

FACTSHEET: Bureau of Land Management Area B Investigation and Evaluation

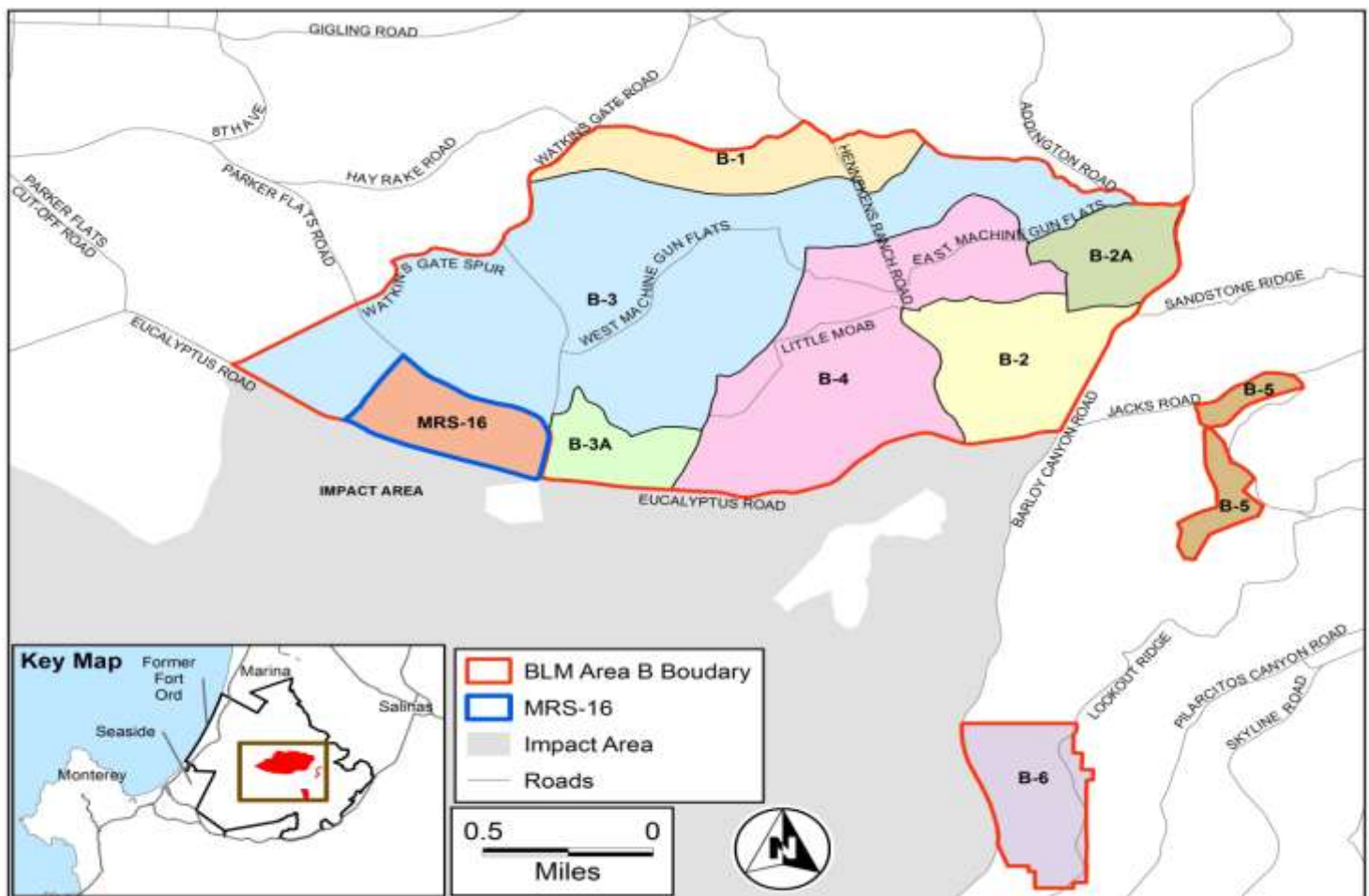
Background

The Fort Ord Public Lands have been managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) since the lands were transferred from the Army in 1996. The property, which includes 86 miles of trails, is extensively used for hiking, bicycling and horseback riding by local residents and tourists. On April 20, 2012 the President designated the Fort Ord Public Lands as the Fort Ord National Monument.

During the long history of Fort Ord as an Army training facility, many areas were used for training involving military munitions and explosives. The training often resulted in munitions and explosives of concern or MEC remaining on those areas. The Army has conducted investigation, sampling, and removal of MEC within the transferred BLM lands.

Although visitors who comply with posted restrictions and remain on designated trails on the Fort Ord National Monument are safe from munition risk, the Army is conducting a comprehensive evaluation of BLM Area B in terms of explosives safety to complete the Superfund process at Fort Ord. This evaluation also includes the final review of MRS-16, where MEC removals were conducted following a prescribed burn in 2006.

Where is BLM Area B?



Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study (RI/FS) for BLM Area B and MRS -16:

Even when a cleanup has already been completed (such as MRS-16), MEC detection may not have been 100% so a potential for MEC to remain in the site must still be considered.

Under the Superfund cleanup process, an RI/FS is prepared to evaluate potential contamination problems, assess risks from the contamination, and evaluate different ways to reduce/manage the risks. The RI/FS for BLM Area B and MRS-16:

- Reviews previous investigations which included sampling and removal actions.
- Assesses risks associated with MEC that may be present.
- Evaluates cleanup alternatives to manage risks and support future designated use of the property as a habitat reserve with public access as a National Monument managed by BLM.

The RI/FS identifies the following preferred alternatives:

-Alternative 2, Land Use Controls, for sub-areas B-1, B-2, B-3A, B-4, B-5, B-6 and MRS-16.
-Alternative 3, Technology-aided Surface MEC Remediation, Subsurface MEC Remediation in Selected Areas, and Land Use Controls, for sub-areas B-2A and B-3.

The goal of the RI/FS is to support the designated use of the property as a habitat reserve with public access as a part of the Fort Ord National Monument.

Next Steps:

Draft RI/FS report is available for public review in December 2013-January 2014. The Army welcomes comments and input from the community.

During the development and review of the RI/FS, public access to the National Monument lands will not be affected.

After the RI/FS is finalized; the final recommendation will be summarized in a Proposed Plan. There will be an opportunity for the public to comment on the Proposed Plan.

Public comments will be considered before any cleanup decision is made.

Documents will be made available at www.fortordcleanup.com.

Help Keep Our Community Safe:

You can help the Army protect the people in your community from risks of MEC by observing the access restrictions on the former Fort Ord property and knowing the 3Rs of MEC safety:

- Recognize – when you may have encountered a munitions item.
- Retreat – do not touch, move or disturb it, but carefully leave the area.
- Report – call 911.



To Learn More About the Fort Ord Munitions Response Program:

U.S. Army Fort Ord Base Realignment and Closure Office, Community Relations Office
(831) 393-1284, Melissa.M.Broadston.ctr@mail.mil

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9: Lewis Mitani (415) 972-3032, Mitani.Lewis@epa.gov

California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control: Ed Walker,
(916) 255-4988, Ed.Walker@dtsc.ca.gov

Para obtener una copia en Espanol contacte 831-393-1284.