

Fort Ord Environmental Cleanup
FACT SHEET
Soil Removal at Ranges 24 and 25

Ranges 24 and 25 are located in the southwestern part of the Multi-Use Range Area (MRA), north of South Boundary Road and east of General Jim Moore Boulevard. Range 24 served as a Sniper Range for training activities that required soldiers to engage individual targets by rifle fire out to 1,000 meters. Forty millimeter practice grenades and sub-caliber light antitank weapons were also deployed on this range as evidenced by the presence of two armored personnel carriers. Range 25 served as an Offensive Overhead Range where soldiers fired small arms into a berm (backstop) while soldiers passed through a trench behind the berm.

Remediation of Ranges 24 and 25 took place between June and September 1999 and consisted of excavating soil containing accumulated spent ammunition and residual lead and transporting the excavated soil to the OU2 Landfill. Approximately 16,100 cubic yards of soil were removed from Range 24 from an approximate area of 7.6 acres, with an average excavation depth of 1.3 feet. Approximately 9,600 cubic yards of soil were removed from Range 25 from an area of 2.3 acres with an average excavation depth of 2.1 feet. The soil was transported to the OU2 Landfill in covered trucks via Eucalyptus Road, Barloy Canyon Road, and 8th Avenue. This route was chosen by the Army to avoid high traffic areas and the schools on General Jim Moore Boulevard.

After excavation 502 samples were collected from the soil left in place and analyzed for lead, copper, and antimony. The average lead concentration of soil remaining in place at Range 24 was 35 mg/kg, with a maximum value of 320 mg/kg. The average lead concentration of soil remaining in place at Range 25 was 33 mg/kg, with a maximum value of 250 mg/kg.

Due to the recent changes in the land reuse planning, parts of Ranges 24 and 25 are located in a parcel that will be transferred to the City of Del Rey Oaks. Future uses of the Del Rey Oaks parcel include an entertainment center and movie theater, two retail areas, a golf course, a resort hotel, and a nature reserve. The results of lead, copper, and antimony analyses were used in a risk assessment to estimate potential risks to human and ecological receptors associated with exposure to residual chemical contaminants in soil. These assessments determined that there need be no restrictions on development of the former ranges based on the residual concentrations of metals.