



Fort Ord
Superfund Site
Community
Meeting
April 7, 2014

Discussion of Prescribed Burn 2013
After-Action Report:
Track 3 Units 7 and 10
Terrie Boguski, Skeo Solutions



Introduction

Thank you for attending this presentation about the Prescribed Burn 2013 After-Action Report. My name is Emily Chi and I am with Skeo Solutions. Skeo Solutions implements the Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) program, which is funded by EPA.



Welcome to TASC



- The **Technical Assistance Services for Communities** program
- One of several **EPA**-sponsored technical assistance programs
- Independent services provided under contract with 

Welcome to TASC

TASC is a national EPA program that provides technical assistance services to communities.

The program's goal is to help people understand complex environmental issues and ensure meaningful community involvement in environmental decision-making.

The TASC program provides services through a national EPA contract. Under the contract, independent contractor Skeo Solutions provides scientists, engineers and other professionals to review and explain information to communities throughout the United States and U.S. territories. Skeo's services do not necessarily reflect the policies, actions or positions of EPA.

TASC provides independent educational and technical assistance for the community as part of the Superfund cleanup for former Fort Ord.



TASC at Fort Ord



- April 2013 – September 2013: Technical Assistance Needs Assessment (TANA)
- December 2013: Community meeting to prioritize key technical documents for assistance

Last year, TASC met with community members and stakeholders to better understand educational and technical needs related to the Fort Ord Superfund site. The primary need was help in understanding technical documents, and community members gathered in December to prioritize key technical documents for assistance.

The Prescribed Burn After-Action Report was one of the top documents prioritized by community members at the December meeting, and this is why we're here today.

The next document prioritized is the Army Hazardous and Toxic Waste draft Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Addendum for Sites 2/12, scheduled to be released this August. TASC will plan to have a similar workshop with a technical advisor after this report is released.



Today's Agenda



Workshop: 6:30-8:30pm

- Introduction
- Presentation by Technical Advisor
- Break
- Workshop for Writing Comments
- Closing and Next Steps



Presentation Outline

- Site Information
- The Superfund Process
- The After-Action Report
- Writing Comments

Outline

Thank you for attending this presentation about the Prescribed Burn 2013 After-Action Report. My name is Terrie Boguski. I am an environmental engineer with Skeo Solutions. Skeo Solutions implements the Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) program, which is funded by EPA.

I am going to share some information about the Fort Ord Superfund site and the Superfund process. Then, I will talk about the Units 7 and 10 Prescribed Burn After-Action report. After this presentation, we will have a discussion about sharing comments on the report with the Army.



Fort Ord Superfund Site

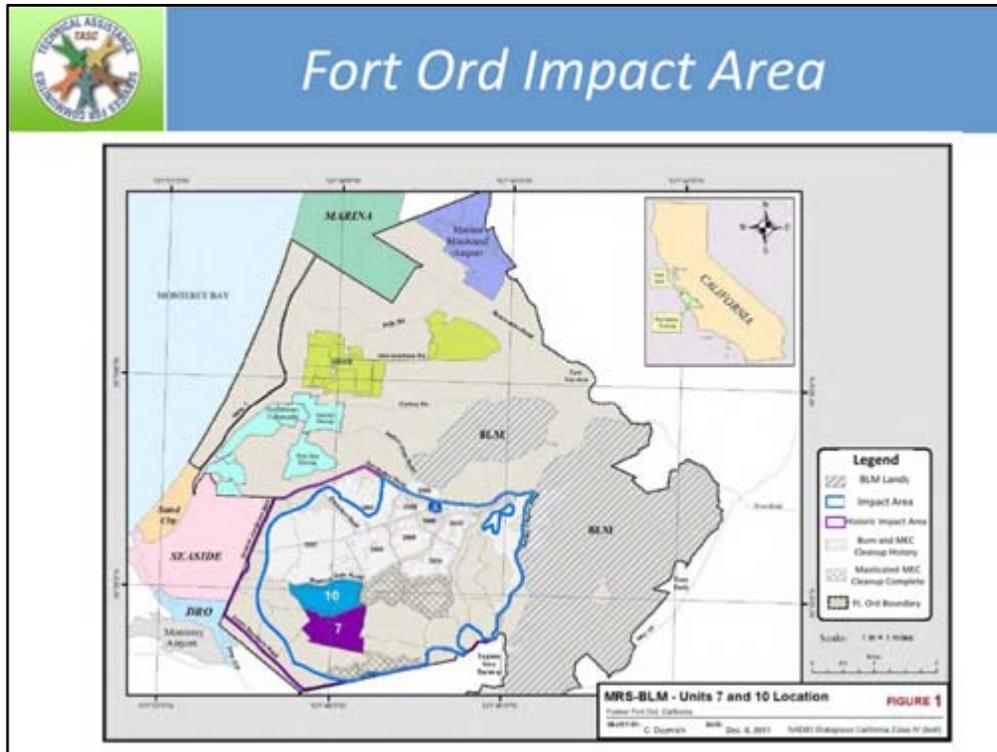
Impact Area Munitions Response Area
Track 3 Munitions Response Site

