



# TRAINING LANDS AND RANGES

## Fort Carson 25-Year Goals for Training Lands and Ranges

Attendees of the Fort Carson Installation Sustainability Workshop, which convened on 4-6 September 02, developed the following long-range goals:

**Training ranges (firing ranges, air space, and maneuver lands) capable of supporting current and future military training to standard.**

**An installation (Fort Carson and Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site) buffered from external encroachment.**

The primary issues and goals discussed in the Training Lands and Ranges working group are described below. This information will be helpful in developing the short-term objectives and five-year plans needed to reach the long-range goals.

## Breakout Group Membership

**Facilitator:** Mr. Rick Sinclair

**Recorder:** Ms. Kristen Walden, Mr. Mark Clements

Rank	Name	Organization
Mr.	James Adcock	HQ Forces Command Environmental Branch
Mr.	Jim Ahl	Fort Carson, DECAM
CPT	Carolyn Ayres	Fort Bliss, Range Control
Mr.	George Bankston	Fort Bliss, Range Control
Mr.	John Barrera	Fort Bliss, Directorate of Environment
Mr.	Gary Belew	Fort Carson, DECAM
Mr.	Richard Bunn	Fort Carson, DECAM
Mr.	Stuart Cannon	HQ Forces Command Environmental Branch
COL	James DePaz	USAEC
Dr.	William Doe	Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands, Colorado State University
Mr.	Brian Goss	Fort Carson, DECAM
JAG	Russ Hamilton	Fort Carson, JAG
MAJ	Pat Huston	10 <sup>th</sup> SFG (Airborne)
Ms.	Jennifer James	Fort Carson, Safety Office
COL	Bob Kirsch	Fort Carson, DECAM
Mr.	Randy Korgel	Fort Carson, DECAM
Mr.	Jeff Linn	Fort Carson, DECAM
Mr.	Pat McCusker	Fort Carson, DECAM



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Ms.	Heather McNabnay	TACOM, PM ABRAMS
Mr.	Shane P Offutt	
Mr.	John R. Paul	Fort Bliss, Range Control
Ms.	Lesley Poirer	Fort Carson G-3/DPTM
Mr.	Theodore Reid	HQ Forces Command G-3
Ms.	Michelle Rosenberger	Fort Carson, G-3/DPTM
Mr.	Bruce D Rosenlund	USFWS
Mr.	Charles Royal	American Federation Union of Government Employees
Mr.	Rusty Savoy	Fort Carson, G-3/DPTM
Dr.	Larry Schwartz	Camp Dresser McKee
Mr.	Ted Severn	Fort Carson, Force Management
SFC	Michael Simon	Fort Carson, DECAM
Mr.	Bob Stack	Fort Carson, Range Control
Mr.	Ned Studholme	SAIC
Mr.	Tom Tillman	Fort Carson, DPW, Fire and Emergency Services
Mr.	Robert Valdez	Board of Commissioners, Las Animas County
Ms.	Joan Van Devort	HQDA, G-3
MAJ	Dan Vannucci	Fort Carson, Deputy IG
Mr.	Tom Vorac	AMC, Forestry

### List of Issues and Potential Responses to Issues

#### *Resource Management*

- Money (LRAM, ITAM, ARCA)
- Ineffective use of physical and human resources (overwhelmed with the mundane)

#### *Communication & Education*

- Ability for involved stakeholders to focus on a common goal and collectively achieve
- Do not procrastinate in getting the community involved
- Improve partnership (community, environmentalists, military training)
- Lack of coordination between Army and non-governmental organizations
- Philosophical perception that environmental initiatives are often viewed inherently as barriers/constraints to mission activities
- Environmental regulation “do’s” and “don’ts” below the Commanding Officer and Platoon Leader level information flow
- Increase intrinsic value of installation to local community
- Education to the troops
- Lack of knowledge by stakeholders on importance of Army training and what training involves



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- On/off-post customer different sustainment needs
- Responsibility and accountability (roles/mission/responsibility DECAM versus Range Control)
- Lack of understanding of Army training strategy and need (live, virtual, constructive, and particularly night training)
- Improve communications within the Army and outside perceptions
- Involvement of other divisions/areas
- Fear to focus/deal with the real issues
- Stakeholder involvement
- Native Americans will be players

