



**Fort Benning, Georgia**

**ACUB Approval Date:** 23 February 2006

**Installation Description:** Located on 182,000 contiguous acres in Georgia and Alabama, Fort Benning is a self-sufficient military community providing support to more than 120,000 military, family members, reserve component Soldiers, retirees and civilian employees on a daily basis. The installation is a power projection platform (PPP) with the capability to deploy combat-ready forces by air, rail, and highway. Fort Benning is home to the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, 75th Ranger Regiment, 3rd Brigade of the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized), 14th Combat Support Hospital, as well as many additional tenant units. BRAC 2005 designated Fort Benning as the home of the Maneuver Center of Excellence.

**Challenge:** Development adjacent to Fort Benning impacts both the military’s training mission as well as the unique habitat that exists around the installation. Land nearby Fort Benning provides critical habitat for the continued existence of the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*), the threatened gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*), as well as several plant species including the endangered relict trillium (*Trillium reliquum*). Training restrictions due to encroachment have been manageable in the past, although increased growth and development are presenting new land use challenges to the installation.

**ACUB Objective:** The primary objective of the ACUB program at Fort Benning is to maintain rural and other conservation-friendly land uses on property adjacent to the installation that will sustain Fort Benning’s ability to fulfill both its military and stewardship missions. The ACUB program creates buffers around Fort Benning with land uses that are compatible with both military training and regional conservation efforts. Land is managed in a manner to restore longleaf pine, which will increase the off-post habitat availability to the Red-cockaded Woodpecker.

**Cooperative Agreement Partner:** The Nature Conservancy

**Partner Mission:** The mission of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is to preserve the plants, animals, and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. Emphasis is placed on maintaining the natural communities that represent the vast diversity of the Chattahoochee Fall Line region. With the assistance and support of Fort Benning and the ACUB program, TNC is working with private landowners adjacent to the installation to sustain rural and conservation-friendly land uses.

<b>Benning</b>	Funds Obligated	Acres Protected	Military Funds Expended	Partner Funds Expended	Total Expended
In FY12	\$0	9,889	\$26,359,961	\$94,195	\$26,454,156
Through FY12	\$60,517,470	18,511	\$49,217,551	\$2,536,926	\$51,754,477