- Units 7 and 10 are within Track 3 area
- Prescribed Burn Plan published in July 2012 and updated in April 2013



Former Fort Ord

The Army conducted prescribed burns in two areas of Fort Ord on October 14 and 15 last year. These were units 7 and 10. Units 7 and 10 are located in an impact area designated as Track 3, which means the Army expects to find unexploded munitions in these areas. The burn activities followed a Burn Plan published in July 2012 and updated in April 2013.



Former Fort Ord Impact Area

This map shows the location of units 7 and 10. *Discuss the features listed in the map legend.*



Other Prescribed Burns

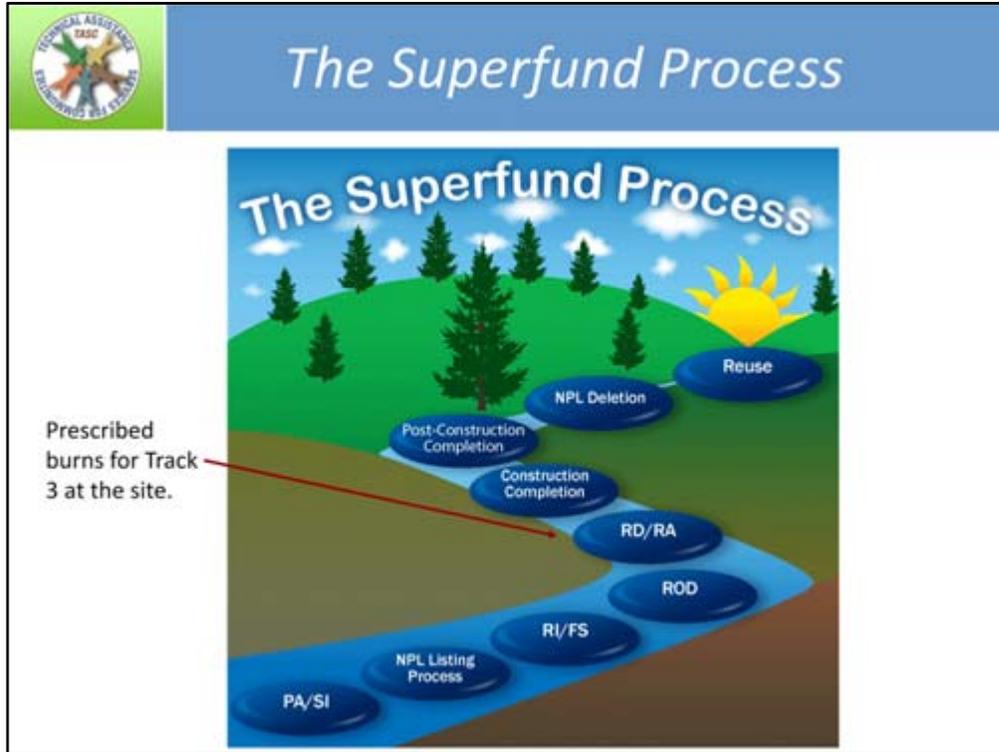
- Today's focus: the Unit 7 and Unit 10 prescribed burns on October 14 and 15, 2013