### *Urban Sprawl*

- Degradation of live-fire facilities
- Degradation of training lands and impact to adjacent land owners
- Encroachment of Fort Carson - conservation easement
- Urban encroachment (noise, light, air space)
- Pressure on installation to take the burden of threatened and endangered species protection
- Population growth
- Urbanization
- Encroachment on Fort Carson and noise management
- Inadequate legal institutional tools to reliably control encroachment
- Limited/no organic mountain training sites (must be coordinated with Bureau of Land Management on a case-by-case basis)
- Unconstrained urban growth along boundaries
- Lack of impact area at Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site forces all big noises to occur at Fort Carson (near heavily populated areas)
- Contain urban sprawl
- Lack of laws requiring civilian community to take into account impact on military mission
- Illegal dumping on ranges
- Providing the training area to suit the mission
- Projected development at Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site (community notification)

### *Training*

- Future weapon capabilities (25 years plus)
- Trespassing civilians
- Ability to develop Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site to support War Fighting Center
- Training “workarounds” (restrictions) caused by environmental compliance and management
- Ability to train with new equipment on limited land
- Inability of maneuver units to train Mission Essential Task List to standard...affects readiness
- Needs of our legacy systems (25 year old systems)
- Inability to maneuver indiscriminately
- Consideration for future weapons evolution
- No ability to conduct live-fire exercises (combined maneuver and firing)



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- Duded impact areas
- Capacity of training range impact areas and training maneuver areas (Stryker Maneuver in wet conditions)
- Military land use planning limited to within installation boundaries
- Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site live-fire versus gas pipeline (funding to move)
- Redo current Environmental Impact Statements (EIS)
- Airspace restrictions (firing and flying)
- Becoming “Purple” (other services using our installations)
- Night versus “dark” training
- Viewing impacts as having only military sources and causes (weather, displaced firing prints)
- Minimize maneuver damage by increasing education to troops
- Transforming doctrine will require more land to support training doctrinal standards

### *Air and Dust*

- Air deposition of contaminants from non-military sources
- Air quality regulations
- Dust control and air quality
- Community perceived disturbance due to air quality
- Clean Air Act impacts to both military training and ecosystem maintenance

### *Water*

- Water to Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site
- Water (drought – maneuver impacts, restoration activities)
- Munitions Cleanup

### *Ecosystem Management and Training Restrictions*

- Plant and animal species management
- Diminished ground cover (loss of older vegetation)
- Threatened & endangered species (restrictions to training)
- Limited/no organic mountain training sites (must be coordinated with Bureau of Land Management on a case-by-case basis)
- Proper management of training lands in terms of land restoration
- Land and water resource management (sedimentation, erosion, habitat improvement, funding)
- How to maximize ecosystem restoration on training lands using Corp of Engineer information and techniques
- Land management that best supports tactical use/need of training land
- Noxious-weeds
- Wildfires curtailing training
- How to minimize environmental impacts caused by military training without compromising training
- Minimize effects on environment/species
- Endangered species impacts from non-military uses
- Degradation of training lands and impact to adjacent land owners



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- Off-limit areas restrict training
- Minimize effects of conservation on training

### *Land Acquisition and Buffers*

- Establishment of buffer zones to reduce training restrictions
- New flying saucer landing strip
- Land management that best supports tactical use/need of training land
- Buffer area expansion/control
- Expand Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site (purchase, easement)
- Purchase more Pinon Canyon land

### *Noise*

- Plant and animal species management
- Diminished ground cover (loss of older vegetation)
- Threatened & endangered species (restrictions to training)
- Limited/no organic mountain training sites (must be coordinated with Bureau of Land Management on a case-by-case basis)
- Proper management of training lands in terms of land restoration
- Land and water resource management (sedimentation, erosion, habitat improvement, funding)
- How to maximize ecosystem restoration on training lands using Corp of Engineer information and techniques
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# TRAINING LANDS AND RANGES

