



2003

Issue IV

CENTRAL

REGION



CENTRAL REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE

US ARMY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

Fort Hood Convenes First Environmental Summit

By Fort Hood
Sentinel Staff

Fort Hood's first-ever environmental summit was held Oct. 21 at the Phantom Warrior Center bringing together area civic leaders, environmental groups, representatives from local and state regulatory agencies and military trainers who use Fort Hood's lands.

As the Master of Ceremonies, Col. William Parry, Fort Hood Garrison commander said just about every possible interest group was in attendance and each would play a role in keeping Fort Hood a sustainable installation.

Sustainable installations, Col. Parry said, are capable, available and accessible to support training requirements.

Activities at the summit included detailed briefings about current environmental-related programs and activities on Fort Hood, a working luncheon and panel discussions on air quality issues, endangered species protection as well as future realignment goals.

Col. Randall Butler, of the Directorate of Public Works for Fort Hood, said the summit was held to satisfy specific needs: to assure the public the post is

serious about protecting natural resources, located in its training areas, including endangered species and ensuring that training areas are continuously being improved.

Butler said event coordinators hoped to show that the collaboration of everyone in attendance is essential to maintain a successful environmental program in the future.

Dennis Herbert, chief of the Natural Resources Branch at Fort Hood agreed that a partnership between the post and surrounding communities is crucial. Partnerships were already formed in the past, he said, but have recently become more intense, and because of this, more problems have been solved.

"It's a give-and-take situation," he said. "But this [summit] was a great start for trying to bring a lot of people together."

Other organizations in attendance included the Nature Conservancy, Bell County Water Control and Improvement District, the Texas Audubon Society, the National Park Service, Texas Parks and Wildlife, the Texas State Agricultural Commission, the Texas Cattleman's Asso-

ciation, the National Fish and Wildlife Association, the Texas Historic Commission, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, the Texas Environmental Partnership and other state and local officials.

Fort Hood is a major urban community in the Central Texas area, encompassing 326 square miles, including 137,000 acres of maneuver area, employing more than 40,000 soldiers and 5,900 civilians and housing 16,500 family members.

While it is a military installation and focuses on training soldiers for war fighting, Col. Butler said the goal is to preserve the environment while accomplishing that mission.

"America entrusts the Army with her two most valuable assets: first, her sons and daughters, and second, pieces of the country itself," said Parry. "I will tell you, at Fort Hood we are sworn to protect them both." ❧

Fort Hood Training Range. Photo courtesy of Defense Visual Information Center.



In This Issue

★ Chief Commentary	2
★ Fort Polk EMR/EPAS Audit	3
★ Archaeology Month at Fort Hood	4
★ Legally Brief: In the Supreme Court, Alaska v. EPA	6
★ Castner UXO Clean-up Continues	7
★ TX ANG on Matagorda Island	8
★ Fort Riley JLUS Update	9
★ Fort Leonard Wood Sailors	10
★ Fort Riley Hi-Tech Elk Herd	11

Chief Commentary

Bart Ives - CREO Chief/DoD Region 7 REC
barton.ives@us.army.mil



Maybe some of you have noticed that the by-lines for most of the articles in this publication are from installation level environmental staff. This is in keeping with some of the prime directives we have here in the CREO in fulfilling our mission as an Army Regional Environmental Office and my role in particular as the Department of Defense Regional Environmental Coordinator for Region 7.

What we try to do is offer a media by which, on a regional basis, installation staff can showcase their successes, good deeds, and lessons learned. Our readership includes command leaders and environmental personnel at military installations, activities including the Army Corps of Engineers, the National Guard and the Reserve, environmental staff thru service headquarters and secretariats, and the OADUSD(E).

What really sets this effort off from our monthly *CREO Regulatory Review* is that we make a point of sharing it with state and federal regulatory agencies, legislators, and environmental interest groups. The fact that the DoD is so involved and committed in protecting the environment is often an eye-opening revelation to our non-DoD friends. That goes a long way towards building trust in the DoD's commitment to the environment. Perhaps it can even contribute to support for some of the legislative initiatives that DoD had undertaken in the last couple of years. Our hope is that in the long run success of such efforts contributes to the long-term sustainability of our installations and their ability to support training and readiness.



