



MISSION SUSTAINMENT MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

News You Can Use from the DoD Range Sustainment Initiative
April 2008

The Department of Defense Sustainable Ranges Initiative (SRI) ensures the long-term viability and continuity of military training and testing areas while providing good stewardship for the land. Through a framework of continuing cooperative and coordinated efforts within government, and partnerships with groups beyond installation boundaries, DoD's Sustainable Ranges Initiative is helping to safeguard America and sustain our lands and resources for years to come.

CONTENTS

1. Feature Articles

- Weapon Danger Zone Tool, U.S. Navy Fleet Forces Range Team

2. 2007 Sustaining Military Readiness Conference Report*

- **Compatible Land Use and Encroachment Mitigation: State Governments and Planning Initiatives**
 - California, Ned McKinley
 - Arizona, Heather Garbarino
 - Florida, Walker Banning
 - North Carolina, James (Jim) Dougherty

3. From the Wires... Mission Sustainment in the National Press

- Whiting Field makes Governor's List (March 3, 2008); Ryan Arvay, *Northwest Florida Daily News*
- Merrimac latest gain in conservation effort (February 14, 2008); Ken Perrotte, *The Free Lance-Star*
- Teamwork urged as Drum expands (February 21, 2008) Kathryn Schoenberger, *Watertown Daily Times*

4. Training Resources

- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service; Survey & Monitoring for Non-Game Birds
- USDA Land Use Issues

5. Contact the Sustainable Ranges Initiative

* All presentations from the 2007 Sustaining Military Readiness Conference are available on <http://www.sustainingmilitaryreadiness2007.com/Agenda/index.cfm>

FEATURE ARTICLE

Weapon Danger Zone Tool

By The United States Navy Fleet Forces Range Team

Weapons delivered by aircraft can come up short or go long. When they hit, debris and fragments fly. Bombs can ricochet. These are not small issues when training the military, especially when trying to guard the safety of personnel and support infantry on the ground. The people planning air-to-ground training and running the ranges need the best possible information to prevent unnecessary damage and injury.

The latest risk-management tool for determining the weapon danger zones of ordnance delivered by aircraft marries systems used by each service into one software application. It is more advanced, powerful and accurate than previous systems. By summer's end, it is scheduled to be in the hands of Air Force, Army, Marine Corps and Navy personnel.

The Weapon Danger Zone (WDZ) Tool is designed to deliver a standard for planning training at all Defense Department air-to-ground ranges and expand multi-service use of ranges. Improved data and analysis capabilities of the application mean more accurate footprints tied to a Geographic Information System (GIS) of maps.

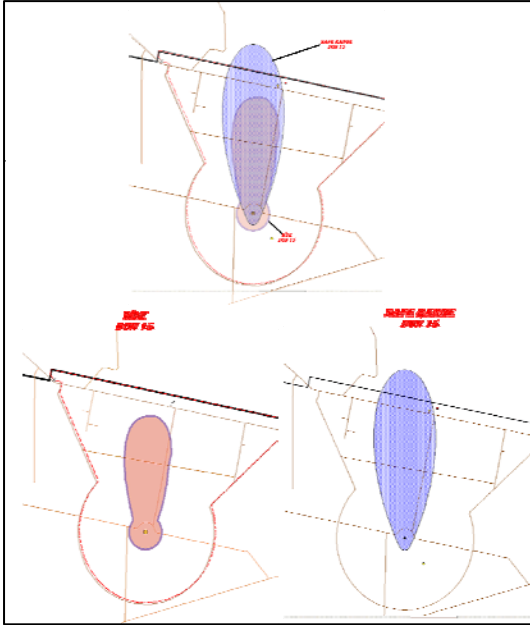
"We have set great expectations for the tool, and our multi-service team is working on an aggressive schedule," said Ed Trimble, range weapons safety deputy program manager at the Air Force's Air Combat Command in Langley, Va.

"It will be a vast improvement over the prior software," Trimble said. "The WDZ tool will provide range management and leadership with better risk analysis to smartly mitigate the danger."

The tool assesses risk by calculating probability of impacts based on the characteristics of the platform doing the firing, what is being fired and the parameters of how it is being released. The latter includes the dive angle, altitude and speed of delivery. Also, it factors in the range and where on the terrain it might hit.

