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MEDIA RELEASE

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FORA Executive Officer August 12, 2008

MAJOR EVENT IN COMPLETION OF EARLY TRANSFER
OF FORMER FORT ORD PROPERTY
TUESDAY AUGUST 12, 2008

Today's event marks the transfer of the remaining 3,337 acres scheduled for economic reuse on the former Fort Ord to communities in the Monterey Bay region.

Concurrence by the State of California, under authority of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) approval of the U.S. Army's Covenant Deferral Request (CDR) and a Finding of Suitability for Early Transfer (FOSET), allows the properties to be transferred to the Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA). The properties will subsequently be transferred from FORA to local jurisdictions for economic reuse and development under an Economic Development Conveyance (EDC) process.

The concurrence action provides approval to begin a $100 million privatized munitions and explosives cleanup program funded by the U.S. Army and implemented by FORA. The program will investigate and remove Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC) in areas that are scheduled for non-military economic redevelopment of the former military base.

"On behalf of the Department of Toxic Substances Control project team, we are proud to have the hands-on, day-to-day part of making possible the early transfer of Fort Ord to productive civilian use," said DTSC Director Maureen F. Gorsen. "I am particularly proud to participate in the FORA celebration as the representative of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, whose signature of concurrence was the final act enabling the $100 million privatized transfer to proceed," Gorsen added.

This will be the first privatized cleanup/early transfer of munitions-contaminated property on the National Priorities List under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). Using an innovative approach, an extensive public involvement program, and close regulatory interface, the program will save millions of dollars while continuing to advance property reuse.

As a military installation, Fort Ord played a vital role in national defense and in California's long history of supporting our nation's armed forces. Locally, it was a dynamic economic engine for area communities. The munitions and explosives cleanup program, also known as the FORA ESCA Remediation Program, will chart the path

forward for the Monterey region's important recovery effort, and will showcase California's leading role in restoration and reuse of the nation's military installations.

The Environmental Services Cooperative Agreement (ESCA), is an agreement between the Army and FORA which provides funds from the Army to FORA to expedite munitions remediation on 45 parcels of land (3,283 acres) identified in the ESCA program.

To implement the ESCA program, FORA has contracted with the firms of LFR, Inc., Weston Solutions, Inc., and Westcliffe Engineers, Inc. to perform the remediation work. The program also includes environmental insurance coverage, providing additional assurances and a reduction of liability.

The cleanup of ESCA properties will meet, and in some cases exceed, federal and state regulatory requirements, and all parties will be able to take advantage of efficiencies arising from up-front funding instead of being subject to the unpredictability of the federal budget process. The method for privatized cleanup is also providing a model for implementing munitions removal at closing military bases throughout the country.

"By addressing cleanup and redevelopment in tandem, properties can more quickly and more efficiently be returned to public use," said Wayne Nastri, administrator of the EPA's Pacific Southwest region.   "This cleanup is a great example for revitalization projects at closing bases across the country."

When certified clean by the regulators (the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control), the properties will be put back into productive reuse. The reuse and development will provide opportunity for new jobs, new housing -- including affordable housing, retail and commercial developments, a new veteran's cemetery, educational facilities, and a world-class equestrian park. Nearly 75% of the land will remain open space for habitat conservation, trails, and recreational uses.

More information about the ESCA process is available on the FORA website at www.fora.org, or by contacting the FORA ESCA program at esca@fora.org, or calling the ESCA hotline at (831) 883-3506. Related information is also available on the Army's website at www.FortOrdCleanup.com .

The transfer concurrence event is taking place during the annual conference of the Association of Defense Communities, a 1,200-member organization representing the interests of communities, state governments, the private sector, and the military in areas throughout the nation which are adjacent to or part of active and closed military installations.   The Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA) along with member jurisdictions, the U.S. Army, City of Monterey, and other agencies and entities involved in reuse efforts at the former Fort Ord, are serving as co-hosts for the conference. Monterey City Manager, Fred Meurer, has served as a past President of ADC and Michael Houlemard, Executive Officer of FORA, is the current ADC Board President.

The location of the 2008 Conference in the Monterey Bay Region offers direct examples of community and state interface with military and private business support. The Monterey region is a model for community-military collaboration in the cooperative

example of the City of Monterey and the Presidio of Monterey/Naval Postgraduate School. The former Fort Ord is an example of one of the largest and most complex military base closures in U.S. history.

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