Fort Ord Environmental Cleanup
Annual Report

Fort Ord BRAC Office **November 2023**

July 2023 Community Involvement Workshop Open House

The Fort Ord Cleanup Program

Fort Ord closed on September 30, 1994. It was one of the largest U.S. military bases ever closed. The closure left behind an area of land the size of San Francisco. It was also an opportunity to clean the land for civilian uses that the community envisioned.

The Army is responsible for environmental cleanup of the former Fort Ord. The goals of the environmental cleanup program are to:

1. Protect human health and the environment;
2. Promote preservation, enhancement and restoration of habitat;
3. Transfer property for land uses determined by the community reuse plan.

The Army manages and funds the Fort Ord cleanup program with the oversight of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control, and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board. Each year this annual report summarizes the key cleanup elements and accomplishments.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

In 2023 the COVID-19 State of Emergency ended. The Army resumed in-person activities without major restrictions and connected with our local community members in-person throughout the year. Here are some of this year's highlights:

- Held in-person Community Involvement Workshop Open House on February 11, hosted our annual Guided Nature Walk inside the Impact Area on May 20, and brought back the bus tours to the Community Involvement Mobile Workshop on July 15.
- Completed the prescribed planting of native plant species within the habitat restoration areas of Site 39.
- Began the biennial Community Survey on July 15.
- **The Army is not planning to conduct a prescribed burn in 2023 or 2024.**

This Annual Report also includes a community survey form on page 7. Please take a few minutes to complete and return this form. You can also complete this survey online by visiting FortOrdCleanup.com. We would love to hear from you! The results will be published in a report in late 2024.

The Army will continue to conduct cleanup actions: groundwater cleanup, sampling, monitoring, munitions cleanup, and habitat management. Thank you all for your continued interest in the U.S. Army Fort Ord cleanup program!

(Above) Bus Tour of the Former Fort Ord at the Community Involvement Mobile Workshop

