

Fort Ord Environmental Cleanup Annual Report

Fort Ord BRAC Office

November 2024



Operable Unit 2 Groundwater Treatment Plant

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 Central Coast Region. Each year this annual report summarizes the key cleanup elements and accomplishments.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

In 2024, the Army continued its cleanup actions at the former Fort Ord. Here are some of the highlights of the Fort Ord Cleanup Program:

- Completed munitions cleanup in Unit 5 of the Impact Area
- Treated 9.827 billion gallons of groundwater at Operable Unit 2 Groundwater Treatment Plant (October 1995 – December 2023)
- Completed the Site Inspection Phase of the investigation into per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)
- Completed active habitat restoration on 22.3 acres of the Fort Ord National Monument
- Launched online Community Involvement Workshop on February 10. Held Guided Nature Walk on May 11. Hosted in-person workshop on July 13 with open house and bus tours
- The Army is not planning to conduct any prescribed burns in 2024

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



2024 Guided Nature Walk Safety Briefing



2024 Guided Nature Walk



Homepage of Online Community Involvement Workshop, available on www.FortOrdCleanup.com through February 2025

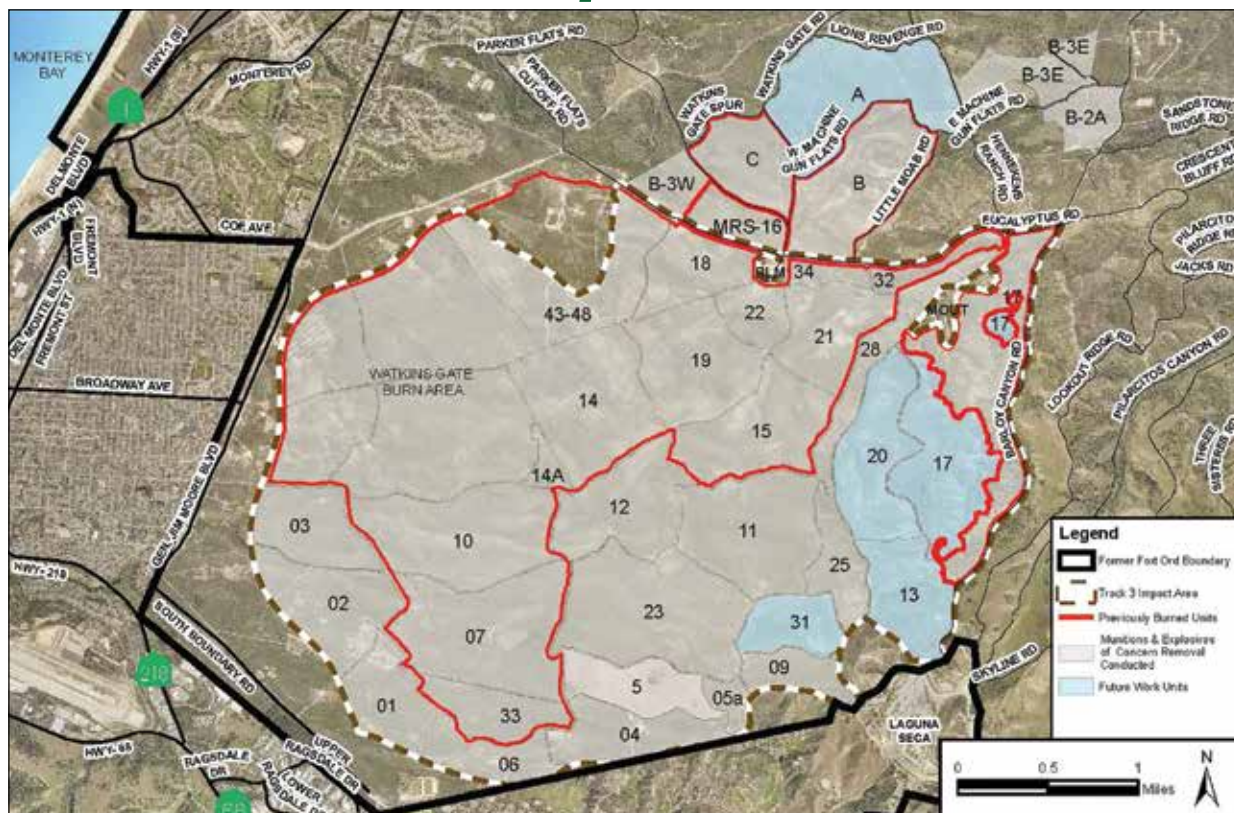
PARA OBTENER UNA COPIA EN ESPAÑOL, CONTACTE: 831-393-1284
FOR A COPY OF THIS NEWSLETTER IN SPANISH, CALL: 831-393-1284