PW RANCH		Quail Creek Ranch	
Burn Date:	Monday March 17, 2014	Burn Date:	Wednesday March 19, 2014
Name of Prescribed Burn Project:	PW Ranch Pile Burns	Name of Prescribed Burn Project:	Quail Creek Ranch
Conducted by:	Paul Watts	Conducted by:	Sean Massa
Purpose:	Range Improvement, Fire Hazard Reduction	Purpose:	Range improvement
Smoke Management Permit #	436-2014	Smoke Management Permit #	439-2014
North Central Coast Air Sub-Basin:	#04 SE Inland	North Central Coast Air Sub-Basin:	#31- NW Coastal
Location:	Palomares in San Benito Co.	Location:	28000 Encinal Road, Salinas, CA
Tons (2000lbs)	500 lbs	Standing Vegetation	100-150 Acres
Type of Fuels:	pled brush	Type of Fuels:	brush 80%; grass 20%

- The Monterey County Air Pollution Control District issues permits for prescribed burns by individuals:
T: (831) 647-9411 | <http://www.mbuapcd.org>

Other Prescribed Burns

Today, we are focusing on the October 14 and 15, 2013 prescribed burns of units 7 and 10 because we would like to help you prepare to submit your comments to the Army. If you have concerns about prescribed burns by other landowners, you may want to contact the Monterey County Air Pollution District for more information.



The Superfund Process

EPA has regulatory authority over Superfund sites, including federal facilities. EPA follows a series of steps when investigating and cleaning up these sites. This illustration shows the major steps of the Superfund process. There is a Record of Decision (ROD) for the Impact Area where units 7 and 10 are located.



The Superfund Process



Track 3 ROD

- Completed in April 2008
- Planned prescribed burning:
 - Up to 800 acres per year
 - Series of small burns, each about 100 acres in size
 - Only an area up to 400 acres in size would be burned at one time (unless larger area approved by USFWS)

The Superfund Process: Track 3 ROD

The ROD for Track 3 of the Impact Area explains that the purpose of prescribed burns is: 1) to remove vegetation to allow for the safe removal of munitions of concern; and 2) to maintain habitat that requires fire to thrive. *Discuss text on slide.*



October 2013 Prescribed Burn

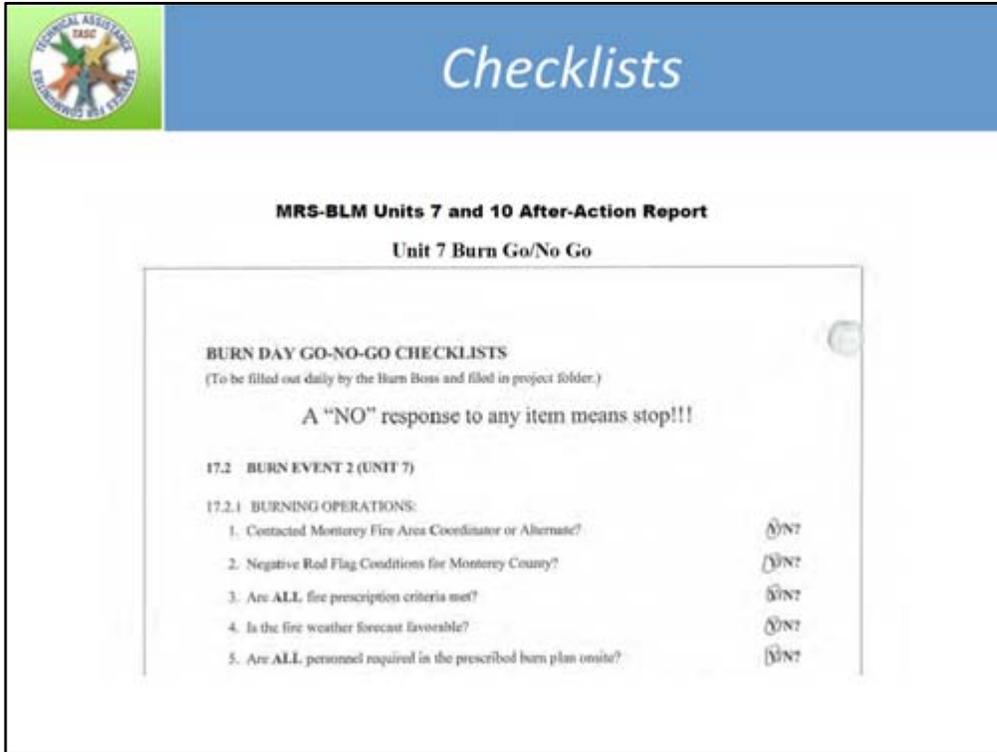
Total acreage burned in two days: about 693 acres

