

FORT CARSON 25-YEAR SUSTAINABILITY GOAL PLAN

GOAL: SUSTAINABLE TRAINING LANDS (TL)

Goal Statement:

Training ranges; maneuver lands; and associated air space capable of supporting current and future military training to standard while maintaining and sustaining training resources

Long Term Vision (established in 2002)

The long-term goal is to ensure that training ranges; maneuver lands; and associated air space are capable of supporting current and future military training to standard while maintaining and sustaining training resources for current and future use. The desired end state is training to standard with no lost training capability due to environmental restrictions through proactive planning, monitoring, and sustaining of training resources through mitigation of archaeological sites, a stable or increasing land-condition trend rating, acceptable environmental and safety impacts, and minimal training restrictions due to physical and legal encroachment.

Ownership and Involvement (Resources, Roles and Authority)

Goal Proponent: Directors, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security (DPTMS) and Directorate of Public Works (DPW)

Goal Lead & Fort Carson Partners:

- DPTMS Range Division
- DPTMS Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM)
- Directorate of Logistics (DOL)
- DPW Environmental Division
- DPW Master Planning
- Fort Carson Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) Program Coordinator/Manager
- Mission Support Element (MSE) G3
- Fourth Infantry Division (4ID) G3

Off-post Partners:

- US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
- El Paso County
- State of Colorado
- Local and Southern Colorado landowners
- Regional conservation groups
- US Army Environmental Command (USAEC)
- Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative (REPI)
- US Army Mission and Installation Contracting Command (MICC)
- Installation Management Command (IMCOM)

Significant Sustainability Aspects and Impacts

1. Water quantity related to tactical training and food service during training
2. Water quality related to vehicle and equipment maintenance, tactical training and transportation and land use;

3. Air emissions related to vehicle and equipment maintenance; dust and vehicle emissions (mobile and non-road engines); POV commute; smoke and obscurants, dust (vehicle use), OB/OD; fire extinguishing systems (ODCs); pollution, fuel type (JP8, biodiesel, gasoline); and pollution, equipment (application and safety)
4. Transportation related non-tactical vehicle use; tactical training; transport of equipment; long-haul trucking; and hauling of waste and recycling
5. Land use related to erosion resulting in sediment transport; ammunition (lead); habitat use, land rehabilitation; new or existing infrastructure (roads and buildings); and POL use
6. Cost/Budget salary expenditures to public and private entities; fuel cost for vehicles and aircrafts; and total cost
7. Energy related to construction and renovation; facility energy use for computers, building operations (AC, lighting, heating); and storage (refrigeration and warehouse operation).
8. Solid waste related to building debris - Concrete, wood; new materials; packaging; cleaning supplies, food, grease; water bottles/MREs - plastic and cardboard; and tire disposal
9. Hazardous waste related to unused heating element (MREs); batteries (lithium); Decon kits; night-vision goggles (radiation); expended smoke pots (lead); UXO; munitions

Legal and Other Requirements EO 13514 "...The Executive Order builds on and expands the energy reduction and environmental requirements of Executive Order 13423...."

- National Defense Authorization Act
- Wildlife laws, treaties, and regulations under jurisdiction of USFWS (e.g. Endangered Species Act (ESA) Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), Eagle Protection Act)
- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- Army Strategy for the Environment
- Colorado Legislative Bill 05-80—notification of land use changes around military bases.
- Sustainability goal -- Energy & Water Resources
- Sustainability goal – Sustainable Development
- Sustainability goal – Zero Waste
- Sustainability goal – Sustainable Transportation
- Sustainability goal – Air Quality
- Sustainability goal – Sustainable Procurement
- Sikes Act
- Sustainable Range Program (SRP)
- Fort Carson Range regulations
- Fort Carson Environmental Management System (EMS)
- Fort Carson Environmental regulations and natural and cultural resource management plans
- ITAM Program plans
- County/Municipal land planning and zoning

Alignment with Army Strategy

The Army Strategy for the Environment: Sustain the Mission – Secure the Future establishes a long-range vision that enables the Army to meet its mission today and into the future. The strategy commits Army leaders at all levels to certain goals and challenges them to develop innovative methods to achieve them. The Fort Carson Sustainability Program was created as a means to facilitate this mission by establishing goals and the policies, plans and procedures needed to attain those goals. The Fort Carson Sustainability Plan operationalizes the Army's strategy by providing the structure for planning, implementation, and monitoring and measuring progress. The IMCOM Campaign Plan provides for Sustainable Installations, Energy and

Water Efficiency and Security, and Assessment and Sustainment of Essential Base Operations Services in the Installation Readiness Lines of Effort (LOE). The Sustainability Objectives and Targets associated with this goal support all LOE in the IMCOM Campaign, with particular emphasis on accomplishing the Installation Readiness LOE.

