

# THE FORA ESCA REMEDIATION PROGRAM

## *the future of Fort Ord*



## *Why A Proposed Plan And What Does It Mean?*

**A** Proposed Plan for Group 3 Del Rey Oaks/Monterey, Laguna Seca Parking, and Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT) Site Munitions Response Areas (MRA) will be released in 2011. The remedy selection process requires community input on the Proposed Plan. This brief overview will help with gaining a better understanding of the Proposed Plan.

### **Background**

After investigation activities at a site have been conducted, a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) Report is issued documenting the findings and identifying and evaluating options to best address the contamination at the site. A Proposed Plan is then developed explaining the merits of each remedy option. The objective of the Proposed Plan

is to communicate the remedy options for a site, including the Preferred Remedial Alternative (i.e. "Preferred Alternative"). The Proposed Plan summarizes each option explaining its ability to mitigate short and long-term risk, cost effectiveness, and implementability. The Preferred Alternative is identified and described in detail.

### **Does the public have a role in the Proposed Plan?**

Absolutely. Public review and comment on the Proposed Plan is integral to remedy selection. Proposed remedial alternatives at Superfund sites must be evaluated under the Nine Criteria as specified in Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) National Contingency Plan (NCP). Community Acceptance is one of the nine criteria for remedy evaluation. The next section provides details on the public's role.

*continued on pg. 2*



# Upcoming Meetings and Events

## June

25th: Army Open House and Bus Tour

## August

10th: Army Community Involvement Workshop  
11th: Technical Review Committee

## October

TBD: Tentative Group 3 Proposed Plan Meeting

## Why A Proposed Plan...

*continued from Cover Story*

### What are the Nine Criteria?

Remedial alternatives are evaluated and compared to one another under the Nine Criteria (see below).

#### Threshold Criteria

1. Overall protection of human health and the environment
2. Compliance with applicable or relevant and appropriate standards (such as state laws)

#### Primary Balancing Criteria

3. Long-term effectiveness and permanence
4. Reduction of toxicity, mobility, or volume
5. Short-term effectiveness
6. Implementability
7. Cost

#### Modifying Criteria

8. State acceptance
9. Community acceptance

To be eligible for selection each remedial option is required to meet the Threshold Criteria. The Primary Balancing Criteria and Modifying Criteria are used to weigh major trade-offs among the alternatives.

### Participating in the Public Process

Notice of the Proposed Plan's release will appear in the Monterey Herald and the Salinas Californian, briefly summarizing the plan and providing information on obtaining a copy and submitting comments. A review and comment period of 30 days will begin. During that time the public has the opportunity to submit written comments on the Proposed Plan. A public meeting will be held during the review period to provide an overview of the Proposed Plan and allow the public an opportunity to comment verbally. Verbal comments will be recorded and transcribed by a court reporter.

### What should I comment on?

The Proposed Plan presents the Preferred Alternative and the other remedy options that were evaluated for each site. The public's role is to read the Proposed Plan and provide opinions and/or concerns on the remedial options, including the Preferred Alternative.

### What happens after I have submitted comments?

Once the comment period has ended, community input will be taken into consideration by the Army when making the final remedy selection. A Record of Decision will be issued formally documenting the final remedy. Written and verbal comments, received during the review period will be summarized in a responsiveness summary included in the Record of Decision.

### Who approves/selects the final remedy?

The Army, after community input, selects the final remedy. EPA, in consultation with the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) concurs with the remedy. Under the ESCA, FORA then implements the selected remedy on behalf of the Army.

### If the Army has already transferred the land to FORA, why is the Army proposing and selecting the remedy?

FORA, under the terms of the ESCA, is tasked with the responsibility of munitions remediation on the ESCA parcels. However, the Army, as the lead Federal Agency for the former Fort Ord, is still responsible for making final decisions on cleanup remedies.

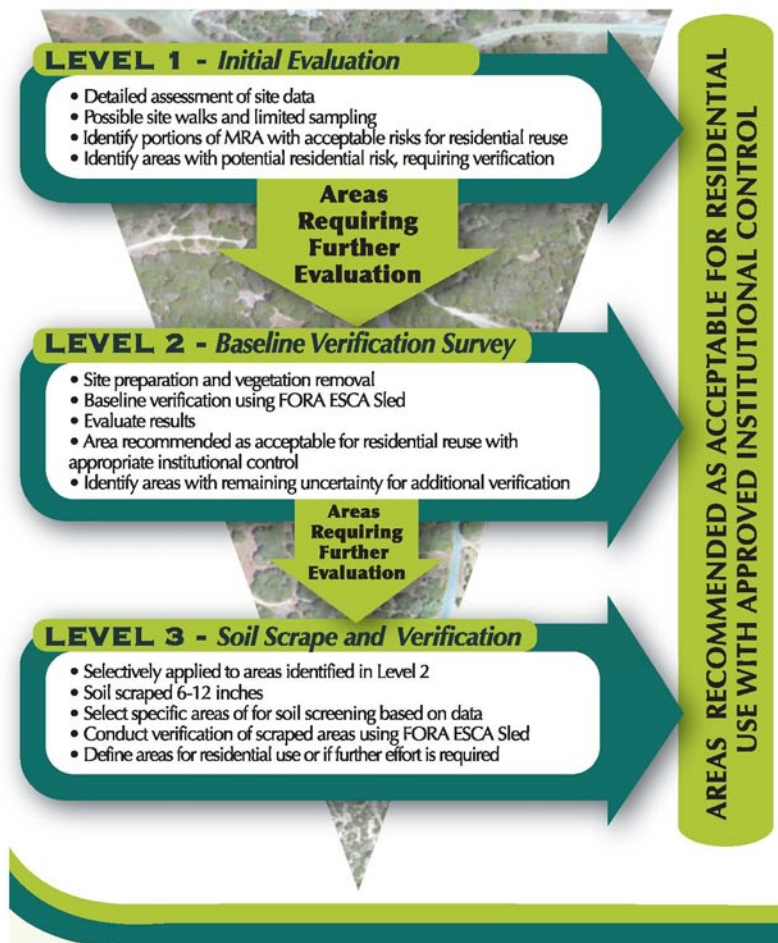
### After the Proposed Plan

Once the remedy has been selected, it is documented in the Record of Decision and a notice of availability is published in local newspapers and the selected remedy is implemented. During this stage FORA will continue to provide the public with updates on the progress of remedy implementation. ☞