- **Planned**
 - Unit 10: 327 acres planned; 279 actual on October 14
 - Unit 7: 341 acres planned; 310 actual on October 15

- **Unplanned**
 - Unit 33: 93 acres
 - Unit 4: 8.5 acres
 - Unit 6: 2.4 acres

October 2013 Prescribed Burn

The prescribed burns on October 14 and 15, 2013, of units 7 and 10 burned about 693 acres, which includes about 100 acres unintentionally burned in units 33, 4 and 6.



Checklists

The After-Action Report indicates that the burn was well planned and plans were followed. Even so, unintentional burning did occur. Contingency plans and action prevented the fire from moving outside the impact area.

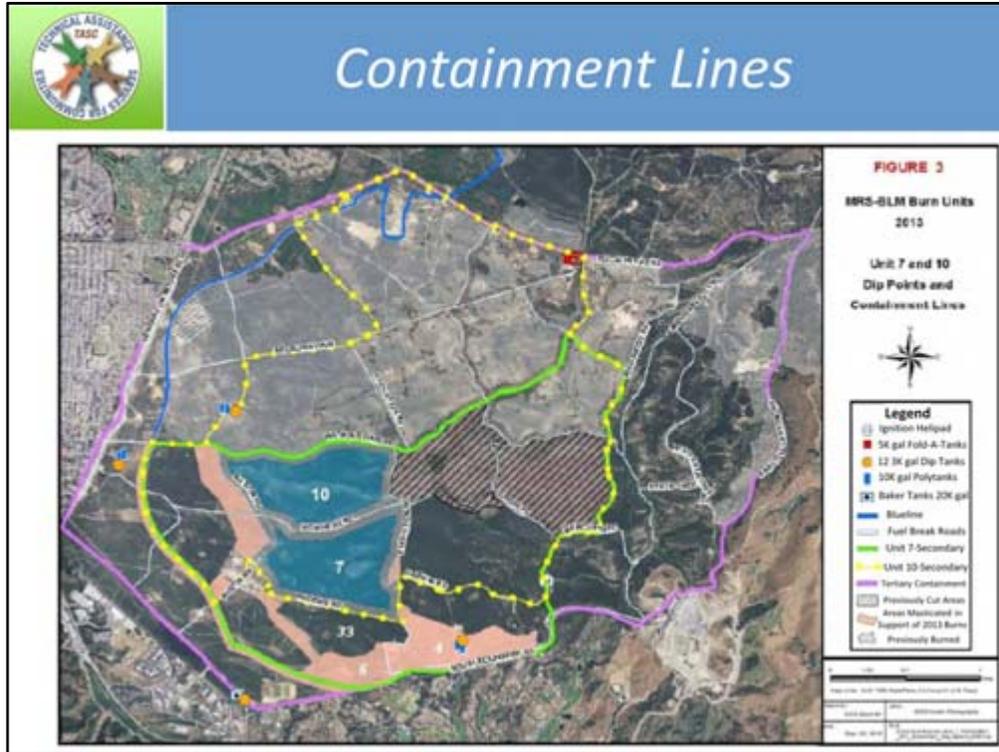


Containment Strategy



Containment Strategy

The containment strategy included the use of large equipment to masticate (literally, to chew up) vegetation to create primary containment lines. The width of these primary containment lines were calculated to provide safety for firefighters from any fragments from exploding munitions caused by the fires.