Background

The original long term goal was to ensure that training ranges are capable of supporting current and future military training to standard by 2027, and to buffer Fort Carson and Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site (PCMS) 100 percent from encroachment. This original goal was the result of the combination of two goals from the Sep 2002 sustainability conference:

1. Training ranges (firing ranges, air space, and maneuver lands) capable of supporting current and future military training to standard.
2. An installation (Fort Carson and Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site) buffered from external encroachment.

When combined, the goal was stated as "Training Ranges (land and associated air space used for live fire ranges, maneuver, testing and that urban development designated for Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT) training) capable of supporting current and future military training to standard. The restated goal is:

Training ranges; maneuver lands; and associated air space capable of supporting current and future military training to standard while maintaining and sustaining training resources.

Desired end states are:

- Better coordination between Army and non-governmental organizations
- Increased intrinsic value of the Installation to the community
- Prevention of the degradation of training resources
- Prevention of urban encroachment as much as possible through coordination with surrounding communities
- Easing of the burden of threatened and endangered species protection on the Installation
- Conflicting issues of population growth and training addressed
- Eased imitations on mountain training sites
- Training area provided to suit the mission requirements
- Projected requirements at Fort Carson and PCMS addressed
- Future weapon systems and ammunition capabilities addressed
- Limited "workarounds" caused by environmental restrictions
- Training of Mission Essential Task List (METL), Directed-METL and Core-METL tasks to Army standard enabled
- Minimized maneuver damage by training units
- Land management (Best Management Practices (BMPs)) that supports tactical use/need of training land
- Buffer zones established to reduce training restrictions

Assumptions:

- In order for the goal to be achieved, approved annual funding cannot be diverted.
- The term "Training Ranges" translates into land and associated air space used for live fire ranges, maneuver, testing and the urban development designated for MOUT training.
- The DPTMS and the DPW Environmental will work closely together in order to achieve successful execution of the Sustainable Range Program. Combined quarterly reviews will be used to assess goal progress and address goal plan changes where needed.

- The term “buffer” translates into partner acquisition of legal property rights (fee simple purchase, conservation easements and/or lease) of additional land adjacent to Fort Carson.
- Current federal statutory requirements do not offer relief from Endangered Species Act (ESA), National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) or National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements within buffer lands.

As the Army transforms over the next 25 years, the systems and missions of Fort Carson are more than likely to change. Training range requirements for the Future Forces may far surpass that of the current force. For example, more lethal future weapons systems and advanced ammunition will most likely function at greater distances than today’s systems. Future maneuver doctrine will most likely call for coverage over far greater distances. All this points to the need for further evaluation of current and future land use requirements and potential rearrangement of current range capabilities.

Land conditions directly affect the ability of Fort Carson’s units to conduct and sustain realistic readiness training over time and to conserve and enhance ecosystem health. Environmental concerns include erosion control, vegetation management, sediment movement, runoff, water quality and wildlife management. Sustaining Fort Carson’s land in a high-quality condition is of paramount importance and a win/win situation for both military training and ecosystem health. This may require land to be placed in a temporary rest condition in order to provide long-term training service and vegetation recovery. Programs for these conditions will need to be funded and executed annually in order to provide for viable training ranges.

An expanding Colorado Springs and Pueblo surround Fort Carson. Close proximity of civilian lands generates community challenges. Resolution requires collaboration and partnership between Fort Carson/PCMS and surrounding communities. Strategically communicating the importance of Army training and the role of Fort Carson units in the Army’s strategic plans is key. In addition, implementation of common sense training plans will help to alleviate some civilian nuisance concerns.

Fort Carson must continue to work with local communities to influence local land use management in order to minimize both impacts of adjacent community growth on readiness training and training land sustainment and impacts that Army activities may have on adjacent communities. The lease and/or purchase of conservation easements on adjacent lands can expand species habitats, reduce restrictions on training, and create buffers between Army activities and the desirable growth of surrounding communities. In addition, realistic municipal zoning and real estate transactions should reflect and minimize the impacts of Fort Carson’s training mission.