# Residential Quality Assurance Process Continues

In 2009, FORA began the Residential Quality Assurance (RQA) Pilot Study in Seaside MRA and California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB) Off-Campus MRA. The RQA Pilot Study is being conducted to establish a verification process for recommending future residential land use acceptability on the former Fort Ord based on a data-driven approach. Land use decisions are made by the Jurisdictions independent of the ESCA cleanup process. The verification process, or RQA Process, consists of three levels as illustrated in the accompanying flowchart.

In 2011, FORA began an implementation phase of the RQA Pilot Study to evaluate the RQA Process. Level 1 was recently completed for the Seaside MRA. The Seaside MRA totals 423 acres. Proposed future residential land use totals 276 acres. Based on Level 1, 246 acres were recommended as acceptable for future residential land use—with appropriate institutional controls. The remaining future residential land use areas (30 acres) were recommended for further verification in Level 2. In Level 2, data collection will be conducted in the 30 acres to identify additional acreage that may be recommended as acceptable for future residential land use—with appropriate institutional controls. Any remaining acreage requiring further verification will proceed to Level 3 for additional data collection. ☞



## ESCA RP Activities Update

### Seaside MRA

RQA fieldwork began in May 2011. Once completed, the findings of the investigation and evaluation of remedial alternatives will be documented in the Group 1 RI/FS Report.

### Parker Flats MRA

Remedial investigation fieldwork is complete in the Parker Flats MRA. To date over 2,000 munitions items have been recovered. RQA fieldwork is scheduled to begin in August 2011. Once completed, the findings of the investigation and evaluation of the remedial alternatives will be documented in the Group 1 RI/FS Report.

### Future East Garrison MRA

The Final Group 4 RI/FS Work Plan for the Future East Garrison MRA was approved in October 2010. Additional data collection and investigation, as identified in the Work Plan, is currently underway in the Habitat Reserve Areas of the Future East Garrison MRA. Biological monitoring of vegetation and aquatic features occurred prior to the start of fieldwork and will continue throughout the year in accordance with the Fort Ord Installation Wide Multi-Species Habitat Management Plan (HMP) and applicable Biological Opinions. To date, practice Stokes Mortars, hand and rifle grenades, projectiles, and pyrotechnics have been recovered in these portions of the Future East Garrison MRA. For the safety of workers and the public, this area is closed.

### Interim Action Ranges MRA

A Final Phase II Interim Action Work Plan for the Interim Action Ranges MRA was approved in May 2011. The first stage of the remedial action consisting of a design study, as identified in the Work Plan, is currently underway in the Habitat Reserve Areas of the Interim Action Ranges MRA. The process of recovering munitions in these portions of the Interim Action Ranges MRA has not yet begun. Focused biological monitoring of vegetation occurred prior to the start of fieldwork to support the planned munitions fieldwork and will continue throughout the year in accordance with the HMP and applicable Biological Opinions. ☞



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To find out more about the Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement (ESCA), or to request that you be added to our database, please send an email to [esca@fora.org](mailto:esca@fora.org) or visit the ESCA website at [www.fora-esca-rp.com](http://www.fora-esca-rp.com)



## 2011 Project Document Schedule

- Draft Final Phase II Interim Action Work Plan, Interim Action Ranges MRA  
*Released: March 9, 2011*
- Final Phase II Interim Action Work Plan, Interim Action Ranges MRA  
*Released: May 24, 2011*
- Final Group 3 RI/FS Report, Del Rey Oaks/Monterey, Laguna Seca Parking, Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT) Site MRAs  
*Targeted Release: July 2011*
- Group 3 Proposed Plan, Del Rey Oaks/Monterey, Laguna Seca Parking, Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT) Site MRAs  
*Targeted Release: October 2011*
- Final Technical Information Paper, Phase II Seaside MRA Outside Roadway Alignment and Utility Corridor  
*Released: March 25, 2011*
- Draft Technical Information Paper, Phase II Parker Flats MRA  
*Targeted Release: July 2011*
- Draft Final Technical Information Paper, Phase II Parker Flats MRA  
*Targeted Release: October 2011*
- Draft Final Group 2 RI/FS Report, CSUMB Off-Campus MRA  
*Targeted Release: September 2011*
- Final Group 2 RI/FS Report, CSUMB Off-Campus MRA  
*Targeted Release: November 2011*

FORA ESCA RP documents can be viewed or downloaded at [www.fora-esca-rp.com](http://www.fora-esca-rp.com) or the BRAC Office, Building 4463 Gigling Road, Ord Military Community. For viewing hours contact the Administrative Record coordinator at (831) 393-9186.

\* The above document timeframes are based upon agency work schedules and therefore subject to change. For the most current information please contact FORA's ESCA hotline at (831) 883-3506 or send an email to [esca@fora.org](mailto:esca@fora.org).

### FORA ESCA Remediation Program Team



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Reuse  
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