

2008 Project Document Schedule

Documents in Review:

- Draft Final Community Involvement and Outreach Program (CIOP) Plan (Targeted comment period: late April – late May)
- Draft Group 1 Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study (RIFS) Work Plan (Targeted comment period: early May – early June)
- Draft Final Summary of Existing Data Report (SEDR) (Target Comment period: early May – early June)

Upcoming Documents:

- Draft Final Group 1 RI/FS Work Plan (Targeted comment period: late July – late August)
- Draft Group 2 RI/FS Work Plan (Targeted comment period: late June – late July)
- Draft Final Group 2 RI/FS Work Plan (Targeted comment period: mid-September – mid-October)
- Draft Group 2 RI/FS Report (Targeted comment period: early November – early January 2009)

*The above document timeframes are based upon current schedules and are subject to change.

For the most current information please call FORA's ESCA hotline at (831) 883-3506 or send an email to esca@fora.org

Blake Russell: An Olympian In Our Midst?

Blake Russell, a world class marathoner, is also actively involved with the FORA ESCA Users Group. The group, which meets monthly, discusses ways to maintain public access to trails and roadways while the ESCA remediation work is underway. Currently, Blake is training for the 2008 Olympics on the trails and roadways of the former Fort Ord. She became acquainted with the former military base through her coach, Bob Sevene, a retired Army officer. Bob was once stationed on Fort Ord and had been raving about the endless trails and perfect weather. Blake did her final training for the 2004 Olympic Trials at Fort Ord.

The 2008 Olympic Trials are not far off and Blake's goal is to finish in the top three—ensuring her a spot on the team and a trip to China. She believes that training on the former Fort

Ord has increased her endurance and strength as a marathoner. Blake knows that training on Fort Ord has helped to make her stronger – “Fort Ord is definitely hilly, so I know I have gotten really strong physically and mentally from constantly climbing hills.” FORA asked Blake how she felt about the upcoming remediation work and if there were things that could be done to

ensure that cleanup impacts access as little as possible.

“When FORA starts working on the trails, I will lose one of my favorite training loops, but luckily there are plenty of other places to run. Being involved with the FORA Users Group, I can vouch for the fact that FORA is trying to accommodate everyone by increasing access areas and putting out as much information as possible at these access points and on their website. The Fort Ord area really offers something for everyone from bird watching to mountain biking. My hope is that the community will realize just how valuable this piece of land is for recreation and well-being and want to preserve this open space as long as possible.”

FORA's goal is to see that the remediation work proceeds as expeditiously as possible allowing for the re-opening of more popular trails off of Inter-Garrison Road in Marina. So when you see a woman running along the trails with what seems like effortless grace, it's probably Blake as she prepares for the upcoming Olympic Trials. Blake, we wish you well!



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VICTAH SAILOR

Project Update: Seaside MRA

Fieldwork in the Seaside MRA continues to make significant progress. The focus of the MEC remediation effort is on the Special Case Areas (SCAs) which are areas where the Army did not complete all remediation activities and require additional effort to gain site closure from the regulatory agencies. Major activities in these areas include visual surface inspection for MEC items, brush removal, soil scraping, site preparation, surveying, and biological investigations. Traffic signs were placed along General Jim Moore Boulevard informing motorists of possible delays associated with this activity. As of March 31, 2008, the following has been accomplished at the Seaside MRA:

- Fence Replacement: initial 1,500 linear feet – 15% complete
- SCA Brush Removal: 30 acres – 95% complete
- SCA Soil Scraping: 55,000 yards – 75% complete
- Demolition Activities: asphalt removal, building demolition, debris removal – 90% complete

The FORA ESCA Team contractors, LFR and Weston, have begun testing the accuracy of equipment that will be used to detect MEC. This testing process will help experts determine that the detection tools are performing at a level that clarifies equipment suitability for the prescribed task.

Site preparation and survey activities have uncovered some remnant munitions and munitions debris. In all instances the FORA ESCA cleanup Team enacted required safety procedures and the Army was informed and items were removed and disposed of safely. All discovered items consisted of munitions debris, fragments, or practice items that contained no explosive material.