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. The selected remedy is surface removal of munitions and explosives of concern. Subsurface removal is conducted in selected areas to address specific risk or reuse needs. The designated future use of this area is habitat reserve. Most recently, the Army completed the remedial action in Unit 5, a 130-acre unit in the southern portion of the Impact Area. Surface removal and a Digital Geophysical Mapping survey were completed in Unit 5 in 2022. The geophysical survey data were used to conduct the subsurface investigation in two ponds, which makes it safe for biologists to enter the ponds to conduct biological surveys. Based on an additional evaluation of the geophysical survey results, 95 subsurface anomalies were identified in 2023 for intrusive investigation. This field work has been completed as of this summer. This work is intended to reduce the risk to future prescribed burn operations by removing the potential for large projectiles being present within shallow depths that can detonate during a burn. In Unit 5, a prescribed burn is still required in the future, after the munitions cleanup, to encourage the recovery of the habitat. (See Prescribed Burns Information on Page 3)

The Army is in a process of developing a work plan for the munitions cleanup of Unit 17 in the eastern portion of the Impact Area. Due to difficult terrain, the Army is not required to conduct a prescribed burn in this unit; the



Munitions cleanup units

vegetation will be cut. 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 of this area 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.”



Mind the Signs

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

Remember the 3Rs of Munitions Safety

At the former Fort Ord, because of its history as a military base, it is possible that a military munition can be encountered. Should you suspect that you might 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. The area is regularly patrolled. Access to the Impact Area is controlled by the Army. If you observe suspicious activities, please contact local law enforcement by calling 911.

Prescribed Burns

The Army will not conduct any prescribed burns in 2024. The process of planning for the next prescribed burn at Fort Ord, which could be in 2025 or later, has begun. Due to habitat considerations at Fort Ord the burn season is from July to December.

Prescribed burns are an important part of the munitions cleanup and are also required under an agreement between the Army and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as part of the Installation-Wide Multispecies Habitat Management Plan. Vegetation on the former Fort Ord is primarily Central Maritime Chapparal which includes several rare, threatened, and endangered species. Periodic fires help promote the health and diversity of this rare habitat. At Fort Ord, prescribed burning is the primary method of vegetation clearance for munitions cleanup 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
- To minimize damage to and to promote conservation of rare, threatened and endangered species

The Army takes extensive precautions to ensure the prescribed burns are conducted under appropriate conditions and are contained. 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, air district, as well as community organizations.

Prior to a prescribed burn, the Army establishes a network of multiple containment lines around the unit of land that is to be burned. Vegetation in these containment lines is cut and trees are trimmed to serve as fuel breaks for the burn.

A prescribed burn will commence when conditions provide for efficient operations with good fire and smoke behavior. Suitable weather conditions include clear skies, moderate temperatures (between 45° and 90°F), and several days without much wind. These weather conditions typically occur between September and November. The Army works with the



Naval Postgraduate School meteorologist who monitors and forecasts the weather conditions. If required conditions are not met, the prescribed burn will not take place.

Because a prescribed burn cannot be scheduled in advance due to all of the different conditions that need to be met, the Army has developed the Direct Notification Program. This program allows the Army to provide notices to the community before, during, and

after a burn. You can receive phone, text, and/or email notifications once you register for the program. Registration will begin before the start of a burn season. Please note, you will need to re-register regardless if you have registered for the Direct Notification Program in the past.

For more information on Prescribed Burns, please visit:

www.FortOrdCleanup.com/prescribed-burns

Controlled Detonations



Controlled Detonation on July 23, 2024

When suspected explosive munitions are located during the environmental cleanup of the former Fort Ord, the items are detonated to address the explosive hazard. When an item is located, a safety assessment is made to determine whether it must be detonated where it was found. When it is possible to move the item, it is stored in a secure storage and detonated at a later time in a controlled

consolidated detonation. Preparation for a detonation operation includes a fire safety assessment by the Presidio of Monterey Fire Department.

