

# Fact Sheet

Interim Action for Vegetation Clearance, Ordnance and Explosives Remedial Action, and Ordnance and Explosives Detonation, Ranges 43-48, Range 30A, and Site OE-16, Former Fort Ord, California

## Background

An interim action is a remedial action that can be implemented quickly and that, although not necessarily intended as a final remedial measure at a site, substantially reduces potential immediate risks to human health or the environment. The Army, as the lead agency, has determined that an interim action is appropriate to protect human health from the imminent threat posed by ordnance and explosives (OE) at Ranges 43- 48, Range 30A, and Site OE-16. The need for Interim Action at these sites was determined based on the presence of live, sensitively fuzed surface OE items, the close proximity to residential neighborhoods, and the history of trespassing incidents. The interim action alternatives that were evaluated to address the OE risks at these sites are described in the Proposed Plan, which was available for public review and comment from March 12, 2002 through May 13, 2002.



The Proposed Plan described three sets of alternatives evaluated by the Army:

1. Alternative methods for clearing vegetation so that workers can safely conduct an ordnance and explosives cleanup;
2. Alternative actions that can be taken to clean up the ordnance and explosives; and
3. Alternative ways to remove the explosive hazard (if unexploded ordnance and explosive items are found).

The public was invited to attend two public meetings to discuss the Proposed Plan on March 25 and 26, 2002. After evaluating the comments from the public, the Army and regulatory agencies made a final decision about how Ranges 43-48, Range 30A, and OE-16 will be cleaned up. This decision was documented in a Record of Decision that was published in the fall of 2002. Based on this comparison of alternatives, the Army decided to: (1) clear vegetation using prescribed burns; (2) conduct surface and subsurface removal of ordnance and explosives; and (3) detonate ordnance in place, using appropriate engineering controls.