CREO Participation Calendar DoD REC Region 7 Army RECs Regions 6 & 7

- 1/5-8 Sustainable Range Management Conference, New Orleans, LA
- 1/12-16 AEC-REO Conference, Washington, DC
- 1/21-23 Texas Air Workgroup Meeting, Dallas, TX
- 1/27-28 DoD Perchlorate Meeting, Randolph AFB, San Antonio, TX
- 2/17-19 Louisiana DEC Conference on the Environment, Lafayette, LA
- 2/25-26 Texas Environmental Partnership Meeting, Dyess AFB, TX
- 3/2-5 Balancing Nature and Commerce in Gateway Communities, Savannah, GA
- 3/12-16 Archaeological Resource Protection Act Training, Ft. Hood, TX
- 3/17-19 Louisiana DEQ Environmental Conference, Lafayette, LA
- 5/17-20 Global Demilitarization Symposium, Dallas, TX
- 8/16-20 ITAM Workshop, San Francisco, CA

Newsletter Electronic Distribution

.....
 If you would like to receive this newsletter via e-mail in PDF format, please contact us at the e-mail address listed on the back.

Indicate if you wish to continue receiving a hard copy otherwise you will only receive electrons.

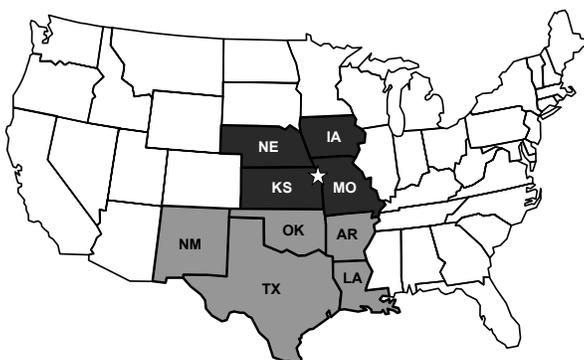
CREO Contacts

Chief/DoD REC Region 7
 Bart Ives - (816) 983-3449

Army REC Region 6
 (816) 983-3450

Army REC Region 7
 (816) 983-3445

CREO Regional Counsel
 (816) 983-3448



CREO Nine-State Area of Responsibility

- DoD REC Region 7 [Dark Gray Box]
- Army REC Region 6 [Light Gray Box]
- Army REC Region 7 [Dark Gray Box]

Fort Polk's Environmental Management System Audited by EPA and the Army EPAS Team—Scores Two, First Ever Bench Marks

By **Carrie Henderson**

Solid Waste Manager, Fort Polk

Executive Order (EO) 13148, *Greening the Government Through Leadership in Environment Management*, calls for all federal facilities to implement an Environmental Management System (EMS) by 31 December 2005. In response to the EO, the Department of the Army set a goal to have an EMS in place at all installations and facilities by that date with full conformance to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 14001 environmental standards no later than FY 2009.

The Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) and Fort Polk (Fort Polk) began development of its EMS in November 2000, when the installation performed an EMS gap analysis. BG Jason Kamiya signed the Fort Polk ISO-14001-compliant EMS master document on 27 January 2003, formally implementing the installation EMS. The overall objective established by the EMS is to:

"Enforce ecologically and economically sound programs that promote responsible stewardship of the environment in daily operations, minimizing short and long term impact to the ecosystem of the Fort Polk community; while providing cost effective training benefits to this installation."

Fort Polk invited the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 to conduct an Environmental Management Review (EMR) in the first quarter of 2003. The purpose of the EMR conducted by the EPA was to evaluate Fort Polk's environmental program in the context of an EMS. The EMR provided feedback on the effectiveness of environmental management programs, benchmarked environmental performance, and identified opportunities for improvement for Fort Polk.

EPA's summary comments in regards to the EMR included statements such as:

- "Fort Polk clearly recognizes the benefits of an EMS and has taken several im-

portant steps towards implementation. For example, the facility has a formal environmental policy statement that is approved at the highest levels."

- "There are several innovative organizational structures that enhance the performance of the Fort Polk/JRTC EMS, including: the Environmental Compliance Officer (ECO) program, designation of Customer Service Technical Representatives, and the Hazardous Waste Market (HAZMART)."

- "There is a documented process for recording findings and tracking their disposition to closeout."

The items listed below are examples of some of the existing strengths and recommendations documented by the EMR Team:

- Environmental programs, responsibilities, and procedures are consolidated in the Environmental Management Plan Master Document. The document is reviewed annually and revised as necessary to reflect changes in requirements, policies, and procedures.

- Fort Polk presents separate annual awards to the ECOs and the individual unit that demonstrate outstanding environmental leadership. The award is presented by the Commanding General.

- Fort Polk has a comprehensive P2 plan that appears to have been extensively implemented. The resulting reductions (reported in the annual Environmental Sourcebook, Volume 4) in hazardous waste and non-diverted solid waste, as well as increases in recycling, have been substantial.