On July 23, 2024 the Army conducted a controlled consolidated detonation within the Impact Area. Local residents, municipal activities, public roadways, and commuter traffic were not impacted.

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 completing the munitions cleanup on those properties.

CURRENT STATUS: The remedial actions are complete on all of these properties. The evaluations resulted in final remedies that consist of Land Use Controls. After completing the remedial actions, these properties were transferred to the

intended recipients. In 2020, the City of Seaside was designated the Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement successor to manage the long-term Land Use Control program funded by the U.S. Army.

WHAT ARE LAND USE CONTROLS? Land use controls are designed to limit exposure to munitions that could be encountered during reuse activities and 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 Plan. 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 seeps into the ground (especially when there is sandy soil like that found in the Monterey Bay area). 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 other 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 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.

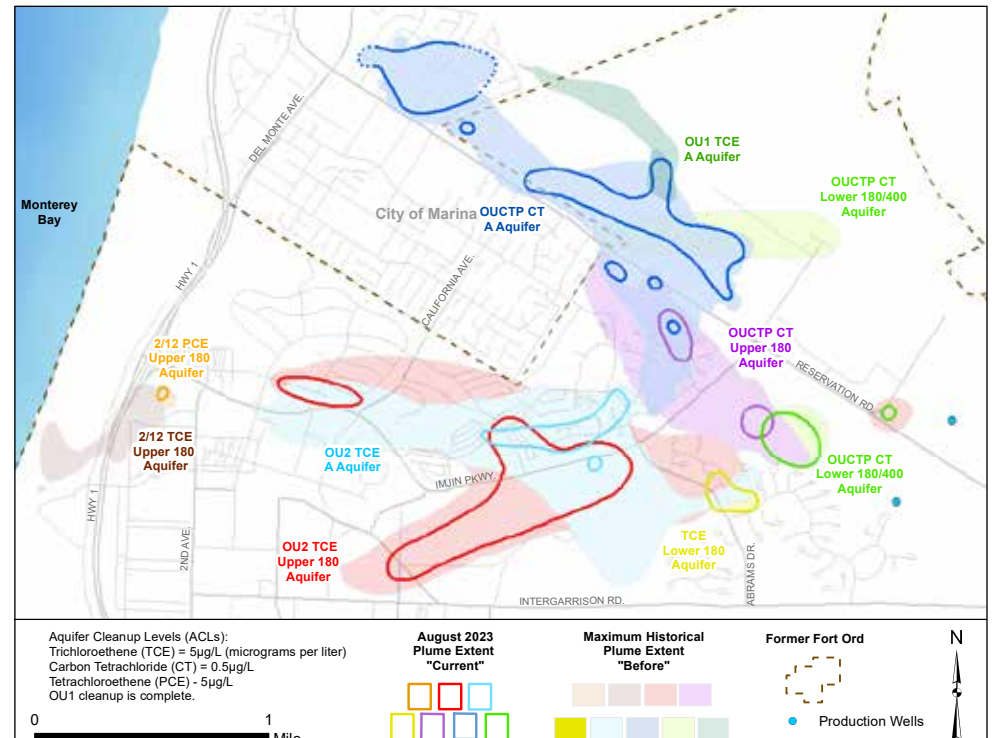
When Fort Ord was an active Army base, it was like a medium-sized city. Facilities included auto shops, fire stations, and a landfill. As a result of these activities, there are four groundwater contamination areas at the former Fort Ord, but groundwater contamination has been reduced

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 municipal 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 aimed to shorten 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. Currently, groundwater and soil vapor extraction are operated in a pulsing manner to efficiently remove remaining chemicals



