

## ***Land and resources***

### **Environmental protection — responsible reuse**

The Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA) was formed in 1994 under special state legislation (SB 899). The function of FORA is to prepare, adopt, finance, and implement a plan for gradual redevelopment, reuse, and economic recovery of the 28,000 former Fort Ord. The FORA is governed by a 23 member board, 13 voting members consisting of three Monterey County Board of Supervisors, two City Council members each from the cities of Marina and Seaside and one City Council member each from the cities of Carmel, Del Rey Oaks, Sand City, Monterey, Pacific Grove and Salinas.

As the land of the former Army base is determined suitable for transfer, approximately 20,000 of the 28,000 acres of the former Fort Ord will be retained for habitat/open space. Other reuse for former Fort Ord property will include commercial, education, hospitality, residential and recreational.

Environmental protection remains a key aspect of the sustainable developmental plans. A variety of agencies will manage about two-thirds of the former base under policies that were established in the Fort Ord Multi-Species Habitat Management Plan, financed by the redevelopment of the former base and in compliance with the Federal Endangered Species Act. California State Fish and Game requirements are also being met. Working in eco-tourism – combining environmental attractions with economic development – are the City of Marina, Bureau of Land Management, California State University, Velo Club of Monterey, and the California State Parks system, with activities such as cross-country runs, hiking competitions and mountain bike competitions, not to mention skydiving and roller hockey!

During the past year, FORA was successful in meeting major challenges, completing several important projects, and initiating new groundbreaking programs. In summary, FORA or its member jurisdictions:

- (1) Completed the first property transfers under the “No Cost” Economic Development Conveyance
- (2) Implemented a Public Information Program and Legislative Program

- (3) Developed a Comprehensive Financing Plan for implementing basewide reuse
  - (4) Completed several important infrastructure construction projects with more projects planned, designed, scheduled in the approved May 2001 adopted Capital Improvement Program
  - (5) Completed the water/wastewater systems transfer from the U.S. Army.
- (Source: Fort Ord Reuse Authority Annual Report FY 2000-2001)