Containment Lines

A network of containment lines was built. The network included primary containment lines, secondary containment lines and tertiary containment lines. The tertiary containment lines were the asphalt roads around the Impact Area.

Secondary containment lines were placed between primary and tertiary containment lines. This network of containment lines was intended to allow firefighters to safely stop fire from spreading at predetermined locations.

Specifically discuss containment lines shown in figure.



Report Conclusions



- Overall goals accomplished:
 - vegetation removed
 - community smoke impacts minimized
 - no injuries
 - fire stayed within containment lines
- First day, Unit 10 burned:
 - spot fire in Unit 7 grassland quickly put out
- Second day, Unit 7 burned:
 - spot fires breached Unit 7 containment line
 - Unit 33 unintentionally burned
 - small areas of units 4 and 6 unintentionally burned

Report Conclusions

Discuss text on slide.



Unit 10 Fire Ignition



Unit 10 Fire Ignition

Photograph from the After-Action Report.



Unit 7 Burn Column



Unit 7 Burn Column

Photograph from the After-Action Report.



Spot Fires in Unit 33



Spot Fires in Unit 33

Photograph from the After-Action Report. Seen from York School Athletic Field.



Spot Fires in Unit 33



Spot Fires in Unit 33

Photograph from the After-Action Report. Cal Fire Air Tankers Apply Fire Retardant.



Fingers of Fire in Unit 4



Fingers of Fire in Unit 4

Photograph from the After-Action Report. Spot Fires in Unit 33 Jumped to Mastication in Unit 4.



Temporary Smoke Impacts



- Smoke reported night of October 15, 2013:
 - along the Highway 68 corridor from Laguna Seca to Toro Park
 - areas of Carmel Valley and Seaside
- Burning of the additional 100 acres (units 33, 4 and 6) reported as the likely cause

Temporary Smoke Impacts

Discuss text on slide.