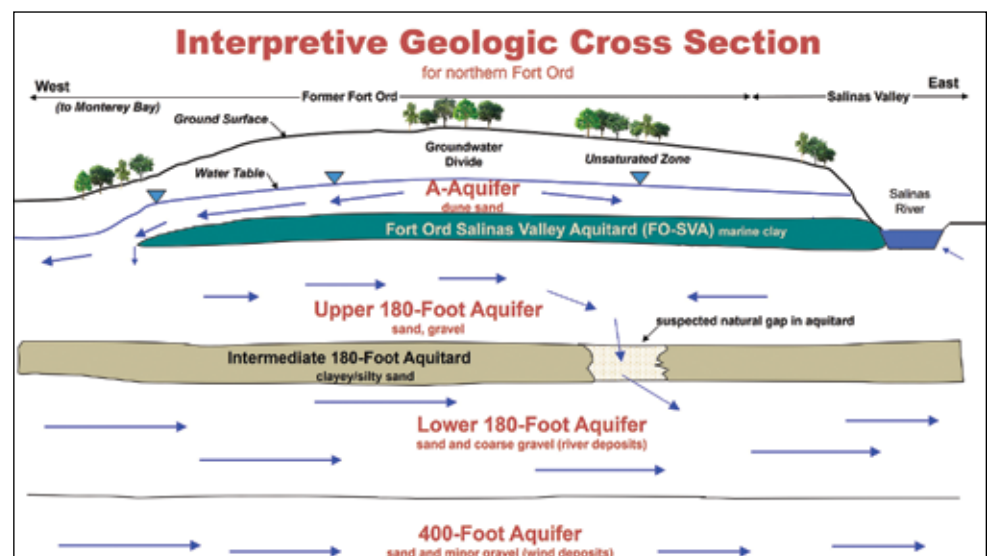
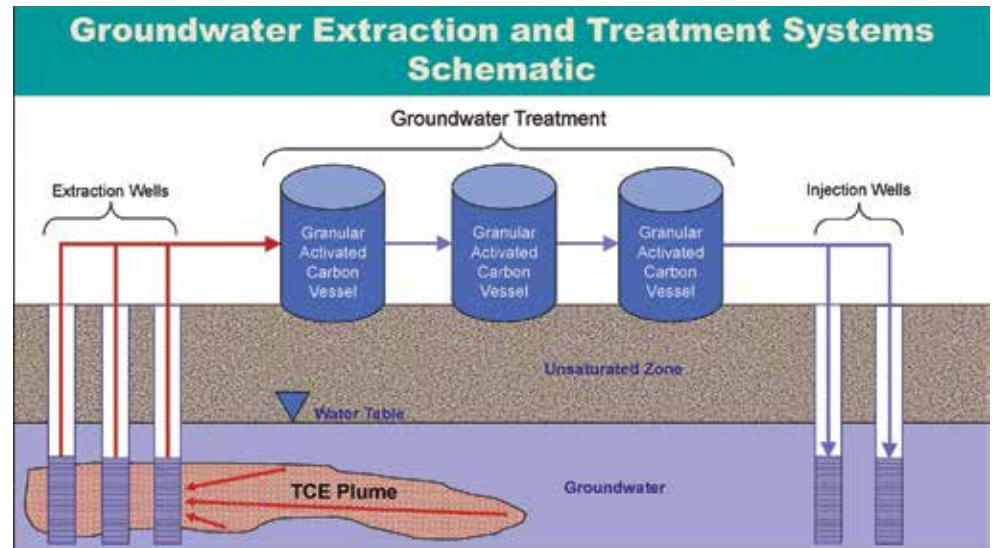
Map of historical plume extent vs. current plume extent

of concern to achieve the cleanup levels.

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 chemicals of concern, 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, 2023		
	Operable Unit 2 / Operable Unit Carbon Tetrachloride Plume*	Sites 2/12
Treatment Started	October 1995	April 1999
Gallons Treated	9.827 billion	2.354 billion
Pounds of contaminants removed	981	498
Gallons of contaminants removed	77	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.

On April 10, 2024 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the final National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) for six PFAS, establishing legally enforceable levels, called Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs). PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS, PFNA, and HFPO-DA were given individual MCLs. PFAS mixtures containing at least two or more of PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and PFBS were given a Hazard Index MCL to account for the combined and co-occurring levels of these PFAS in drinking water. EPA also finalized health-based, non-enforceable Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLGs) for these PFAS. For more information, please visit the EPA's website at www.epa.gov.