## Initial Goals and Proponents Developed

### *Initial Strategic Goal 1*

- **Issue:** Long-term survivability of Fort Carson
- **Desired End State:** Sustainable training land and range management for joint/combined training
- **Metric:** Requirements of Future Combat System
- **Timeframe:** 2025
- **Proponent Organizations:** G-3, Directorate of Environmental Compliance and Management (DECAM)

### *Initial Strategic Goal 2*

- **Issue:** Urban Sprawl limiting training at Fort Carson and Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site
- **Desired End State:** Establish buffer areas around Fort Carson and Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site training areas.
- **Metric:** All possible buffer areas or land use agreements secure.
- **Timeframe:** 2020
- **Proponent Organization:** Master Planning

### *Initial Strategic Goal 3*

- **Issue:** Noise
- **Desired End State:** Lethal quiet weapon systems for the objective force
- **Metric:** Noise levels
- **Timeframe:** 2027
- **Proponent Organizations:** Department of Army, Department of Defense

### *Initial Strategic Goal 4*

- **Issue:** Training restrictions due to water quality
- **Desired End State:** Zero impact of Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) on ranges
- **Metric:** Groundwater monitoring, range maintenance
- **Timeframe:** 2025
- **Proponent Organizations:** Directorate of Environmental Compliance and Management, G-3, Department of Army

### *Initial Strategic Goal 5*

- **Issue:** Ecosystem management and training restrictions
- **Desired End State:** All mitigatable archaeological sites addressed in high traffic areas of Fort Carson and Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site.
- **Metric:** Excavated, capped
- **Timeframe:** 2025
- **Proponent Organizations:** Directorate of Environmental Compliance and Management, G-3



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### *Initial Strategic Goal 6*

- **Issue:** Communication and education
- **Desired End State:** Full involvement and cooperation of community stakeholders, Department of Army, and environmental groups
- **Metric:** Continual cooperation and operation
- **Timeframe:** 2025
- **Proponent Organization:** Command Group, Directorate of Community Affairs, Directorate of Environmental Compliance and Management, G-3, Public Affairs Office



# TRAINING LANDS AND RANGES

## Final Goals and Team Members

### Final Training Lands and Ranges Goal #1

**Training ranges (firing ranges, air space, and maneuver lands) capable of supporting current and future military training to standard.**

- **Issue:** Readiness
- **Desired End State:** Training ranges (firing ranges, air space, and maneuver lands) capable of supporting current and future military training to standard.
- **Metric:**
  - Capability to train all Fort Carson user units to standard within 5 years.
  - Proactive environmental monitoring of training land and biodiversity to determine how to allocate sustainment resources (annual review).
  - Zero environmental and safety impacts of expended munitions (annual review).
  - Mitigation of archaeological sites (knowledge of all sites within 5 years and 25% closure every 5 years thereafter).
- **Timeframe:** 2027
- **Proponent Organization:** DPTM/G-3
- **Team Members:**
  - Garrison Commander
  - Directorate of Environmental Compliance and Management (DECAM)
  - United States Fish and Wildlife Service
  - Major Subordinate Commands
  - State Historic Preservation Officer
  - Local government officials
  - Colorado Department of Public Health (CDPH)
  - Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
  - Tribes
  - Directorate of Public Works (DPW)
  - Non-governmental organizations
  - Universities/Colleges



## TRAINING LANDS AND RANGES

### Final Training Lands and Ranges Goal #2

#### An installation (Fort Carson and Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site) buffered from external encroachment.

- **Issue:** Threatened and Endangered Species and other encroachment issues will significantly restrict training at Fort Carson and Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site.
- **Desired End State:** An installation (Fort Carson and Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site) buffered from external encroachment.
- **Metric:**
  - 2003-2005 – Walker #1, 2, 3 Easement
  - 2002-2005 – Expansion effort for Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site
  - 2010 Completed (100%) expansion of Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site
- **Timeframe:** 2010
- **Proponent Organization:** G-3
- **Team Members:**
  - Garrison Commander
  - Directorate of Environmental Compliance and Management (DECAM)
  - United States Fish and Wildlife Service
  - The Nature Conservancy
  - Private Land Owners
  - Government Land Managers
  - Judge Advocate General (JAG)
  - Directorate of Public Works