Fort Carson must manage, repair and sustain training ranges in order to minimize adverse training impacts on surface water, wetlands and ground water quality. This includes reducing sediment movement and removing munitions and metal contaminants from water sources; this within the parameters of safety considerations.

Fort Carson must manage, repair and sustain training lands in order to minimize adverse training impacts on natural and cultural resources by balancing preservation and conservation with training requirements. The main restriction to training is ground disturbance in or around protected archaeological sites. Cultural resource and training staff must work closely to continually identify, evaluate, and protect sites, while supporting training requirements and priority work projects.

Challenges & Barriers

- Fort Carson cannot control public land planning
- El Paso County is one of the fastest growing counties in the U.S.
- Pueblo West is expanding toward southeast perimeter of Installation
- Some legal requirements impede sustainability goals
- Ever changing Army requirements
- Ever changing Army operational concepts
- Additional units assigned to Fort Carson
- Army training doctrine relative to land availability and cost
- Declining work force and budget

Training, Education and Outreach

EMS Awareness; Environmental Protection Officer (EPO) Training Course; Maneuver Damage Class, SRP Conferences; outside training/seminars

Communication

- External: Annual Sustainability Report; Southern Colorado Sustainable Communities Conference; local newspaper articles and publications; local televised news media; tours and open houses
- Internal: Garrison Commander's Breakfasts; Fort Carson Continuity Book; Fort Carson Book of Knowledge; Mountaineer newspaper articles and other publications; military training and environmental regulations and SOPs, range planning conferences, EQCC, After Action Reviews

Document Control

- 2003 National Defense Authorization Act
- 2003 Fort Carson ACUB Proposal
- 2002 Cooperative Agreement with TNC/US Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity
- 2005 Cooperative Agreement with TNC/US Army Research Development and Environmental Command;

Operational Controls

- Criteria required by Annual REPI Funding Request

Monitoring & Measurement

- Mapping information is kept in-house with Fort Carson's Geographic Information System (GIS) database administrator
- USFWS Information verified and coordinated when appropriate with Colorado Parks and Wildlife, TNC, El Paso County, and Pueblo County.

Evaluation of Compliance

- Program evaluation and compliance is monitored by United States Army Environmental Command
- Adherence to terms of conservation easements as prescribed by the Contract Agreement is administered by The Nature Conservancy
- Compliance and management is overseen by Fort Carson DPW-ED
- Fort Carson Sustainability Goal adherence is monitored by the internal ISRO.

Control of Records

All documents are controlled and maintained by DPW-ED and the Fort Carson Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) Program Coordinator in either hard copy or electronic form; documents are also shared when appropriate with ACUB partners such as USFWS, TNC, and El Paso County.

