“Our water, our land, our people….. our National Defense?”

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2017 NACD Annual Meeting
Conservation Expo

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ON THE EDGE OF ENCROACHMENT...

MOM!
The Department of Defense's Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program is a key tool for promoting innovative and land conservation partnerships that benefit national defense, neighboring communities, and the environment.

Realistic combat training, pristine test environments, and operational capability are keys to keeping our service members safe. However, encroachment issues are creating obstacles that threaten military activities.

- Parachute training is halted when housing developments are built near drop sites.
- Flight testing, training, and operations are impeded by cellphone towers, wind farms, and developments.
- Weapons testing and training causes noise, dust, and smoke complaints from nearby communities.
- Night training is compromised when light pollution from nearby commercial areas spreads.
- Urban sprawl decreases habitat and may cause Federally protected species to seek sanctuary on military lands.
- 80% of military bases have surrounding development that is higher than the national average.
Fort Bragg charged with harming habitat of woodpecker species

By CLAUDIA MARKEY
Citizen Staff Writer

Troop training and reduced operations at the U.S. Army base at Fort Bragg near Fayetteville are reducing federal efforts protecting red-cockaded woodpeckers, prestigious environmental groups have charged.

The endangered woodpeckers live in the Sandhills of North Carolina, which includes the military base, and the population is thought to be the largest east of the state, and may be the second largest known worldwide, according to the U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service.

Despite such improvements, only 564 nest sites are believed to exist within the Sandhills.

Since 1977, efforts to save the Fort Bragg, Southern Pines and Lumberton and Hoke County, adjacent to Fort Bragg, haven't been sufficient to ensure long-term survival, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Fort Bragg alone is larger than the Monroe County boundary line of the Sandhills.

The significance of the local woodpecker has been enhanced because of the base and cooperated woodpecker at Fort Bragg, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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Before the storm, the population was estimated to be the largest known east of the state, and approximately 470 pairs were counted. The hurricane adversely affected 19 percent of the active territory, according to a formal report.

The Army has been cooperative in preserving the woodpecker, allowing land use and operations that support the bird, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
Red-cockaded woodpecker

You betcha, little bud, I've got yer back!

This nice man is going to help protect you!

Sandhills Gamelands & Fort Bragg

Barbour © 2002
What is REPI?

**Mission:** to protect the military’s ability to accomplish its training, testing, and operational missions by helping remove or avoid land-use conflicts near installations and addressing regulatory restrictions that inhibit military activities.
Under REPI authority, $662 million in DoD funds have been leveraged with $639 million in partner funds to protect over 466,000 acres and sustain military readiness at 89 installations in 30 states through compatible land projects, landscape partnerships, and stakeholder engagement.
**SENTINEL LANDSCAPES**

**Protect Vital Military Test and Training Missions**
- DoD Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program
- DoD Office of Economic Adjustment
- DoD Natural Resources Program

**Core Values and Programs**
- Provide noise and safety buffers
- Encourage compatible land use
- Protect military training routes and special use airspace
- Provide assistance for land and water resource management
- Protect prime soils
- Improve forest health
- Improve water quality
- Preserve open space and wildlands
- Strengthen populations and create wildlife corridors

**Conserve Habitat and Natural Resources**
- USFWS
  - North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grants
  - Wildlife and Sport Fish Recreational Program
- NPS
  - Land and Water Conservation Fund
- BLM
  - National Conservation Areas
- NOAA
  - Coastal Estuarine Land Conservation Program

**Strengthen the Economies of Farms, Ranches, and Forests**
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
  - Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
  - Conservation Stewardship Program
  - Environmental Quality Incentives Program
  - Regional Conservation Partnership Program
- USDA Farm Services Agency
  - Conservation Reserve Program
- USFS State and Private Forestry
  - Forest Legacy Program
  - Forest Stewardship Program
  - Land and Water Conservation Fund
  - Community Forest Program
Questions & Discussion

For more information, visit our websites:

www.REPI.mil
www.sentinellandscapes.org