(Below) Community Members Enjoying the View on the Bus Tour

PARA OBTENER UNA COPIA EN ESPAÑOL, CONTACTE: 831-393-1284
FOR A COPY OF THIS NEWSLETTER IN SPANISH, CALL: 831-393-1284

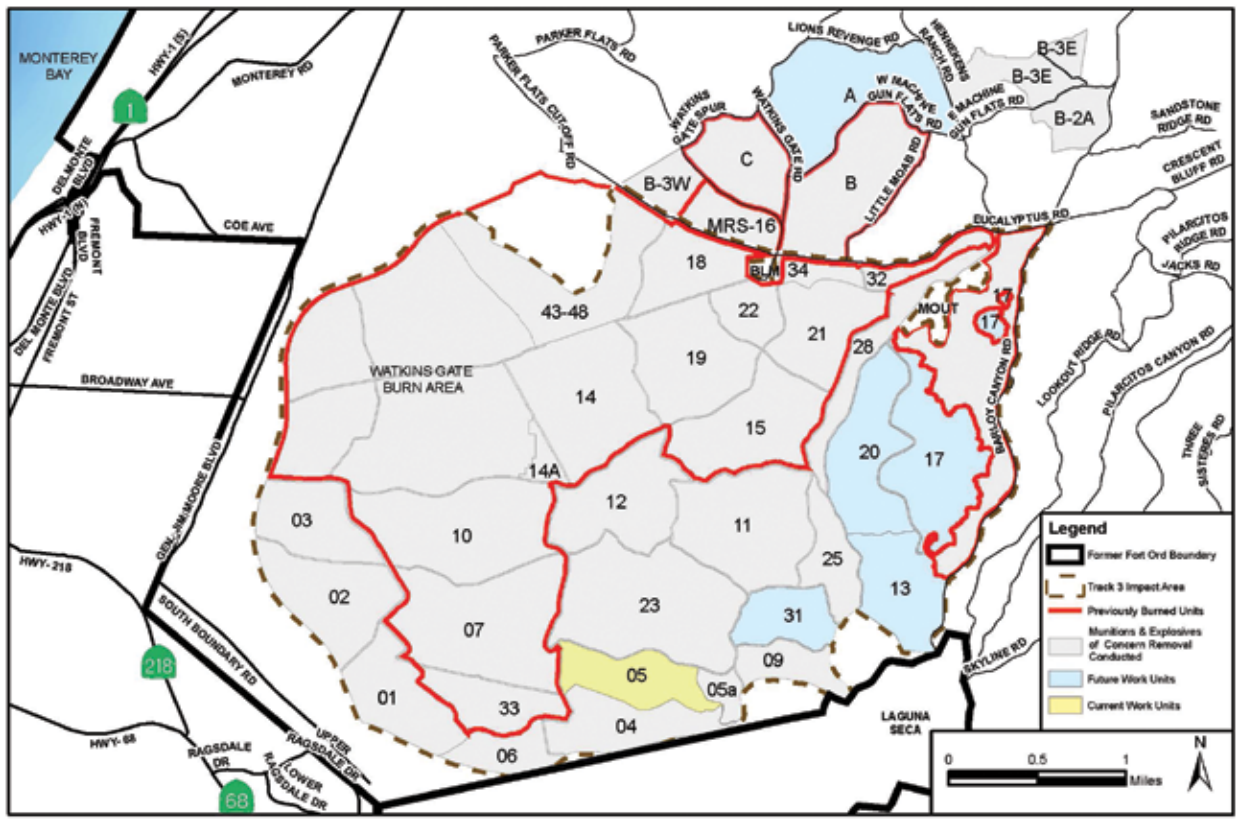
Munitions Cleanup

From 1917 until base closure in 1994, military units trained on the lands of the former Fort Ord. Types of military munitions used at Fort Ord included artillery projectiles, rockets, hand grenades, practice land mines, pyrotechnics, bombs, and demolition materials. After base closure, the Army identified areas where munitions could still remain, and began conducting investigations and removal of munitions from these areas. The results of these investigations and removal actions were then evaluated, and today, much of the former Fort Ord has been released for reuse as selected by the local community.

The Army has been conducting the cleanup of the 6,500-acre Impact Area Munitions Response Area since 2008. Most recently, surface munitions cleanup and Digital Geophysical Mapping (DGM) surveys were completed in Unit 5 in late 2022. The DGM survey in Pond 76 could not be conducted due to it being filled with water. Pond 76 is a 0.13-acre pond, and was only discovered when the vegetation in Unit 5 was mechanically removed to prepare for the munitions cleanup. After the significant amount of precipitation during the 2022-23 rain season, the pond remained inaccessible for much of 2023. The DGM survey was completed in September 2023 after the pond finally dried out.

In total, Unit 5 is about 130 acres in size. The selected remedy is surface removal of munitions. Subsurface removal will be conducted in portions of the unit if determined necessary to support future reuse, such as erosion repair areas. Based on an evaluation of the Unit 5 DGM survey results, several subsurface anomalies have been identified, and they will be investigated. A prescribed burn is still required in the future, after the munitions cleanup, to encourage the recovery of the habitat.

The munitions cleanup in the Impact Area Munitions Response Area is expected to take another 8 to 10 years.



The cleanup site north of the Impact Area is called "Bureau of Land Management Area B" (BLM Area B). Munitions cleanup in Unit A still needs to be conducted. Planning for the munitions cleanup of Unit A is in progress. The cleanup process will include a prescribed burn. The cleanup action will support the safe use of the Fort Ord National Monument for visitors, workers, and wildlife for years to come. Unit A is currently closed, except for interior trails that were cleaned up in 2019. Similar to the remedial actions that occurred in the adjacent units, Unit A will be temporarily closed during the cleanup activities. The Army will provide information to the community in advance of the temporary closure. For the latest information on cleanup and trail accessibility, go to FortOrdCleanup.com, select the Cleanup Programs tab, then select "BLM Area B".

REMEMBER THE 3Rs OF MUNITIONS SAFETY

Should you suspect that you have encountered a munition, never approach, touch, move, or disturb it. Even old munitions can detonate, causing severe injuries or death. If visiting the former Fort Ord, learn and follow the 3Rs of Explosives Safety.

1. **Recognize:** Do not approach, touch or disturb it. Mark the location near it.
2. **Retreat:** Leave the area carefully, the way you entered.
3. **Report:** Call 911.

The Army regularly provides munitions safety presentations to local schools; provides munitions recognition and safety training to workers conducting ground intrusive activities on the former Fort Ord; and maintains a site security program, working with neighboring municipalities and law enforcement agencies. A free munitions awareness safety training is available on-line at FortOrdSafety.com.

TRESPASSING IS DANGEROUS

The Impact Area is fenced, and DANGER — NO TRESPASSING signs are posted. Munitions cleanup is in progress in the Impact Area and access is controlled by the Army. If you observe suspicious activities, please contact local law enforcement by calling 911.

The Impact Area Munitions Response Area remains restricted to authorized personnel only. Federal law enforcement agencies regularly patrol the restricted area, which is a federal property. The Base Realignment and Closure office sends evidence of trespassing to the local law enforcement as soon as the information is known.

No Metal Detectors

Metal Detectors are prohibited at Fort Ord due to potential explosive hazards.

Mind the Signs

Visitors who comply with posted restrictions and remain on designated trails are safe from munitions hazards.

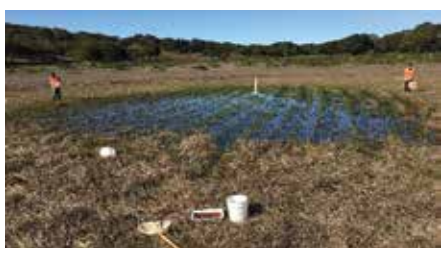
Munitions Cleanup Process

One of the most commonly asked questions is how do we conduct the munitions cleanup? Here is a brief overview of the steps taken using BLM Area B as an example:

1. Record of Decision

The goal of the remedial action is to support the designated use of the property. Because BLM Area B is part of the Fort Ord National Monument, the future reuse of the property includes habitat reserve with public access. Based on the evaluation of the potential for munitions, sub-area B-2A and sub-area B-3 were selected for additional munitions cleanup.

