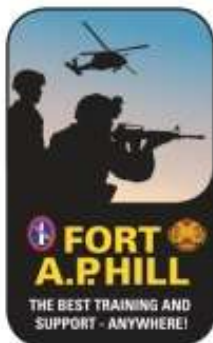


ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN AND THE INTEGRATED CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN AT FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA

Prepared for:



Prepared by:



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January 2016





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FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN
AND THE INTEGRATED CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN AT
FORT A.P.HILL, VIRGINIA

JANUARY 2016

Introduction: An Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared to analyze the potential for significant environmental impacts associated with the implementation of the Fort A.P. Hill (FAPH) Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) and Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP).

The EA was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (Title 42 U.S. Code Section 4321, et seq.), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500-1508), and *Environmental Analysis of Army Actions* (32 CFR 651). This Finding of No Significant Impact is a document that briefly states why the Proposed Action will not significantly affect the environment and that an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

Description of the Proposed Action: The Proposed Action is the implementation of the FAPH INRMP and ICRMP. These plans reflect FAPH's commitment to conserve, protect, and enhance the Installation's natural and cultural resources in a manner that supports and enhances realistic military training. The primary objective of these plans is to provide a proactive natural and cultural resources management tool that allows FAPH to achieve resource management goals, mission requirements, and compliance with environmental regulations and policies. Each plan has elements specific to the management of the resources it is designed to support.

Alternatives Considered: Two alternatives, the Preferred Alternative and a No Action Alternative, were evaluated for their potential direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts on the human environment.

The Army's Preferred Alternative (Proposed Action) would involve the full implementation of the INRMP and ICRMP, as required by law. This alternative would meet regulatory requirements, and provide information, guidance, and standard operating procedures to FAPH staff to ensure the successful management and protection of the Installation's natural and cultural resources

Under the No Action Alternative, the Army would not implement the INRMP and ICRMP, and management activities currently being conducted under previous versions of these plans would continue. The No Action Alternative is required under the CEQ regulations implementing the NEPA, and serves as a baseline or benchmark to be compared with the Proposed Action and alternatives.

Additional Alternatives: Because implementation of the INRMP and ICRMP are regulatory requirements, FAPH only considered the Preferred Alternative and the No Action Alternative during the NEPA process. No other alternatives are analyzed in this EA.

Anticipated Environmental Effects: Based on information gathered and presented in the EA, it has been determined that implementation of the Proposed Action as the Preferred Alternative, and the No Action Alternative would have no significant direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impacts on the environment. Adverse impacts associated with implementing the Proposed Action would be minor in context and intensity, and most would be temporary. Long-term, beneficial impacts would be expected as a result of many of the natural and cultural resources management activities in the INRMP and

ICRMP. Consequently, the overall environmental effect of implementing the Proposed Action is anticipated to be less than significant.

30-Day Public and Agency Review Period: The EA and a draft copy of this Finding of No Significant Impact were made available to the general public and applicable government agencies for review and comment during a 30-day period that commenced with the publication of a Notice of Availability in the *Caroline Progress* and *Free Lance-Star*. Copies of the EA along with instructions for submitting comments were made available at two Caroline County public libraries: Bowling Green Branch, 17202 Richmond Turnpike, Milford, Virginia 22514, and Port Royal Branch, 419 King Street, Port Royal, Virginia, 22535; and at <http://www.aphill.army.mil/ea.asp>. Copies of the documents were also sent directly to applicable agencies for review.


Public and Agency Comments: Comments were received from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ). The USACE designated FAPH as the lead federal agency to fulfill federal responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for actions that require permitting under Sections 10 and/or 404 of the Clean Water Act. The USACE also acknowledged FAPH's role as lead agency for any consultation required by the Endangered Species Act.

The VDEQ response consolidates comments received from several state agencies, including the VDEQ, Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, Department of Conservation and Recreation, Department of Health, and Marine Resources Commission. Each reviewing agency provided guidance and/or concurrence for implementing the Proposed Action.

Based on agency comments, FAPH has determined that no revisions to the EA are required. Copies of these comments can be found in Appendix B of the Final EA. No comments were received from the public during the 30-day review period.

Findings: Based on the analysis contained in the EA, I have concluded that implementation of the Proposed Action would not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Consequently, implementation of the Proposed Action does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement.

Approved By:


DAVID A. MEYER
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
Commanding

21 Jan 16
Date

HOW THIS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT IS ORGANIZED

The EXECUTIVE SUMMARY briefly describes the Proposed Action and alternatives. Impacts and conclusions are summarized.