- Fort Polk has instituted a formal pro-



Stryker vehicles fueling in secondary containment structure purchased as part of P2 effort. Photo Courtesy of Fort Polk.

ject priority ranking system that incorporates environmental issues (especially relating to maintaining compliance) into the decision-making process. Pollution prevention is also included as a ranking criterion.

- The HAZMART and its rigorous inventory control system enables Fort Polk to maintain a high degree of control over the purchasing, distribution, collection, generation, and appropriate disposition of hazardous materials. In addition, the HAZMART promotes recycling and ultimately saves resources (in excess of \$3.0 million as of November 2003).

- The environmental training program is well-developed. Training needs are identified, records are maintained, and training is tracked through a formal process.

- Fort Polk has a procedure for tracking changes to environmental requirements and for ensuring these changes are distributed to appropriate personnel. Changes are identified by environmental staff, distributed to the seven ECSTs, and ultimately disseminated to the units through the ECOs.

- Metrics have been developed and data collected to support performance assessment with respect to P2 and environ-

(Continued on page 5)

Fort Hood Hosts Texas Archaeology Month with International Flavor

By Kristen E. Wenzel

Fort Hood Field Archaeologist and Outreach Event Coordinator

Texas archaeology month, celebrated each October, features the history of human experience in the state and the role of archaeology by exploring the past. As it has in previous years, Fort Hood's Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Office organized a number of events to raise awareness of archaeology, expanding beyond the borders of Texas. With a theme of "Texas' Finest in Faraway Places," Fort Hood CRM highlighted the ancient history and cultures of the countries where many Fort Hood soldiers are deployed.

Many people think cultural anthropology and archaeology are only concerned with the study of things ancient or primitive. A video series dispelled this myth, showing how these disciplines contribute towards an understanding and awareness of modern societies in different countries. In a video on North Korea, viewers had an inside look at the history and culture of one of the world's most secretive countries. Another video examined the complexity of integrating development with cultural values

in Asia, Cambodia and Laos. Tribal conflicts were examined in a video exploring the new role of the military in peacekeeping operations in countries divided along cultural factions. The final and most popular video examined the history of warfare in the ancient civilizations of modern Iraq. Soldiers, civilians and schoolchildren attended the series and, according to interviews conducted by local media, found them to be helpful in improving awareness of other countries. The popularity and effectiveness of this series can be seen in the numerous requests to view the videos coming into the CRM Office from deploying military units.

Expanding the scope of Texas Archaeology Month to encompass issues of direct interest to the military population raised awareness of the Fort Hood Cultural Resource Program and its role on the installation. Each event allowed office staff a chance to interact with soldiers and civilians and distribute literature and information on Fort Hood's CRM activities.

and Fort Hood's Archaeology Resource Management publications. To close out Texas Archaeology Month, Fort Hood CRM sponsored a free fair. On a sunny Saturday, children clustered at a Fort Hood picnic area to watch a flintknapper make stone tools, practice spear throwing with an atlatl, make their own Native crafts or dig in an archaeology box for artifacts. The Fairway Middle School History Club of Killeen, Texas conducted a paleontological "dig" and guided participants in mapping and identifying fossils. As children ran around showing off their miniature teepees and dreamcatchers and pulling on their complimentary Fort Hood Archaeology t-shirts the fair was deemed a success by the attending military and civilian families, who were grateful for this fun and educational event.

The month long celebration of Texas Archaeology allowed the personnel of the Fort Hood CRM office a chance to increase awareness of the historical properties under their management. The Texas Historic Commission provided a variety of useful brochures on the laws governing archaeological properties and the importance of preservation and protection of sites. Along with Fort Hood's own informational brochure, these materials were distributed during events. As a result, by the end of the month the office had received a deluge of requests for school visits, sergeant's time training, and presentations to local community groups demonstrating the impact of participating in state-wide celebrations or International events like Earth Day. These events provide an opportunity to raise awareness and improve understanding of the role environmental offices play in day-to-day operations on an installation.

In addition to the video series, Fort Hood held a month long open house at their office and an Archaeology Fair. The open house included displays of artifacts from Fort Hood archaeology sites as well as a variety of free literature such as brochures, posters, archaeology magazines,



A student from Fairway Middle School (second from the left) explains how to record and map a fossil find. Photo by Kristen Wenzel, Fort Bliss.



EPAS assessors inspecting the 519th MP motorpool facility. Photo courtesy of Fort Polk.

(*Ft. Polk EMS continued from page 3*)

mental compliance. The results of these metrics are reported annually in the Environmental Sourcebook, Volume 4.

