

INTRODUCTION

Department of Defense (DoD) environmental programs support national defense by ensuring quality working and living conditions, exercising prudent environmental stewardship, promoting safe military operations, and making smart investments to reduce total infrastructure costs. DoD's environmental programs have a budget of slightly less than \$4 billion and employ more than 8,000 full-time environmental professionals. The Department works closely with its partners, finding the right tools to enhance efficiency and recognizing those areas where improvements can be made.

Environmental stewardship, through effective conservation of natural and cultural resources, compliance with environmental laws and regulations, and the use of pollution prevention techniques, is vital to national security.

DoD's ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY PROGRAM

DoD's Environmental Quality Program focuses on three main areas—pollution prevention, compliance, and conservation. These areas directly support DoD's mission by protecting resources critical to maintaining military readiness and supporting the primary goal of DoD's mission—the ability to fight and win. These three primary areas and DoD's additional focus areas are discussed in more detail below.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

In order to enhance its overall mission performance and efficiency through better environmental management, DoD is implementing environmental management systems. DoD's goal is to establish robust systems that sustain compliance, avoid risk and pollution, inform the public, and promote interoperability among the DoD Components, other nations' militaries, and industry. At a minimum, DoD Components will implement a documented environmental management system which meets the requirements of Executive Order 13148, "Greening the Government Through Leadership in Environmental Management."

POLLUTION PREVENTION

Pollution is inherently wasteful of DoD's limited resources. Pollution prevention improves processes, reduces costs, and eliminates pollution. By preventing pollution, DoD recognizes its obligations to be a good steward and a good neighbor. DoD's program goals for pollution prevention are to promote pollution

prevention as the preferred means of achieving environmental compliance; protect human health and the environment by reducing the use of hazardous materials; and reduce costs by integrating cost-effective pollution prevention practices into all DoD operations and activities, while ensuring the performance of DoD's mission.

ALTERNATIVE FUELED VEHICLES

The Department is committed to displacing the use of petroleum products with alternative fuels and increasing the fleet's mile-per-gallon fuel efficiency through the use of higher efficiency vehicles, such as hybrids. DoD is also committed to improving its alternative fueling infrastructure by working with the private sector to encourage investment and support through partnerships and financial grants. As necessary, the Department will develop a DoD fueling infrastructure on installations in a secure cost-effective method.

COMPLIANCE

The objective of DoD's Compliance Program is to ensure effective and efficient compliance with existing Federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations. The program ensures that vital mission needs are not put at risk because of non-compliance. The Compliance Program also works to provide clean water, reduce air emissions and hazardous waste.

CONSERVATION

DoD's Conservation Program has two primary goals—the first is to protect access to the land, sea, and airspace necessary for realistic testing and training exercises; the second is to protect the valuable natural and cultural resources of these areas for the benefit of current and future generations. The Conservation Program supports the military mission by providing for the sustained use of land, sea, and air resources; meeting all legal requirements; and promoting compatible uses of natural and cultural resources.

AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE INITIATIVES

Under its Federal Indian trust responsibility, DoD has an obligation to address environmental impacts on Indian lands resulting from its activities. DoD's American Indian and Alaska Native Policy supports this trust responsibility, as well as the principles of consultation, tribal self-governance, and government-to-government relations between the Federal government and tribes. To implement the policy, DoD actively

pursues cooperative endeavors with American Indian and Alaska Native tribes to mitigate the negative impacts of prior activities, minimize the effects of current activities, and prevent future impacts.

DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Installations and Environment) engages in military-to-military cooperation with the Ministries of Defense of more than 30 nations to reduce regional tensions and strengthen military ties. Defense Environmental International Cooperation activities enable DoD to better define its roles, missions, and functions to meet these challenges. Defense Environmental International Cooperation activities and partnering efforts contribute to interoperability; maintain access to air, land, and sea resources for training and readiness; and foster a global military environmental ethic. Through bilateral and multilateral efforts, DoD can better evaluate, prioritize, and more effectively meet military environmental needs. At the same time, DoD's Environmental International Cooperation activities reinforce efforts by militaries in newly democratic states to adjust to concepts such as civilian oversight, public accountability, openness, and cooperation with civilian agencies.

CALENDAR YEAR 2001 TOXIC RELEASE INVENTORY REPORT

The Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) Report provides a valuable source of information about toxic chemicals that are released into the environment or transferred off-site. The Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986 and the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990 mandated that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency develop and maintain a publicly accessible toxic chemical database. This database, known as the TRI, contains information on the types and quantities of chemicals released into the air, water, and land or transported from a reporting facility for disposal, treatment, or recycling each year. Citizens, businesses, and governments can use this information to work together to protect the quality of the land, air, and water.

CONCLUSION

This summary touched on DoD's Environmental Quality Programs, briefly describing the means by which these programs protect resources critical to maintaining military readiness and support the primary goal of DoD's mission—the ability to fight and win. The following chapters will provide the reader with a more in-depth look at these programs. This report will illustrate DoD's important environmental quality programs through their recent accomplishments, continued performance, and fiscal trends.