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

- SECTION 1 PURPOSE AND NEED discusses the purpose and need for the Proposed Action, the regulatory background surrounding this project, and the scope of this Environmental Assessment.
- SECTION 2 DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES discusses the Proposed Action and alternatives addressed in this Environmental Assessment.
- SECTION 3 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES describes the existing environment within the region of influence. It also provides a comparison of environmental consequences associated with each alternative. Conservation and mitigation measures are also addressed in this section. The cumulative impacts analyses are also included in this section.
- SECTION 4 FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS
- SECTION 5 REFERENCES provides bibliographical information for sources cited in the text of this Environmental Assessment.
- SECTION 6 LIST OF PREPARERS AND CONTRIBUTORS
- SECTION 7 LIST OF INDIVIDUALS CONSULTED

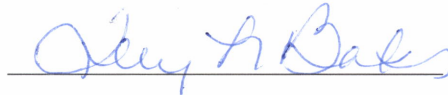
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**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
PLAN AND THE INTEGRATED CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN
AT FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA**

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Recommended for approval by:



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Chief, Environmental and Natural Resources Division
Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia

Approved by:



DAVID A. MEYER
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
Commanding

January 2016

FORMAT PAGE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared to analyze the potential environmental effects associated with the implementation of the Fort A.P. Hill (FAPH) Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) 2016-2020 and Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) 2013-2018.

FAPH (the Installation) is a military installation encompassing nearly 76,000 acres of land between the Towns of Bowling Green and Port Royal, Caroline County, Virginia. The Installation is approximately 70 miles south of Washington, District of Columbia, and 35 miles north of the state capitol, Richmond, Virginia. United States Route 301 bisects the Installation and provides the main thoroughfare between Bowling Green and Port Royal.

The Proposed Action analyzed in this EA is the implementation of the FAPH INRMP and ICRMP. These plans reflect FAPH's commitment to conserve, protect, and enhance the Installation's natural and cultural resources in a manner that supports and enhances realistic military training. Preparation and implementation of the INRMP is required by the Sikes Act (16 United States Code [U.S.C.] Section 670a, *et seq.*) as amended in the Sikes Act Improvement Act of 1997; Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 4715.03, *Natural Resources Conservation Program*; and Army Regulation (AR) 200-1, *Environmental Protection and Enhancement*. Preparation and implementation of the ICRMP is required by AR 200-1 and DoD Instruction 4715.16. The primary objective of these plans is to provide a proactive natural and cultural resources management tool that allows FAPH to achieve resource management goals, mission requirements, and compliance with environmental regulations and policies. Each plan has elements specific to the management of the resources it is designed to support.

Two alternatives are analyzed in this EA, the Preferred Alternative and the No Action Alternative. Because implementation of the INRMP and ICRMP are regulatory requirements, FAPH did not consider additional alternatives.

The Preferred Alternative (Proposed Action) would involve the full implementation of the INRMP and ICRMP, as required by law. Under the No Action Alternative, the Army would not implement the INRMP and ICRMP, and management activities currently being conducted under previous versions of these plans would continue. The No Action Alternative is required under the Council of Environmental Quality regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and serves as a baseline or benchmark to be compared with the Proposed Action and alternatives.

No significant impacts are anticipated to result from implementing the Proposed Action at FAPH. Some minor adverse impacts to certain resource areas would be expected, but these impacts would be less than significant. Implementation of the Proposed Action would also have minor, beneficial impacts to the local economy and would have long-term, beneficial impacts to various resource areas. A summary of potential impacts of the Proposed Action and measures to minimize adverse impacts is provided in Table ES-1.

Based on the analysis contained herein, it is the conclusion of this EA that the Proposed Action, which is the Army's Preferred Alternative, and No Action Alternative would not constitute a major federal action with significant impact on human health or the environment. A Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed Action may be signed to complete the process of analysis under the NEPA.

**Table ES-1. Summary of Potential Impacts and Measures to Minimize Impacts
for Preferred Alternative (Proposed Action)**

Resource Area	Level of Anticipated Impact			Summary of Potential Impacts and Measures to Minimize Impacts
	Significant	Less than Significant	No Impact	
Land Use		X		No significant impacts to land use are anticipated as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action. Projects proposed in the INRMP and ICRMP would not change land use on the Installation and would not result in any land use incompatibilities. Proposed natural resources management projects benefit current land use by maintaining safe recreational and training areas.
Topography, Geology, and Soils		X		No impacts to geology would be expected. No significant impacts to topography or soils would be anticipated. Minor short-term impacts to soils would result from natural and cultural resources management activities that involve ground disturbance. For these types of projects, however, site-specific plans would be developed to minimize soil disturbance and erosion. Agricultural outleasing and vegetation management activities would result in long-term beneficial impacts to soils by promoting healthy, quality topsoil.
Hydrology and Water Resources		X		No significant impacts to hydrology and water resources would be expected as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action. Individual projects would be evaluated for potential impacts. Site-specific plans would be developed and permits obtained if necessary to minimize the potential for nonpoint source pollutants impacting water resources.
Biological Resources		X		No significant impacts to biological resources would be anticipated as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action. The objective of the INRMP is to preserve and protect the natural resources on the Installation while supporting the military mission. Although some minor, short-term adverse impacts would be expected as a result of some natural resources management activities, the long-term, beneficial impacts outweigh them by promoting the sustainment of a healthy ecosystem. The most notable minor, short-term impacts would be expected during prescribed burns, timber harvest, and pesticide application. However, implementing best management practices established in the INRMP and other guidance documents, such as the Integrated Pest Management Plan and Integrated Wildland Fire Management Plan, would limit those impacts. Additionally, these impacts would mostly be temporary.