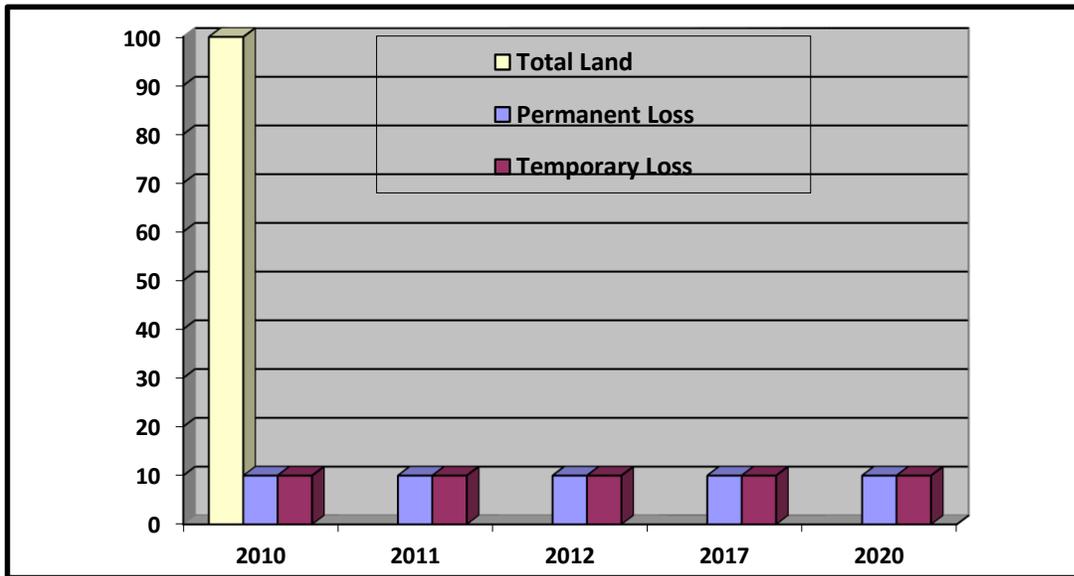
Annual Review

- Garrison Commander Management Review
- EMS Management Review
- Installation Status Report

Objective and Targets:

Objective TL1: Prevent the permanent loss of any training resource due to internal encroachment, biological, natural resource or other issue.

Target by FY12: No permanent loss compared to FY2010 baseline
Target by FY17: No permanent loss compared to FY2010 baseline based on range



Details on Objective Target Graph TL1

Measure: % of training resource base taken out of use permanently compared to baseline

Scope: The baseline includes all training resources except the cantonment, impact areas, Butts Army Airfield and build out on Wilderness Road at Fort Carson and PCMS. Also landfills and other lands considered off-limits to training.

Source: GIS

Baseline: Of 339,000 acres total, 306,000 are available in FY2010.

Limitations: None

Verification & Validation: DPTMS and DPW validate GIS data, mapping.

Comments: Permanent is defined as any training resource removed from training AND not able to be returned to training in the foreseeable future. Other factors may include encroachment from land use leases and easements with outside parties such as permanent utility easements/pump stations. Some training activities may take place even in areas

determined to be off-limits to training, e.g. inside buildings, temporary medical hospital tentage set up in the cantonment, dismantled on a closed landfill and so forth.

Initiatives in support of Obj. TL1 FY13-FY15

Initiative TL1.1 Conduct and participate in planning and design charettes concerning proposals with potential adverse impact on training resource availability.

Participants involved: DPW, DPTMS, MSE G3, 4ID G3, DGC/DGC-T

Initiative TL1.2 Plan, use and manage biological and natural resources in a manner to prevent permanent damage from training-related or natural causes by implementing the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) and ITAM's Annual Workplans. Manage and monitor plant and animal populations, particularly those categorized as "candidates", in order to minimize their potential for being listed under the Endangered Species Act.

Participants involved: DPW, DPTMS, external partners

Initiative TL1.3 Evaluate training resource impacts in decision making concerning permanent leases and easements with outside parties, e.g. Colorado Springs Utilities, Colorado Department of Transportation, etc.

Participants involved: DPW, DPTMS, MSE G3, 4ID G3, external stakeholders

Initiative TL1.4 Maximize current available training lands for training use. New project locations will be cleared of Unexploded Ordnance (UXO). Munitions capable of producing UXO will not be used on cleared range project areas. UXO in non-project areas will be marked and recorded until advancing technologies permit permanent mitigation of UXO.

Participants involved: DPTMS, DPW, US Army Corps of Engineers, and local EOD units

Initiative TL1.5 Utilize developing technology to reduce amount of land restricted based on UXO.

Participants involved: DPTMS, DPW, US Army Corps of Engineers, and local EOD units