2. Habitat Baseline



Habitat baseline monitoring was conducted to document biological resources prior to the munitions cleanup.

3. Public Outreach & Site Security

The Army provided information to the community in advance of the cleanup activities. Temporary trail closures were expected and signs were placed at trailheads.

4. Burn Preparation

The Army used manual and mechanical cutting to create primary, secondary, and tertiary containment lines to manage the fire within the burn units.

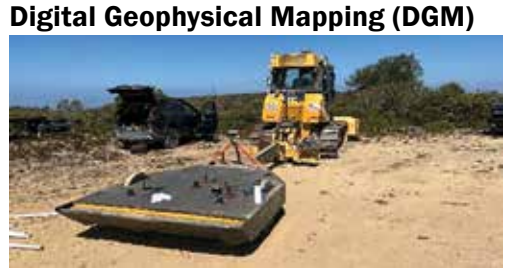
5. Prescribed Burn and Vegetation Removal by Cutting

Prescribed burns were conducted to facilitate munitions cleanup. Please note, some units are prepared by cutting the vegetation to expose the ground surface.

6. Surface Removal of Munitions

Specially trained technicians examined the surface of the ground for munitions and explosives of concern. Items with explosive hazard were safely detonated.

7. Digital Geophysical Mapping (DGM)



DGM operations were completed to provide a record of anomalies. Data will be used to support future reuse activities.

8. Subsurface Removal of Munitions

Subsurface removal was conducted in trails and roads, and other selected areas to support specific reuse.

9. Follow-Up Habitat Monitoring

Biological resources were monitored after munitions cleanup activities were completed.

10. Support Reuse

The Army continues to support the reuse of the property as habitat reserve with public access.

To see a video slideshow on munitions cleanup, visit FortOrdCleanup.com > Community > Meetings & Outreach Events > July 2023

Prescribed Burns Will Be Scheduled in Future Burn Seasons

The Army will not conduct any prescribed burns in 2023 or 2024. Prescribed burns will be scheduled in future burn seasons. At Fort Ord, due to habitat considerations the Army's burn season is July through December.

Prescribed burning is a part of the munitions cleanup program because periodic burning helps promote the health and diversity of the rare Central Maritime Chaparral habitat that thrives in this area. Prescribed burning is the primary method of vegetation clearance in habitat reserves with chaparral plant community. The goals of the Army's prescribed burning are: to complete burn operations with no injuries; to hold the burn within the established containment lines; to minimize smoke impacts; to clear vegetation to facilitate safe munitions cleanup operations; and to minimize damage to and to promote conservation of rare, threatened and endangered species. The Army will not burn under extremely dry and windy conditions, when sufficient resources are not available, or when there are large public events in the area. In planning and conducting the burns the Army works with several agencies such as the local health department and air district, as well as community organizations. The Army also provides notices to the community before, during and after the burns.

Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement (ESCA) Update

BACKGROUND: In March 2007 the Army and the Fort Ord Reuse Authority entered into an agreement (Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement or ESCA for short) resulting in the transfer of approximately 3,000 acres of Economic Development Conveyance properties and the responsibility of removing munitions and explosives of concern on those properties.

CURRENT STATUS: The remedial actions are complete on all of these properties. The evaluations resulted in the final remedies that consist of Land Use Controls. After completing the remedial actions, these properties were transferred to the intended recipients. The City of Seaside was designated the Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement successor and as of June 2020 entered into a period of long-term Land Use Control management funded by the U.S. Army until June 30, 2028.

WHAT ARE LAND USE CONTROLS? Land use controls required in these properties include munitions safety measures that apply to ground-disturbance activities that occur on these sites. Those activities must be planned and coordinated in advance so that appropriate munitions safety support is provided in every case. Munitions recognition and safety training is required for people who conduct ground-disturbing or intrusive activities. You can take this 15-minute class for free at FortOrdSafety.com. The City of Seaside (as the successor) coordinates and manages the Land Use Control implementation actions with local jurisdictions and property owners. Additional land use restrictions apply to specific properties. Those restrictions are outlined in the deeds and described in the Land Use Control Implementation Plan/Operation and Maintenance Plans. If you have any questions, please call the City of Seaside ESCA Program at 831-899-6773 or 831-899-6774.

Groundwater Cleanup

When rain falls on the land, much of the water (especially when there is sandy soil like that found in the Monterey Bay area) seeps into the ground. The water continues down through the soil until it hits an underground layer of clay or rock and can go no further. Scientists call such an underground layer an aquitard. When the water can go no further it accumulates in the soil on top of the aquitard.