FORA Planning a Community Workshop

In June, FORA will be holding a Community Workshop designed to give the public a closer, more detailed look at the ESCA Remediation Program. FORA will be providing information on work that has been completed, document schedules, and upcoming field work. A main feature of the workshop will be to listen and respond to community input.

FORA plans to make these workshops a regular feature of the ESCA Remediation Program. More information on the Community Workshop will be available on the FORA website or by calling the ESCA hotline at 831-883-3506.

Questions & Answers

Our comprehensive outreach program is committed to responding to the concerns of the community. Beginning with this newsletter, we will regularly feature a brief Q & A column. Please pose your questions via our dedicated ESCA hotline or email address. We look forward to hearing from you!

Q: Will there be traffic delays or road closures as a result of the work being done along General Jim Moore Boulevard, Eucalyptus Road, and Coe Avenue?

A: There may be some traffic delays or road closures, but FORA expects to keep them to a minimum. If road closures are required for safety reasons related to MEC field activity, they will only occur between 9 AM and 3 PM Monday through Friday. No work requiring road closures will occur during commute times or weekends. Signs have been placed along General Jim Moore Boulevard to alert drivers that there is a possibility that road closures and/or delays might occur during these times.

Q: Will FORA use burning as a method for brush removal?

A: FORA must comply with habitat preservation requirements for brush removal, but will investigate all methods for brush/vegetation removal before enacting the work. In evaluating alternatives FORA will consult with EPA, DTSC, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). Due to the nature of some of the plant life on the former Fort Ord the FWS may require the burning of some acreage in order for certain species to regenerate properly. FORA will keep the community updated as all alternatives are considered.

Q: Will there be a lot of noise associated with the work along General Jim Moore Boulevard and Eucalyptus Road?

A: As with any construction activity there will be some noise. The field work crews will be on the property at 7:00 a.m. however work will begin at 8:00 a.m. and end at 5:00 p.m.



Parker Flats and Seaside Phase Two Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study Work Plan

The Group 1 Munitions Response Area (MRA) Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) Work Plan details the Seaside and Parker Flats MRA munitions and explosives of concern (MEC) work program. This overview focuses on the Phase Two Parker Flats work plan features. Phase One was performed by the Army. The objectives of the Group 1 MRA RI/FS Work Plan are to outline the scope, timing, and schedule of field work and RI/FS support documentation for Phase Two. To achieve this, the work plan includes the following:

- A description of the nature and extent of MEC contamination.
- Potential receptors and routes of exposure.
- The process and approach to identify data gaps.
- Additional data collection methodologies.
- The process for developing cleanup alternatives.
- An RI/FS development description.

FORA will complete the Army's removal actions in specific Parker Flats locations.

The ESCA Remediation Program Team (comprised of LFR, Inc (LFR), Weston Solutions, Inc. (Weston), and Westcliffe Engineers, Inc. (Westcliffe) will address the following to achieve the above:

- Is there sufficient data to fully evaluate explosive safety risks?
- The quality, accuracy and sufficiency of existing data.
- Can the data be used to support completion of an explosive safety risk assessment and feasibility study?

- Remedial action alternatives.
- Which alternative(s) meets the nine CERCLA criteria for remedy selection making it acceptable to deal with explosive safety risks?

During Phase One activities the Army collected initial information on both the nature and extent of MEC in portions of Parker Flats. FORA will complete further data collection including:

- Data to fill any existing gaps.
- Data to support the MEC remedial investigation.
- Data quality checks to assess the potential residual risk posed by undetected MEC.

Further investigation and data collection (as outlined above) must occur before initiating remedial work. FORA plans to release the first draft of the Group 1 RI/FS Work Plan in early May, comments will be due in early June. Comments will be reviewed, incorporated, and responded to as appropriate. In late-July, FORA will then release the Draft Final Group 1 RI/FS Work Plan, setting late-August for comment deadline. Once the work plan is approved by the agencies, the FORA ESCA Remediation Program Team will initiate the RI/FS phase. The first draft document of that phase, the RI/FS report will be released by FORA in early 2009.

Updates on field tasks executed in support of the P1 Group RI/FS activities will be presented at future Community Involvement Workshops and in Quarterly Newsletters and Technical Fact Sheets.

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April 2008 • Volume 2, No. 2

