

# Fort Ord Military Munitions Response Program Update

July 2023

U.S. Army Base Realignment and Closure  
Fort Ord Field Office

# Acronyms

BCT	BRAC Cleanup Team
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BRAC	Base Realignment and Closure
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESCA	Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement
FORA	Fort Ord Reuse Authority
FOST	Finding of Suitability to Transfer
DGM	Digital geophysical mapping
DMM	Discarded military munitions
DTSC	California Department of Toxic Substances Control

MEC	Munitions and explosives of concern
MD	Munitions debris
MMRP	Military Munitions Response Program
MRA	Munitions Response Area
MRS	Munitions Response Site
OESS	Ordnance and Explosives Safety Specialist
NPL	National Priorities List
QA	Quality assurance
QC	Quality control
ROD	Record of Decision
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
UXO	Unexploded ordnance

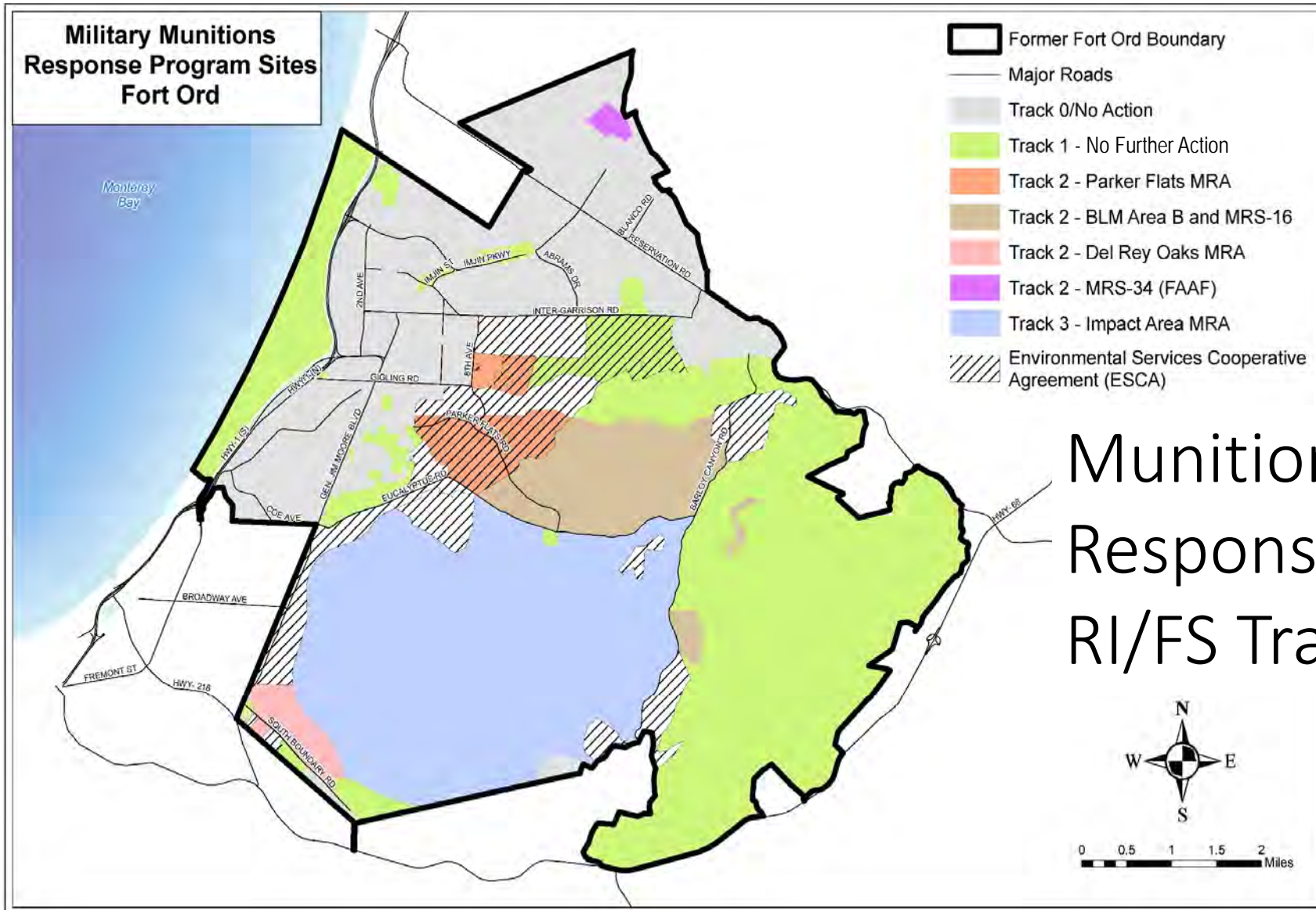
# Topics

- Munitions cleanup overview
- Upcoming work
- Munitions cleanup and reuse
- Resources on [www.fortordcleanup.com](http://www.fortordcleanup.com)

# Fort Ord MMRP Timeline

1917-1994	Used for military training – through base closure
1990	Placed on National Priorities List of Superfund sites
1991	Placed on Base Realignment and Closure list
1993	Munitions investigations and removal actions began
1998-2019	Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study – through remedy selection
2007-2019	FORA ESCA remediation program – through site closeout
Present->	Long-term management of safety programs continue Remedial actions continue in parts of Fort Ord National Monument