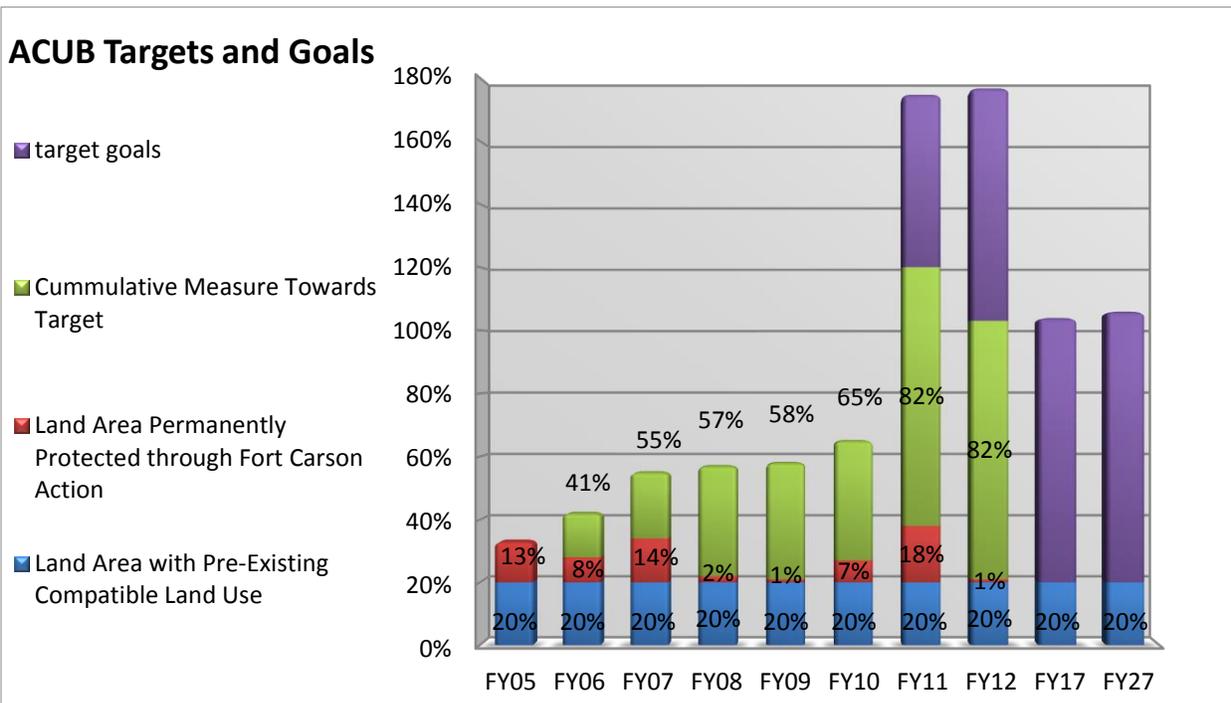
Objective TL2: Protect Fort Carson ranges and training lands from external encroachment by creating a contiguous 1½ to 2-mile wide proposed buffer around a significant portion of the Installation's southern and eastern perimeter.

Target by FY17:

84% of proposed buffer area permanently protected by open space or compatible land uses.

Target by FY20:

86% of proposed buffer area permanently protected by open space or compatible land uses.



Details on Objective Target Graph TL2

Measure: Total percentage of land within the approximated 39,500-acre (1 ½ to 2 miles) proposed buffer around Fort Carson that is protected in perpetuity from incompatible land use which would otherwise be deemed as detrimental to training. [640 acres = 1 square mile]

Scope: Proposed buffer of approximated 1½ to 2-mile wide swath around sensitive portions of Fort Carson's southern and eastern outside perimeter.

Source: September 2003 final Proposal – Army Compatible Use Buffer for “Sustaining Colorado’s Great Outdoors” 7th Infantry Division and Fort Carson, Fort Carson CO. Prepared by: Directorate of Environmental Compliance and Management, Fort Carson, Colorado with support from the U.S. Army Environmental Command.

Baseline: The baseline has been established as the 2003 proposed buffer which extends along the outside perimeter of Fort Carson from the southwest corner of the Installation east, and then

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north along the outside eastern boundary of Fort Carson to the southern edge of the City of Fountain. Included within this buffer are parcels of land already considered to have compatible uses into the foreseeable future, but without permanent guarantee of long-term compatible use.

Limitations: Knowledge of the land ownership at the time of the original plan was estimated based on best known information. Land ownership has changed substantially and continues to change frequently from conditions described in the original plan.

Verification & Validation: The measure is updated using GIS data as land transactions occur, as well as being coordinated with documentation from TNC, USFWS, El Paso County, Pueblo County, and other municipal partner agencies. This data is located and controlled through Fort Carson DPW-ED.

Comments: Assumptions are that the current measure of goal accountability assumes the proposed buffer remains consistent through 2020, and that the parcels identified as containing a pre-existing compatible land use remain consistent through 2020. All easements are recorded as public records in El Paso County and/or Pueblo County.

Initiatives in Support of Objective TL2 (FY13-FY15)

Initiative TL2.1: TNC on behalf of Fort Carson currently encumbers 23,252 acres through conservation easements. The TNC cooperative agreement was extended to December 18, 2014 to potentially acquire conservation easements on an additional 600 acres on the southwest end of the buffer area.. Most of the funding required for this action is currently available on the cooperative agreement.

