

Closing the Loop

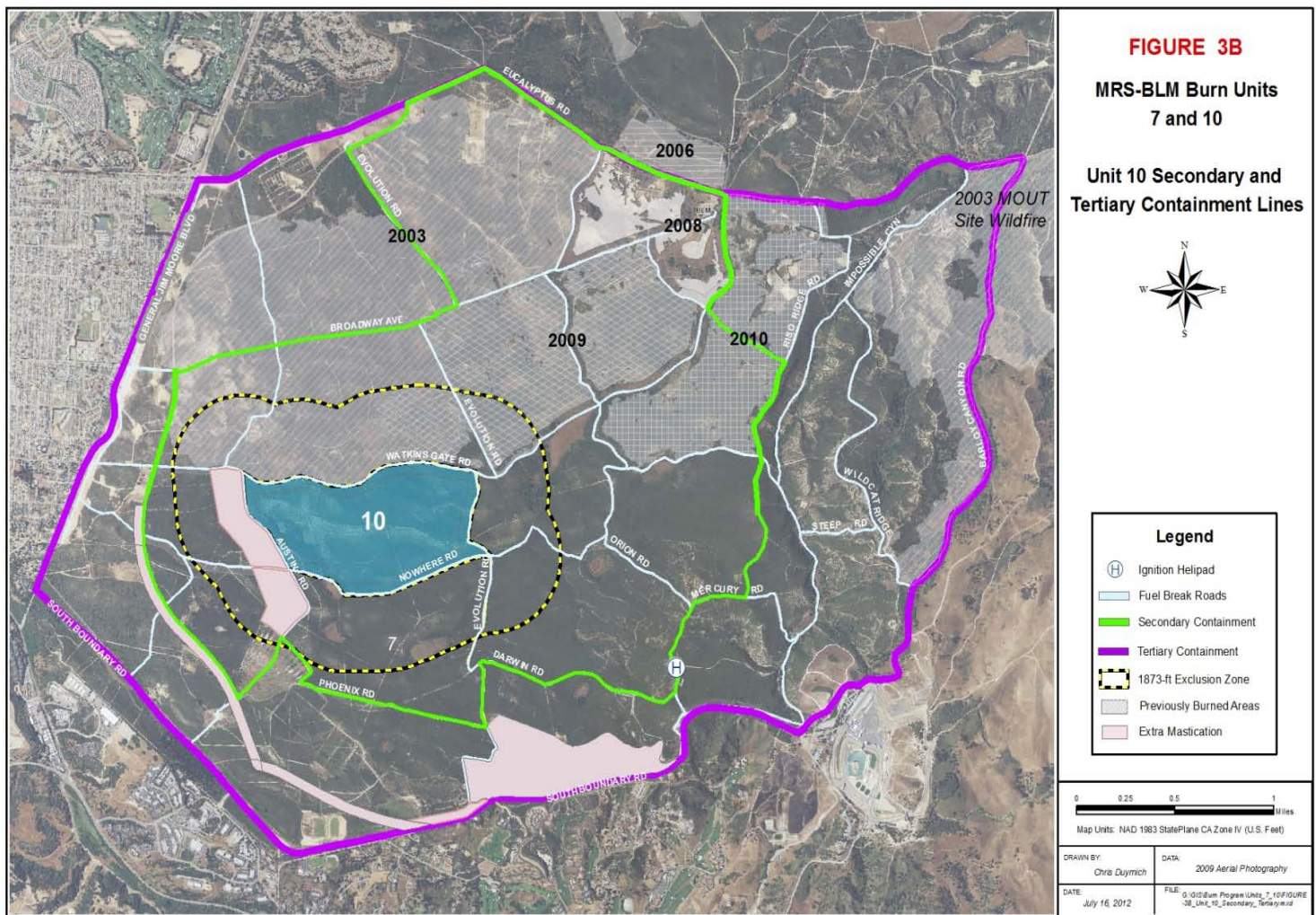
There were several comments and questions made during the Community Involvement Mobile Workshop held Saturday, February 23, 2013.

Questions from the Open House:

1. **Does the ordnance detonate when the Army conducts prescribed burns?** Some ordnance detonates during prescribed burns. The Department of Defense calculates the maximum distance that munitions fragments could travel after detonation for all types of munitions. For example, Burn Unit 10 was proposed for a prescribed burn in 2012 and the Munition with the Greatest Fragmentation Distance (MGFD) in Unit 10 is the 75mm MK1 high explosive projectile with a fragmentation distance of 1,873 feet. Therefore, the exclusion zone during the prescribed burn is 1,873 feet from the boundary of Unit 10.

No private or public buildings, public roads, or open trails are inside this very conservative exclusion zone. Few munitions detonate by the prescribed burns. The map below shows the exclusion zone for Unit 10.

2. **Why aren't local people trained/hired for the Army's cleanup?** The Army's Fort Ord cleanup program creates direct



employment equivalent to 48 full-time workers. Most of the Army's cleanup work at the former Fort Ord is accomplished through six contractors: Innovative Technical Solutions Incorporated, Ahtna Engineering, Burleson, Tetra Tech, Hydrogeologic Inc, and Chenega Corporation. Because the Fort Ord Cleanup program is a well-established program the number of new openings each year is small.

Comments and remarks from participants on comment cards:

- No. No. No. [to the] Monterey Downs Horse Track
- No Monterey Downs on Fort Ord property
- Comment regarding groundwater treatment bus stop: Nice to have the experts in the room to talk after the bus tour and presentations
- General comment: Thank you
- Comment regarding Site 39 and other sites: Need better explanation for removal of oak trees than “ordnance in roots.” Maybe some of that could be true, but not entirely. *Fort Ord Reuse Authority Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement remediation Program Response: Overall impacts to the environment are minimized to the extent possible during munitions response field activities. Trees are preserved whenever possible; however, tree removal is occasionally necessary and conducted only during field activities to investigate for munitions that potentially remain in the subsurface. In addition, data collected during munitions response field activities in the vicinity of larger diameter trees are analyzed to evaluate the potential for munitions to remain beneath the trees. Based on this data evaluation, removal of larger diameter trees is conducted only where necessary to maximize the effectiveness of detection equipment for munitions recovery. For additional information on one of the processes that FORA has implemented for minimizing the impacts to the environment, please see the FORA letter addressed to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), and the U.S. Army Fort Ord Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Environmental Coordinator, dated October 10, 2012 (Fort Ord Administrative Record No. ESCA-0133H).*
- Comment regarding written material for tours: Explanation captions are needed for photos appearing on handouts to visitors. With that exception, the material is helpful and well-presented. *Army response: Captions or notes will be added to the presentation, as appropriate, for materials developed for the next Community Involvement Mobile Workshop on July 13, 2013. This suggestion has also been forwarded to ESCA.*
- Comment regarding printed material: Inclusion of a glossary for for definition of NPL, ACL, OUCTP, etc—or define where the initials appear on the sheets. Groundwater definition sheets are helpful. *Army response: The groundwater overview handout included a glossary and definitions. While the overview handout was provided in the folder for the bus tour presentation, copies were not available at the groundwater poster table. We will include this handout at the poster station during future Community Involvement Mobile Workshops.*

Remarks noted on section of comment card “Was this mobile workshop helpful?”:

- Excellent combination – excellent presentation
- Always learn something new
- Thanks, many tours attended, this one was paced too slow
- Would love to hear “the other side” of cleanup topics –this felt was pretty one-sided
- Would like to hear about future use and plans for opening areas
- Well done
- Keep doing this type [of event]
- Good bus transportation with bathrooms available