The EPA noted several challenges to full implementation and operation of a comprehensive EMS. These challenges include incorporating recently privatized installation functions into the EMS structure and formally documenting and performing internal assessments of environmental programs on the installation.

The EMR proved to be so successful that the Summer 2003 issue of EPA's, Fed-Facts stated, "Fort Polk is leading the way to transforming Army operations to meet emergency security challenges and established its installation-wide EMS in January 2003."

Fort Polk has recently approved its formal Internal Environmental Assessment Plan that was developed in response to the EMR review and an Installation Management Agency (IMA) directive. The plan calls for joint quarterly inspections with organizational ECOs and ECSTs, a week-long environmental assessment week to assess the overall installation environmental compliance, and assessments of compliance by external environmental professionals every three years as part of the Army's Environmental Performance Assessment System (EPAS).

In September 2003, Fort Polk completed its external EPAS. The 13-member assessment team spent two weeks and more than 500 hours on the

installation visiting all areas of operation, including medical facilities, hazardous waste accumulation sites, storage tanks, ammunition supply point, HAZMART, Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO), water and wastewater treatment plants, Directorate of Public Works (DPW) maintenance and operations facilities, Warrior Brigade facilities, Directorate of Community Activities (DCA) facilities, and the Consolidated Solid Waste Collection Facility

(8300 Block).

The EPAS executive summary indicated, "The overall environmental program at JRTC and Fort Polk was excellent. The low number of negative findings could be directly attributed to ... the overall attitude towards environmental stewardship throughout the installation." Again demonstrating the effectiveness of its EMS, *Fort Polk accomplished two first-time benchmarks for the Army during the September 2003 EPAS. A zero negative findings in the hazardous waste media area was a first for the Army. The installation received no negative findings in a military area for the second consecutive external assessment, which is another first for the Army.*

The EPAS team also recognized positive findings for areas where the installation went "above and beyond" compliance requirements. These findings represent exemplary implementation of environmental initiatives. The positive findings are much more difficult to receive than negative findings. The team noted nine positive findings in eight different media areas: air emissions, environmental impacts, hazardous waste, lead-based paint, environmental noise, natural resources (two positive

findings), program management, and pollution prevention. This number of positive findings was one of the largest awarded using the current assessment strategy.

The excellent ratings from the EPAS team resulted from proactive environmental program management across the installation. The extensive environmental training program raised environmental awareness and increased overall environmental stewardship. The EPAS team noted that the ECST program, which assists the individual unit ECOs, combined with the exceptional training "aided greatly in the reduction of risk from regulatory enforcement actions." The assessment team noticed the strong community relationship that Fort Polk has developed through education and involvement that has "foster[ed] a positive spirit of cooperation and trust between the installation and the public."

The ECOs throughout the installation were invaluable in assuring success during the assessment. The ECOs were able to demonstrate through their records and their implementation of environmental requirements that environmental considerations have been integrated into daily operations. The installation owes its success during this assessment in large part to the conscientious implementation of environmental stewardship principles on a day-to-day basis by the organizational ECOs and to the support the ECOs receive from their leadership.

20



EPA visiting Red Cockaded Woodpecker (endangered species) site during EMR. Photo courtesy of Fort Polk.



Matters of Interest to All DoD Components



Legally Brief

In the Supreme Court: State of Alaska v. US Environmental Protection Agency, Who has Primacy in Best Available Control Technology (BACT) Determinations?

By Stanley Rasmussen
CREO Regional Counsel

In a previous column of this newsletter, I discussed states rights and how the 1907 Supreme Court ruled in the Ducktown copper smelter case. Simply put, that ruling says that states have the authority to determine what is best for its citizens when considering environmental issues. Now there is case before the Supreme Court that once again addresses the question of the power of a state to determine what is best for its citizens in an environmental matter. In *Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) v. US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)*, the Supreme Court is being asked to resolve a conflict between ADEC and EPA pertaining to interpretation of the Clean Air Act (CAA). This case, if decided in favor of ADEC, could have a substantial impact upon the ability of states to determine how to implement their air-permitting program for major emission sources.

The key issue in *ADEC v EPA*, is a Best Available Control Technology (BACT) determination that ADEC prepared for a mining company that seeks to install a new diesel fueled generator at a mine in Alaska. In conducting its analysis, the state determined that the "permitting authority," i.e., the State of Alaska, is authorized by the Clean Air Act to exercise broad discretion in making such a determination and cite the CAA BACT definition as guidance. The CAA states that BACT is:

"...an emission limitation based on the maximum degree of reduction of each [regulated] pollutant...which the permitting authority, on a case-by-case basis, taking into account, energy, environmental, and economic impact and

other costs, determines is achievable for such facility...." **42 U.S.C. 7479 (3)** (emphasis added).