Resource Area	Level of Anticipated Impact			Summary of Potential Impacts and Measures to Minimize Impacts
	Significant	Less than Significant	No Impact	
Cultural Resources		X		No significant impacts to cultural resources are anticipated as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action. The objective of the ICRMP is to protect and preserve the cultural resources on the Installation. All projects are evaluated for their potential effect on known cultural resources. If an unknown cultural resource is discovered on a project site, work ceases and the Installation's Cultural Resources Manager is consulted. The Cultural Resources Manager coordinates with applicable state and federal agencies when necessary.
Air Quality		X		No significant impacts to air quality are expected. The Installation is in an attainment area for all criteria pollutants and its annual emissions are well below thresholds requiring additional permits. Minor, short-term impacts would be expected during certain natural and cultural resources management activities. Most activities' emissions would be fugitive dust and vehicle and equipment exhaust. Pesticide application would result in minor, temporary impacts to air quality. Prescribed burns would be expected to contribute the greatest amount of air pollutants; however, those impacts would be temporary and compliance with best management practices within the Integrated Wildland Fire Management Plan would minimize impacts. Overall, impacts would be less than significant and would not contribute significant emissions to local or regional air quality.
Noise		X		No significant impacts would result from the noise generated by the Proposed Action. Noise associated with project vehicles and equipment would be consistent with noise already occurring on the Installation. Larger-scale projects, such as prescribed burns, timber harvesting, or large-scale pesticide application, may generate noise above normal levels; however, those impacts would be temporary and most likely would occur during daylight hours when noise receptors are less sensitive.
Visual Resources		X		No significant impacts to visual resources would result from the implementation of the Proposed Action. Minor, short-term impacts would result from certain projects. Most notable would be the impacts from prescribed burns and timber harvest. However, given the temporary nature of the impacts and long-term benefits, the impacts are considered less than significant.
Socioeconomics		X		No significant impact to socioeconomics would be expected. The Proposed Action would not result in a permanent increase in population. Short-term, minor, beneficial impacts to the local economy may result from increased sales volumes during the duration of some proposed activities. Proposed timber harvest would also benefit the local economy, as a portion of the profit is given to Caroline County. No impacts would result in environmental injustice issues.

Resource Area	Level of Anticipated Impact			Summary of Potential Impacts and Measures to Minimize Impacts
	Significant	Less than Significant	No Impact	
Transportation and Circulation		X		No significant impacts to transportation and circulation are anticipated as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action. The Installation's road network is capable of handling the vehicle and equipment traffic associated with the proposed activities. Minor, short-term increase in traffic would occur during the implementation of certain projects, but these would not result in any significant impacts.
Utilities		X		No significant impacts to utilities are anticipated as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action. The Installation's utilities and infrastructure are capable of handling the demand associated with the proposed activities. The Proposed Action would not result in the creation of any new utilities on the Installation.
Hazardous Materials and Wastes		X		No significant impacts from the use of hazardous materials and waste are anticipated as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action. The materials and waste associated with the proposed activities are consistent with the materials used and wastes generated currently by the Installation. All handling, storage, transportation, and disposal of hazardous materials and waste would comply with applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations. The Installation maintains an Installation-wide Spill Response Plan that would be implemented in the event of an accidental release.
Health and Human Safety		X		No significant impacts to human health and safety are anticipated as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action. Emergency services and medical facilities on and around the Installation are capable of responding to any issues arising from the proposed activities. All personnel would be required to comply with applicable health and safety regulations. No impacts would result in disproportionately effects on children.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AAF	Army Airfield
ACUB	Army Compatible Use Buffer
AIRFA	American Indian Religious Freedom Act
amsl	Above Mean Sea Level
AQCR	Air Quality Control Region
AR	Army Regulation
ARPA	Archaeological Resources Protection Act
BMP	Best Management Practice
CAA	Clean Air Act
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CERCLIS	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CO	Carbon Monoxide
CO ₂ e	Carbon Dioxide Equivalent
CWA	Clean Water Act
CZMA	Coastal Zone Management Act
CZMP	Coastal Zone Management Program
DA	Department of the Army
dB	Decibel
dBA	A-Weighted Decibel
DNL	Day-Night Average Sound Level
DoD	Department of Defense
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement

EO	Executive Order
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FAPH	Fort A.P. Hill
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FNSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
FR	Federal Register
FRED	Fredericksburg Regional Transit
ft	Feet
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
I-95	Interstate 95
ICRMP	Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan
INRMP	Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan
ITAM	Integrated Training Area Management
JLUS	Joint Land Use Study
LOS	Level of Service
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NO ₂	Nitrogen Dioxide
NO _x	Nitrogen Oxides
O ₃	Ozone
Pb	Lead
PIF	Partners-in-Flight

