

# Integrated Training Area Management

Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM), a component of the Sustainable Range Program (SRP), is a key part of the Army's commitment toward realistic training areas. ITAM is a core component of the Sustainable Range Program (SRP) and is responsible for maintaining training land to help the Army meet its training requirements. The purpose of the Army's ITAM program is to achieve optimum sustainable use of training lands by implementing a uniform program that includes:

- Land Rehabilitation And Maintenance (LRAM)
- Range Training and Land Assessment (RTLTA)
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Training Requirements Integration (TRI)
- Sustainable Range Awareness (SRA)

The ITAM Program helps to better understand the balance of supporting training mission requirements and the impact that training has on military lands. ITAM works to mitigate impact, repair damages and to help teach sustainable land management stewardship to ensure training lands remain capable of meeting the needs of the training mission in the present and the future.



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## LRAM – Land Rehabilitation and Management

Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance (LRAM) is a preventive and corrective land management program that reduces the long-term impacts of training on our installation. LRAM includes training area redesign and/or reconfiguration to meet training requirements. The LRAM objectives are to implement improvements and repairs of disturbed land, improve vegetation cover and concealment for training activities, and repair other landscape damage for safety and continued availability of land for training.

These objectives are met through methods such as; erosion control and mitigation, rut repair and prevention on trails, vegetation thinning and understory management, and invasive species control techniques. Careful scheduling of maintenance and training allows for rehabilitation through rest for some training areas. These training areas are not to be scheduled and are off limits to training activities (see Siebert Stakes).



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## RTLA – Range and Training Land Assessment

Range and Training Land Assessment (RTLA) provides for the collection, analysis, and monitoring of installation training and testing areas. The primary purpose of the RTLA component is to provide accurate insightful information and recommendations to the range managers and trainers based on the land's condition. The land's condition is the basis for decisions regarding training intensity and land rehabilitation requirements.



## TRI – Training Requirements Integration

Training Requirements Integration (TRI) works to meet the installations training mission goals by providing support and assistance to other garrison offices, workplan support, range planning, range and training land modernization and through the integration of ITAM planning into the workplans of other installation offices. TRI works to:

- Provide awareness of Environmental Policies and Regulations to the Range Offices
- Supports integration of RCMP Mission goals into the INRMP to ensure environmental compliance and that efforts are coordinated toward a common goal
- Provide decision support for Range Planning, Natural Resources Management, DPW and other Garrison offices.





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## GIS – Geographic Information Systems

The ITAM GIS component provides cartographic support and administers geospatial data for range and military units both on- and off-post. The primary cartographic function includes the development, production, and distribution of standard installation map products. The secondary cartographic function is to provide geospatial analyses to assist in the planning and layout of downrange facilities, utilities, and military operation areas.



## SRA – Sustainable Range Awareness

Sustainable Range Awareness (SRA) provides a means to develop and distribute educational materials related to sound environmental stewardship of natural and cultural resources. The intent of the SRA program at Fort Devens is to inform tactical units, leaders, and soldiers of current restrictions, and activities to avoid, to prevent excessive damage to our training lands. When land users practice environmental stewardship in the field, they are also achieving Army mission objectives. The SRA program provides education of how mission, training, testing, and other activities impact the land's capacity for sustaining a realistic training environment. Being aware of and practicing simple procedures like policing training areas and avoiding unnecessary maneuver damage is a component of sound stewardship that protects training lands for use by future generations.



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## ITAM Success Stories at Fort Devens

- ▶ Since 2009, Fort Devens ITAM program has completed several major projects, including underbrush removal for improved maneuver and bivouacking, removal of trail vegetation and surface improvements for increased safety in mounted maneuvers. This has allow for increased safety, mobility, and training opportunities for soldiers.
  - Repaired over 300 acres of training area
  - Repaired over 40 miles of maneuver trails
- ▶ Creation of SRA field cards and range notice boards providing installation specific training information.
- ▶ Constructed a road network to provide realism to the MOUT site.
- ▶ Replacement of a collapsed culvert in TA12A that restored access to the maneuver trail network and natural stream flow, mitigating future erosion.:



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## Future ITAM Projects at Fort Devens

- ▶ Repair of 2 miles of severely damaged maneuver trails in TA6A in FY14.
- ▶ Improve mounted and dismounted maneuvers by trimming tree canopies, trailside vegetation, invasive species and underbrush and repair maneuver trails in over 150 acres - TA6A, TA6E ,TA12 in FY14; TA8A and TA8B in FY15.
- ▶ In FY14, repair of Landing Zone 3 by reducing ruts and the laying of soil stabilizing geo-grid in a lowland drainage area to mitigate future damage.
- ▶ Recovery of land for foot maneuvers in TA9A and TA9B through the removal of thick vegetation and woody shrubs in FY14.
- ▶ 4 Miles of trail repair in training areas 8A, 8B and the Turner Drop Zone in FY15. Repairs to include erosion mitigation, rut repair, surface water drainage corrections and dust control measures.
- ▶ Seeding and surface soil replacement on LZ 14, encroachment recovery in LZ1 in FY15.





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