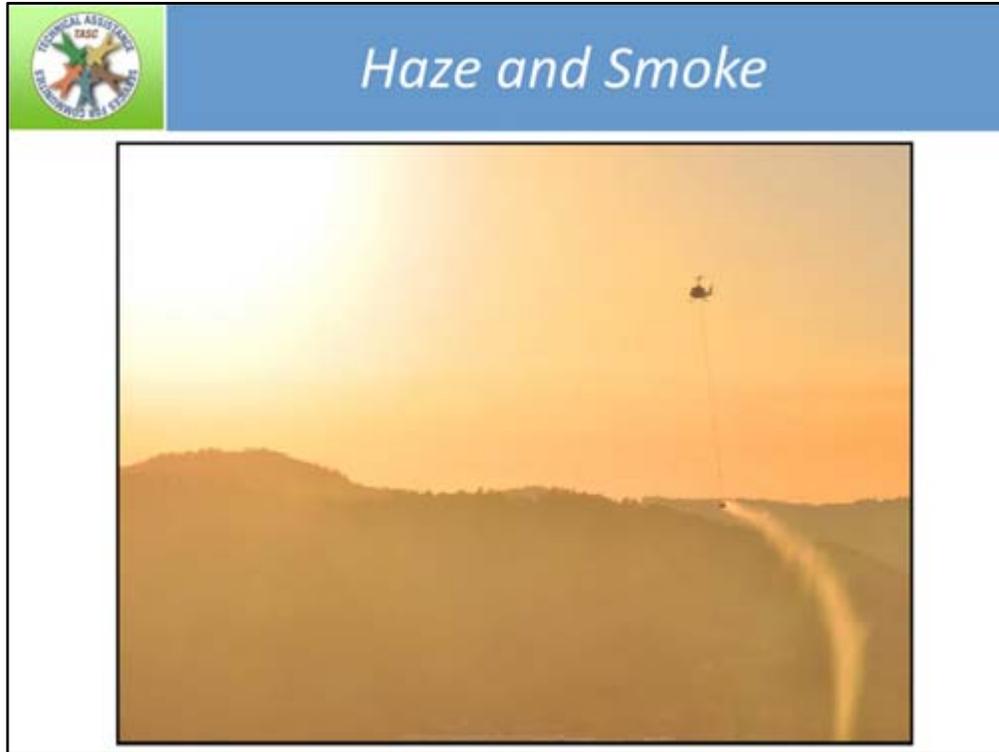


Smoldering Hot Spots



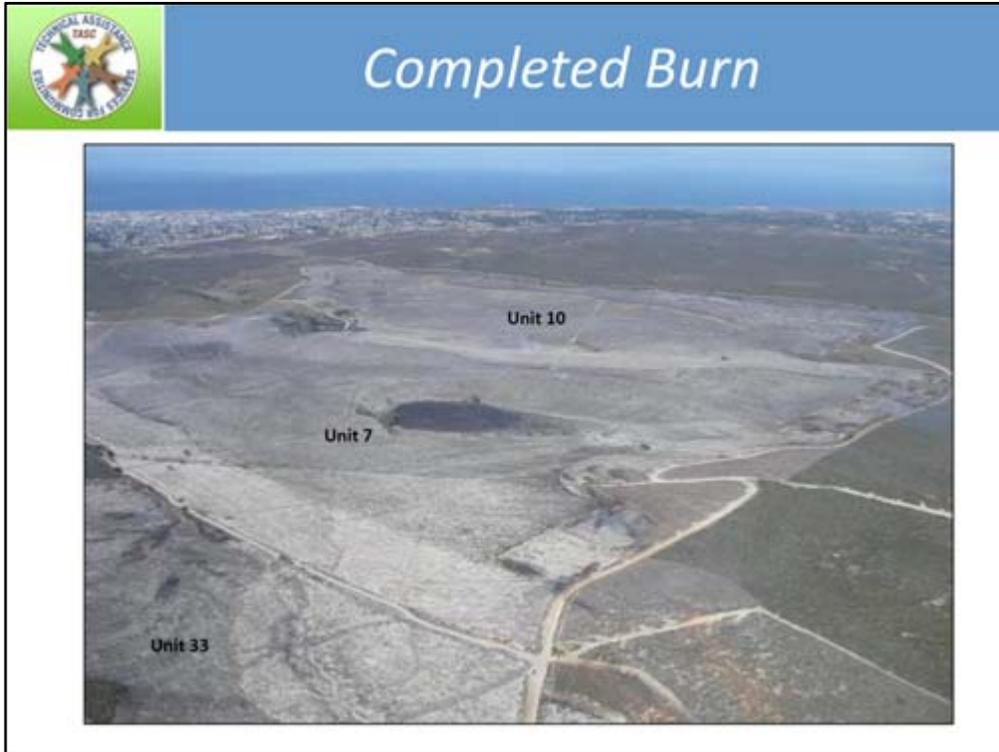
Smoldering Hot Spots

Photograph from the After-Action Report.



Haze and Smoke

Photograph from the After-Action Report. At 5 p.m. on October 15, 2013; after fires are out.



Completed Burn

Photograph from the After-Action Report.



Completed Burn

Photograph from the After-Action Report.



Lessons Learned for Next Time



1. Consider improving the containment line by:
 - removing masticated (chewed up) vegetation
 - pretreating with water or fire foam
 - increasing mastication (chewing up) of vegetation to include parts of other units
2. Consider modifying radios to VHF for better communication
3. Weather forecasting and mobilization went well
4. Increase habitat protection by trying harder to brief contingency agencies (such as Cal Fire) on habitat precautions

