's early transfer authority. These properties were transferred as part of Findings of Suitability for Early Transfer (FOSET 2, FOSET 4 and FOSET 5).

Environmental Management at the Former Fort Ord

The Fort Ord land is home to a unique habitat in which many rare and endangered plant and animal species live. Even while the cleanup program goes on, the Army must manage the land to protect the unique habitat and species. Many cleanup actions could impact habitat that is important to endangered species, so each proposed action must be evaluated carefully for its potential impacts on sensitive species of plants and animals.



Monterey Spineflower

Federal, state, and local laws, regulations, or policies protect rare and endangered species, or species that are in danger of becoming rare, threatened or endangered. Both federal and state government agencies maintain lists of "special-status biological resources." The Federal agency responsible for protection of threatened and endangered species is the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

In 1997, the Army, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and other major users of Fort Ord property signed an agreement with the Fish & Wildlife Service to

implement a Habitat Management Plan (HMP) to protect rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats at the former Fort Ord. The plan establishes guidelines for the conservation and management of plant and wildlife species and habitats that largely depend on Fort Ord land for survival. The plan includes requirements such as monitoring and reporting following the cleanup of contaminated sites to ensure a healthy recovery. Management requirements include development of fuel breaks, control of non-native invasive species, and control of unauthorized vehicle access.

Several years ago, the Army transferred beach-front property. This land is owned by the California Department of Parks and Recreation and has been opened as a state park. For more information (including driving directions) on the Fort Ord Dunes State Park, go to www.parks.ca.gov.

The Army transferred management of large portion (7,200 acres) of the eastern portion of the former Fort Ord to the BLM. The BLM has managed and will continue to manage these areas to protect habitat and species and provide recreational opportunities. Ultimately – once cleanup has occurred — the Army will turn over a total of 14,600 acres as habitat reserve. This will make the area one of Monterey County's largest parks. The BLM-managed lands provide many opportunities for hiking, biking and horseback riding.

The BLM and the Army have cooperated to establish programs to protect the native species. On January 23, 2010

the BLM, the Army, and the California Native Plants Society co-sponsored the Fort Ord Public Lands Musical Volunteer Planting. Most of the volunteers were students and their parents from the local Monterey Bay Charter School. More than 300 community volunteers planted more than 5000 native plants, serenaded by live jazz and funky bluegrass music from the popular band "Microtonic Harmonic." The plantings will help reduce erosion, reduce non-native invasive plants and support the growth of rare and valuable plants and animals historically found on Fort Ord.

How to Get Involved

- **To get the monthly mailing** summarizing cleanup activities and announcing all meetings, call the Fort Ord hotline at 1-800-852-9699 or send an e-mail to: Melissa.Broadston@us.army.mil. The local number for the information line is (831) 242-7383.
- **To request information**, call the Fort Ord hotline at 1-800-852-9699 or is (831) 242-7383.
- **To get documents:** Documents are posted on the web at www.fortordcleanup.com and are available at the Fort Ord Administrative Record, Building 4463, Gigling Road, former Fort Ord; Seaside Library, and California State University Monterey Bay Library. For assistance in finding information of interest to you please contact the Administrative Record desk at (831) 393-9693.
- **For information on the FORA ESCA Remediation Program**, contact esca@fora.org, 831- 883-3506, and <http://fora-esca-rp.com>.

Interested in Recreational Opportunities on the Former Fort Ord?

The Bureau of Land Management has produced a new video "Recreation Opportunities at Former Fort Ord." You can view it at: http://www.blm.gov/ca/media/video/fortord_broad.html

Community Outreach Program

The Fort Ord Cleanup Program maintains an extensive community outreach program to keep the public informed about the cleanup activities at the former Fort Ord and provide opportunities for the public to participate in major decisions before they are made.

Here's a summary of the major community outreach activities:



Guided Walks in the Impact Area

On April 24, 2010, the Army introduced a new community outreach event—a guided walk inside the Impact Range (see photo above). If you are interested in seeing future lands of the Bureau of Land Management at Fort Ord, you might consider joining the next Impact Area guided walk (April 2011). This walk allowed visitors to see an area that was burned in 2008 and cleared of ordnance and explosives in 2009. Call Melissa Broadston at 393-1284 for details on future guided walks.

Fort Ord Cleanup Web Page

Increasingly, the Fort Ord Cleanup Program web page (www.FortOrdCleanup.com) is serving as a major source of information for the public. The web page not only provides current news, there are also numerous fact sheets available, and it is now possible to access virtually all recent technical documents in the Fort Ord Administrative Record through the website. It is also possible to search the site using the Google search engine.

Community Involvement Workshops

Fort Ord hosts quarterly workshops that are open to anyone in the community. The Army provides briefings on current topics and upcoming decisions. The public has the opportunity to provide input and request topics for future workshops.

Public Comment Meetings

Public comment meetings are held, when needed, for specific projects required by laws and regulations. These meetings provide an opportunity for the public to comment on pending decisions.

Monthly Mailing

The Fort Ord Cleanup Office publishes a monthly bulletin with updates on technical reports, announcements about up-

coming events, and other news bulletins.

Information Repositories

The easiest way to access documents is on the web at www.FortOrdCleanup.com. Documents are also available at information repositories located at:

- Fort Ord Administrative Record, Building 4463, Gigling Road, former Fort Ord
- Seaside Library
- California State University Monterey Bay Library

For assistance in finding information of interest to you please contact the Administrative Record desk at (831) 393-9186.