To proactively investigate potential PFAS releases, 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. 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. The Site Inspection recommended 5 of 7 sites for additional investigation. The results are summarized in the Site Inspection Narrative Report, also available at FortOrdCleanup.com. The Army is currently working with the regulatory agencies to plan for the Remedial Investigation Phase.

YOUR 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

Three water service providers supply drinking water to the City of Seaside.

Depending on the location within the City of Seaside, drinking water could be provided by California American Water, Seaside Municipal Water System, or Marina Coast Water District. Please visit their respective websites for their water quality reports.

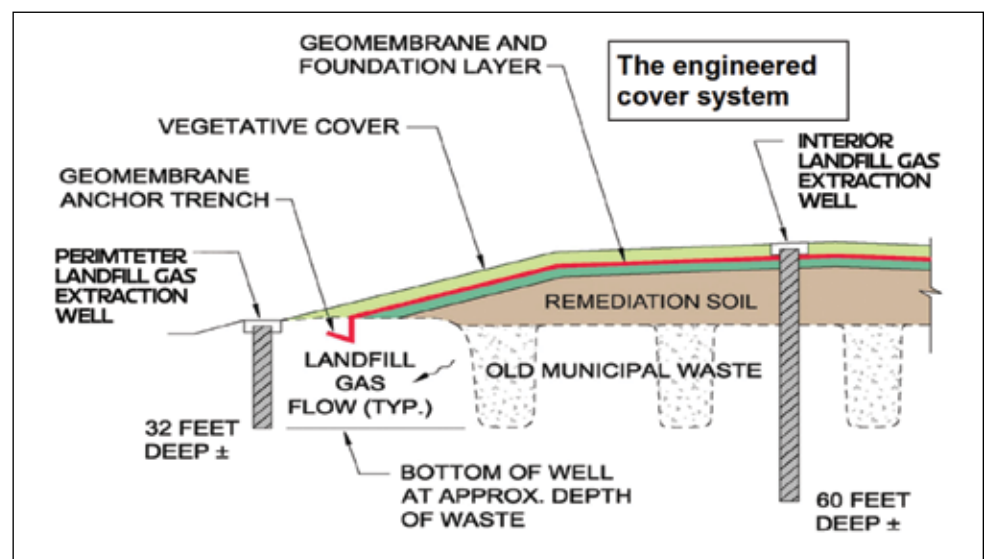
Landfill

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 related training occurred. All cleanup sites identified in the Site 39 Record of Decision Amendment have been completed. Site 39 encompasses the historical Impact Area.

As the munitions cleanup moves forward in the Impact Area Munitions Response Area, those units are evaluated for the potential for soil contamination. Three additional soil remediation areas have been identified. Soil remediation will resume after evaluating the remaining munitions cleanup units and identifying remaining soil cleanup requirements.

Habitat Management

The 27,827 acres of the former Fort Ord encompass a biologically diverse and unique region, stretching from the sand dunes along Monterey Bay's shores to the riparian forests of Toro Creek along Highway 68. This area has a remarkable variety of climatic, topographic, and soil conditions that nurture several plant communities, with central maritime chaparral being the most extensive. Many of the plants in this community are endemic and native to the Monterey Bay area, with several species protected under federal and state laws. Additionally, the former Fort Ord lands are

home to various threatened and endangered animal species. The Army collaborates closely with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other agencies to ensure that cleanup activities protect the native plants, animals, and their habitats.

The Army is required to restore habitat reserve areas impacted by soil cleanup activities. Last year, the Army achieved a significant milestone by completing active restoration on 22.3 acres of the Fort Ord National Monument, successfully implementing restoration prescriptions for

18 out of 19 sites. Over the past 11 years, the Army has cumulatively installed 68,732 plants, broadcasted approximately 4,400 pounds of seed, and restored around 61.5 acres of habitat. One remaining half-acre site will be completed in the future, along with any new sites identified for soil cleanup. The Army continues to monitor all restored sites to ensure successful plant growth, documenting the results in annual reports and presenting them at annual meetings with regulatory agencies. Notably, one of the restored sites, HA26, met all required success criteria last year!

