

# This Year the Army is Preparing for Two Prescribed Burns on Former Fort Ord

The Army has identified two areas for prescribed burning in 2018 (see map on page 2). These burns are an important part of munitions cleanup and are also required under an agreement between the Army and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a part of the Installation-Wide **Multispecies Habitat Management** Plan. The prescribed burns will make the ground surface accessible for safe munitions removal to follow and encourage recovery of rare, threatened and endangered firedependent plant species. In addition, prescribed burns reduce overgrown vegetation, which, in turn, reduces the risk of wildfire.

The Army intends to conduct prescribed burns as soon as weather permits, after July 1. Burn season ends December 31 unless extended by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. A prescribed burn may be initiated when conditions provide for safe operations and good fire and smoke behavior.

The Army has designated two areas for prescribed burning in 2018: **Unit 31** inside the Impact Area and **Unit A** in the northern portion of the Fort Ord National Monument.

The map on page 2 shows the locations of these areas as well as areas burned since 2003.

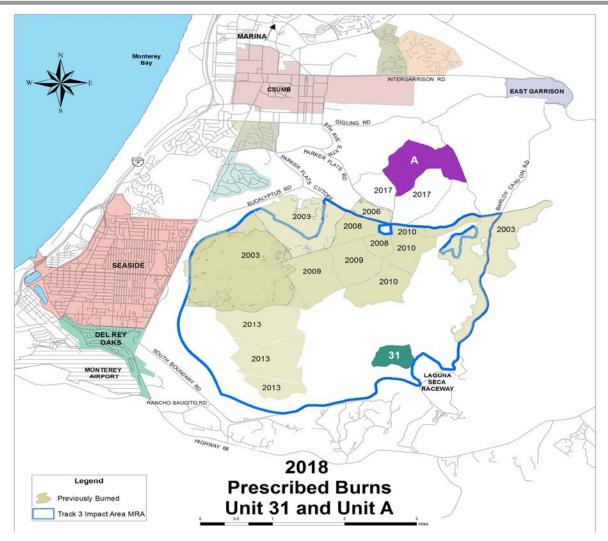
Note: Some roads and trails will be closed for a short time when the Army mobilizes for a prescribed burn. See page 2 for details.

#### **Fort Ord Overview**

- Burn season is July 1 —
   December 31 unless extended by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Suitable weather conditions for a burn include moderate to warm temperatures, clear skies, and light winds.
- Optimum weather typically occurs in the Fall (September to November).
- Para información en español llame al 831-393-1284.

## Map of 2018 Burn Units

The map shows areas previously burned and the burn year. The two areas (Units 31 and A) planned for prescribed burns in burns in 2018 are highlighted.



# **Your Safety is Our Top Priority**

# Unit 31 (see green unit on map above) Burn Operations

#### **AUTO TRAVEL/COMMUTE:**

Please note that South Boundary and Rancho Saucito roads will be closed to commuter and recreational traffic during prescribed burn operations. You will not be able to access Ryan Ranch via Fort Ord. Thank you for your patience.

**RECREATIONAL USERS:** South Boundary, Rancho Saucito, Barloy Canyon, and Eucalyptus roads will be closed for safety purposes. Some trails may be closed during burn operations.



# Unit A (see purple unit on map above) Burn Operations

#### **AUTO TRAVEL/COMMUTE:**

Intergarrison Road is subject to closure in case of emergency.

#### **RECREATIONAL USERS:**

Eucalyptus, Barloy Canyon, Intergarrison, 8th Avenue Extension, Parker Flats and Parker Flats Cutoff roads will be closed. All areas within this perimeter will remain closed during burn activities, including Gigling Road. Pedestrian, recreation, and non-project vehicle use of these roads will be unavailable until the completion of burn operations.

# **Direct Notification Program**



If you register for the Direct Notification Program, the Army will notify you via email, text, or by an automated telephone message that:

- •A prescribed burn could occur shortly (within a day or two),
- •When the prescribed burn is started, and
- •When the burn is complete.

You can sign up for this program by completing the registration form at www.FortOrdCleanup.com (go to the News section), mailing the attached enrollment form, or by calling 831-242-7383 or 800-852-9699.

Because phone numbers and email addresses change, **you will need to register each year**. The Army will not share your personal contact information. Check the burn section of www.FortOrdCleanup.com. Para información en español llame al 831-393-1284.

