

Headquarters, Department of the Army



**Umatilla Chemical
Depot, OR
Conveyance Progress Report**



As of 1 October 2015

Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management (ACSIM)
Operations Directorate– Base Realignment and Closure (ODB)

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West Area

BRAC 2005 Recommendation

The 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission recommendation directing the closure of Umatilla Chemical Depot (UMCD), OR was conditional on completion of the chemical demilitarization (demil) mission in accordance with Treaty obligations. In September 2011, OSD made the determination that, since the demil mission would not be complete by the 15 September 2011 statutory end date for BRAC 2005, Umatilla would not close under BRAC. Subsequent to the end of BRAC 2005, the National Defense Authorization Act for FY2012 was enacted and included language directing the Secretary of the Army to close Umatilla Chemical Depot, OR not later than one year after the completion of chemical demilitarization activities required under the Chemical Weapons Convention. The legislation also stated that SECARMY could retain minimum essential ranges, facilities, and training areas at Umatilla Chemical Depot as a training enclave for the reserve components of the Armed Forces to permit the conduct of individual and annual training. The demil mission was completed in October 2011, and the Depot closed effective 1 August 2012.

History

In 1940, the Army selected a 16,000-acre plot of northeastern Oregon sage land for a new depot for munitions and general supply storage. Construction work began in January 1941, and 10 months later, on 14 October 1941, officials opened the U.S. Army Umatilla Ordnance Depot, named for the Umatilla Indian Tribe. Workers transformed the prairie site into a complex of warehouses, munitions magazines, shops, and office buildings connected by a web of paved roads and railroad tracks – essential elements for shipping and receiving. The first ordnance shipment arrived on 27 October 1941. During its more than 70 years in operation, Umatilla grew to almost 20,000 acres and continued to support other war efforts, including the Korean Conflict, Vietnam, Grenada, Panama, and Desert Storm. In addition to its conventional ammunition and general supply missions, the depot received a new mission in 1962 – receiving and storing chemical ammunition. Between 1962 and 1969, the depot received various types of chemical ammunition. In 1988, the Depot was identified for realignment under BRAC, which relocated the depot's conventional ammunition and general supplies missions to other U.S. depots and installations.

Current Status

UCMD is a closed installation, under the command authority of Joint Base Lewis-McChord, with a caretaker workforce overseeing on-site activities. No property has been conveyed at this time. The first conveyance of 7,421 acres to the Oregon National Guard is projected for 2016. The contractor personnel working under the control of the Chemical Materials Activity (CMA) have dismantled the UMCD incinerators, closed the installation's two Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permits, and departed UCMD.

Property Description

The Depot is located on 19,729 acres in Umatilla and Morrow Counties in northeastern Oregon, approximately three miles south of the Columbia River and 180 miles east of Portland. The installation has approximately 1,347 structures of which 1,001 are Ammunition storage igloos. Many of the old World War II-era buildings and facilities are in disrepair and unusable. The UMCD incinerator complex was built in 1997-2004 and is a modern industrial complex of buildings on the installation. The main incinerator buildings in this complex have been razed IAW the RCRA permits, but the remaining infrastructure of the site and buildings remain for future development. There are over 194 miles of paved roads and 51 miles of light rail (no longer usable). The installation consists of an admin area, the ammunition maintenance and storage areas, general commodities warehouses, the Ammunition Demolition Area, and a range complex.

Caretaking Status

One Federal employee remains on UMCD to provide oversight of environmental cleanup, caretaker services, property accountability, and natural resources management. Current caretaker operations are performed by the caretaker contractor the Oregon Military Department (Oregon Army National Guard).

Environmental Cleanup

Remediation at the Umatilla Chemical Depot was conducted under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Corrective Action under the oversight of the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ). All of the traditional contamination sites have been addressed, e.g. petroleum, volatile chemicals, underground and above ground storage tanks, toxic chemicals, hazardous waste, and TNT and RDX explosives.

The Army has completed remediation of the explosive washout plant, washout lagoon soils, deactivation furnace soils, the depot landfill, and smaller miscellaneous sites. There are three remaining areas of concern: Ammunition Demolition Area, Groundwater Contamination, and Buildings 608 and 614.