Lessons Learned

The After-Action Report also discussed lessons learned. *Discuss text on slide.*



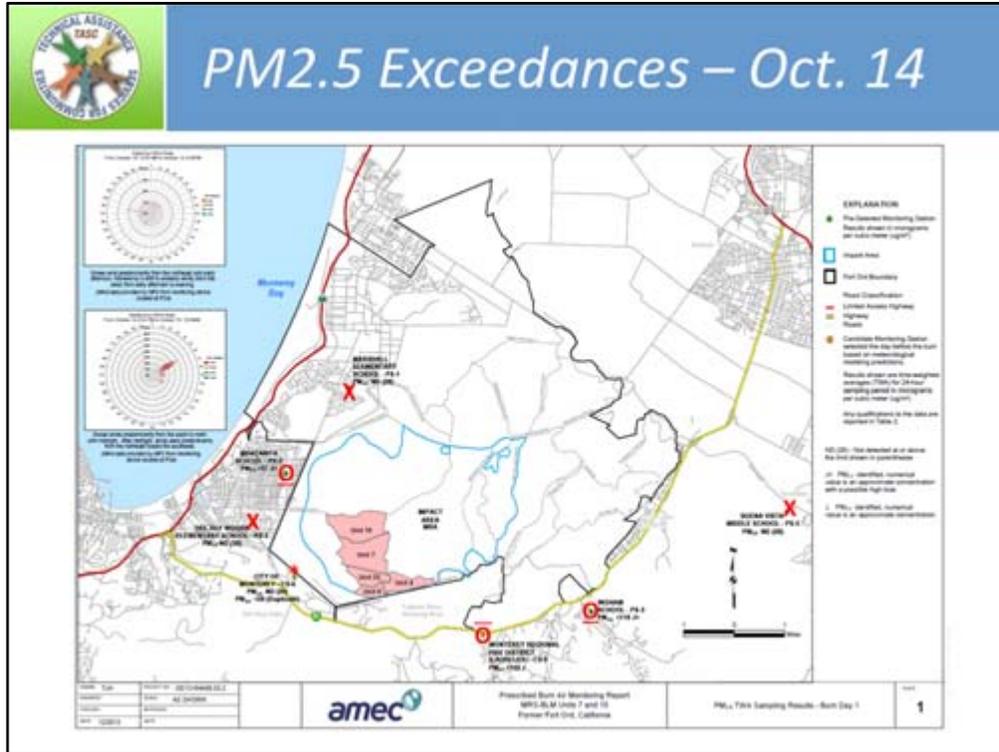
Air Monitoring Report

- Three 24-hour air sampling events:
 - first burn day
 - second burn day
 - mop-up/patrol day



Air Monitoring Report

The Army conducted three 24-hour air sampling events on October 14, 15 and 16, 2013. Concentration data for particulate matter less than or equal to 2.5 micrometers in diameter (PM_{2.5}) were collected during the 24-hour sampling periods. Air samples were collected from seven monitoring stations.



PM2.5 Exceedances – Oct. 14

The figure in this slide shows the locations of the seven monitoring stations. A red "X" means that PM2.5 was not detected above the 24-hour screening level of 35 micrograms per cubic meter of air ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$).