PM _{2.5}	Particulate Matter (very fine)
PM ₁₀	Particulate Matter (fine)
PSD	Prevention of Significant Deterioration
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
ROI	Region of Influence
RPA	Resource Protection Area
RPMP	Real Property Master Plan
sf	Square Feet
SO ₂	Sulfur Dioxide
STP	Sewage Treatment Plant
TM	Technical Manual
U.S.	United States
U.S.C.	United States Code
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
VDEQ	Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
VDOT	Virginia Department of Transportation
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound
WMP	Watershed Management Plan

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1.0 PURPOSE AND NEED

1.1 Introduction

Fort A.P. Hill (FAPH or the Installation), is a military installation encompassing more than 76,000 acres of land between the Towns of Bowling Green and Port Royal, Caroline County, Virginia (Figure 1-1). The Installation is approximately 70 miles south of Washington, District of Columbia, and 35 miles north of the state capitol, Richmond, Virginia. United States (U.S.) Route 301 bisects the Installation and provides the main thoroughfare between Bowling Green and Port Royal.

FAPH was established as an Army training facility in 1941. The Installation's mission, as a Regional Training Center, is to provide realistic joint and combined arms training in support of America's Defense Forces. FAPH serves as a training and maneuver center for active and reserve troops of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines. Several Government agencies, such as the Departments of State and Interior; U.S. Customs; and federal, state, and local law enforcement and security agencies also train at FAPH. The Installation has also hosted foreign ally training. FAPH is the largest military installation in Virginia and sixth largest military installation on the East Coast and is used for training year round (FAPH 2015).

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires all federal agencies to give appropriate consideration to potential environmental effects of proposed major actions in planning and decision making, as further explained in Section 1.3. In accordance with the NEPA, FAPH is completing this Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of implementing the Installation's Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) 2016-2020 and Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) 2013-2018. The INRMP and ICRMP evaluated in this EA replace FAPH's previous versions of the documents. The INRMP and ICRMP were developed to guide management of the Installation's natural and cultural resources, consistent with the Installation's commitment to sustaining and conserving these resources, while ensuring the Installation's continued ability to support its military mission. These plans are reviewed annually and updated every five years, if necessary.

1.2 Purpose and Need for Action

The Army Strategy for the Environment is designed to strengthen the Army today and into the future by establishing a long-range vision for a sustainable Army as well as the goals upon which the Army's vision is based. This strategy transitions the Army's compliance-based environmental program to a mission-oriented approach based on the principles of sustainability. A sustainable Army simultaneously meets current as well as future mission requirements worldwide, safeguards human health, improves quality of life, and enhances the natural environment (Department of the Army [DA] 2004). Multiple laws, regulations, Executive Orders (EOs), and presidential goals define environmental management requirements that the Army must meet.

