

**Fort Ord Environmental Cleanup  
FACT SHEET  
Community Relations**

This fact sheet describes the elements of the community relations program for the environmental cleanup of the former Fort Ord. Community relations include making information available to the community, monitoring the effectiveness of outreach programs, and the facilitation of two-way communications where community members can learn about the cleanup and share their ideas and concerns with cleanup officials. Other community relations activities include conducting interviews, arranging meetings and information sessions, designing displays and coordinating tours. Community relations in the environmental cleanup of the former Fort Ord is established by the Department of the Army, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and the California Environmental Protection Agency's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) are outlined in the Fort Ord Community Relations Plan (CRP).

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD**

The administrative record is established and maintained as a collection of decision documents and supporting documents relating to the cleanup project. The Fort Ord administrative record currently contains more than 5,000 documents. The documents are maintained to provide access for all interested parties. The record is located in Room 101, Building 4463, Gigling Road, Ord Military Community (former Fort Ord), CA.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Involving the community in the cleanup of the former Fort Ord is accomplished through several outreach activities aimed at establishing and sustaining two-way communication between the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT) and members of the local community. Participants include, but are not limited to: interested individuals, political and civic leaders, special interest groups, local agencies, and ethnic and religious organizations.

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN (CRP)**

A CRP has been published in accordance with USEPA and California Department of Toxic Substance Control guidance. The purpose of the CRP is to outline the processes and procedures used to identify community interests and concerns in the Fort Ord environmental cleanup and document the program developed to address those interests and concerns. The CRP is maintained in the administrative record and copies are available in the information repositories. The CRP is updated annually or as necessary. The last update was published November 2001.

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS STAFF**

The Fort Ord community relations staff assists the Presidio of Monterey, Directorate of Environmental and Natural Resources Management staff and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers staff to develop and maintain information exchange mediums to provide two-way communication with the community concerning the cleanup. The community relations staff is located in Room 101, Building 4463, Gigling Road, Ord Military Community (former Fort Ord), CA. The office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Telephone (831) 393-1284, Facsimile (831) 393-9188, E-mail [Melissa.Hlebasko@monterey.army.mil](mailto:Melissa.Hlebasko@monterey.army.mil).

The mailing address is Presidio of Monterey, Environmental and Natural Resources Management, Community Relations, P.O Box 5004, Monterey, CA 93944-5004.

## **FACT SHEETS**

Fact sheets are brief reports summarizing current or proposed activities of the cleanup program which present technical and management information in a clear understandable format. Fact sheets may be released when new information is available or after the completion of a final design or plan. They are distributed at public meetings, community events, on the web site, via e-mail, and postal delivery to interested parties who have requested general or specific information. To request to be on the community relations mailing list and receive fact sheets and other related material, write to Environmental and Natural Resources Management, Community Relations, P.O. Box 5004, Monterey, CA 93944-5004, or call (831) 393-1284.

## **INFORMATION REPOSITORIES**

Cleanup documents are maintained in public information repositories within the Seaside and California State University at Monterey Bay Libraries. In addition, many documents are also available on line at <http://wwwFortOrdCleanup.com/adminrecord>.

### **Seaside County Library**

550 Harcourt Ave.  
Seaside, CA 93955 Phone: (831) 899-2537

### **CSUMB Library Learning Center**

Building 12, Third Street  
100 Campus Center  
Seaside, CA 93955 Phone: (831) 582-3733

## **INTERVIEWS AND SURVEYS**

Interviews and surveys are conducted by the community relations staff within affected communities to support the Community Relations Plan. Interviews assist the community relations staff to maintain a current assessment of the interest of community members in cleanup activities. To schedule an interview, contact a member of the community relations staff at (831) 393-1284.

## **FORT ORD CLEANUP NEWSLETTER**

The Fort Ord Environmental Newsletter is published quarterly and mailed to more than 23,000 local residents, and 2,000 students and teachers, contractors and others. The newsletter contains articles describing current cleanup activities, future plans, community involvement, and safety information. To receive the newsletter, write to Environmental and Natural Resources Management, Community Relations, P.O. Box 5004, Monterey, CA 93944-5004, or call (831) 393-1284.

## **NOTICES AND ADVERTISEMENTS**

**Public notices** are published by the Army the *Salinas Californian* and the *Monterey Herald* newspapers. These notices describe a selected or intended course of action. Notices are also published to announce the public comment period for proposed plans, findings of suitability to transfer property, and the location of the administrative record and information repositories.

**Advertisements** are published in the *Salinas Californian* and the *Monterey Herald* and other local newspapers to announce public meetings, information sessions, open houses, and tours as well as temporary road closures or other cleanup activities that may impact the community.