After conducting its technical and regulatory analysis, ADEC determined that the most appropriate technology to control the emissions of oxides of nitrogen (NOx) is a technology generally referred to as "Low-NOx" and not a more expensive technology referred to as Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR). ADEC supports its determination by pointing out that the economic impact of the mining operations is extremely important to the local economy of the area. In addition, ADEC stated that the mine offered to voluntarily install Low-NOx on other generators at the mine in lieu of the SCR, and claimed that these Low-NOx units would be an environmental benefit in the form of a net reduction in total emissions from the mine. The EPA, however, disagreed with ADEC's rationale and decision to select Low-NOx as BACT and issued a series of orders prohibiting construction of the generator.

EPA, on the other hand, rightly claims that the CAA provides them with authority to enforce any "requirement" of the CAA. Moreover, the EPA claims that the above CAA provision does not insulate the state from the EPA's oversight and enforcement authority under the CAA, and to support its case, the EPA claims that ADEC's BACT determination was arbitrary, capricious, and simply wrong. In finding for the EPA, the lower court noted that ADEC's apparent motivation for elimination of SCR is

"uncomfortably reminiscent of one of the very reasons Congress granted EPA enforcement authority—to protect states from industry pressure to issue ill-advised permits."

On October 8, 2003, at 10:02 a.m., the Supreme Court heard oral arguments for this case. The questions posed by the Justices to both sides were equally difficult. For example, after getting the Alaska counsel to admit that EPA must have some level of inherent authority to oversee state implementation of CAA requirements, the counsel was asked to explain why Alaska felt that EPA was inappropriately asserting its authority in this case. The Justices also challenged the EPA. For example, EPA was pressed to explain why Alaska was being arbitrary and capricious in taking into account the economic impact of the mine on the community and the apparent environmental benefit that would be obtained by ADEC accepting the mines offer to install Low-NOx on all generators. By 10:56 a.m. the oral arguments had ended and the state and federal attorneys could do nothing further than wait for the decision.

CREO will monitor this case with great interest. Accordingly, I will report on the outcome of this case in a future edition of this newsletter. If you want further information concerning the specific issues in this case or any other environmental legal issue, please contact the CREO Regional Counsel at 816-983-3448.



UXO Clean-up Efforts Continue on Castner Range, Fort Bliss, Texas

By Pfc. Michael Garrett

Fort Bliss Monitor Staff

A previous article published in Issue 3 of "The Central Region Environmental Newsletter" described the initial effort undertaken by the Army to remove hazards posed by unexploded ordnance on Castner Range, Fort Bliss, Texas. This article describes the continuation of removal activities of unexploded ordnance on Castner Range as teams are finding more UXO than previously expected.

The current clean-up effort, which began in June 2003, was expected to clear 1,291 acres. Now estimates are suggesting that number could be less than 1,000 acres according to Fort Bliss' Environment Restoration Manager (ERM).

The current efforts are very time consuming because UXO being uncovered at a higher than expected rate. But, UXO is not the only unexpected thing that have been found. Ten crew-served machine gun firing points, used during WWII and the Korean War, that were not shown on any previous map of the range, were discovered.

"We have used 60 percent more of our budget than we originally planned for this point in the project," said the ERM. The area was originally thought to contain one UXO per three acres, but is averaging one per two acres. So far 40



Detonation of UXO found on Castner Range. Inset: Mortar round embedded in soil. Photo Courtesy of Fort Bliss.

devices have been found in 81 acres and have been disposed of. There is also much more buried fragmentation requiring more investigation than planned for this area.

"As long as the budget allows us to continue, we will clear as much as we can," said Fort Bliss' ERM. Once the current funds expire, more will be requested to finish the project. "We will clear every single acre 100 percent," he said, "we just may not be covering as many acres as originally planned."

Castner Range was used from 1926-1966 as a firing range for Fort

Bliss. During that time the range was located outside the city limits. The range has been off-limits since closing in 1966 for safety reasons.

Of the original 8,328 acres, only 1,761 have been cleared of UXO. The majority of this land was cleared during the 1970's and turned over to the City of El Paso. This area includes where Castner Heights, Cohen Stadium, Wal-Mart, Lowe's, and the two museums on Transmountain Road are now located.

The current clean up includes five specific areas known for their high incidence of trespassing. They include the areas adjacent to the North Hills Housing, the area north of Hondo Pass, the poppy viewing area surrounding the El Paso Museum of Archaeology at Wilderness Park and the Border Patrol Museum, the City of El Paso's access road and Fusselman Canyon.