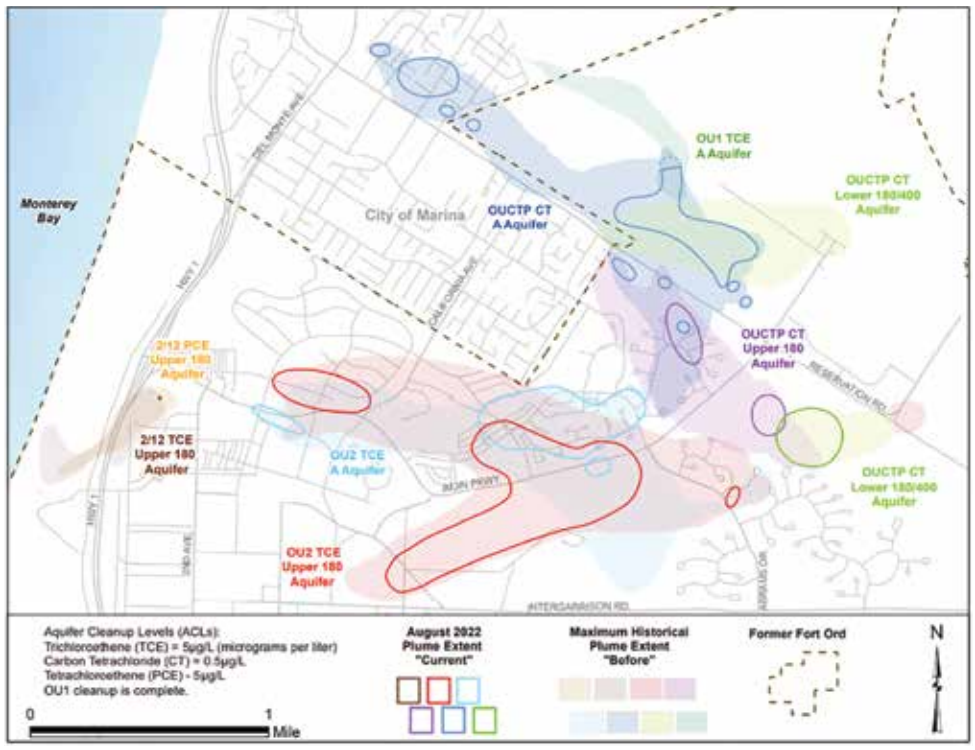
Scientists refer to water stored in the ground in this way as groundwater and the soil where the groundwater is found as an aquifer. Water in an aquifer can flow through the soil, just like water flows in a river, only much slower. In the northern portion of the former Fort Ord, there are four underlying aquifers that are of primary importance to the groundwater cleanup program, each separated by an aquitard. The upper-most, or shallowest, aquifer is called the A-Aquifer. The deeper aquifers include the Upper 180-Foot Aquifer, Lower 180-Foot Aquifer, and the 400-Foot Aquifer. These aquifers are named based on their approximate depth below ground surface in the Salinas Valley to the east. The A-Aquifer is the shallowest aquifer, between 60 feet and 100 feet deep, and is not used as a public water supply. The soil within the A-Aquifer is generally made up of sand or sandy soil from ancient sand dunes. The Upper 180-Foot Aquifer has previously been used as a public water supply source, but is not currently used to supply drinking water. The soil within this aquifer is made up of mainly sand with some gravel. The Lower 180-Foot Aquifer and the 400-Foot Aquifer are also made up of gravel and sand with some clay. Both are a major source of water for the former Fort Ord area.

When Fort Ord was an active Army base, it was like a medium-sized city. Facilities included auto shops, fire stations, and a landfill. As a result of these activities, there are four groundwater contamination areas at the former Fort Ord, but the contamination areas have been reduced significantly since cleanup began.

Operable Unit 1 — Cleanup of this groundwater contamination area was completed in 2014 and final closure of Operable Unit 1 was achieved in 2019 with the concurrence of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, California Department of Toxic Substances Control, and Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board.

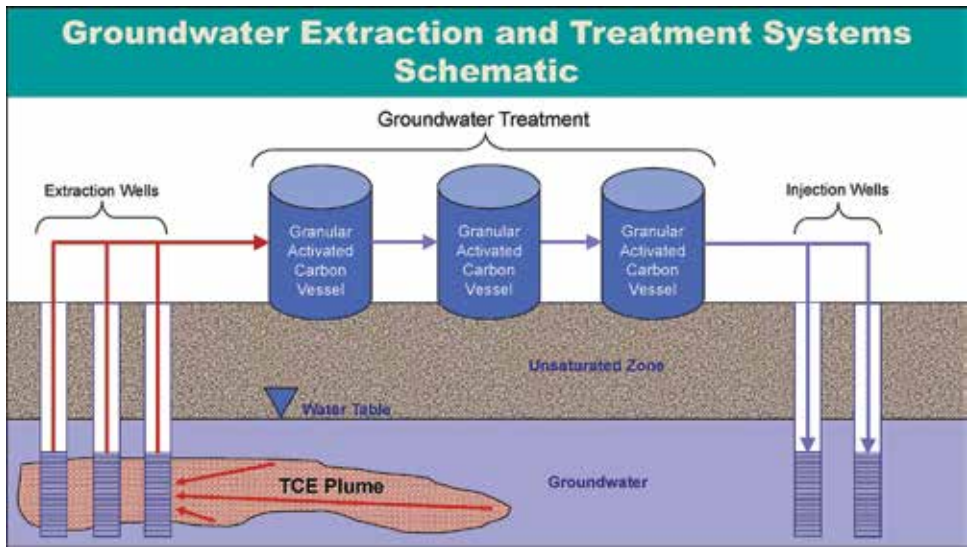
Operable Unit 2 — A landfill south of the intersection of Imjin Parkway and Abrams Road was a source of groundwater contamination. The Army stopped accepting waste into the landfill in 1987. An impermeable cover placed over the landfill prevents rainwater from draining through the buried waste materials and carrying contamination to the groundwater. A landfill gas extraction and treatment system removes methane gas and chemicals of concern from within the landfill. Groundwater extraction and treatment with granular activated carbon for chemicals of concern in the A-Aquifer and the Upper 180-Foot Aquifer began in 1995. The plume has been reduced in size significantly since then and a new groundwater treatment plant, operational since 2018, is increasing cleanup efficiency.

