

FORT ORD PRESCRIBED BURN PROGRAM 2025



This Year the Army is Preparing for a Prescribed Burn on the Former Fort Ord

The Army has identified Unit A within the northern portion of the Fort Ord National Monument for a prescribed burn in 2025 or later (see map on page 2). Prescribed 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 burn will make the ground surface accessible for safe munitions removal to follow, and encourage recovery of rare, threatened and endangered fire-dependent plant species. In addition, the prescribed burn will reduce overgrown vegetation, which, in turn, reduces the risk of wildfire.

The Army intends to conduct the prescribed burn 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 map on page 2 shows the location of the planned prescribed burn as well as previous burns conducted on the former Fort Ord.

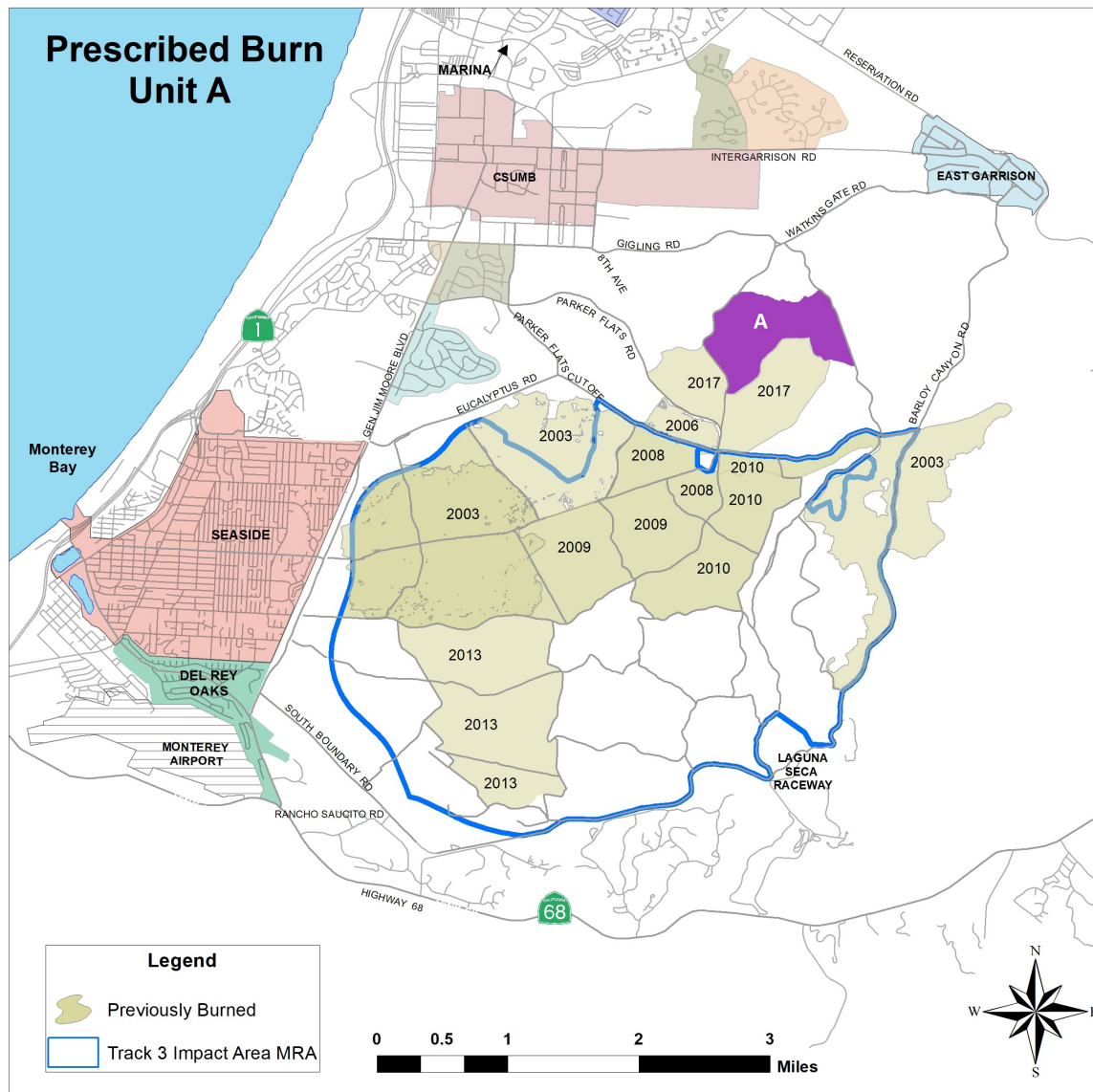
Note: Some roads and trails will be closed for a short time when the Army mobilizes for a prescribed burn.

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 2025 Burn Unit

The map shows previously burned units and their burn year. The area planned for a prescribed burn in 2025 is highlighted in purple.



Your Safety is Our Top Priority

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: There will be road and trail closures during the prescribed burn day. Pedestrian, recreation, and non-project vehicle use of roads near the prescribed burn will be unavailable until the completion of burn operations. Check the website www.FortOrdCleanup.com for the most up-to-date information.



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 or by calling 831-393-1284 or 800-852-9699 .

Because phone numbers and email addresses change, **you will need to register regardless if you have previously registered for the Direct Notification Plan.** 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 the prescribed burn 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 prior to the 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: Visit the AirNow website: "Fires and Your Health" at <https://www.airnow.gov/air-quality-and-health/fires-and-your-health/>

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

Additional information is also available at Monterey Bay Air Resources District at www.MBARD.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 forecasted, 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.