Ammunition Demolition Area

A performance-based contract was awarded in 2012 for the removal of unexploded ordnance (UXO) and munitions constituents on 1,700 acres. A surface removal of UXO was completed under the contract in 2013. However, the contract was cancelled in 2014 due to the discovery of a more significant amount of UXO than planned under the contract on 350 of the 1,700 acres. A follow-on contract is expected to be awarded in late 2016 for removal of UXO on the 350 acres.



Groundwater Contamination

The pump and treat facility continues to clean groundwater contaminated as a result of munitions activities in the washout plant. It is being modified to add bioremediation to improve effectiveness.

Buildings 608 and 614

These buildings were used for the renovation of ammunition and ordnance. A contract was awarded in October 2013 to remediate explosive constituents.



Building 608

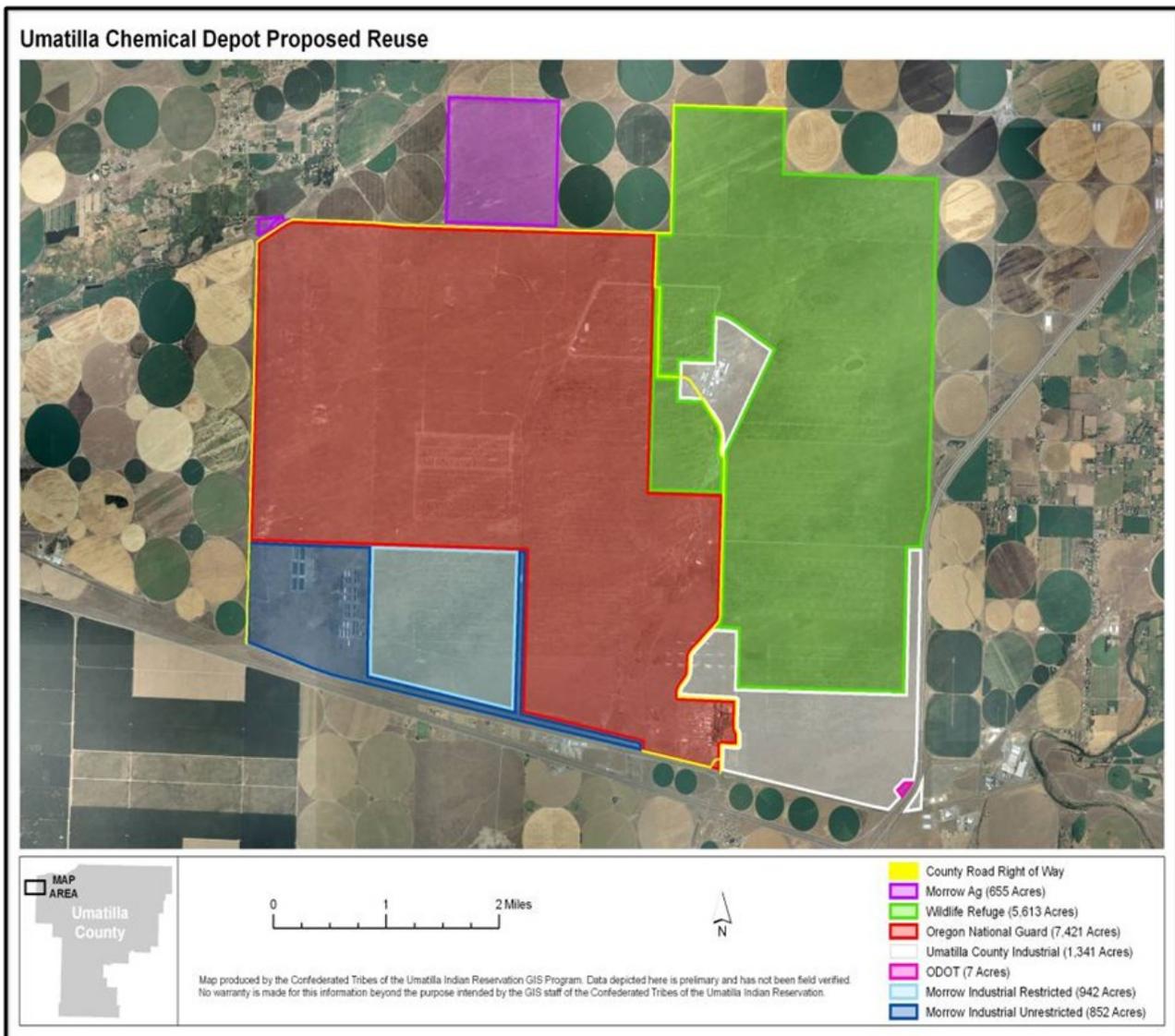
Reuse Plan

The Umatilla Army Depot Reuse Authority (UMADRA) was officially recognized by the Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) as the planning local redevelopment authority (LRA) in January 2009. The LRA's reuse plan and homeless assistance submission for the property was approved by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in October 2010