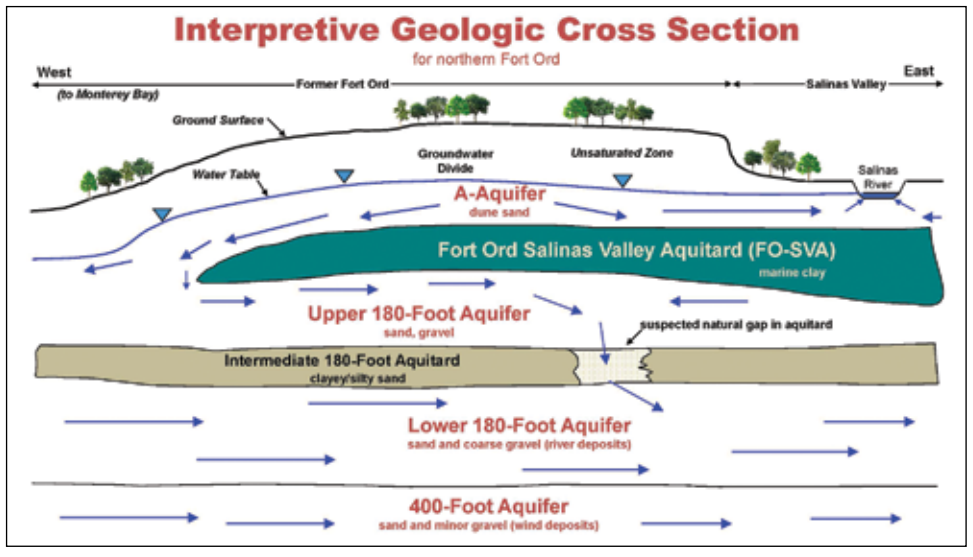
Sites 2/12 —A former Army maintenance facility in the current location of "The Dunes on Monterey Bay" shopping center (south of Imjin Parkway and east of Highway 1) improperly disposed of solvents and petroleum products, which caused groundwater and soil contamination. Contaminated soil was removed in the 1990s. Groundwater extraction and treatment with granular activated carbon began in 1999 and is on-going. Treatment by soil vapor extraction enhanced the groundwater remedy and shortened the expected cleanup time. The amount of groundwater contamination remaining at this site is just a small fraction of what it was before cleanup began, and it is expected cleanup levels will be achieved in the near future.



Operable Unit Carbon Tetrachloride Plume — Groundwater located north of Imjin Parkway and Abrams Road and along Reservation Road was contaminated by improperly disposed solvents. Carbon tetrachloride is the primary chemical of concern and cleanup methods include enhanced in-situ bioremediation (A-Aquifer), groundwater extraction and treatment with granular activated carbon (Upper 180-Foot Aquifer), and monitored natural attenuation with wellhead treatment as a contingency measure (Lower 180-Foot Aquifer). Remediation began in 2009 for the A-Aquifer and in 2011 for the Upper and Lower 180-Foot Aquifers.

Groundwater from Operable Unit 2, Sites 2/12, and a portion of Operable Unit Carbon Tetrachloride Plume (in the Upper 180-Foot Aquifer) are treated by pumping water from the ground with extraction wells, running the water through vessels containing granular activated carbon, which removes contamination, then returning the treated water to the ground using injection wells. Groundwater cleanup will continue until concentrations of chemicals of concern are below Aquifer Cleanup Levels designated by the Records of Decision.





Cleanup Results as of December 31, 2022

	Operable Unit 2 / Operable Unit Carbon Tetrachloride Plume*	Sites 2/12
Treatment Started	October 1995	April 1999
Gallons Treated	9.314 billion	2.310 billion
Pounds of contaminants removed	956	496
Gallons of contaminants removed	76	39
Aquifers Treated	A-Aquifer and Upper 180-Foot Aquifer	Upper 180-Foot Aquifer

The Operable Unit Carbon Tetrachloride Plume remedy for the Upper 180-Foot Aquifer is connected to the Operable Unit 2 groundwater treatment plant.

PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS)

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of human-made chemicals that were originally developed in the late 1930s and do not occur naturally in the environment. By the 1950s, PFAS had become included in many consumer and industrial products, notably in stain and water-repellant material, food packaging, and other retail products, such as paper products, textiles, leathers, carpeting, fabric softeners, polishes, waxes, personal care products, sporting equipment, paints, adhesives, and nonstick cookware. Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) were historically the most widely used throughout the United States. At Army installations, such as the former Fort Ord, the primary mechanism for releases of PFAS is through the historical use of aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF), a product applied during firefighting and firefighting-related training associated with fuel- or petroleum-based fires after 1972. Other known sources of environmental releases of PFAS include landfills and wastewater treatment plants that have inadvertently accepted PFAS-containing materials.

In 2014, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency established a regional screening level (RSL) for one PFAS compound and added RSLs for five more PFAS in 2022. In May 2023, the U.S. EPA published RSLs for two more additional PFAS compounds. RSLs are risk-based values used to determine if further investigation or actions are needed to protect public health. Currently, the regulatory agencies are developing cleanup levels for various PFAS and the U.S. EPA is developing a maximum contaminant level (MCL) for drinking water.

In 2022, the Army completed a site-wide Preliminary Assessment of historical Fort Ord activities with the potential to cause PFAS contamination in soil and groundwater at the former Fort Ord, and the results were summarized in a Preliminary Assessment Narrative Report available at FortOrdCleanup.com. Extensive site-wide research and investigations, including interviews with site personnel, were conducted during the development of this report, which underwent review by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control, and the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board. The report indicates there was limited historical use of PFAS-containing materials from activities such as firefighter training. Based on the results of the Preliminary Assessment, the Army conducted a Site Inspection for PFAS in 2023, which included soil and groundwater sampling to confirm whether or not a release of PFAS occurred at specific sites recommended for additional investigation in the Preliminary Assessment Narrative Report.

FORT ORD DRINKING WATER IS SAFE

The Marina Coast Water District supplies drinking water to the City of Marina and former Fort Ord. Fort Ord drinking water meets all Federal and State regulatory standards. Drinking water quality is regularly tested and results are reported in an annual Consumer Confidence Report found at:

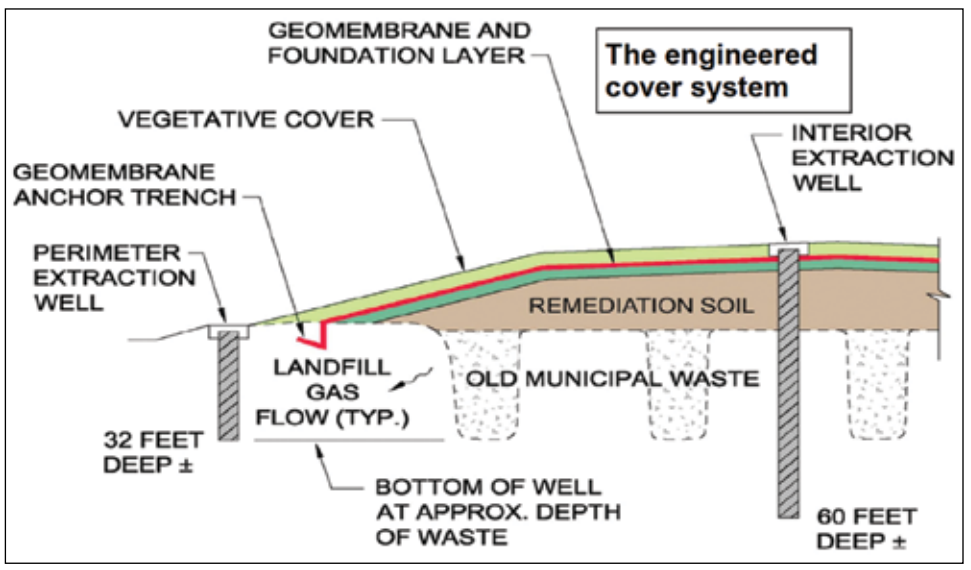
https://www.mcwd.org/gsa_ccr.html

Landfill

The Army operated a landfill during the years Fort Ord served as a training base. The landfill provided waste disposal for Fort Ord's housing, offices and support facilities, such as machine shops and motor pools. The Army stopped accepting waste from the base operations and housing into the landfill in 1987. Like many municipal landfills from this era, Fort Ord's landfill was later found to be leaching hazardous chemicals into the groundwater beneath it. The Operable Unit 2 treatment facility (see previous article) cleans the groundwater. The nonoperational landfill cells are now covered with a special impermeable cover so that rainwater cannot contact the waste and cause chemicals to leach through the soil into groundwater beneath the landfill.