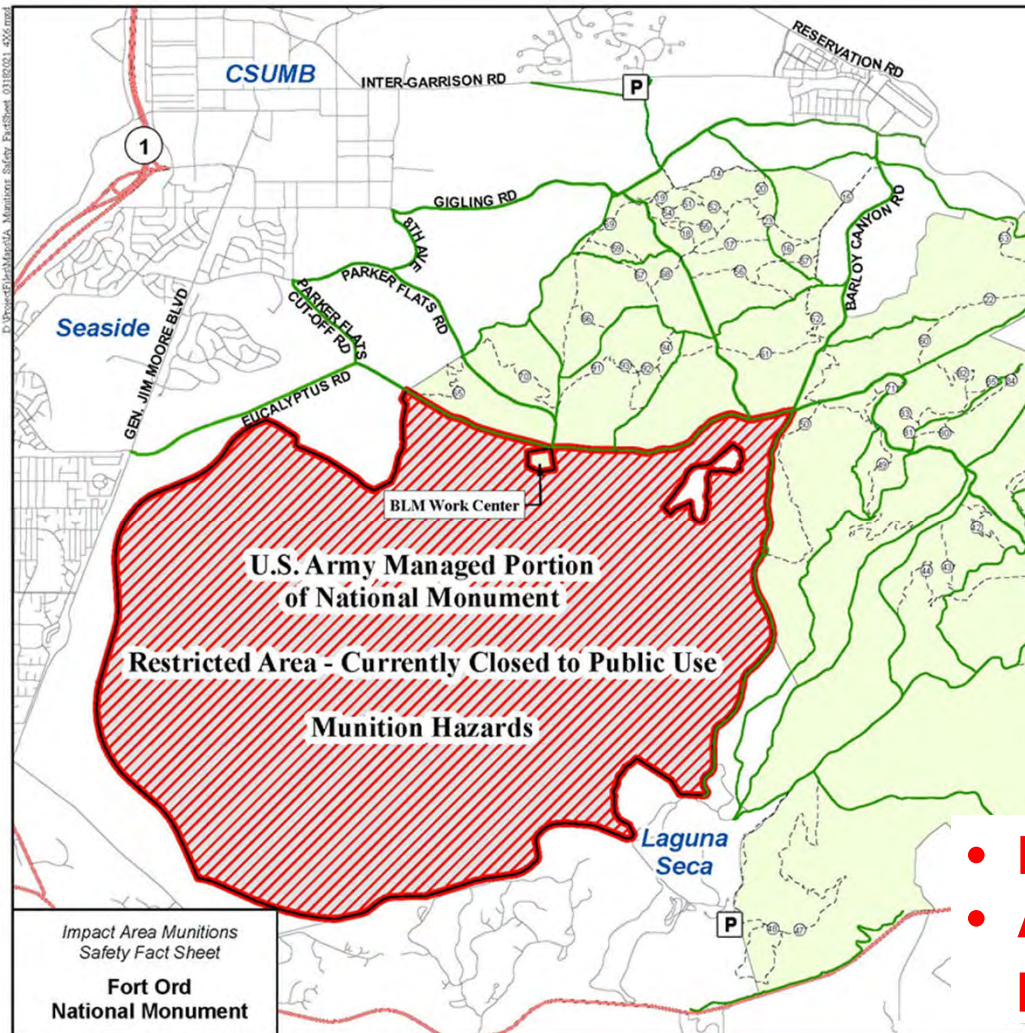


# Munitions Response RI/FS Tracks





## Restricted Area - Closed to Public Use

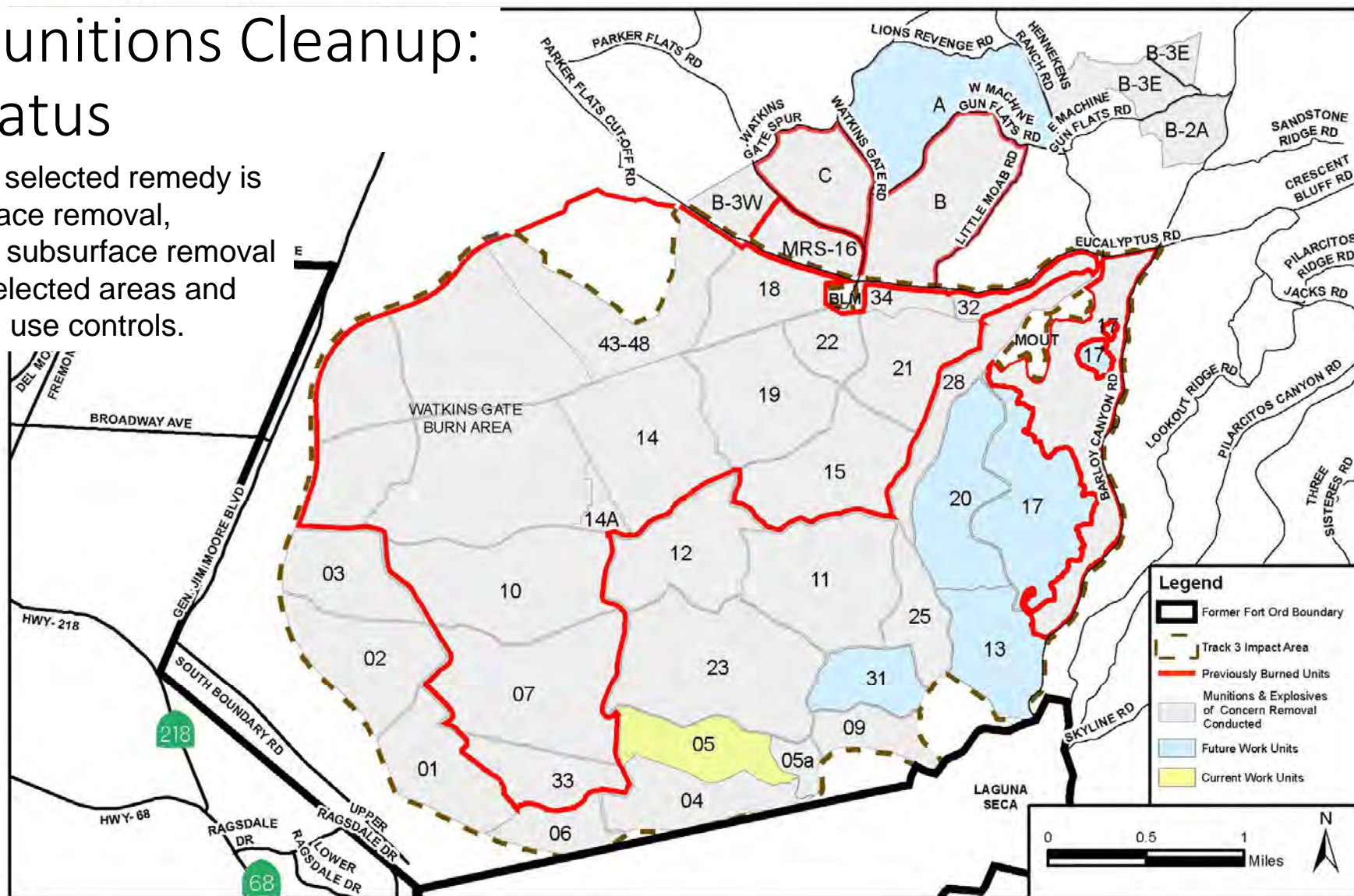