## POINTS OF CONTACT

Members of the Army Installation staff, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers staff and others specialists are designated as community points of contact for specific aspects of the cleanup. Some of the points of contact are listed below:

**Environmental Cleanup:** Gail Youngblood, (831) 242-7924, E-mail: [Gail.Youngblood@monterey.army.mil](mailto:Gail.Youngblood@monterey.army.mil)

**Ordnance and Explosives:** Lyle Shurtleff (831) 242-7919, E-mail: [Lyle.Shurtleff@monterey.army.mil](mailto:Lyle.Shurtleff@monterey.army.mil)

**Habitat and Natural Resources:** William Collins, (831) 242-7920, E-mail: [William.Collins@monterey.army.mil](mailto:William.Collins@monterey.army.mil)

**Community Relations:** Melissa Hlebasko, (831) 393-1284, E-mail: [Melissa.Hlebasko@monterey.army.mil](mailto:Melissa.Hlebasko@monterey.army.mil)

**Administrative Record / Information Repository:** Mary Bakan, (831) 393-9186, E-mail - [adminrecord@redshift.com](mailto:adminrecord@redshift.com)

## PRESENTATIONS AND TOURS

Safety and progress presentations and tours of cleanup activities are conducted for community leaders, groups, media, organizations, and agencies with an interest in one or more aspects of the cleanup.

**Tours** have been provided for the Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA), National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB), local schools, community groups and the media. To request a tour of a cleanup site or facility, contact the community relations staff.

**Presentations** have been provided to the faculty and students of CSUMB and Monterey Peninsula College as well as local chapters of the Sierra Club, Kiwanis Club, and Rotary Club. Ordnance and Explosives safety presentations are offered to local elementary and middle schools, government agencies, public service providers, and other interested organizations. Video tapes describing the environmental cleanup and the cleanup of ordnance and explosives on the former Fort Ord are available through the community relations office.

## CURRENT COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES:

### Community Involvement Workshops (CIWs)

The CIWs are regular meetings where community members and BCT representatives discuss topical cleanup issues and proposed plans. Community members are encouraged to advise the BCT on current cleanup and comment on draft documents as well as community interests and concerns.

**Time and location of meetings** are advertised in the *Monterey Herald* and the *Salinas Californian* and other newspapers prior to the event.

**To suggest topics** for meetings or for additional information, contact Melissa Hlebasko at telephone number (831) 393-1284 or at email: [Melissa.Hlebasko@monterey.army.mil](mailto:Melissa.Hlebasko@monterey.army.mil)

### Ordnance and Explosives (OE) Safety Education Program for Local Schools

The Army offers local schools and other interested organizations with a 1-hour safety presentation aimed at describing the dangers of trespassing in prohibited areas and handling of unexploded ordnance. The presentation provides safety precautions and actions to be taken if suspected ordnance or explosives are

found. For more information concerning these activities contact Lyle Shurtleff at (831) 242-7919, email – [Lyle.Shurtleff@monterey.army.mil](mailto:Lyle.Shurtleff@monterey.army.mil)

### **Cleanup Open House**

An annual event where project managers and technical staff are available to discuss cleanup plans and operations. A tour of some cleanup areas sites is available. In 2002 and 2003 a second open house was added to the annual schedule due to increased public interest.

### **Fort Ord Cleanup Web Site**

A web site dedicated to providing updated and background information on the cleanup activities is maintained at <http://www.fortordcleanup.com>. Information available on the web site includes the history of the cleanup, current cleanup activities, scheduled community meetings and workshops, draft documents, notices of local road or other route closures plus updates on community relations activities. The site address is [www.FortOrdCleanup.com](http://www.FortOrdCleanup.com).

### **PUBLIC MEETING / COMMENT PERIODS**

**Regular community involvement workshops and public meetings** provide the members of the community with information concerning the specific proposed cleanup plans and a forum for discussion with the members of the Base Realignment and Cleanup Team (BCT). The Fort Ord environmental cleanup team includes representatives of the U.S. Army, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (CRWQCB). Members of the community are encouraged to collect information, provide comments, and express their concerns during these meetings. Meeting information is available by contacting the community relations staff or by visiting the web site at [www.fortordcleanup.com](http://www.fortordcleanup.com).

**Public comment periods** on documents describing proposed cleanup actions are advertised in the *Monterey Herald* and the *Salinas Californian* newspapers and published in a monthly document update. Cleanup documents are maintained in public information repositories in the Seaside Library and the CSUMB Learning Center. Public meetings and information sessions are also advertised to the community in the *Monterey Herald* and *Salinas Californian* newspapers, through public service announcements by local media, and by direct mail to interested parties. To receive meeting notices, document updates, and cleanup fact sheets via direct mail, contact Mary Bakan at (831) 393-9186, E-mail - [adminrecord@redshift.com](mailto:adminrecord@redshift.com).