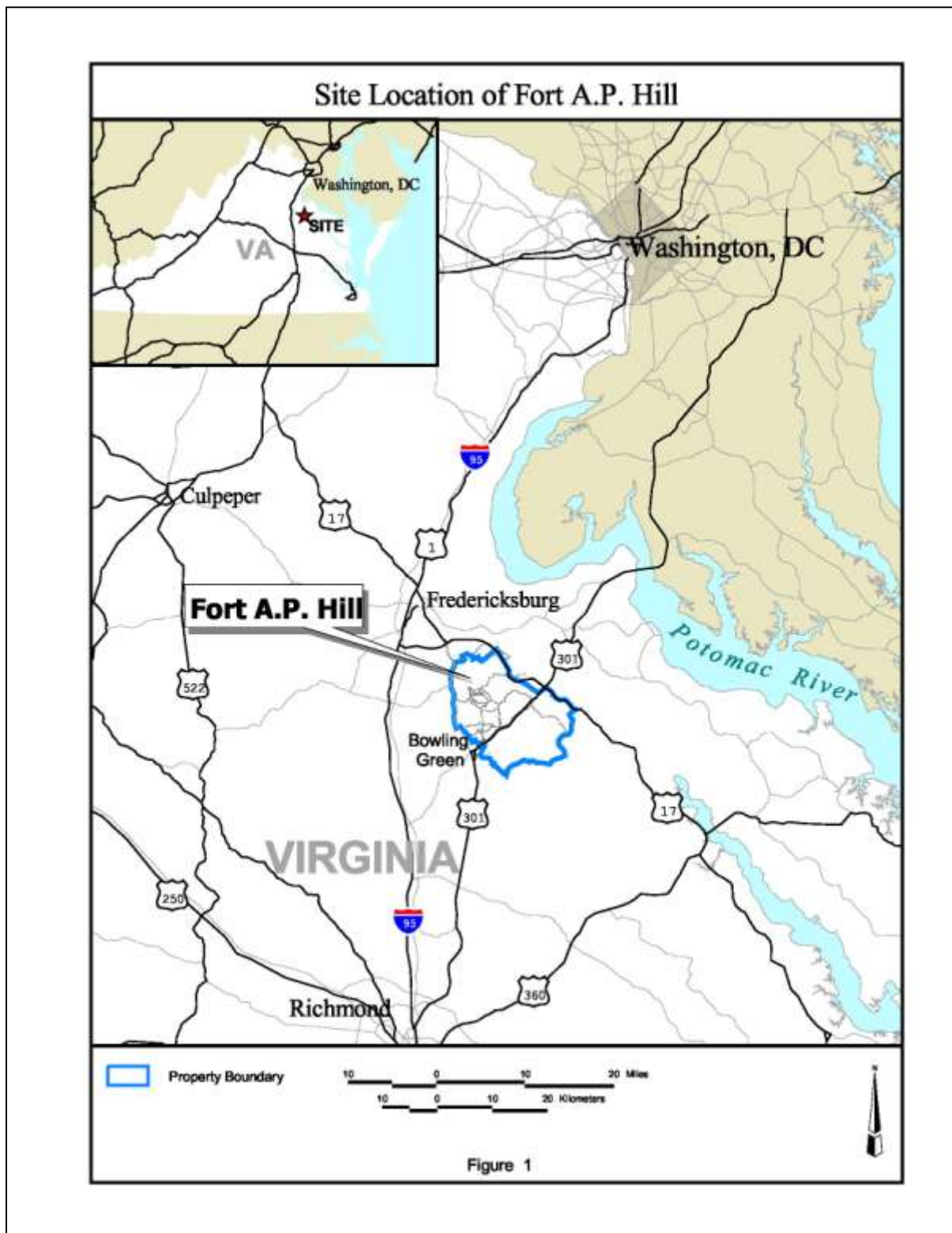


Figure 1-1. Regional Location Map

The following sections describe the regulatory drivers behind the Army's natural and cultural resources management responsibilities.

1.2.1 Purpose

FAPH is responsible for the stewardship of the natural and cultural resources within the Installation's boundaries. Federal and Army regulations mandate the development and implementation of INRMPs and ICRMPs. The INRMP and ICRMP are designed to provide FAPH staff with procedures and guidance to facilitate integration of natural and cultural resource management responsibilities into the Installation's broader military mission.

INRMP

Preparation and implementation of the INRMP is required by the Sikes Act (16 United States Code [U.S.C.] Section 670a, *et seq.*) as amended, Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 4715.03, *Natural Resources Conservation Program*, and Army Regulation (AR) 200-1, *Environmental Protection and Enhancement*. Additionally, the INRMP must be consistent with various guidance memoranda and policies issued by the DoD, including the *INRMP Implementation Manual* dated 25 November 2013 and all supporting guidance incorporated therein.

The purpose of implementing the INRMP is to outline conservation and management efforts for FAPH natural resources, including threatened and endangered species, and aid in ensuring compliance with applicable laws and regulations. The INRMP addresses integration with existing Army and other federal management program initiatives, including the Sustainable Range Program and its Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM) component, and the Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) Program. It provides a summary of the Installation's history, current, and future mission; identifies baseline conditions and current and future management activities; integrates management strategies with other Installation processes and activities across a variety of program areas; describes roles and responsibilities of responsible and/or interested parties; and identifies staffing and funding requirements necessary to implement the projects identified and scheduled within the INRMP.

ICRMP

Preparation and implementation of the ICRMP is required by AR 200-1 and DoD Instruction 4715.16. These regulations and instructions incorporate many resource-specific regulations, laws, and policies that pertain to cultural resource management, including the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, which is of particular significance as it establishes stewardship responsibilities of federal agencies for historic properties owned or controlled by the federal Government.

The purpose of implementing the ICRMP is to provide FAPH with an internal compliance and management plan and provide information, guidance, and standard operating procedures to keep FAPH in compliance with applicable cultural resources laws, regulations, and guidance

issued by the federal Government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the DA. The ICRMP allows FAPH staff to incorporate cultural resource management responsibilities into the Installation's broader military mission. It provides a summary of the Installation's mission and history; provides cultural resources context for the Installation; provides inventory and evaluation of known archaeological and architectural resources on the Installation; identifies future undertakings and the process for inventorying unsurveyed portions of the Installation; and identifies standard operating procedures for internal Installation coordination and external consultation for actions that may affect cultural resources.

1.2.2 Need

The need for the Proposed Action is to ensure natural and cultural resource management compliance while reaching training goals; to provide Soldiers with updated facilities and realistic training areas, which are needed to ensure attainment and maintenance of a full readiness posture; and to meet DA mission essential requirements. Without proper management, natural and cultural resources may be negatively affected, which could subsequently impact the Installation's military training mission.