UXO teams search for ordnance and fragments. Photo Courtesy of Fort Bliss.

6th Civil Support Team, Texas Army National Guard, Assist in Matagorda Drum Run

Spc. Derek Del Rosario

*Environmental Office, Camp Mabry,
Texas Army National Guard*

Located off the Central Texas coast, Matagorda Island is home to abundant marine life and some species of endangered birds. Much of the nearly 40-mile-long island is practically untouched and is considered a pristine treasure of salt marshes and Gulf beach land where visitors can enjoy boating, fishing or bird watching. And two members of the Texas Army National Guard have made an effort to keep it that way.

Staff Sgt. Joe Calderon and Spc. Jason Wymer, both members of the 6th Civil Support Team (CST), Texas Army National Guard, assisted the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in conjunction with the Coast Guard during the semi-annual Matagorda Island Drum Run from June 15-19.

The Drum Run, an activity that takes place along the beaches of Matagorda Island, is an event intended to restore and maintain the natural beauty of the land by collecting and transporting waste material off the island. During this year's Drum Run, more than 50 containers of waste material were removed from the beaches, categorized as to hazard class and transported off the island for disposal.

According to members of the 6th CST, timing is a large factor in coordinating the Drum Run. "This event occurs twice a year when the tides are high," said Calderon. "The most debris will wash ashore at these moments (of the year), usually in early June and late September."

Wymer agrees that Mother Nature plays a large part in the planning of the clean up event.

"Due to the currents of the ocean, a large amount of trash in the Gulf will end up on the beaches of Matagorda Island," Wymer said. "The Drum Run is intended to clean up the island by disposing of drums, vats and any materials

that might be a danger to the environment."

All members of the clean up team played an important role in the Drum Run. As it turned out, the 6th CST provided a service that proved to be vital to the personnel cleaning up the island.

"The CST's mission was to provide communication to the workers cleaning up the island," said Calderon. "We contributed phone, internet and fax service to the personnel on the island. We provided their only means of communication."

The communication assistance allowed the surveyors on the island to be as efficient as possible.

"The internet connection we provided allowed them to keep in contact with their superiors," said Wymer. "Instead of getting on the boat and taking an hour-long trip back to the mainland, our service allowed the surveyors to e-mail their progress reports and save valuable time."

Communication support also allowed the clean-up personnel to call in for assistance when it was needed.

"There were a couple of occasions where their vehicles broke down or got stuck in the sand," Calderon said. "Using the satellite phones we provided them, we were able to obtain help from the mainland."

In addition to assisting in high-quality environmental practice, Wymer also gained personal satisfaction during the



Loading vehicles for transport to Matagorda Island for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) biannual Drum Run to remove waste from the beach shore. Photo courtesy of the 6th Civil Support Team.

CST's involvement of the Matagorda Drum Run. The event provided the soldier with hands-on training in the field.

"The event was a valuable training tool for me," said Wymer. "I got further training on the Unified Command Suite (UCS), which involves the operation of the satellite dish and communication systems."

The Drum Run work force endured vigorous work days to transport the containers of waste off the island. Beginning every work day at around 6 a.m., personnel surveyed the containers to determine if any substances were hazardous. They would then categorize any chemicals and separate them into individual containers for proper disposal. The surveyors covered about 40 miles of island in just four days.

"The Drum Run is a very tiring and challenging mission," Calderon said. "People are very exhausted at the end of the day, but the fact that you have accomplished something is very gratifying. This event is a great opportunity to gain good training while providing a valuable service to the environment."

(Continued on page 9)

Fort Riley Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) Update



By David P. Jones

Directorate of Environment and Safety, Fort Riley

Staff members from Fort Riley's Directorate of Environment and Safety and a representative from the Department Defense have been meeting throughout the summer and fall with representatives from surrounding communities and counties to proceed with the Flint Hills Joint Land Use Study (JLUS). The JLUS is a cooperative land use planning effort between military installations and surrounding communities, designed to allow for community growth and development that is compatible with the training or operational mission of the military installation. A typical study identifies actions that could and should be taken by the communities and the installation to resolve existing land use conflicts and prevent future ones. It helps the surrounding communities understand the economic and physical impact of an installation's operations on the area and evaluates the impacts of a community's development decisions on the viability of the installation's mission.

Jurisdictions participating in the JLUS include the cities of Manhattan, Junction City, Milford, Riley, Grandview Plaza, Ogden, Riley and Geary county. The surrounding communities implement the JLUS with participation from Fort

Riley. Junction City has taken the role of a lead agency to submit the grant application and provide administrative oversight.

