

## **Fort Bragg, North Carolina**



**ACUB Approval Date:** 5 August 2005

**Installation Description:** Known as the “Home of the Airborne and Special Operations Forces,” Fort Bragg is the Army’s premier power projection platform (PPP). The XVIII Airborne Corps and the 82nd Airborne Division are housed on the installation, as well as the U.S. Army Special Operations Command and the U.S. Army Parachute Team (the Golden Knights). The primary mission at Fort Bragg is to maintain the XVIII Airborne Corps as a strategic crisis response force, manned and trained to rapidly deploy anywhere in the world by air, sea, and land, prepared to fight upon arrival and win.

**Challenge:** Fort Bragg is located in the Sandhills region of North Carolina, which is recognized as one of the last remaining strongholds of longleaf pine in the southeast. The endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker (RCW, *Picoides borealis*) lives primarily in longleaf pine habitat. Due to development, short rotation forestry, and related fire suppression, only 5 percent of this historic habitat remains functional today. Fort Bragg has been forced to implement restrictions on training lands in the past in an effort to protect the RCW and its habitat. Preservation and management of the longleaf pine and wiregrass ecosystem is essential to protecting both the RCW and the military mission at Fort Bragg.

**ACUB Objective:** The primary objective of the ACUB program at Fort Bragg is to restore and protect RCW habitat in the Sandhills region of North Carolina. The North Carolina Sandhills Conservation Partnership was formed by Fort Bragg and its ACUB partners, which initiated the first ACUB program. Over 12,000 acres of longleaf pine habitat have been preserved through the Fort Bragg Sandhills Partnership, with efforts underway to acquire additional conservation easements to form a cohesive ecosystem in the Sandhills area. The ACUB program at Fort Bragg has reduced training restrictions, protected critical areas on the installation’s southern boundary, enhanced connectivity in the northeast training area, and buffered a new special forces training facility on Camp Mackall.

**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.”

<b>Bragg</b>	<b>Funds Obligated</b>	<b>Acres Protected</b>	<b>Military Funds Expended</b>	<b>Partner Funds Expended</b>	<b>Total Expended</b>
In FY12	\$331,000	1,459	\$1,577,172	\$2,983,029	\$4,560,201
Through FY12	\$23,699,831	17,459	\$19,788,260	\$40,011,218	\$59,799,478