1.3 Regulatory Framework

Congress enacted the NEPA in 1969 with accompanying regulations requiring federal agencies to consider potential impacts before taking actions that may impact the environment. The process is designed to provide the decision maker with an overview of the major environmental resources that may be affected, the interrelationship of these resources, and potential impacts to the human environment. The NEPA process is not intended to fulfill the specific requirements of other environmental statutes and regulations. The NEPA process:

- Helps to identify potential alternatives to the Proposed Action;
- Integrates other environmental processes;
- Summarizes technical information;
- Documents impact analyses and decisions;
- Interprets technical information for the decision maker and the public; and
- Assists the decision maker in selecting a preferred action.

NEPA is intended to be incorporated into the early stages of the decision-making process to ensure that planning and decisions consider environmental values. The NEPA process enables the Army and stakeholders to gain a better appreciation of each other's needs and fosters a decision-making process that helps avoid unexpected confrontations in the future. In addition, NEPA compliance provides for ongoing evaluation of environmental effects for actions that will continue over time.

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), which was established as part of NEPA, coordinates federal environmental efforts and works closely with other White House offices in the development of environmental policies and initiatives. In 2012, the CEQ issued what is commonly referred to as the NEPA Efficiency Guidance. This guidance encourages federal

agencies to provide the best use of agency resources in ensuring a timely, effective, and efficient NEPA review by creating concise documents, conducting early scoping, incorporating NEPA into the project planning process, and taking advantage of existing documents and studies through adoption, incorporation by reference, or tiering from programmatic documents. As such, this EA incorporates by reference the draft INRMP, final ICRMP, and the EAs that were prepared for implementation of the Installation's previous INRMP and ICRMP.

In addition to NEPA, this EA has been prepared in compliance with two DA regulations that provide guidance for environmental analyses:

- Title 32 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 651, *Environmental Analysis of Army Actions*, dated 29 March 2002, is designed to provide policy, responsibilities, and procedures for integrating environmental considerations into Army planning and decision making. It establishes criteria for determining which of five review categories apply to a particular action, and therefore what type of environmental document should be prepared. If the Proposed Action is not covered adequately in any existing EA, Programmatic EA, or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and cannot be categorically excluded from NEPA analysis, then a separate NEPA analysis must be completed prior to the commitment of resources (personnel, funding, or equipment) to the Proposed Action; and
- AR 200-1, *Environmental Protection and Enhancement*, dated December 2007, describes DA responsibilities, policies, and procedures to preserve, protect, and restore the quality of the environment. The regulation incorporates a wide range of applicable statutory and regulatory requirements.

1.4 Use of this Environmental Assessment

This EA analyzes and documents the potential for environmental impacts associated with the implementation of FAPH's INRMP and ICRMP, relative to the No Action Alternative. FAPH will use this EA to determine whether a Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) is appropriate or if a Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS should be issued.

1.5 Public Participation Opportunities

In keeping with established Army policy to provide a transparent and open decision-making process, FAPH will make this EA and draft decision document available to applicable federal and local agencies, stakeholders, and the general public for review and comment. Agency coordination letters and responses received from agencies and the public are included in Appendix B. A Notice of Availability will be published in the *Caroline Progress* and *Free Lance-Star* newspapers, and a copy of the EA will be made available on the internet at <http://www.aphill.army.mil/ea.asp> and at the following libraries:

Caroline County Public Library
Bowling Green Branch
17202 Richmond Turnpike
Milford, Virginia 22514

Caroline County Public Library
Port Royal Branch
419 King Street
Port Royal, Virginia 22535

Comments must be postmarked within 30 days of the publishing date of the Notice of Availability to be considered as part of the NEPA process. Comments should be submitted to:

Fort A.P. Hill
Environmental and Natural Resources Division
Attn: NEPA Coordinator
19952 North Range Road, Building 1220
Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia 22427
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A final decision document in the form of a FNSI or a Notice of Intent to complete an EIS will be issued following completion of the 30-day review period and will address comments received under this NEPA process.

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

2.1 Proposed Action

The Proposed Action analyzed in this EA is the implementation of the FAPH INRMP and ICRMP. These plans reflect FAPH's commitment to conserve, protect, and enhance the Installation's natural and cultural resources in a manner that supports and enhances realistic military training. The primary objective of these plans is to provide a proactive natural and cultural resources management tool that allows FAPH to achieve resource management goals, mission requirements, and compliance with environmental regulations and policies. Each plan has elements specific to the management of the resources it is designed to support.

2.1.1 INRMP

The FAPH natural resources program conserves and protects biodiversity using an ecosystem management approach. Baseline surveys of the Installation's resource types have been completed to characterize and assess their status. The goals of the program are to support the military mission by providing sustainable and viable lands for training, protecting natural resources by practicing ecosystem management, ensuring FAPH lands and resources accommodate multiple uses, and maintaining compliance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

The ecosystem approach supports the FAPH military mission and involves setting management goals and objectives that are consistent with established conservation initiatives. All proposed actions on the Installation are reviewed to evaluate potential impacts and management activities are integrated in a way that promotes consideration of ecosystem integrity. Several chapters of the INRMP constitute a Component Plan for a particular natural resources related program area. Each Component Plan identifies how it supports the overall goals and objectives of the INRMP in accordance with all applicable statutory and regulatory authorities, an operational description, actions, and projects required to meet the intent of this INRMP, and approximate timeframes for implementation. Component Plans within the INRMP include:

- Forest Resources Management;
- Fish and Wildlife Management;
- Endangered Species Management;
- Invasive Species Management;
- Agricultural Outlease Management;
- Watershed Management;
- Grounds Maintenance;
- ITAM; and
- Outdoor Recreation Management.

