“SUSTAINABLE REGIONAL PLANNING, WITH A CAROLINA TWIST”

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MCIEAST INSTALLATIONS

MCIEAST controls seven of the nine Marine Corps installations on the East Coast, and is headquartered at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina

North Carolina Installations

PERSONNEL
- Active Duty ~63,400
- Civilians ~11,800
- Total ~75,200

ECONOMIC IMPACT
- FY09 $5,188,739,067
WHY PARTNER?

• Promote long-term sustainable land use for both the military and civilian sector

• The military needs realistic training
  – Encroachment degrades military testing and training capabilities
  – Areas of concern include “white space” (off-base air and land corridors) that connect military bases and airfields with remote training ranges
  – Preservation and restoration of off-base natural habitat to prevent or reduce training restrictions on base

• Develop regional land use plans with federal, regional, state, local and military agencies
CHALLENGES

- Rural landowners are traditionally opposed to zoning
  - DoD needs compatible development to preserve its ability to train
- Funding comes directly from Washington
  - Issues are local, but must “resonate” with those in D.C.
- US military is Federal
  - Land use zoning is local and state
  - Solutions require coordinated, simultaneous local, state, federal action
- NGOs, States, federal agencies want to work with DoD
  - Installations belong to Services
- Federal civilian resource agencies (e.g. NOAA, USGS, USDA, EPA, USFWS) are increasingly organizing around regional ecosystem frameworks, but there is room for more collaboration/visibility
- Partnerships often require cross service coordination, as well as multiple state agency collaboration
MARINE CORPS MISSION FOOTPRINT
2030 HOUSING DENSITY

Average Acres per Housing Unit:
- Less than 0.33 acres
- >0.33 to 1 acre
- >1 to 15 acres
- >15 to 30 acres
- >30 to 100 acres
- More than 100 acres
- Water

USMC Legend:
- Gray: USMC Installation Area
- Orange: Development in Possibility with USMC Mission
- Yellow: USMC Consultation Recommended
- Red: No USMC Consultation Required

2030
1957

R-125 5,000 to 35,000 feet

R-123 Surface to 35,000 feet

Cherry Point Airspace History

20 miles
2008

- Remaining training space must be protected from further erosion

85\% reduction

Cherry Point Airspace History
NOTIONAL PARTNERING

Civilian-Military Partnerships

- Federal
- Multi-State Regional
- Multi-County Regional
- Local
- State
FEDERAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Interagency Land Working Groups
- Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative (REPI)
- Farm Bill
- HUD/EPA/DOT Sustainable Communities
- Landscape Scale Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs) evolving
- Sustainable Ranges Initiative
MULTI-STATE PARTNERSHIPS

- Regional partnerships act as portals to state governments
  - New way of doing business; different perspective
  - Link and leverage efforts with other stakeholders, states, and federal agencies
  - Support community-driven planning and compatible land and other resource use
  - Share GIS and decision-support information
  - De-conflict from and mutually support economic development
  - Participate in regional conservation efforts
  - Protect rural landscapes and working lands, and thereby supporting the readiness mission
SERPPAS: A GREAT MULTI-STATE PARTNERSHIP EXAMPLE

- Southeast Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPPAS)
  - North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Mississippi
  - Project Areas
    - Long-Leaf Pine
    - South Atlantic Alliance (SAA) (Marine Coastal)
    - RCW Translocation
    - Geographic Focus Areas
    - Working Lands
    - State Frameworks
    - Renewable Energy
    - Climate Change
STATE PARTNERSHIPS
NORTH CAROLINA PROTOTYPE

Strategic Lands Inventory
State of NC Conservation/Working Lands Footprint
Military Mission Footprint

State Cabinet Council (State Secretaries)
North Carolina Advisory Commission on Military Affairs
North Carolina Commanders’ Council (Installation CO’s)
Working Lands Group and Operational Partnership
Wind Energy and Logistics Task Forces
Farm and Forest Preservation Programs
NC Biofuels Center
NC Solar Center

Ecosystem Services and Land Suitability
Land Cover Change Modeling
Landowner Preferences Survey
Local Technical Capacity and Needs Assessment
MULTI-COUNTY PARTNERSHIPS

• **Common objectives**
  - Integrate state, regional, local and military land use goals
  - Prepare communities for the impacts of regional growth
  - Improve quality of life for the military and military communities
  - Develop military-compatible economic opportunities
  - Preserve and enhance military training opportunities
  - Sustain natural resources and environmental quality

• **Military Growth Task Force and BRAC Regional Task Force**
LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS

• Cooperative Planning Groups
• Cooperative Extension Offices
• Soil and Water Conservation Offices
• Farm Bureaus
• Joint Land Use Studies/Encroachment Control Planning Groups
• Civilian-Military Community Councils
• Military Affairs Committees
• Committees of 100
• Chambers of Commerce
PARTNERSHIPS

State
- NC Advisory Commission on Military Affairs
- State Cabinet Council
- North Carolina Commanders’ Council
- Working Lands Group
- Wind Energy Working Group
- Operational Partnerships
- Farm and Forest Preservation Programs
- NC Biofuels Center
- NC Solar Center