Participants involved: DPW-ED, TNC, AEC

Initiative TL2.2: Continue facilitating El Paso County's fee-simple acquisition of undeveloped lots from willing sellers within the residential development of El Rancho, Colorado. Current unacquired acres of El Rancho Subdivision remaining within the buffer is ~2,840 acres; however, Fort Carson is only interested at this time in the lots that remain undeveloped. This is an ongoing initiative, as El Paso County continues to solicit landowners within the buffer. Progress on this initiative remains dependent upon willing sellers who show interest in divesting themselves of their land interests.

Participants involved: DPW-ED, El Paso County, AEC

Initiative TL2.3: Begin facilitating Pueblo County's fee-simple acquisition of undeveloped lots from willing sellers within the residential development of Midway Ranches, Colorado. Total land area of Midway Ranches Subdivision within buffer is ~1,840 acres; however, Fort Carson is only interested at this time in the lots that remain undeveloped. Currently, Fort Carson has not begun formal negotiations with Pueblo County to acquire interest in Midway Ranches. The Installation recognizes the need to begin this process within the next two years.

Participants involved: DPW-ED, Pueblo County, AEC

Initiative TL2.4: Establish a written agreement with Schmidt Construction, City of Fountain, Colorado Springs Utilities, and School of Mines to secure a guarantee of compatible use for their properties into the long-term future. Current land area within buffer that constitutes pre-existing compatible land use with no foreseeable change is ~8,040 acres; however, Fort Carson

may need to acquire interest in some of these additional lands if circumstances change without a contract. Fort Carson recognizes the need to begin this process within the next two years.

Participants involved: DPW-ED, Schmidt Construction, Colorado Springs Utilities, School of Mines, TNC, AEC, El Paso County and City of Fountain

Initiative TL2.5: Re-evaluate after FY2017 Fort Carson's need to pursue permanent compatible use actions on remaining parcels of land within the buffer. Land area within the buffer not currently sighted for protection is ~4,000 acres; however, Fort Carson may deem these parcels either unnecessary or unobtainable. Fort Carson recognizes the need to conduct an evaluation and formalize a decision regarding these areas within the next two years.

Participants involved: DPW-ED, City of Fountain, El Paso County, Unincorporated Pueblo West, Pueblo County, Fremont County, TNC, USFWS, AEC

Objective TL3: Meet federal agency responsibility for the preservation of historic properties on training lands, in support of current and future training, by managing these resources for the purpose of identification, evaluation and protection.

Target by FY13:

Complete documentation for previously completed Phase 1 Archeological Inventory and submit to SHPO for NHPA eligibility determination concurrence.

Target by FY14:

Complete NHPA eligibility determination consultations for all previously found sites at Fort Carson.

Target by FY15:

Complete NHPA eligibility determination consultations for all previously found sites at PCMS.

Target by FY17:

Make available for training (mounted and/or dismounted) all of Fort Carson lands.

Details on Objective TL3

Scope: In FY10 approximately 305,000 acres of installation lands had been surveyed. Approximately 26,600 acres remained to be surveyed at PCMS, 4000 acres of which is in the main mechanized maneuver corridor. At Fort Carson, approximately 22,400 acres remained to be surveyed. Of previously surveyed lands many of the sites found had not been submitted and/or reviewed by the SHPO for eligibility concurrence (approximately 2,900 sites).

Source: Fort Carson DPW-ED, Cultural Resources Program database and GIS records.

Baseline: The baseline for un-surveyed acreage was established in 2010 for both Fort Carson and the PCMS at 305,000 acres (Fort Carson – 95,780 acres and PCMS – 209,220 acres).

Limitations: Archaeological fieldwork for survey and evaluation is currently limited by access to downrange areas on Fort Carson due to training and funding priorities.

Verification & Validation: The measure is updated using GIS data as field surveys occur. This data is located and controlled through Fort Carson DPW-ED, Cultural Resources Program.

Initiatives in Support of Objective TL3 (FY13-FY15)

Initiative TL3.1: Execute Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) and associated Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Fort Carson has been operating under the 2002 version of the ICRMP. A draft rewrite is in staffing at the installation and will be forwarded to IMCOM, AEC, FORSCOM and SHPO in 2nd Quarter FY13.