- **DO NOT ENTER** the fenced area.
- **Access is restricted to authorized personnel only.**

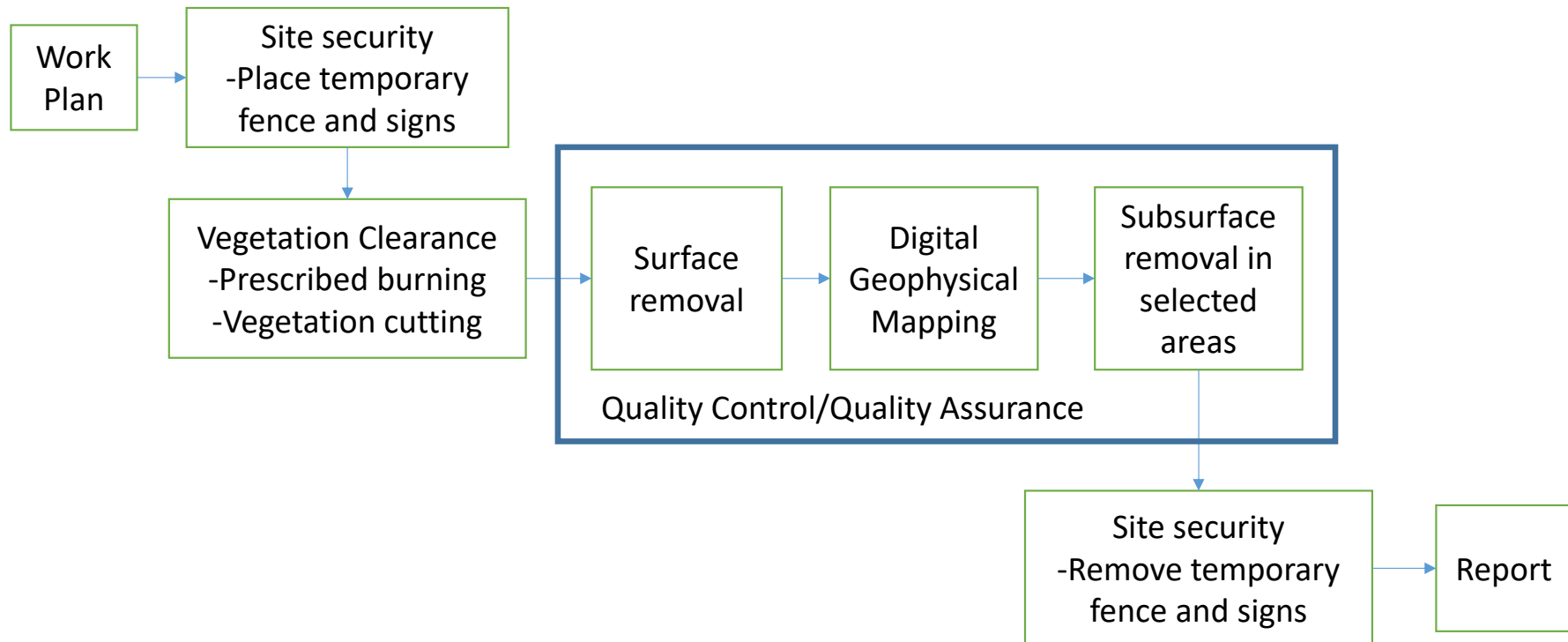


# Munitions Cleanup: Status

The selected remedy is surface removal, with subsurface removal in selected areas and land use controls.