As with most landfills, decay of organic waste produces gases (primarily methane and carbon dioxide). Over time, as wastes continue to decay, less methane is produced and eventually declines to near zero. While methane gas has practically no toxic effects, at levels of 5% to 15% in air, methane can be ignited and could endanger landfill workers and nearby residents. A landfill gas extraction and treatment system prevents methane from reaching high concentrations and migrating off the landfill. The system consists of a series of landfill gas extraction points around the perimeter of and within the landfill cells, and a thermal treatment unit that destroys methane and potentially hazardous trace gases collected from under the landfill cover.

There is a maintenance program to make sure treatment systems are operating efficiently and the landfill cover system remains intact. The cover is inspected routinely by Fort Ord cleanup workers and Monterey County officials. Repairs are made to any damage to the landfill cover system caused by erosion and burrowing animals. Reducing rodent populations helps maintain the integrity of the landfill cover. To help with this task, owl boxes and raptor perches were installed at the landfill to attract raptors and encourage the natural removal of gophers, ground squirrels and other rodents. This has proven very effective for rodent control.



Cross Section of Landfill (without vertical expansion)

Soil Cleanup

The Army is required to clean up soil contamination that could harm the health of human beings, as well as plants and animals. Explosive compounds, metals, and hydrocarbons may be present in areas where munitions and munitions related training occurred. All cleanup sites identified in the Site 39 Record of Decision Amendment have been completed. Three additional areas have been identified. Site 39 encompasses the historical Impact Area.

There may be additional soil cleanup locations identified as the munitions cleanup moves forward in the Impact Area Munitions Response Area - soil remediation will resume after munitions cleanup is completed and remaining soil cleanup locations are identified.

Habitat Management

The 27,827 acres of the former Fort Ord encompass a biologically diverse and unique region, which ranges from the sand dunes along the shores of Monterey Bay to the riparian forest of Toro Creek along Hwy 68. The range and combination of climatic, topographic, and soil conditions at Fort Ord support several plant communities, with central maritime chaparral being the most extensive. Some of the plants within this community occur only in the Monterey Bay area, and several are protected under the federal and/or state laws. The land spanning former Fort Ord boundaries also supports several threatened or endangered animal species. The Army works closely with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other agencies to ensure that it conducts cleanup activities in a manner that protects the native plants and animals and their habitats.

The Army is required to restore the habitat reserve areas affected by soil cleanup activities. In 2023 the Army completed active restoration on 22.3 acres of Fort Ord National Monument, marking a big milestone of finishing the specific restoration prescriptions for 18 out of the 19 sites. Cumulatively, the Army installed a total of 68,732 plants, broadcasted approximately 4400 pounds of seed, and restored approximately 61.5 acres of habitat over the course of 11 years. One remaining half an acre site will be completed in the future along with any other sites that may still be identified for soil cleanup activities. The Army continues to monitor all restored sites to ensure plants are growing back successfully and presents the results of monitoring in annual reports and at the annual meetings with the regulatory agencies.

Representatives of the Army, US Army Corps of Engineers, and Chenega Tri-Services assisted Burleson Consulting staff (Army contractors) install extra plants at one of the restoration sites on Fort Ord National Monument after all required site-specific planting targets had been met.

Special Species Spotlight – Northern California Legless Lizard

The Northern California legless lizard (Anniella pulchra) can be confused for a snake, but careful examination will reveal that it has eyelids, which snakes do not. Its geographic range extends from the southern edge of the San Joaquin River in northern Contra Costa County south to the Ventura County. In our area it can be found along the coastal sand dunes from the Salinas River to the Monterey peninsula, including portions of the former Fort Ord now comprising the Fort Ord Dunes State Beach. This unique reptile can also be found further inland and local residents may occasionally come across them in their backyards. In our area it is dark on the top and bright yellow on the bottom. California Department of Fish and Wildlife recognizes Northern California legless lizard as a Species of Special Concern.

Legless lizards lost their limbs over millions of years through the process of evolution.

Northern California legless lizard (Anniella pulchra) wrapped around ice plant

Because these lizards live mostly underground it is easier for them to move through the soil and sand without limbs. Northern California legless lizard forages on larval insects, beetles, termites and spiders. Moist loose soil is essential for this species, and leaf litter under trees and bushes in sunny areas, as well as stabilized sand dunes, provide suitable habitat. Like many other lizards, Northern California legless lizard can lose a part of its tail to help it escape from predators.

The biggest threats to Northern California legless lizard are habitat loss due to agriculture and development, recreation, sand mining, and introduction of non-native plants such as ice plant. The Army monitors for Northern California legless lizards when it conducts ground disturbing activities in the habitat where the lizard can be found. If a Northern California legless lizard is found during the Army's cleanup operations, the lizard is relocated to a safe area and the Army reports the finding to the appropriate agencies. The Army's restoration project described above also likely benefits Northern California legless lizard as it provides suitable habitat for that species.