A full description of each of these categories can be found in the draft INRMP, which is hereby incorporated by reference.

2.1.2 ICRMP

FAPH maintains a proactive program for the research, documentation, and preservation of cultural resources ranging from 19th-century home sites to evidence of activity dating back to 8,000 B.C. The goal of the ICRMP for FAPH is to integrate and coordinate the effective stewardship of cultural resources with the ongoing demands of military training, testing, and infrastructure operations and maintenance. The ICRMP provides cultural resources management information and procedures for project coordination, planning, and compliance to meet FAPH's requirements for operations and training. Integrating the ICRMP with other Installation-wide planning documents such as the Real Property Master Plan (RPMP), Range Complex Master Plan, and INRMP will ensure compliance with cultural resources laws and regulations early in project development, reduce the potential for delays, and provide for the greatest possible protection and preservation of cultural and historic resources. The ICRMP also provides the basis for a Programmatic Agreement with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

2.2 Preferred Alternative

The Army's Preferred Alternative includes the full implementation of the Proposed Action as described in Section 2.1. This alternative would implement the INRMP and ICRMP, meet regulatory requirements, and provide information, guidance, and standard operating procedures to FAPH staff to ensure the successful management and protection of the Installation's natural and cultural resources while meeting the military mission of FAPH.

2.3 No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative is required under CEQ regulations implementing NEPA and serves as a baseline or benchmark used to compare with the Proposed Action and alternatives. Under the No Action Alternative, FAPH would not implement the INRMP and ICRMP. Management activities currently being conducted under previous versions of these plans would continue, and the revised management strategies and mitigation included in the updated plans would not be implemented.

2.4 Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Further Analysis

In addition to the Proposed Action and No Action Alternative, an EA should identify any alternatives eliminated from detailed analysis during the planning process. Because implementation of the INRMP and ICRMP are regulatory requirements, FAPH only considered the Preferred Alternative and the No Action Alternative during the NEPA process. No other alternatives are analyzed in this EA.

3.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

This section describes conditions of, and possible impacts to, environmental resources potentially affected by the Proposed Action and alternatives. The description of existing conditions provides a baseline understanding of the resources from which any environmental changes that may result due to the implementation of an alternative can be identified and evaluated. Following the existing conditions, potential changes or impacts to the resources are described as environmental consequences. As stated in CEQ regulations, 40 CFR 1508.14, the “human environment potentially affected” is interpreted comprehensively to include the natural and physical resources and the relationship of people with those resources. The term “environment” as used in this EA encompasses all aspects of the physical, biological, social, and cultural surroundings. In compliance with the NEPA and CEQ regulations, the description of the affected environment focuses only on those aspects potentially subject to impacts. Finally, cumulative impacts are addressed, defined by CEQ regulations 40 CFR 1500-1508 as those impacts attributable to the Proposed Action combined with other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable future impacts regardless of the source.

3.1 Land Use

3.1.1 Affected Environment

FAPH is a military installation in the northeastern portion of Caroline County, Virginia. Caroline County is one of the larger counties within the Commonwealth of Virginia, encompassing approximately 549 square miles. FAPH is situated on nearly 76,000 acres, making up approximately 22 percent of the County's land area. A small portion of FAPH is located within Essex County. Outside the Installation boundaries, Caroline and Essex counties are comprised mostly of rural areas and agricultural land. The Installation is situated between the Towns of Bowling Green and Port Royal and is bisected by U.S. Route 301, which is the main thoroughfare between the two towns.

The majority of the Installation is undeveloped. Installation land use is guided by the RPMP, which categorizes FAPH's land use into seven areas: airfield, community, industrial, professional/institutional, residential, ranges and training, and troop (FAPH 2013a). FAPH has 30 training and maneuver areas; 24 of them are north of Route 301. Additionally, the cantonment area and housing area are on the northern side of the Installation. The range and impact areas and the airfield are south of Route 301. Land use and development for Caroline County is guided by the County's Comprehensive Plan, which includes specific guidance for the Towns of Bowling Green and Port Royal.

FAPH was established as an Army training facility in 1941. It is one of the largest military installations on the East Coast and is used for training year round. The Installation has more than 44,000 acres of maneuver training lands, suited for light and medium mechanized infantry, special forces, aviation, combat support, and combat service activities. Water-based training activities, including aquatic bridge training, are conducted at White's Lake and at a 24.7-acre leased site located north of the Installation boundary along the Rappahannock River. The

27,000-acre live-fire range complex provides facilities for small arms, machine gun, mortar, anti-tank, grenade, artillery, and explosives testing and training. Additional testing and training may also be conducted on the live-fire range complex. However, all live-fire testing and training is done exclusively at the complex.