"We'll have a better definition of how risky it is to conduct business, recreation, military maneuvers, etc., adjacent to a range," said Jim Casey, live training plans and programs analyst at the Navy's U.S. Fleet Forces Command in Norfolk, Va.

"It helps with community planning, as well," he added, "as that range tries to coexist with nearby localities and potential real estate development, as well as all sorts of activities that we've found have recently influenced military operations."



A graphical illustration comparing the existing system, Safe Range (R), with the new Weapon Danger Zone tool (L), and the two systems overlaid to show the differences in their range.

Previously, when one service used another's range, it might mean paying for a proprietary map of a footprint. That footprint, by design, had a lot of room to allow for errors in calculation, said John Thoreen, range safety analyst at the U.S. Fleet Forces Command. WdZ, he said, "actually connects the dots rather than show the simplest shape." The software is government owned. The initial tool is already in some hands, he said, and the improved version will use newer data and has greater capabilities.

Thoreen said the more accurate picture will help commanders when they design training and place people on the ground, be it a battalion or a forward air controller.

He said they can better answer questions such as: "Where can I put my people to actually get them used to having a round flying over their head?"

According to J.J. MacMillan, the WdZ training expert for the Army, Marine Corps and Navy, a first phase of the project saw the GIS functions made compatible with the tool kit used by range managers and provided improved footprints for the Air Force's Safe Range system. The new phase, coming this summer, will provide better models based on several more factors and considerably more modern data.

"When a Marine aircraft goes to an Air Force range, when an Air Force aircraft goes to a Navy range, all of it's the same procedures, the same standard, there's no additional cost involved," he said. "It's one program we're all abiding by – the same rules, the same goals. In this era of the terrorism conflict, there's an increased demand for training across all ranges, across all the services."



For more information on WdZ, please contact J.J. MacMillan at (703) 784-0220 or

DSN 278-0220, or contact John Thoreen at (757) 836-5282 or DSN 836-5282.

2007 SUSTAINING MILITARY READINESS CONFERENCE REPORT

Results and summaries of the conference will be highlighted over the next several months in the Mission Sustainment Newsletter.

All presentations from the 2007 Sustaining Military Readiness Conference are available on <http://www.sustainingmilitaryreadiness2007.com/Agenda/index.cfm>

Compatible Land Use and Encroachment Mitigation: State Governments and Planning Initiatives

August 2, 2007

CALIFORNIA

Ned McKinley, *Senior Project Manager, Governor of California Office of Planning and Research*

Ned McKinley, Senior Project Manager, Office of Planning and Research (OPR), Office of the Governor of California, discussed how California and the military have worked together on compatible land use. McKinley commented on the support that California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger has for the military's mission. California has enacted legislation, adopted regulations and coordinated land use planning in an effort to foster military readiness. McKinley highlighted enacted legislation that: (1) requires general plans to consider the impact of development on military activities; and (2) requires

that local governments forward proposed general plan amendments to the military for comment.

Next, McKinley reviewed the state's Advisory Planning Handbook, which is intended to address land use conflicts between civilian development and military readiness activities. The handbook contains information on:

- Compatibility issues
- Compatibility tools
- Case studies
- Summary of legislation
- Explanation of California planning
- Information on California military bases

Finally, McKinley provided an overview of the R-2508 joint land use study (JLUS), which includes Edwards Air Force Base, Fort Irwin, Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, land beneath the Joint Service R-2508 Special Use Airspace Complex, and associated military airspace. These areas equate to approximately 20,000-square-miles of land located throughout portions of Fresno, Kern, Los Angeles, Mono, San Bernardino, and Tulare Counties. The R-2508 JLUS involves numerous stakeholders in the process, including the military, several federal and state agencies, cities, counties, and tribal organizations.

ARIZONA

Heather Garbarino, *Senior Planner, Community Planning Office, Arizona Department of Commerce*

Heather Garbarino, Senior Planner, Community Planning Office, Arizona Department of Commerce, gave a presentation on Arizona's efforts to support the military's mission through legislation and joint land use studies (JLUS). According to Garbarino, Arizona has experienced several significant byproducts from its efforts, including increased regional cooperation and strengthening of public/private partnerships; broadened understanding of critical missions of military installations; federal recognition of Arizona's cohesive approach and unified support for implementation; and a positive response from BRAC.