Multi-County (NC Eastern Region)
- Craven
  - ‘Fuel The Force’
  - Coastal Growth Pressures
  - Water Resources
- Carteret
- Onslow
  - Climate Change
  - Quality of Life
  - ‘Feed The Force’
- Pender
- Duplin
- Pamlico
- Jones

Local
- Cooperative Planning Group
- Cooperative Extension Office
- Soil and Water Conservation Office
- Farm Bureau
- JLUS & ECP’s
- Civilian-Military Community Council
- Military Affairs Committees
- Committees of 100
- Chambers of Commerce

N Carolina
- Climate Change
- Marine Coastal Activities

Georgia
- Working Lands

Florida
- Habitat Restoration

SERPPAS
- Threatened & Endangered Species

Mississippi
- Coastal Activities

S Carolina
- Multi-State

Alabama
“Nevertheless, the record clearly shows that conservation can’t succeed by charity alone. It has a fighting chance, however, with well-designed appeals to self-interest. The challenge now is to change the rules of the game so as to produce new incentives for environmental protection, geared to both society’s long-term well-being and individuals’ self-interest.”

- *The New Economy of Nature: The Quest to Make Conservation Profitable*

**4 Stages of Conservation**

1. **Origin**: The primary focus was on a parcel by parcel approach to obtain permanent easements for protection of near-by training lands, involving key natural resource partners (states and NGOs) to achieve training buffer and wildlife protection goals.

2. **Now**: Additional programs based on working lands conservation, the next step in protecting and enhancing the military mission footprint.

3. **Next**: Key partners need to broaden their thinking to include both natural resource and working lands; a more streamlined philosophy and operation process will be necessary to enhance sharing/leveraging opportunities.

4. **Desired end state**: The ability to deliver multiple mission benefits through the convergence of natural resource, working lands, and national defense interests; connecting valuable landscapes at larger scales.
PAST

Traditional Natural Resource Conservation

REPI/EP
Traditional Natural Resource and Working Lands Conservation

FF4F

ADFP Trust Funds

REPI/EP
NEAR FUTURE

- FF4F
- Market-based Conservation
- Working Lands Conservation
- LLP
- Traditional Natural Resource Conservation
- ADFP Trust Funds
- REPI/EP
- Other Working Lands Oriented Funds
Allows the characteristics of the land, military needs, landowner desires, the states, and program objectives to determine and define the players, outcomes, and duration of collaboration. This not only will buy us more time but will create flexibility down the road.
Concept: A coalition of partners forming a unit of conservation landscapes in association with the military. Private landowners, participating voluntarily, exist as the key unifying component. Private landowners would be recognized for the unique value their land and the associated land management practices provide – a significant benefit supporting national defense due to their location and relationship to an existing military readiness mission – essentially “green readiness.”
FOOD AND FUEL FOR THE FORCES (FF4F)

• Concept
  – Cornerstone for creating a lasting partnership with the working lands community (good neighbor)
  – Decrease the loss of working lands to incompatible use
  – Economics based and ties range/training sustainment to energy and food security
AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION (ADFP)

• Concept
  – Fund projects to encourage the preservation of qualifying agricultural, horticultural and forestland to foster the growth, development and sustainability of family farms
    • NC created ADFP Trust Fund in 2005
    • Over $10M expended to date
    • Included in state’s recurring budget
  – Focus is to keep farms in farming and forests in forestry
    • State has lost an average of 100,000 acres a year over last five years
LONGLEAF PINE (LLP)

• Concept
  – North Carolina Longleaf Coalition
    • Promote the maintenance and restoration of North Carolina’s longleaf pine ecosystem, including its cultural and economic values, by forming a collaborative network of diverse stakeholders to provide strategic leadership across the historical range while also supporting local restoration activities
  • The Conservation Plan
    – Provides a “road map” for collective efforts range-wide
    – Establishes a goal: 8 million acres over 15 years (up from 3.4 million acres)
    – Identifies “Significant Geographic Areas” for special attention
    – Establishes 6 overarching strategies and 3 cross cutting approaches
    – Identified objectives and 88 key actions to support the strategies and
MARKET-BASED CONSERVATION

• Concept
  – Landowners respond to incentives
    • Voluntary program that encourages private landowner participation in conservation and sufficiently rewards them for their commitment
    • Establishes a framework for sponsors to invest in the program in a cost-efficient manner
  – You get what you pay for
    • System of metrics that measure real benefit
      – Establishes assurances that sponsored conservation measures are effectively implemented through a standardized verification and monitoring system
    • Use of competitive mechanism – modeled on the USDA NRCS Conservation Reserve Program
    • Through competition, market forces determine the conservation value of land
MARKET-BASED CONSERVATION (Con’t)

– No free lunch
  • Landowners face ever increasing pressures to convert land to other non-working land uses
    – Taxes
    – Loss of economic viability of land
    – Development pressures (increasing market value of land)
  • We cannot expect them to defer development or relinquish full, unobstructed use of their land without appropriate compensation
Allows the characteristics of the land, military needs, landowner desires, the states, and program objectives to determine and define the players, outcomes, and duration of collaboration. This not only will buy us more time but will create flexibility down the road.