# General Work Flow





## Vegetation Removal



- Manual cutting is used in areas difficult for large equipment to access. Trees are manually trimmed rather than cut at the base. Manual cutting is also employed in sensitive areas such as near wetlands.
- The Army conducts habitat monitoring before the vegetation removal and after munitions cleanup, to check on habitat recovery.







- The cleanup area is gridded and lanes are laid. Trained technicians walk the lanes to look for munitions on the ground surface.
- Objects that are identified as explosive hazard are detonated.



## Munitions Removal



# Digital Geophysical Mapping (DGM)



- At Fort Ord, geophysical data are collected using the “EM-61” electromagnetic sensors.
- The data provides information about how much metal remains in the ground. The information helps to identify the types of safety support that may be needed for future activities that involve ground disturbance.





## Intrusive Investigation of Detected Anomalies





## *Special Status Species of Fort Ord National Monument*



*Monterey Spineflower*



*Black Legless Lizard*



*Blainville's Horned Lizard*



*Monterey (Toro) Manzanita*



*Seaside Bird's Beak*



*Sandmat Manzanita*



*Hooker's Manzanita*



*Monterey Ceanothus*



*California Tiger Salamander*



*Yadon's Piperia*



*Eastwood's goldenbush*



*Coast Wallflower*



*Monterey (Sand) Gilia*

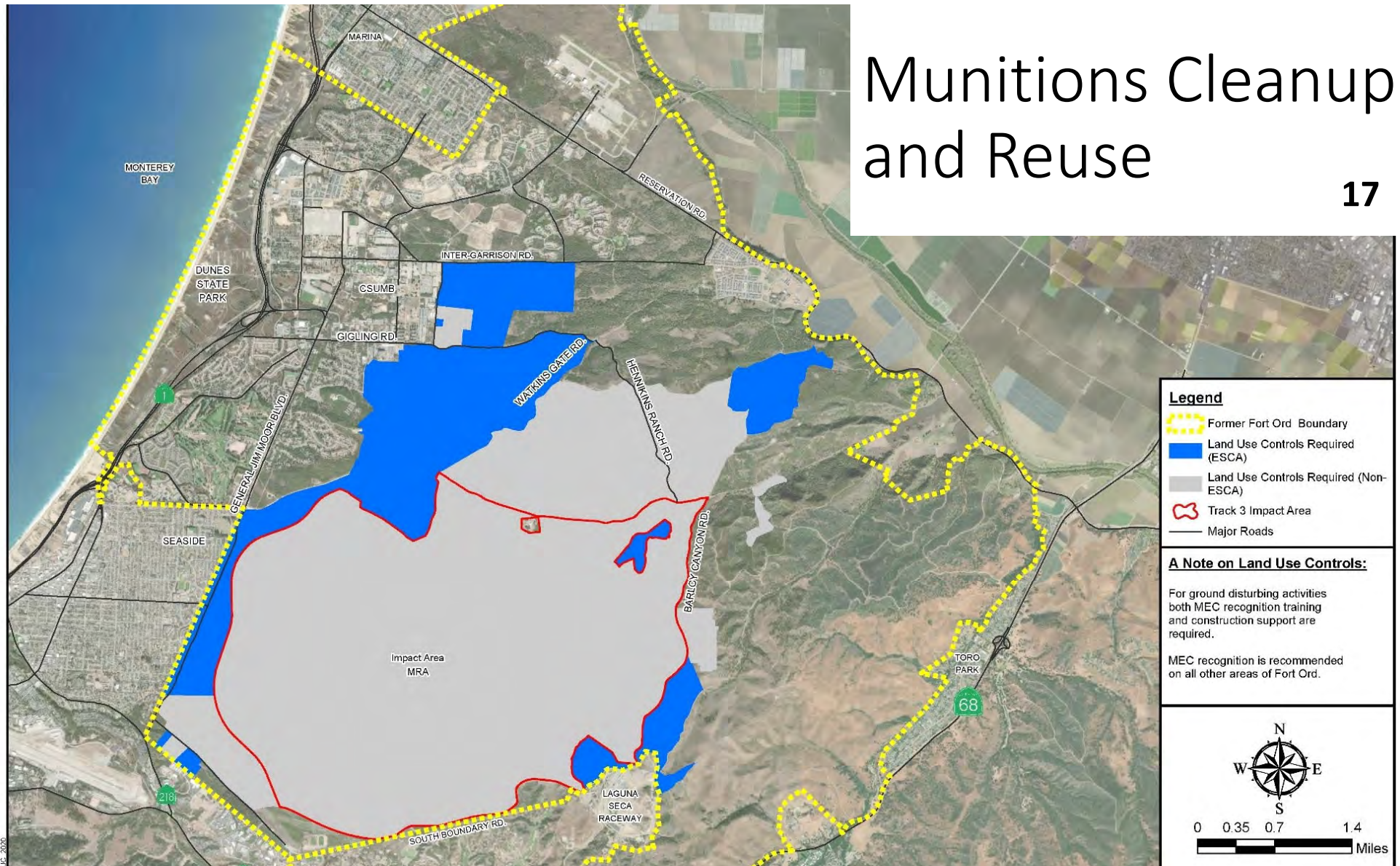


# Munitions Cleanup: Prescribed Burns



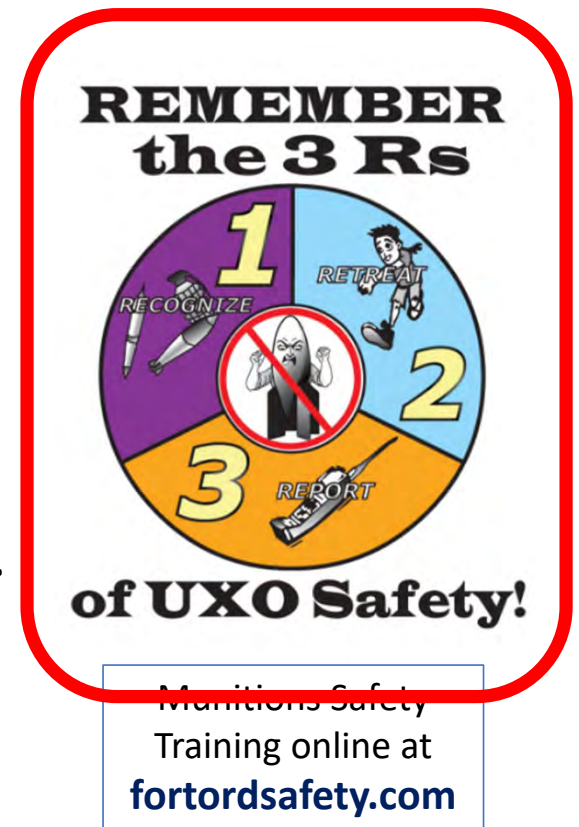
# Munitions Cleanup and Reuse

17



# Munitions-related Land Use Controls

- Selected remedies for some munitions cleanup sites include safety measures to be observed during reuse
  - Munitions Recognition and Safety Training for people who engage in ground-disturbing activities.
  - Munitions safety support for ground-disturbing activities/projects.
- Some sites also include residential use restriction.
- The Impact Area perimeter fence is part of the selected remedy for the Impact Area Munitions Response Area.





Home

# Resources on [www.fortordcleanup.com](http://www.fortordcleanup.com)



## Welcome

This website is hosted by the U.S. Army for information on the environmental cleanup activities and the status of property transfer at the former Fort Ord.

Save the Date for the Next Community Involvement Workshop!

Mark your calendars, the next Community Involvement Workshop is scheduled for July 15th!