A group of individuals from participating entities called the Working Group has been the core of the initial stages of JLUS. This core group of planners, city managers and Fort Riley staff will be contracting a consulting firm to develop the JLUS. A large portion of their effort has been to draft a scope of work and Request for Proposal. In addition, the Working Group has established a basic structural organization for JLUS composed of three tiers: A Policy Committee, a Steering Committee and a Technical Committee. The Policy Committee will be made up of one representative from each of the nine participating jurisdictions (including Fort Riley). Representatives to this committee would likely be elected officials from each city/county and will also include a representative from the Fort Riley Command Group. The Policy Committee will make final decisions on the project, including approval of the scope of work, selection of the consultant and provide approval of the final study re-

port. A Steering Committee will be appointed to work with the consultant, and make recommendations to the Policy Committee during the course of the JLUS. This committee will be made up of two representatives from each participating jurisdiction, plus one representative from Kansas State University and two at-large members.

A Technical Committee, made up of professional staff from the participating jurisdictions will work to manage the JLUS including the development of the scope of services as well as maintain day-to day contact with the consultant.

Fort Riley has been conducting public outreach during the summer and fall. A public meeting was held in the small town of Keats as well as presentations to civic clubs and outreach through media outlets. An important aspect of public outreach has been to attend planning board meetings to provide input into proposed planning actions by surrounding communities and counties. Additional details regarding progress of the JLUS will be made available as key milestones are met.

80

(Drum Run, continued from page 8)

Many endangered species including the Whooping Crane, the Ridley Sea Turtle and the Horned Lizard can be found on Matagorda Island. Maintaining a clean beach shore can help ensure that these threatened species can remain in existence.

"The island is a sanctuary for some of the endangered species. Some of these species don't have a fighting chance to survive inland," said Calderon. "Washed up containers would erode over time. Who knows what could be around that it could harm."

Upon their arrival, TCEQ personnel found the island was cleaner than it had been in previous years, showing signs that progress is being made. Hopefully this trend can continue, and events like the Drum Run can influence even more contributions to the environment.



Vehicles in transit to Matagorda Island for the TCEQ biannual Drum Run to remove waste. Photo courtesy of the 6th Civil Support Team.

80

Fort Leonard Wood Sailors Take On Clean-up of Roubidoux Creek

By Chief Petty Officer Adorable Javier

*Navy Detachment, Fort Leonard Wood
Special to GUIDON*

On Saturday, August 2, 2003, members from the Fort Leonard Wood Navy Detachment and the Roubidoux Fly Fishers Association, joined forces to clear more than three miles of the Roubidoux stream of trash and debris.

Lt. Jerry McNally, the officer in charge of the project, eight staff members and 19 students met at Waynesville Municipal Park with eight members of the Roubidoux Fly Fishers Association to tackle this monumental task. This group of highly motivated and concerned citizens opted to spend their Saturday giving back to their community.

Wading from ankle-high to chest deep in 55 degree stream water, they split up into four teams and picked up every bit of trash that came their way. They netted nearly four tons of debris consisting of ordinary consumer trash, 26 automobile tires, two household water heaters, a spring mattress, and numerous unidentifiable pieces of metal. Some large trash such as a refrigerator, an automobile chassis, a stove oven, and a metal dumpster was marked for removal by



Volunteers waded up to their chests in search of garbage. Photo Courtesy of Fort Leonard Wood.

special weight handling equipment.

By noontime, the group gathered together and claimed bragging rights on which team had picked up the most trash. One participant said, "This is like going on a treasure hunt, you never know what you might find in these waters."

"We'd love to do this over again," added a group of students enthusiastically.

Safely back in Waynesville Park, they share a hearty meal

and old time stories dating back to the days when a student volunteer received a prize for catching the biggest "crawdada" and another got one for the most number caught. But more importantly was what the Navy Detachment received due to their Seabee "Can Do"

support. They were inducted into Missouri Stream Team One in the conservation of Missouri's water lanes as acknowledged by the Missouri Stream Team Program.

The Missouri Stream Team Program is a conservation program that cleans and preserves the natural lanes of water around the area, freeing them of trash and debris. It began in 1989 when they gathered 14 tons of urban waste on their initial effort. Now the team is planning to hold an annual

clean up to clear the Show Me State's streams of trash. They now have over 2,400 teams with 46,000 volunteers.