Garbarino also highlighted several JLUS initiatives that have been undertaken in the state, which include:

- Davis-Monthan AFB/Tucson
- Luke Auxiliary Airfield #1
- Gila Bend Auxiliary Airfield/
Barry M. Goldwater Range

FLORIDA

Walker Banning, *Community Program Administrator, Florida Department of Community Affairs*

Walker Banning, Community Program Administrator, Florida Department of Community Affairs,

gave a presentation entitled, "Achieving Compatible Land Use in Florida." According to Banning, the military is the third largest contributor to the state's economy behind tourism and agriculture. As such, a variety of programs have been implemented to address encroachment programs that: purchase land for buffering; increase coordination and communication; revise comprehensive land use plans; and support special projects, such as land use compatibility studies and the Northwest Florida Greenway.

Banning commented on several of the buffering programs, including the Florida Forever program. State law was amended in 2005 to include military buffering as an explicit objective of the program.

In discussing the states efforts for increased coordination and communication with the military, Banning noted that legislation enacted in 2004 required local governments to include a military liaison for their local planning boards to ensure informed local land use decisions. Banning further commented on:

- The need for local governments to know the types of training activities that take place
- The necessary geography to conduct training
- Other necessary factors for the local government to ensure land use compatibility

Banning concluded his presentation by:

- Reviewing opportunities for improvement
- Including further clarifying statutes addressing compatible land use planning around military installations
- Addressing the effects of encroachment on military testing and training areas located in state waters

NORTH CAROLINA

James (Jim) Dougherty, *Executive Director, Regional Land Use Advisory Commission*

Jim Dougherty, Executive Director, Regional Land Use Advisory Commission, discussed several efforts that have occurred or are underway in North Carolina to protect military readiness while still ensuring healthy urban development. Dougherty commented on the state's reputation as one of the most military-friendly states.

State legislation relating to the state's military installations has taken two approaches: address basic needs of troops in their families; and land use. Dougherty highlighted some of the related legislative achievements:

- Session Law 2004-75 establishes notification requirements for local governments making land use decisions within five miles of an installation

- Advisory Commission for Military Affairs
- Clean Water Trust Fund provided \$20 million to protect streams adjacent to military bases
- Military Support Act of 2005 provided various services military personnel and their families
- State Parks Systems Additions Act created a state park adjacent to Camp Lejeune to prevent development
- Establishment of the Golden Leaf Foundation which distributes funds from the tobacco settlement to purchase farmlands, including those adjacent to military installations

FROM THE WIRES... MISSION SUSTAINMENT IN THE NATIONAL PRESS

LAND ACQUISITION IN THE NEWS: Whiting Field makes Governor's List

Ryan Arvay
Northwest Florida Daily News
March 3, 2008

MILTON, FL –
5,000 acres surrounding Naval Air Station (NAS) Whiting Field have been placed in the top 21 list for projects to be acquired by Florida Forever – a grant program designated to conserve natural resources.

NAS Whiting Field was added to the land acquisition program in 2004 through the efforts of Santa Rosa County, The Nature Conservancy, and the Navy, stating that the acquisition would help to protect the area's natural communities and provide a land buffer to the adjacent Naval facility. Initially, the installation was placed on the "B-List" and moved to the "A-List" a year later. The lists designate whether 50 percent or 100 percent of the land will be funded for the conservation costs.

To read the entire article and quotes from the Santa Rosa County Director of Planning and Zoning, please visit <http://www.nwfdailynews.com/article/12497/1>

For more information about the Florida Forever program, and to nominate land, please visit <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/lands/acquisition/FloridaForever/>

GROWTH MANAGEMENT IN THE NEWS: Teamwork urged as Drum Expands

Kathryn Schoenberger
Watertown Daily Times
February 21, 2008

FORT DRUM, NEW YORK – Fort Drum's continued expansion has created a partnership between the surrounding communities and the Army post.

Fort Drum is currently involved in a proactive growth management study to identify and prevent incompatible development, which is funded by a grant from the Department of Defense.

