

Fort Drum, New York



ACUB Approval Date: 21 August 2007

Installation Description: Fort Drum consists of 107,265 acres located in the northern region of New York State. The mission at Fort Drum includes commanding active component units assigned to the installation, providing administrative and logistical support to tenant units, providing support to active and reserve units from all Services in training at Fort Drum, as well as planning and support for the mobilization and training of almost 80,000 troops annually. The 10th Mountain Division, a light infantry division of the U.S. Army serving under the XVIII Airborne Corps, designed for rapid deployment anywhere in the world, is currently based at Fort Drum. The unit's specialty involves fighting efficiently in harsh conditions.

Challenge: The properties that neighbor Fort Drum have historically served as noise and over-flight buffer zones for the installation. Fort Drum and the surrounding areas also contain an abundance of wetlands and grasslands which provide valuable habitat to a wide range of wildlife, including several species of waterfowl. Lands which were once characterized as rural are showing potential for a high acceleration in development due to increased use of Fort Drum. Additionally, range expansion on the installation provides a greater need for the protection of ecosystem functions off-post to ensure wetlands are maintained and species have the land they need to survive. There are also encroachment threats from wind energy development that could negatively impact the surveillance radar and pose potential safety and operational hazards to rotary-wing and fixed-wing training and operations by decreasing the safety margin for low-level flight operations. It is essential that Fort Drum retain their existing inventory of training and maneuver lands and airspace so that present and future training requirements are supported.

ACUB Objective: The primary objective of the ACUB program at Fort Drum is to preserve the current character around the installation in order to avoid development that is incompatible with the installation's mission and training activities. Through the utilization of conservation easements and the acquisition of development rights from willing landowners, the ACUB program at Fort Drum will prevent incompatible changes in land use and protect the wildlife habitat adjacent to the installation.

Cooperative Agreement Partner: Ducks Unlimited

Partner Mission: The mission of Ducks Unlimited (DU) is to "conserve, restore, and manage wetlands and associated habitats for North America's waterfowl and other wildlife species." This includes facilitating the preservation of open land to prevent its development.

Drum	Funds Obligated	Acres Protected	Military Funds Expended	Partner Funds Expended	Total Expended
In FY12	\$1,389,920	432	\$555,991	\$24,659	\$580,650
Through FY12	\$8,010,341	1,935	\$3,100,500	\$303,432	\$3,403,932