[>>Click Here for More Information>>](#)

## Factsheets

### Community Involvement

### Overview Cleanup Reports

(Soil, Water, Munitions, Property Transfer)

#### Reports to Congress

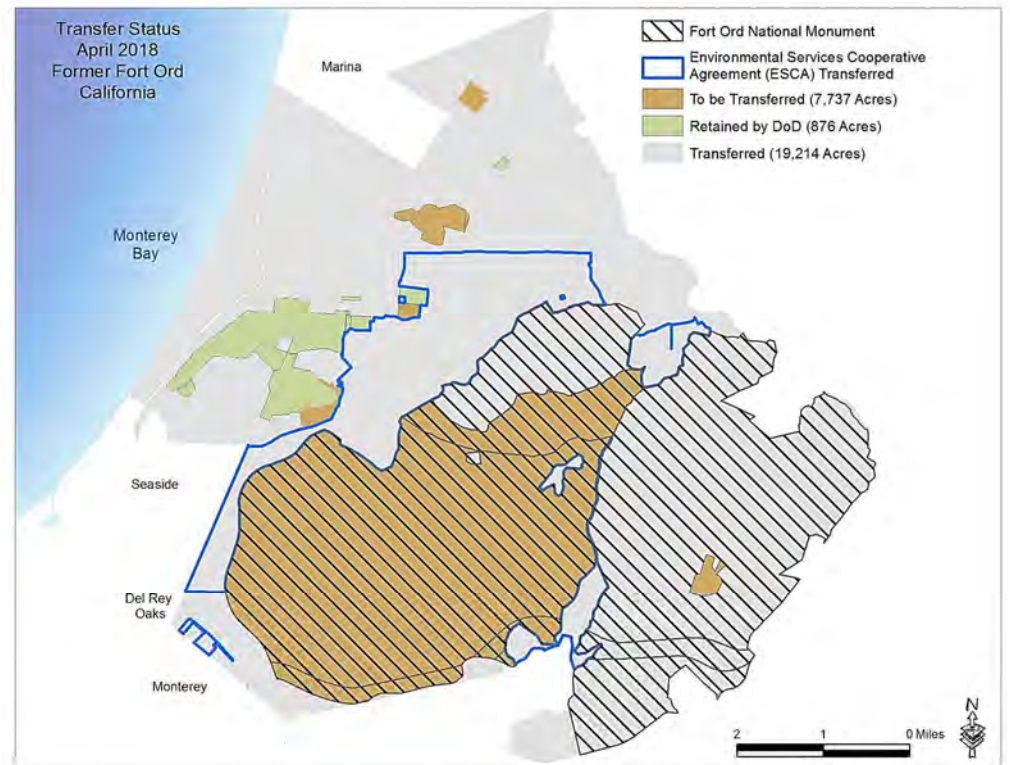
#### Fort Ord BRAC Installation Action Plan

#### 5th Five-Year Review

#### Map: Current property transfer status

#### Fort Ord Annual Reports

(review of last year's significant cleanup actions)



(FS-02-05)



## Property

- [GIS Data Hub \(GIS Downloadable Data\)](#)
- [Interactive Parcel Map](#)
- [Parcel Database Search Tool](#)

# Parcel Information

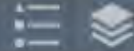
The goal of the Fort Ord Environmental Cleanup program is to clean up the property to support intended reuse selected by the local community and to transfer the property to the designated recipients. Since base closure in 1994, considerable progress has been made toward completing the cleanup. Much of the former Fort Ord property has been transferred. **This page provides some resources for the reuse community so that current and future uses of the transferred properties are consistent with the completed or in-progress cleanup actions.**

- Please check your property deeds for any conditions or activity restrictions.
- Activities that could interfere with completed or on-going environmental cleanup actions include: damaging the groundwater remediation system infrastructure such as pipelines and wells; changing the flow of groundwater by installing new infrastructure such as storm water infiltration area; and developing or using a property for uses that are prohibited in the federal deed.
- Drilling of new water wells in portions of the former Fort Ord is regulated by Monterey County under Monterey County Ordinance 4011.
- Two environmental cleanup sites are fenced and closed to the public. They are: Operable Unit 2 Landfills and the Impact Area Munitions Response Area. Unauthorized persons are considered trespassers and will be reported to federal law enforcement.
- Munitions-related land use controls are required in some transferred properties.

For the continued safe use of the former Fort Ord property, please check and observe conditions and requirements in the property transfer deeds.