Special Species Spotlight – Monterey Spineflower

One of the special plants thriving on the former Fort Ord is the Monterey spineflower (*Chorizanthe pungens* var. *pungens*). Though you may need to get close to the ground to fully appreciate its tiny pink and white flowers (they are about 1/8" wide), this annual plant can form extensive, dense mats with its branching stems. Most populations are found in the open sandy areas of coastal dunes along Monterey Bay and on the former Fort Ord. The populations near Prunedale and Soledad are considered the furthest known locations of Monterey spineflower.

Monterey spineflower is federally designated as a threatened plant. The biggest threats to its survival are habitat development, competition from non-native plants, and habitat conversion. The species thrives in sandy areas devoid of vegetation, and it can

benefit from natural disturbances like fire or windblown sand, which create unvegetated openings. It also appears to benefit from herbivores which selectively feed on other plants and create open areas for the Monterey spineflower. Monterey spineflower can germinate under a wide range of weather conditions and does not rely on a long-lived seed bank.

The Army conducts extensive monitoring of Monterey spineflower across the former Fort Ord, particularly in areas affected by munitions and groundwater cleanup activities. Restoration efforts are also underway in regions where the species was impacted by soil cleanup activities. To date, the Army has restored approximately two acres of Monterey spineflower habitat, achieving a very high success rate.



A single stem with flowers of Monterey spineflower (*Chorizanthe pungens* var. *pungens*). Photo by B. Kowalski



A large area covered by Monterey spineflower, *Chorizanthe pungens* var. *pungens* (ground covered vegetation in the foreground) that had been cleared of annual grasses by herbivores. Photo by B. Kowalski

Community Outreach

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2023 Fort Ord Environmental Cleanup Community Survey. The Army greatly appreciates your participation and interest in the Fort Ord Environmental Cleanup Program.

In February 2024, we launched our online Community Involvement Workshop. This specially created webpage provides the latest updates regarding the Fort Ord cleanup with pre-recorded presentations developed by the cleanup technical staff. This page can be found at www.FortOrdCleanup.com and will be available through February 2025.

On May 11th we were excited to host our local community members on a Guided Nature Walk inside the Impact Area. Led by the Fort Ord Cleanup staff, community members were able to hike and get a first-hand view of the cleanup and habitat restoration taking place behind the fenced off area. This event is one of our most popular and sign-ups filled up quickly.

On July 13, 2024 we held our in-person Community Involvement Mobile Workshop and Open House. At the Open House, community members were able to learn the latest updates about the Fort Ord Environmental Cleanup from our technical staff. Participants were also able to hop on a free bus tour that guided them through parts of the former Fort Ord that are currently restricted to the public.

In addition to these events, the Army also attends various local community events with an information booth, updating visitors on the Fort

Ord Cleanup and educating them on munitions safety in the former Fort Ord. Events include (but are not limited to) the various local Earth Day celebrations, the Monterey County Fair, and Public Lands Day on the Fort Ord National Monument. Community presentations on these topics are also offered. Presentations are given upon request.

If you would like to receive updates on the Fort Ord Cleanup, including future events such as these, sign-up for our newsletter at www.FortOrdCleanup.com/Contact. If you would like to request additional information on presentations, please contact our Community Relations office (listed in Fort Ord Agency Contacts).



Information table at Language Day – May 2024

2025 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 and Open House

Focus: Munitions response, munitions site security, habitat management, 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.

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 California Regional Water Quality Control Board. 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

Joelle Lobo
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 Environmental Protection Agency Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Coast Region

Karyn Steckling
Remedial Project Manager for Water
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, California 93401-7906
Phone: (805) 549-3465
Email: Karyn.Steckling@waterboards.ca.gov

Amber Sellinger
Department of Defense Program Manager
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, California 93401-7906
Phone: (805) 549-3866
Email: Amber.Sellinger@waterboards.ca.gov

California Environmental 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/fortorddesca>

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November 2024

Inside This Issue

The Cleanup Program	1
Program Highlights	1
Munitions Cleanup	2
Prescribed Burns	3
Controlled Detonations	3
Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement Update	3
Groundwater Cleanup	4
Landfill	5
Soil Cleanup	5
Habitat Management	6
Community Outreach	7
Fort Ord Agency Contacts	7

Fort Ord Environmental Cleanup

Community Relations Office

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