The program is so successful that it is currently operating in nearby Arkansas and as far away as Australia. Men and women, like the volunteers from the Navy Detachment and the Roubidoux Fly Fishers Association, labor diligently in keeping our natural resources pristine



One of five canoe-loads of junk found collected in Roubidoux Creek. Photo Courtesy of Fort Leonard Wood.

for generations to come. So before you throw even a tiny piece of trash into one of Missouri's many lakes or streams, take a moment and think of how much effort goes into preserving them.



A portion of the estimated total of 3.5 tons of garbage collected by the Navy Detachment crew. Photo Courtesy of Fort Leonard Wood.

New Hi-Tech Hardware for Fort Riley Elk Herd



By Fort Riley Conservation Office Staff

Fort Riley's elk herd has some new hi-tech hardware. On October 26 and 27, the Directorate of Environment and Safety (DES) along with Fort Riley's Conservation Officers, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP), the Kansas Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit and New Mexico Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit were able to



A cow elk runs off after being fitted with a telemetry collar.
Photo courtesy of Fort Riley Conservation staff.

successfully radio collar 16 head of elk. A total of 14 cows and 2 bulls were processed.

The elk were sedated with a tranquilizer gun, which was shot from a helicopter. Blood samples were collected and a body condition analysis was completed. Then each elk was fitted with a radio collar that will allow biologists to track the animal's movements. The process took about 20 minutes from the time the animal laid down and when it was back up again.

DES will begin tracking the movements of the radio-collared elk in the next couple of weeks. This will provide valuable data to determine the animal's home range, reproductive success and population indices. The DES and KDWP ask that



Fitting of a bull elk with a telemetry collar.
Photo courtesy of Fort Riley Conservation staff.

persons with a 2003 elk tag valid on Fort Riley avoid harvest of any radio-collared elk.

The project is being funded from a grant through the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and funds from the Fort Riley hunting and fishing fees. If you have any questions, please contact the Conservation Office at (785) 239-6211.



USEPA Releases "Draft Report on the Environment"

In Summer of 2003, USEPA announced the release of the EPA "Draft Report on the Environment" hailed as "an unprecedented effort" by the Agency to present the first-ever national picture of environmental quality and human health in the United States. It has been said that "This Draft Report on the Environment documents real gains in providing a cleaner, healthier and safer environment and it begins an important national dialogue on how we can improve our ability to assess the nation's environmental quality and human health, and how we can use that knowledge to make improvements".

The work began on November 13, 2001, when Administrator Whitman announced an "Environmental Indicators Initiative" to improve USEPA's ability to report on the status of and trends in environmental conditions and their impacts on human health and the nation's natural re-

sources.

USEPA's *Draft Report on the Environment (ROE)* consists of a Technical Document and a version of the report for general reading. These reports pose national questions about the environment and human health and answer those questions wherever scientifically sound indicators are available. The Draft Technical Document discusses the limitations of the currently available indicators and data, and the gaps and challenges that must be overcome to provide better answers in the future. To access the entire report, please go to <http://www.epa.gov/indicators/abouteei.htm>.



Newsletter Electronic Distribution

If you would like to receive this newsletter via e-mail in PDF format, please contact us at the e-mail address listed on the below. Indicate if you wish to continue receiving a hard copy otherwise you will only receive electrons.

U.S. Army Environmental Center
Central Regional Environmental Office
601 E. 12th Street, Suite 647
Kansas City, MO 64106-2896

AE - 1

CREO 2003 Issue IV ENVIRONMENTAL NEWSLETTER



The Central Regional Environmental Office (CREO) *Environmental Newsletter* is an unofficial publication authorized under AR 360-1. It is published quarterly by the U.S. Army Environmental Center, CREO, 601 E. 12th Street, Suite 647, Kansas City, MO 64106-2896; Telephone: (816) 983-3548, Fax: (816) 426-7414. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Army. Proposed articles should be submitted to the CREO editor. Submissions are subject to editing and rewriting as deemed necessary.

Commander, USAEC
Chief, Public Affairs
Chief, CREO

COL James M. De Paz
Robert DiMichele
Bart Ives

Mission: The CREO supports the Army and DoD mission through coordination, communication and facilitation of regional environmental activities. The Army REOs are part of a DoD network in which the Army, Air Force and Navy each has lead responsibility for mission implementation in the 10 Standard Federal regions. The CREO has DoD lead responsibility for Region 7 and Army lead responsibility for Regions 6 & 7.

WWW Edition: <http://aec.army.mil/usaec/reo/index.html>



Submit an article
be Added to our mailing list
be Removed from our mailing list
Change your address



E-mail requests: CREO.Project.Manager@nwk02.usace.army.mil