The UMADRA's plan utilized three principal land-use categories and one small parcel transfer in the Redevelopment Plan:

- a major training facility for the Oregon National Guard,
- habitat protection through the creation of a wildlife conservation refuge,
- industrial zoning to aide in off-setting the economic impact of base closure to the community, and
- small parcel transfer to the State of Oregon Department of Transportation (Interstate I-82 easement).

That *land-use plan*, presented by the reuse authority, represents a broad-based consensus among local, regional, and state interests. DoD/HUD accepted the plan, and the DoD is in the process of evaluating LRA recommendations for a variety of land conveyances.



Programmatic Agreement, Section 106

The programmatic agreement under the Section 106 requirement of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) for UMCD was completed on 30 December 2013.

A historic buildings and structures study conducted by Department of the Army Development and Readiness Command (DARCOM) in 1984 concluded that Buildings Nos. 1 and 2 were eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) as being of local architectural significance. Since the DARCOM study, there have been no additional inventories conducted. In 1988, the Oregon State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) found that the Depot itself met Criterion A for its association with national defense efforts and Criterion C for architectural merit and is now considered eligible for listing in the National Register as a Historic District. The Oregon SHPO is currently considering the eligibility of the remaining World War II-era buildings.

In 2000, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, completed a national historic context for World War II-era Army ammunition storage magazines (Geo-Marine 2000, *Army Ammunition and Explosives Storage in the United States, 1775-1945*). The objective of the document was to present the themes and events that influenced the construction, modification, and use of ammunition storage magazines during World War II and during the mobilization effort prior to this war. In addition to context, the document also presents a classification system for all ammunition storage magazines and a discussion of National Register eligibility requirements. The study recommends that those installations with the most comprehensive array of the various magazine designs may be eligible for inclusion in the National Register. While UMCD was not considered to be eligible for listing in the National Register, it should be noted that the report indicated that, in rare instances, an installation may have had such an exceptional impact on a state or locality that it could be eligible for inclusion in the National Register under other state or local themes.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

The Army is in the process of conducting the NEPA process at the installation and determining if an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement will be required.



Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility

Property Conveyance Plan

The formal closing of the former Umatilla Chemical Depot (UMCD) on 1 August 2012 resulted in the Department of the Army declaring 19,729 acres of real property as excess to its future needs and available for redevelopment.

The Army expects to transfer a 7,421-acre land tract to the Oregon National Guard (ORNG) in 2016 for future readiness training. The Army also intends to convey 12,308 acres by 4th Quarter FY2017 to the UMADRA. Although specific property utilization details for the UMRADA acres are still in development, the plan is to transfer this property under Economic Development Conveyance (EDC) Authority.

Property Conveyed (0 of 19,729 total acres) and Projected

Parcel Name	Parcel Acres	Disposal Date	Parcel Recipient	Conveyance Authority
National Guard Parcel	7,421.0	2 nd Qtr FY16	ORNG	Fed-to-Fed
UMADRA EDC Parcel	12,308.0	4 th Qtr FY17	LRA	EDC

As of 1 October 2015



A chemical operations crew separates rocket motor and warhead sections on nine M55 rockets sent to an Army lab in Picatinny, N.J., for propellant sampling and analysis.



Workers in Umatilla prepare to deliver the final EONC, which is part of the "final campaign" of HD Mustard Ton Containers.

Key Milestones Achieved

- UMCD Title report completed (August 2008)
- UMADRA recognized and active (January 2009)
- Reuse plan completed by UMADRA and approved by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) (August 2010)
- Environmental Condition of Property Report (ECP) completed in June 2010 and updated in December 2012
- General Order of Closure issued and executed at the installation effective 1 August 2012
- Caretaker operations at UMCD commenced in August 2012



Headquarters, Bldg 1