Fort Ord 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. The Fort Ord cleanup is being conducted under the Superfund or "CERCLA" cleanup process. CERCLA is an acronym for the federal law entitled the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, also known as Superfund. It encompasses cleanup of soil and groundwater that contain hazardous substances such as metals, pesticides, and other chemical contaminants common to landfills, firing ranges, and other military sites. At Fort Ord, the Superfund cleanup is supervised by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Under an agreement between the Army and regulatory agencies, each agency assigns a representative to the Base Cleanup Team. Contacts for each of the participating agencies in Fort Ord's cleanup are listed below.

U.S. Department of the Army Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Fort Ord Field Office

Fort Ord BRAC Environmental Coordinator
PO BOX 5008
Monterey, California 93944-5008
Phone: (831) 242-7920

Fort Ord Community Relations Office
Phone: (831) 393-1284 or (800) 852-9699
Email: Outreach@FortOrdCleanup.com

United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9

Maeve Clancy
Remedial Project Manager
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
Phone: (415) 947-4105
Email: Clancy.Maeve@epa.gov

Gavin Pauley
Community Involvement Coordinator
Phone: (415) 535-3725 or (800) 231-3075
Email: Pauley.Gavin@epa.gov

California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Coast Region

Amber Sellinger
Remedial Project Manager for water
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, California 93401-7906
Phone: (805) 549-3866
Email: Amber.Sellinger@waterboards.ca.gov

California Enviromental Protection Agency Department of Toxic Substances Control

Brett Leary
Remedial Project Manager for military munitions
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826-3200
Phone: (916) 255-4988
Email: Brett.Leary@dtsc.ca.gov

Alberto Gutierrez
Remedial Project Manager for water, soil, and property transfer
Phone: (916) 255-6693
Email: Alberto.Gutierrez@dtsc.ca.gov

Tammy Pickens
Public Participation Specialist
Phone: 916-255-3594
Email: Tammy.Pickens@dtsc.ca.gov

Special Note: For questions related to the long-term implementation of land use controls in **Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement** sites, please contact:

Melissa Broadston
City of Seaside
Phone: (831) 899-6773
Email: esca@ci.seaside.ca.us
Website: https://www.ci.seaside.ca.us/fortordesca

Community Outreach

In 2023 we were excited to welcome back in-person events throughout the year. At the July 2023 Community Involvement Mobile Workshop, the return of the bus tours into the Impact Area was a big hit with our local community members. Attendees hopped on a bus with our cleanup experts and toured parts of the former Fort Ord that are normally restricted. Plans for 2024 events are underway and we hope to see you there. Make sure to visit our website at FortOrdCleanup.com for the latest information on future events and updates.

Information Table at Marina's Earth Day Celebration

May 2023 Guided Nature Walk in the Impact Area

2024 EVENTS

February

Online Community Involvement Workshop

Focus: Groundwater and soil cleanup, landfill operation and maintenance, and Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement (ESCA)

May

Guided Nature Walk Inside the Impact Area

July

Community Involvement Mobile Workshop

Focus: Munitions response, munitions site security, habitat managment, and ESCA

Bus tours of the former Fort Ord will be available.

Please note these events may be canceled or postponed due to unforeseen circumstances.

Community Survey

We are very interested in learning how you would like to participate in the environmental cleanup at Fort Ord. Survey information is used to help determine the level of community interest of the Fort Ord Cleanup and refine the public participation program to meet the community's information needs.

The survey is provided below. If you choose, you can also complete it online by visiting the news section of FortOrdCleanup.com.

Thank you for your participation and interest in the Fort Ord Environmental Cleanup.

Fort Ord Environmental Cleanup Community Survey 2023

1. When did you become aware of the environmental cleanup of the former Fort Ord?

   _____

   _____

2. Is the information you currently receive about the Fort Ord cleanup:

   ☐ about right ☐ too much ☐ too little

   ☐ other (please describe)

   _____

   _____

3. What type of Fort Ord cleanup activities/information interests you?

   ☐ groundwater ☐ soil ☐ military munitions

   ☐ vegetation burning ☐ property transfer

   ☐ Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement

   ☐ other (please describe)

   _____

4. Are you aware of the Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement munitions remediation program?

   ☐ Yes ☐ No

5. Is there a person, group, or organization you think would be interested in talking to the Army about the Fort Ord cleanup process?

   _____

   _____

6. Is there anything else about the cleanup you would like to share with us?

   _____

   _____

   _____

7. Do you live in the Monterey Bay – Salinas Valley area?

   ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, how long:

   ☐ 0-5 years ☐ 6-12 years ☐ 13-20 years ☐ 21 or more years

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME AND INTEREST

Please return the completed survey by mail no later than December 31, 2023, to:
Fort Ord Environmental Cleanup Community Survey 2023
Fort Ord BRAC Office
P.O. Box 5008
Monterey, CA 93944-5008

Be sure to affix the appropriate postage. Call (831) 393-1284 for more information.
Save a stamp/paper and take the survey online at www.FortOrdCleanup.com. Go to the news section.
Para obtener una copia en Español contacte (831) 393-1284.

Fort Ord Annual Report

November 2023

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Fort Ord Environmental Cleanup
Community Relations Office
P.O. Box 5008
Monterey, CA 93944

Postal Customer