Door-to-door Notification

In some cases, when neighbors could be directly affected by cleanup activities, the Community Relations Office will provide door-to-door notification of upcoming activities.

Technical Review Committee

The Technical Review Committee meets quarterly. Technical Review Committee meetings are organized so that technical staff of local government agencies. Member of the public may attend.

Publications

The Fort Ord Cleanup Program issues an annual report to the community, usually each spring.

Presentations

The Army is pleased to make presentations to community groups. Please give us a call (393-1284) if your group is inter-

ested in such a presentation.

Information Booth/ Community Events

The Fort Ord Cleanup program sets up an information booth at major community events such as the Bureau of Land Management Public Lands Day, the California State University Monterey Bay Club Showcase, the Monterey County Fair, the Marina International Festival of the Winds, and Earth Day celebrations at both the Monterey Institute of International Studies and California State University Monterey Bay.

Open Houses/Bus Tours

The Community Relations Office conducts bus tours of the former Fort Ord for community groups and environmental professionals interested in cleanup issues. The open houses are conducted in February and June.

Media Relations

The Fort Ord Cleanup Program issues news releases whenever there are stories that could be of interest to the public.

Munitions and Explosives Safety Awareness Class

As part of the Military Munitions Response Program, the Army conducts munitions and explosives safety awareness classes. Training is also conducted for contractors or other workers who will be working on parts of the former Fort Ord lands where munitions and explosives might be found.



Free Tours of Fort Ord

Saturday June 26, 2010
Meet at Building 4522
Ord Military Community

To get there: Take Exit 406 on Highway 1. Follow the signs from Lightfighter Drive.

Learn more about the cleanup of the former Fort Ord at the semi-annual community Bus Tour and Open House. Take a free 90 minute guided bus tour of military munitions cleanup areas at the former Fort Ord. This event is free. No reservations are required. Each tour is the same, so pick a time that works for you.

Bus Tours depart from Building 4522
Tour 1: Depart 10:00
Tour 2: Depart 11:45

Don't want to tour, then join us at the Open House from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm.

Directions from Highway 1: Take Exit 406. Stay on Lightfighter Drive. Pass General Jim Moore Boulevard. Turn left onto Colonel Durham Road. Turn left onto 8th Avenue. Turn Right onto Joe Lloyd Way. Building 4522 is at the end of the road.

A map showing the bus pick-up location is on the internet at www.FortOrdCleanup.com or by calling (831) 393-1284.

2009 Annual Report

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Fort Ord Environmental Cleanup

Community Relations Office
P.O. Box 5008
Monterey, CA 93944

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Fort Ord Cleanup Program 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. At Fort Ord, the 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 Agencies, each team assigns a representative to a Base Cleanup Team (BCT). This team makes day-to-day management decisions about the cleanup program. Contacts for each of the participating agencies in Fort Ord's cleanup are listed below.

U.S. Army

Fort Ord Base Realignment and Closure Office

P.O. Box 5008
Monterey, CA 93944-5008
Web Site: www.FortOrdCleanup.com

Gail Youngblood, BRAC Environmental Coordinator

Phone: (831) 393-1284
Email: Gail.Youngblood@us.army.mil

Melissa Broadston, Community Involvement

Phone: (831) 393-1284
Toll Free: 1-800-852-9699, press 4
Email: Melissa.Broadston@us.army.mil

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

United States Environmental Protection Agency

75 Hawthorne St., Mail Code SFD-8-3
San Francisco, CA 94105

Judy Huang, Remedial Project Manager

(For issues related to the Fort Ord Reuse Authority's Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement Remediation Program at the Former Fort Ord)
Phone: (415) 972-3681
Email: Huang.Judy@epa.gov

Martin Hausladen, Remedial Project Manager

(For issues related to water)
Phone: (415) 972-3007
Email: hausladen.martin@epa.gov

Lewis Mitani, Remedial Project Manager

(For issues related to the Army's military munitions response program)

Phone: 415-972-3032
Email: Mitani.lewis@epa.gov

Viola Cooper, Community Involvement Coordinator

(For issues to the Superfund Technical Assistance Grant)
Phone: (415) 972-3243
Fax: (415) 947-3528
Email: cooper.viola@epa.gov

California Environmental Protection Agency – Department of Toxic Substances

California Environmental Protection Agency – Department of Toxic Substances Control

8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA, 95826
Web Site: www.dtsc.ca.gov

Roman Racca, Remedial Project Manager
(For issues related to military munitions)
Phone: (916) 255-6407
Email: rracca@dtsc.ca.gov

Franklin Mark, Remedial Project Manager
(For all other cleanup issues)
Phone: (916) 255-6403
Email: FMark@dtsc.ca.gov

Joyce Whiten, Public Participation Specialist

Phone: (916) 255-3649
Email: JWhiten@dtsc.ca.gov

California Environmental Protection Agency – Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Coast Region
895 Aerovista Place, Ste 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906
Web Site: www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb3

Grant Himebaugh, Remedial Project Manager

Phone: (805) 542-4636
Email: ghimebaugh@waterboards.ca.gov

Fort Ord Reuse Authority Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement (ESCA) Remediation Program

Fort Ord Reuse Authority – ESCA Program

100 -12th Street, Building 2880
Marina, CA, 93933
Web Site: www.fora-esca-rp.com

Stan Cook, ESCA Program Manager
(For issues related to the Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement (ESCA) Remediation Program)
Phone: (831) 883-3506
Email: ESCA@fora.org