Initiative TL3.2: Establish protective measures for all cultural/historic sites or properties that are eligible for inclusion in the National Historic Register, or that require additional data prior to Fort Carson or SHPO being able to recommend an eligibility determination. In FY12 Fort Carson completed the initial phase of a marking project at PCMS by Siebert Marking 101

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cultural sites. The installation will continue this effort and mark additional sites to expand the available approved off-road heavy maneuver lands at PCMS. A similar effort is expected to begin at Fort Carson in FY13.

Initiative TL3.3: Gain agreement on eligibility assessment determinations (evaluation) between Fort Carson and the SHPO for sites located throughout the training lands. In FY12 a contract was awarded to complete the preparation of uncompleted site forms and reports for previous surveys/inventories. This effort is expected to be completed in FY13. In FY12 SHPO reviewed approximately 970 previously un-assessed sites within the training lands. SHPO has dedicated additional resources in FY13 to continue their assessment efforts in support of future training undertakings.

Initiative TL3.4: Identify all cultural resources on Installation training lands. In FY12 6,460 acres of training lands were surveyed (Fort Carson - 360 acres and PCMS – 6,100 acres). For FY13 Fort Carson has placed a lower priority on identification and recordation of additional cultural properties. Army funding guidance does not make site identification a high priority effort in FY13. The total installation lands surveyed by the end of FY12 was approximately 313,910 acres (Fort Carson – 95,790 acres and PCMS – 218,120 acres).

Initiative TL3.5: Establish a Programmatic Agreement (PA) as an alternative to individual NHPA Section 106 consultation requirements for individual undertakings that support training. In FY12 Fort Carson worked with the SHPO, ACHP, Tribes and other consulting parties to develop a PA for the built environment portions of Fort Carson. Final agreement is expected on this document in 2nd Quarter FY13. In FY13 HQ IMCOM directed Fort Carson to develop a PA to support training by Dec 2013. Fort Carson has made this a priority effort.

Initiative TL3.6: Establish educational and awareness materials (Signs, Posters, Pamphlets) to identify protective measures, purpose, and need to the land users. Fort Carson continues to educate Soldiers and their leaders on why historic preservation and protection of cultural resources is important. Most of this effort is accomplished through courses such as the Environmental Officer Protection Course and Maneuver Damage Course. Additional training is provided through working with leaders as they plan training exercises, as well as other cultural awareness educational materials provided to Soldiers.

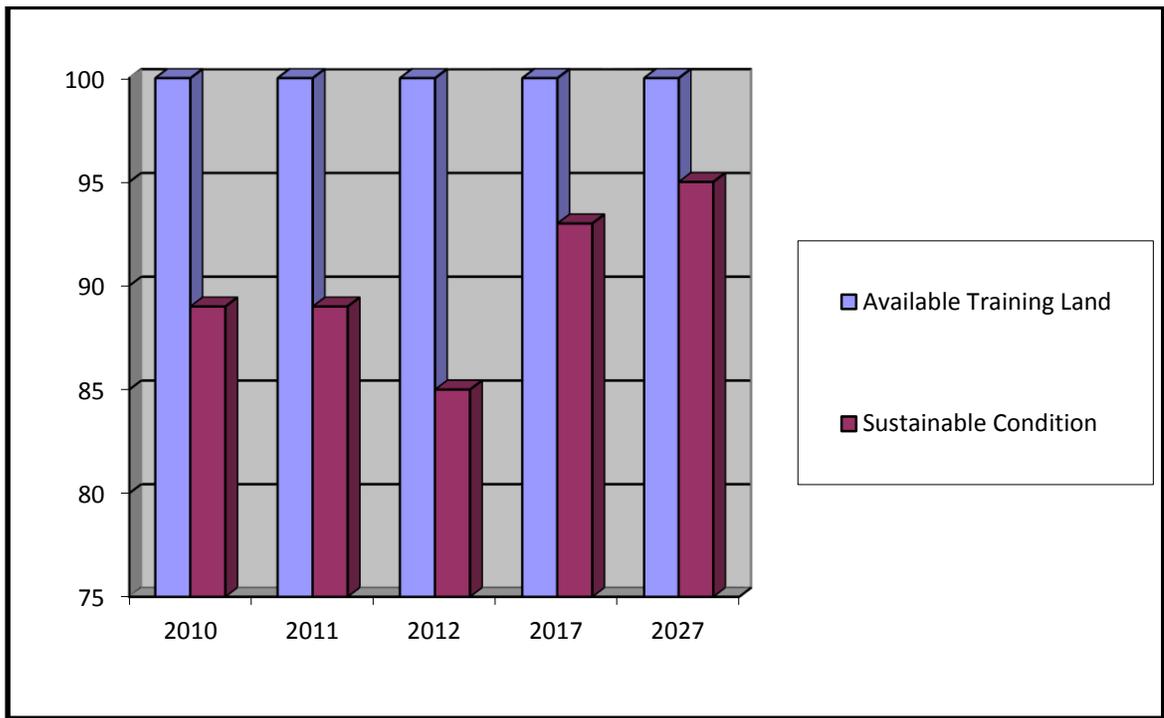
Objective TL4: Maintain biological and natural resources in sustainable condition to support military training.