The Fort Drum Regional Liaison Organization's Growth Management Task Force will publish results of the study in March 2009.

To read quotes from the planning contractors involved in this plan, please visit <http://www.watertowndailytimes.com/article/20080221/NEWS03/445830418>

LAND ACQUISITION IN THE NEWS: Merrimac Farm latest gain in conservation effort

Ken Perrotte
The Free Lance-Star
February 14, 2008

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY – VIRGINIA

A \$2.9 million land acquisition deal to conserve over 300 acres of the Merrimac Farm, adjacent to Quantico Marine Corps Base, will become a wildlife management area for the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF).

The Virginia Land Conservation Fund, The Department of the Navy, and VDGIF contributed funds for the purchase under the Virginia Land

Conservation Foundation. The grant-based project supports Governor Tim Kaine's goal to conserve 400,000 acres of land during his term.

The land will offer limited recreational use to the public.

To read about the parties involved in this acquisition, please visit <http://fredericksburg.com/News/FLS/2008/022008/02142008/356068>

TRAINING RESOURCES

U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICES

Survey and Monitoring for Non-Game Birds

May 19-23, 2008
Laurel, MD

This course introduces participants to the survey and monitoring techniques for assessing populations of various non-game bird groups. Daily field exercises will be conducted to practice techniques learned in the classroom. Sessions include non-game bird identification, survey design, survey techniques with emphasis on point count monitoring, Partners in Flight, and current issues. Sessions are conducted in both classroom and in the field.

Who should attend: Biologists and other natural resource professional

participating in or conducting non-game bird surveys

Length: 3.5 days/28 hours

Monday 1:00-5:00 pm

Tuesday-Thursday 5:30 am-5:00 pm

Friday (optional) 5:30 am-12:00 pm

College Credit: 1 semester hours

Objectives: At the end of the course, the participant will be able to:

- Demonstrate common survey techniques for non-game birds
- Discuss approaches to organizing and initiating non-game bird monitoring programs
- Discuss history, objectives, and the role of Partners in Flight
- Learn basic bird ID techniques by sight and song
- Manage, design, and analyze survey and monitoring programs

To Register:

<http://doilearn.doi.gov/coursecatalog/index.cfm>

Course Tuition: Tuition waived for Fish and Wildlife Services, National Park Service, and Bureau of Land Management; \$680 for all others

Contact: Dave Lemarie, Course Leader Conservation Land Management Branch, NCTC

Phone: 304-876-7490

Email: dave_lemarie@fws.gov

USDA Land Use Issues CD-ROM

The Land Use Issues course provides an introductory understanding of several statutes that can be generally grouped as laws that deal with land use issues.

Course Objectives: At the conclusion of the Land Use Course, you will be able to:

- Describe the purpose of each Act in promoting the wise use and management of the Nation's natural and scenic resources:
 - Coastal Barrier Resources Act
 - Coastal Zone Management Act
 - Endangered Species Act
 - Farmland Protection Policy Act
 - Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
 - National Trails System Act
 - The Wilderness Act
 - Wild and Scenic River Act
 - U S D A, Departmental Regulation 9500-3, Land Use Policy
 - U S D A, Departmental Regulation 9500-4, Fish and Wildlife Policy
 - E.O. 11988, Floodplain Protection
 - E.O. 11990, Protection of Wetlands

- Summarize the requirements of each of the Acts and recognize

how these requirements will contribute to the preservation of the subject resource.

- Identify which persons or agencies have the responsibility for assuring the implementation of each Act, and the authority and obligation of each agency.
- Differentiate among the various categories of protected lands, and identify the extent to which each is provided for in the Acts.
- Identify and locate sources for further, detailed information when it is required.
- Recognize which aspects of each Act are relevant to implementing policy within your organization or agency.
- Select the appropriate grant programs and follow the necessary application requirements to qualify for grants available under the Acts

Course Length: Approximately seven (7) hours.

Course Page:

<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/es/land.htm>

Course Catalog:

<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/es/catalog.htm>

Registration Contact: Mark S. Plank

Phone: 202-720-1649

Email: mark.plank@usda.gov

Limited number of CDs are available upon request.

CONTACT

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