## **How to Minimize Smoke Exposure**

The Army is working with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control, and the Monterey Bay Air Resources District to conduct prescribed burns in a manner that minimizes smoke impacts to surrounding communities. If you have concerns about exposure to smoke, you may want to take reasonable precautions to avoid or reduce exposure during any burn. The following suggestions are offered:

- Listen to public service advisories and be alert for further information.
- •Close up your home by shutting windows and doors.

- •Avoid strenuous work or exercise outdoors.
- •If you have heart, vascular or lung disease, including asthma, talk with your health care provider before burn season to make plans.

Health experts tell us that the amount of smoke that results from a properly conducted prescribed burn should not pose a health risk to healthy people. If there is any discomfort it should be temporary and minimal. People with existing health conditions, such as asthma or emphysema or existing heart conditions, may want to take reasonable precautions such as staying indoors or going out of the area during the burn.

For More Information: Go to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency website: "How Smoke from Fires Can Affect Your Health" at the following link https://cfpub.epa.gov/airnow/index.cfm? action=smoke.page1.

For prescribed burn or Direct Notification information, go to www.FortOrdCleanup.com or call the Fort Ord environmental cleanup information line at 831-242-7383 or 800-852-9699.

Additional information is also available at Monterey Bay Air Resources District at www.montereybaycleanair.org.

## How is the Decision Made to Conduct a Prescribed Burn?

The Army uses local support from Naval Postgraduate School meteorologists who monitor weather conditions. When optimal weather is forecast, the project meteorologist will analyze the data in greater detail and confer with meteorologists from the National Weather Service and California Air Resources Board. The Army will verify the availability of fire equipment and personnel. If the weather forecast continues to be

favorable and resources are available, the Army fire department will mobilize burn equipment and personnel.

At this point, if you have registered for the Direct Notification Program you will receive a notice that the Army is getting ready for a prescribed burn. Once mobilized the Army continues to monitor the weather. The Army fire department will start

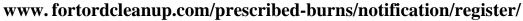
the prescribed burn only when optimum weather conditions are anticipated. Notifications will be sent when the burn has started and again when the burn is complete.

# **Prescribed Burn Notification Preferences**

# For the Fort Ord Prescribed Burn Direct Notification Program

**Instructions:** Complete the form below to submit your direct notification preferences for the current year's burn season (July 1 – December 31). You may choose from any or all of the following: direct notification by phone call, SMS text message, and email. Once enrolled, the Army will send up to three notices for each burn event – (1) the first notice will announce that a prescribed burn could occur shortly (within a day or two), (2) the second notice will announce the start of the burn, and (3) the last notice will announce when the burn is complete. Note: The Army will not share your personal contact information. Providing your address is optional, however, if an address is provided, the Army will mail you information about next year's prescribed burns.

### OR TO ENROLL ONLINE, GO TO:



(Please print clearly)

		-	•			
Your Contact Information						
DATE						
FIRST NAME			LAST NAME			
MAILING ADDRESS						
CITY		STATE			ZIP	
Voice Phone Calls  Please list any phone numbers (up to five) where you would like to receive a VOICE call from our automated system.  The system can leave you a message on an answering machine or voicemail if you cannot be reached. Our system cannot recognize extensions or automated menus, so please list direct lines only.						
PHONE #1	PHONE #2			PHONE #3		
PHONE #4	PHONE #5					
SMS / Text Messages Step 1: Please list any phone numbers where you would like to receive an SMS / text message about the burns. You may list up to five numbers. Step 2: To Opt-In, you must text the word "Alert" to phone number 22300 from each of your numbers that you have listed. Please note: Normal text messaging rates apply.						
SMS #1	SMS #2		SMS #3			
SMS #4	SMS #5					
Email Notification List up to five separate email addresses where you wish to be notified.						
EMAIL #1						
EMAIL #2						
EMAIL #3						
EMAIL #4						
EMAIL #5						

# Return this form to register for this year's Fort Ord Prescribed Burn Direct Notification Program

or register online at:

www.fortordcleanup.com/prescribed-burns/notification/register/

Please tell us how you found out about the Fort Ord Prescribed Burn Program:	
Newspaper	
Flyer mailed to home	
Television / Radio announcement	
Fort Ord Cleanup website	
Enrolled in previous year notification program	
Friends / Neighbor	
Other:	
Fold along line	
	POSTAGE
	STAMP

U.S. Army Fort Ord BRAC Office Prescribed Burn Direct Notification Program P.O. Box 5008 Monterey, CA 93944-5008