Target by FY17:

93% of available training lands maintained in a sustainable condition for military training.

Target by FY20:

95% of available training lands maintained in a sustainable condition for military training.



Details on Objective Target Graph TL4

Measure: Good to excellent trend as defined by the Range Trend Land Assessment (RTLA) model, Land Condition Trend Analysis (LCTA), and rangeland monitoring assessments.

Scope: All Fort Carson administered or managed lands available for training.

Source: RTLA, LCTA, Monitoring.

Baseline: FY2012 RTLA Data

Limitations: Information accuracy, Weather, Significant Funding Reductions, Doctrinal Guidance, monitoring on every vegetative plot is not conducted annually; intensity/frequency of training use varies with deployment which likely affects condition (less training = better training land condition). 2012

Verification & Validation: DPTMS and DPW validate condition through data collection, monitoring and assessment.

Comments: The extended drought conditions have led to a loss of ground cover and has resulted in a lower percentage of training lands rated as good to excellent condition.

Initiatives in support of Objective TL4 (FY13-FY15)

Initiative TL4.1 Implement the Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM) Program FY13-FY15 subject to limited funding availability.

Participants involved: DPTMS/Sustainable Range Program, DPW Natural Resources

Initiative TL4.2 Implement the INRMP FY10 – FY12 subject to funding availability. Manage and monitor plant and animal populations, particularly those categorized as “candidates”, to minimize their potential for being listed under the Endangered Species Act.

Participants involved: DPW Natural Resources, DPTMS ITAM

Initiative TL4.3 Build and strengthen partnerships with outside agencies, including USFWS, CPW and the Comanche National Grasslands to network on natural resource management and work cooperatively across boundaries to maintain healthy ecosystems with viable native populations.

Participants involved: DPW Natural Resources, DPTMS ITAM

Initiative TL4.4 Conduct Burn Area Recovery work in severely burned wildland fire footprints. Work closely with Range Control to determine areas to be rested from training to ensure adequate recovery.

Participants involved: DPW Natural Resources, DPTMS ITAM

Initiative TL4.5 Improve wildlife habitat in key areas, such as providing water for wildlife in escape cover zones and utilizing prescribed fires to improve vegetation composition and forage production.

Participants involved: DPW Natural Resources, DPTMS ITAM

Initiative TL4.6 Consider re-establishing the Land Use Technical Advisory Committee (LUTAC) at PCMS in order to improve communication with the scientific community and general public.

Participants involved: GC, DPW, DPW Natural Resources, DPTMS, DPTMS ITAM, PAO

Initiative TL4.7 Begin planning to address training-related impacts, mitigation and alternatives from extended drought, wildland fire, extreme storms, habitat loss, species migration and other potential impacts related to climate change on Fort Carson, PCMS and local communities.

Participants involved: DPW Natural Resources, DPTMS, DPTMS ITAM, USFS, USGS, USFWS, CO Parks & Wildlife, NRCS, U.S. Army Construction Engineering Research Laboratory, climate scientists, colleges and universities, others

Initiative TL4.8 Analyze the potential use of internal resources and assets to off-set the adverse impacts of sequestration and funding reductions. Determine the feasibility of using internal heavy equipment from the garrison organizations and military engineer units to execute the Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance requirements.

Participants involved: DPW, DPTMS, DPTMS ITAM, SRP, 4 ID, 52nd Engineer Bn, PAO