



FRMAP

FUTURE RANGE MISSION ANALYSIS PROCESS



Fort Bliss, Texas, is to receive one of the Army's new heavy Brigade Combat Teams and could be the home of up to three more Brigade Combat Teams in the future. To prepare, the installation pilot tested the Future Range Mission Analysis Process (FRMAP) and shaved a year's worth of work off their planning schedule.

FRMAP is a new process developed by the U.S. Army Environmental Command to assist installations like Fort Bliss to rewrite their Range Complex Master Plans to support current and future mission changes resulting from the Army's transformation and realignment efforts.

FRMAP brings together a multidisciplinary team of subject matter experts as part of an initiative by the Army G3 (Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans). FRMAP's approach integrates planning elements from garrison staff; Headquarters, Department of the Army; and other agencies that have a stake in Range Operations, Range Modernization, Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM), and facilities management.

The objectives of FRMAP are to

1. Assist installations in defining their Range Development Plan as it changes with new mission requirements.
2. Build logical courses of action for an Installation Range Complex Master Plan.
3. Facilitate staff integration and coordination.

At Fort Bliss the FRMAP team included representatives from U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, U.S. Army Forces Command, the office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, and the Installation Management Agency. The team also included Army experts in training, simulations, the environment, and engineering, as well as the U.S. Forest Service and the Natural Resource Conservation Service.

FRMAP takes advantage of Army environmental, facilities, and

For more information

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training experts to design a range flexible enough to support future mission changes.

Working groups were created to focus on major issue areas. They included:

- An Integrated Training Area Management group that was assigned to locate optimal land resources for maneuver corridors.
- An environmental work group that identified restricted access areas for maneuver.
- A range work group that positioned more than 30 new live-fire training ranges (such as a Digital Multipurpose Range Complex) and associated surface danger zones.
- A support facilities work group that looked at integrating the entire infrastructure necessary to support the training areas and ranges.

A Geographic Information System (GIS) technician and a suite of GIS products supported each work group. Using GIS, groups were able to work on its assigned tasks and share the results on an eight-foot screen. The ability to readily share information among working groups helped the teams achieve an integrated design within the strict time constraints. Using GIS helped to visualize and solve problems efficiently.

In the end, applying FRMAP to its Range Complex Master Plan gave Fort Bliss specific plans to:

- Update or build 30 live-fire ranges and nine battalion task force maneuver corridors.
- Programmatically resolve restrictions placed on training due to cultural resource sites.
- Decrease a \$3.8 million National Environmental Policy Act bill to an initial \$300,000 in fiscal 2005 and additional funds in subsequent years.

The success of the three-day process at Fort Bliss validated FRMAP for use at other installations. A smaller FRMAP team will return to Fort Bliss to support the planning and execution of the new Range Complex Master Plan.