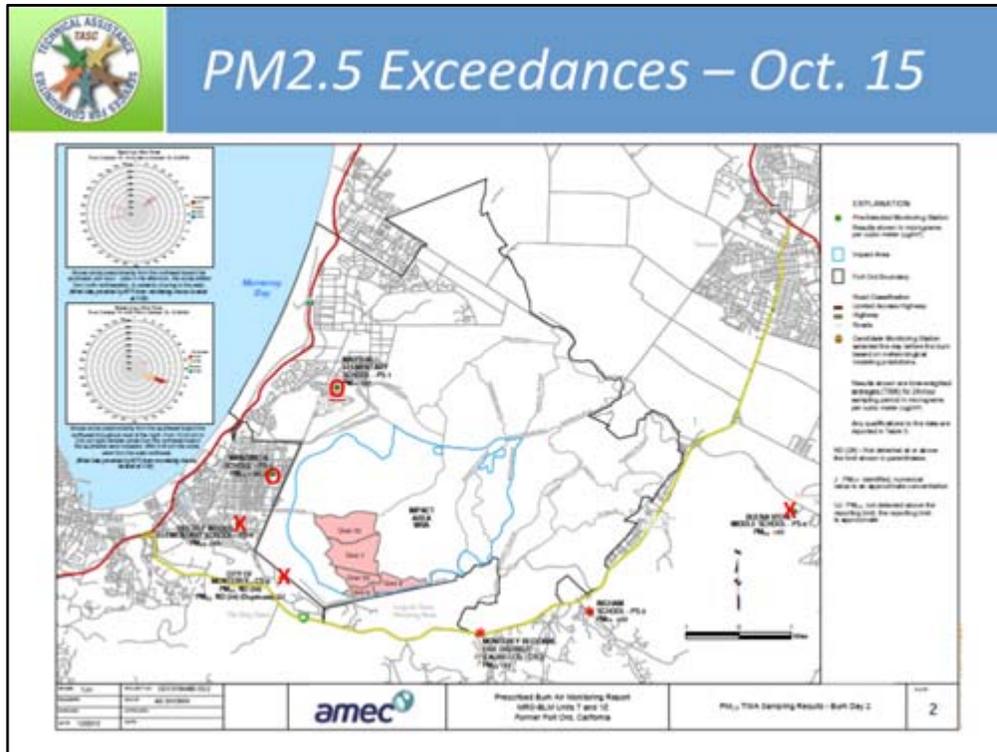
A red "O" means that PM2.5 was detected above the 24-hour screening level of 35 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

A red line above the red "O" means that the determining measurement was in the first eight hours.

A red line below the red "O" means the determining measurement was in the second 16 hours.

No red line above or below the red "O" means that significant PM2.5 was measured both in the first eight-hour sample and the second 16-hour sample.

The red "*" means that, for a duplicate sample, the 24-hour PM2.5 was less than 35 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. During the first eight hours, however, the PM2.5 was detected at 44 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.



PM2.5 Exceedances – Oct. 15

A red "X" means that PM2.5 was not detected above the 24-hour screening level of 35 µg/m³.

A red "O" means that PM2.5 was detected above the 24-hour screening level of 35 µg/m³.

A red line above the red "O" means that the determining measurement was in the first eight hours.

A red line below the red "O" means the determining measurement was in the second 16 hours.

No red line above or below the red "O" means that significant PM2.5 was measured both in the first eight-hour sample and the second 16-hour sample.

The red "*" means that the 24-hour PM2.5 was less than 35 µg/m³. However, during the first eight hours, the PM2.5 was detected at 58 or 59 µg/m³.

No elevated 24-hour PM2.5 results were noted during the mop-up and patrol day, except in the duplicate sample from City of Monterey station (CS-4), where the 24-hour PM2.5 result equaled the 24-hour screening level.



Notification of Prescribed Burns

- The Army's Direct Notification Program
 - free service to the community
 - you must register for this service **every year**
 - for more information:
<http://www.fortordcleanup.com/prescribed-burns/direct-notification-program>



Notification of Prescribed Burns

You may choose to be notified of any prescribed burns at Ford Ord.

Discuss text on slide.



Comments About The Report

	<p>Mail to: William K. Collins BRAC Environmental Coordinator U.S. Army Fort Ord BRAC Field Office P.O. Box 5008 Monterey, CA 93944-5008 Fax: 831-393-9188</p>	<p>Hand deliver to: Fort Ord Administrative Record Building 4463 Gigling Road, Room 101 Ord Military Community, CA 93944-5004 Fax: 831-393-9186</p>
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Comments About The Report

The Army is receiving comments on the After-Action Report until close of business on April 29, 2014. Comments can be submitted in electronic format or by fax; however, they must be followed up with a hard copy sent through the U.S. Postal Service or hand delivered to the Fort Ord Administrative Record.

All hardcopy comments must be received by close of business on the designated comment period deadline.

Hand deliver to:

Fort Ord Administrative Record
 Building 4463
 Gigling Road, Room 101
 Ord Military Community, CA 93944-5004



Questions



Questions

Do you have any questions about the Unit 7 and 10 Prescribed Burn After-Action Report?



CONTACT INFORMATION

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TASC Contact Information