# Former Fort Ord Public Parcel Map



Find address or place



Fort Ord  
Dunes  
State Park

22

0.2mi

-121.829 36.654 Degrees

## Fort Ord Parcel: L21

Army Corps of Engineer Parcel Number: L21

Habitat Management Plan Category:

Development

Authority: PBC

Acreage: 1.56

NPL Status: Deleted

Transfer Document: [Click here](#)

[Zoom to](#)



Ocean  
Hall

Inter-Garrison Rd

Engineer Equipment Rd

Ali Pro Ln

254

POWERED BY



## Cleanup Background

### National Priorities List: Why Fort Ord is a Superfund Site.

On February 21, 1990, Fort Ord was added to the National Priorities List because of groundwater contamination. A Federal Facility Agreement, as required under Section 120 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, was signed by the Army with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, California Environmental Protection Agency's Department of Toxic Substances Control, and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board and became effective on November 19, 1990.

### National Priorities List: Partial Deletion of Superfund Site.

Based on successful munitions and soil cleanup efforts, on May 14, 2021, the EPA published a Federal Register notice announcing the deletion of 11,934 acres of the 27,827 acre Fort Ord Superfund site (see map below) from the National Priorities List (NPL), also known as the "Superfund list." This partial deletion:

- only includes a part of the cleanup at a portion of the site where cleanup is finished; and,
- only covers cleanup work for military munitions and soil pollution.

In consultation with the California Environmental Protection Agency's Department of Toxic Substances Control and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency determined these portions met the criteria for site deletion, and that all appropriate response actions have been implemented. EPA policy allows for these cleaned up soil areas to be deleted separately from contaminated water and soil gas below the ground. The Army will continue to clean up the groundwater and soil gas on the 11,934 acres included in this deletion, as well as the remaining 15,893 acres of the site, as these areas are still in the Superfund program and on the NPL. Selected remedies for several sites include land use controls designed to minimize the risks of exposure to prior or current contamination, such as land use restrictions and groundwater well prohibition zones. All land use controls will continue to be implemented and monitored even after the partial deletion. Five-Year Reviews are required when contaminants remain above levels that allow for unrestricted use and unlimited exposure, even if a site has been deleted from the NPL.



Document Search

Please allow a few seconds for the tool to load below...

By KeywordBy Document NumberBy AuthorBy DateAdvanced

Keyword Search  
(search document title)

Record Type  
Reports

Author  
Select authors

Author Organization  
Select author organizations

Date Range  
1/01/1960 to 6/20/2022

Search

**Quick Tips:**

1. Use the Record Type dropdown menu to filter your search to a specific Record Type – for example “Reports”.

2. For a very specific search – combine the different fields to limit your results – for example, you could type in the keyword “burn”, change the record type to “reports” and specify a date range of 1/1/2009 through 10/25/2012 – keep in mind that this will greatly reduce the amount of documents that show in your search results. The less specific information you search on, the more results you will get. Only use a specific search when you are certain of the document information.

Questions about searching the Fort Ord Administrative Record? Contact the Record coordinator at 831-393-9693.

Administrative Record Online



## Reference Documents

This page lists some of the former Fort Ord environmental cleanup documents that are of particular interest to the public. Some of these documents have already been through a formal public review and comment period (if applicable) and/or were released some time ago, but are still frequently requested by the public. These documents can be reviewed online, downloaded to your computer, or viewed in hard copy at the [Fort Ord Administrative Record Office](#).

### Table of Contents

- Land Use Control Implementation Plans
  - Basewide Reports and Studies
  - Habitat Management Plan and related reports
  - Interim Action reports – Munitions Response Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
  - Munitions Response Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study and supporting reports
- Records of Decision
  - Federal Facility Agreement and document schedules
  - Operable Unit Carbon Tetrachloride Plume
- Property Transfer documents
  - Groundwater Monitoring Reports
  - Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPP)

## Reference Documents

Your Comments \*

## Online Comment Form

- ☐ Questions/Comments on Army cleanup in the northern portion of the Fort Ord National Monument, also called BLM Area B
- ☐ Questions/Comments Regarding Prescribed Burns
- ☐ I've included my email. I'd like regular cleanup updates.
- ☐ Other



[www.fortordcleanup.com](http://www.fortordcleanup.com)

1-800-852-9699