

# Army Newswatch Lead Sheet

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## Environmental Year in Review

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### LEAD:

ARMY ENVIRONMENTALISTS WERE BUSY THIS YEAR. WHILE THEY KEPT OUR LANDS READY FOR TRAINING THEY ALSO PREPARED FOR THE NEEDS OF A TRANSFORMING ARMY. ENVIRONMENTAL CORRESPONDENT JAVIER HERNANDEZ JOINS US WITH MORE ON THAT STORY, JAVIER?

### JAVIER:

IN 2001 ARMY ENVIRONMENTALIST CAME UP WITH SOME AMAZING SOLUTIONS FOR OLD CHALLENGES. BUT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR, LIKE EVERYONE ELSE, ENVIRONMENTALISTS KEPT HEARING ONE WORD, TRANSFORMATION.

### TAG:

AND THOSE ARE THE STORIES THAT TOPPED OUR ENVIRONMENTAL YEAR. NICK, SHANNON.

**Fonts:**

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**Additional Notes:**

**STORY:**

**“Well basically go from 3 maneuver brigades per division to 4, when we go to the interim brigade combat team.”- LTG Lawson McGruder, FORCOM Deputy**

**CMDR**

THOSE INCREASES IN MANEUVER BRIGADES COULD CHALLENGE ARMY TRAINERS. THEY’LL HAVE TO PLAN CAREFULLY TO AVOID TRAINING BOTTLENECKS AND WORK CLOSELY WITH LAND MANAGERS.

**“We’re going to have greater dispersion of our units. (cut) we’ve got to maximize every acre of training land we have.”-LTG MacGruder**

**“How well we manage the land is going to have everything to do with sustainability. If we take care of the land we have we’ll be able to train troops way into the future.”**

**– Garry Larson, ITAM Coordinator, Ft Richardson, Alaska**

THE ARMY’S FUEL AND ENERGY DEMANDS MAY CHANGE WITH TRANSFORMATION. REUSABLE ENERGY SOURCES LIKE THE SUN, WIND OR WATER COULD FUEL TOMORROW’S FORCE. And THAT COULD END OUR DEPENDENCY ON FOREIGN OIL.

**“I see this as an opportunity (cut) to start tailoring – not just the operational but the infrastructure that’s there – to be able to stand alone incase of a national disaster or energy crisis.” –Bill Stien, Ft Huachuca DPW**

BUT NOT EVERYONE WAS FOCUSED ON THE FUTURE. IN APRIL, ACTING SECRETARY OF THE ARMY HON. JOSEPH WESPHAL RECOGNIZED INSTALLATIONS AND PROFESSIONALS FOR GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS IN FIVE ENVIRONMENTAL CATEGORIES. THE BIG WINNERS WERE FT EUSTIS, VA, FT BLISS, TX, AND FT MCCOY, WIS, EACH WENT ON TO RECEIVE AWARDS

AT THE DOD LEVEL. FT EUSTIS EXCELLED IN POLLUTION PREVENTION. WHILE IT WAS CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT THAT WON HONORS FOR FT BLISS AND FT MCCOY.

WHEN ARMY ENVIRONMENTALIST WEREN'T ACCEPTING AWARDS THEY WERE OUT IN THEIR COMMUNITIES. "SCIENCE NIGHT" BROUGHT TOGETHER VOLUNTEERS FROM THE U.S. ARMY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER AND LOCAL SCHOOL KIDS. IT WAS A NIGHT OF HANDS ON SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS. ARMY PROFESSIONALS ALSO PARTICIPATED AT THE BOY SCOUT JAMBOREE AT FT AP HILL, VA, AND OF COURSE THERE WERE EARTHDAY CELEBRATIONS AROUND THE WORLD.

**"The Army has so many units, that are working as well with conservation efforts, and for them to come out, and bring their organizations out here to thousands of kids (cut) it's just a golden opportunity to get an educational message out."** –

*PAMALA SERY, ZOO ATLANTA*

BUT BY FAR THE MOST AMAZING STORY OF THE YEAR IS THE ARMY'S USE OF BIO-CONTROL AGENTS. AT FORT HUNTER-LIGGETT IN CALIFORNIA THREE INSECTS WERE RELEASED TO HELP CONTROL A SPINY PEST.

**"They burro a hole into the seed head or just below the seed head and when the larvae hatch they crawl up the seed head and destroy the seed. It won't actually kill the plant, just destroy the seed. "** – Mike Pitcairn, California Department of Food and Agriculture

IN THE LATE 90'S SCIENTISTS AT FT JACKSON, SC, RELEASED A DISEASE AND A FLY THAT PREY ON THE IMPORTED FIRE ANT. IT WILL TAKE A COUPLE YEARS TO SEE RESULTS BUT CURRENT DATA IS PROMISING.

**“What we’re hoping is that if they do become established and become very efficient, they’re a long term natural control agent for the fire ant. So in unmanaged areas like road sides and parks it will make the ants more tolerable.” – David Oi**

AND THEN THERE'S HAWTHORNE ARMY AMMUNITION DEPOT IN HAWTHORNE, NV. AT HAWTHORNE THE ARMY IS USING THE MICROORGANISMS IN COW MANURE TO CLEAN UP HIGH EXPLOSIVE CONTAMINATION IN THE SOIL. THE PROCESS IS QUICK, CLEAN AND COST EFFECTIVE. TOTAL CLEAN UP IS EXPECTED IN 10 TO 12 YEARS.

TAG:

AND THOSE ARE THE STORIES THAT MADE OUR ENVIRONMENTAL YEAR, NICK, SHANNON.