



## Fort Ord Reuse Authority

# MEDIA ADVISORY

920 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Ste. A, Marina, CA 93933

Phone: (831) 883-3672 • Fax: (831) 883-3675 • [www.fora.org](http://www.fora.org)

**Media Contact:** Candy Ingram  
Email: [ingrampgp@ix.netcom.com](mailto:ingrampgp@ix.netcom.com)  
Phone: (831) 373-3609

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### FORA ESCA Remediation Program Update at FORA Board Meeting

Today, at the Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA) monthly Board meeting Executive Officer Michael Houlemard reported that FORA is on track to complete transfer of the Economic Development Conveyance (EDC) properties in 2015. Said Houlemard, "Of course some required monitoring and reporting will continue, but the local municipalities will have jurisdiction over the transferred EDC properties."

Over the past year the FORA ESCA Remediation Program has seen continued progress in field investigations and documentation. A sampling of those accomplishments over the previous 12 months include:

- Enhanced ESCA signage program to meet Regulators' recommendations
- Successfully developed and implemented a Residential Quality Assurance (RQA) process to simultaneously protect oak woodlands, assure safety for sensitive uses, and address regulatory issues/concerns for applying the RQA process in other locations
- Held an Informal Community Workshop and Public Information Session
- Interim Action Ranges Habitat Restoration – over 45,000 seedlings sprouted and planted to restore 14 acres of Interim Action Ranges after remediation of over 3,600 sensitively-fused munitions items
- Presented information at public meeting on the Preferred Remedial Alternatives for Group 3 Munitions Response Areas, Del Rey Oaks/Monterey, Laguna Seca Parking, Military Operations and Urban Terrain Site
- Remedial investigations nearly completed and data shared with the Regulators currently evaluating residual risk and to determine whether additional work will be required
- Munitions Investigation Statistics
  - 3,340 acres investigated for potential munitions
  - Total munitions items removed: 4,950
  - Total munitions debris removed: 56,000 lbs.
  - Added benefit: 118,000 lbs. of other material removed

Planned work for the FORA ESCA Remediation Program over the coming year includes:

- Documents to be released:
  - Group 2 CSUMB Off-Campus MRA Proposed Plan
  - Interim Action Ranges Draft Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) Report
  - Interim Action Ranges Draft Final RI/FS Report
  - Group 4 Future East Garrison Draft RI/FS Report
- Property transfer – Veterans Central Coast Cemetery, Monterey Peninsula College (future Emergency Vehicle Operations Center) and County North

In 2005, FORA and the United States Army (Army) entered negotiations to complete munitions cleanup on the remaining EDC properties. On March 31, 2007, after 18 months of site conditions review, contract deliberations, and financial assurance requirements, FORA entered into the ESCA with the Army for munitions cleanup. The purpose of the FORA ESCA Remediation Program is to address residual safety issues associated with the historical munitions training operations at the former Fort Ord.

The ESCA allows FORA, acting as the Army's contractor, to address safety issues resulting from previous munitions training operations conducted at the former Fort Ord. This addressed three major concerns: requirement for yearly appropriation of federal funding; state and federal regulatory questions about protectiveness of previous actions; and, FORA's desire to reduce, to the extent possible, continuing risk to individuals accessing the site. FORA's cost of performance was paid with a grant from the Army. The ESCA work has been underway for over 6 years. For more information visit: [www.fora-esca-rp.com](http://www.fora-esca-rp.com)