3.1.2 Environmental Consequences

Preferred Alternative (Proposed Action)

Implementation of the Preferred Alternative is not anticipated to result in significant direct or indirect impacts to land use on the Installation, and land use would not be changed by any projects or management activities proposed in the INRMP and ICRMP. No land use incompatibilities would result from the implementation of the Preferred Alternative. Proposed management of the FAPH's natural resources benefit the operations and training activities on the Installation by providing training areas and safe outdoor recreation. Implementation of the INRMP supports the historic strong ties to the area communities that use the Installation for recreational purposes, such as hunting, fishing, canoeing/kayaking, and bicycling.

The Installation also implements an ACUB Program, which preserves undeveloped private lands around the Installation for willing land owners. The goal of FAPH's ACUB Program is to permanently protect approximately 30,000 acres of undeveloped land in proximity to FAPH to ensure minimal encroachment on FAPH's operational readiness.

No Action Alternative

No significant impacts to land use are anticipated under the No Action Alternative. Minor, adverse impacts may result, however, due to continued management of resources using the previous versions of the INRMP and ICRMP, as management practices would become inefficient and outdated over time. Without proper management, certain land uses may be compromised and could negatively impact training, and subsequently impact FAPH's military mission.

Cumulative Impacts

The Installation's RPMP guides land use and development on FAPH. There is minimal development proposed in the RPMP for the next five years. The Caroline County Comprehensive Plan (County Plan) guides land use and development in surrounding communities. The Town of Bowling Green also has a Comprehensive Plan (Town Plan) which guides development within the Town limits. The County Plan is available to the public at <http://www.co.caroline.va.us> and the Town Plan is available at <http://www.townofbowlinggreen.com>. The County and Town plans are reviewed and updated periodically to account for growth and change within the respective communities. These documents and cooperative programs minimize the potential for adverse impacts to land use on and surrounding FAPH.

The County Plan identifies specific growth areas within Caroline County. Most proposed growth in the county is along the Interstate 95 (I-95) corridor, which is 6 miles or more west of the

Installation's boundaries. Both the County and Town plans identify planned development in the Bowling Green area, most of which is low-density residential. Some proposed commercial development is identified within the existing commercial area in downtown Bowling Green and along Route 301 between Bowling Green and the main entrance of Fort A.P. Hill. The development along Route 301 was identified in the County Plan specifically to support predicted growth at FAPH.

Additionally, FAPH is working with the Towns of Bowling Green and Port Royal and the counties of Caroline, Essex, King George, and Spotsylvania to develop a Joint Land Use Study (JLUS). The JLUS will evaluate proposed land use, development, and related policies and identify potential impacts to FAPH's mission and operations, along with impacts to the surrounding communities. The goal of the JLUS is to encourage compatible growth and sustained collaborative planning that fosters mutual positive growth on and around the Installation. More information about the JLUS can be found at <http://www.visitcaroline.com/fortaphilljlus.html>.

Given the ongoing collaborative efforts between FAPH and surrounding communities, no significant cumulative impacts would be anticipated as a result of the implementation of the INRMP and ICRMP, even when combined with proposed growth on and surrounding FAPH.

3.2 Topography, Geology, and Soils

3.2.1 Affected Environment

Topography

The Installation lies within the Atlantic Coastal Plain physiographic province. It is located just east of the fall line, and therefore displays characteristics of both the Piedmont and Coastal Plain regions (FAPH 2015). The topography of the Installation varies from relatively flat in the southern portion, moderately rolling in the northern portion, and fairly steep in some central locations. Elevations on FAPH range from approximately 10 feet (ft) above mean sea level (amsl) to about 255 ft amsl. Most of the Installation is above 100 ft amsl. The northern two-thirds of the Installation drain northward to the Rappahannock River, and the southern one-third drains south-southeasterly to the Mattaponi River; both eventually feed into the Chesapeake Bay (FAPH 2015).

Geology

The Atlantic Coastal Plain is underlain by a seaward-thickening wedge of regionally extensive, eastward-dipping strata of unconsolidated to partly consolidated marine and fluvial sediments of Cretaceous, Tertiary, and Quaternary age that unconformably overlie a basement of consolidated bedrock (U.S. Geological Survey 2006). The sediments are primarily composed of unconsolidated gravels, sands, silt, and clay, with variable amounts of shells. Available data estimate the thickness of these sediments to be greater than 450 ft and the depth to bedrock greater than 400 ft (U.S. Geological Survey 2006). FAPH is located above the Taylorsville Basin, a Mesozoic-era basin that extends from the offshore Atlantic continental margin

westward beneath the Coastal Plain to the Blue Ridge Mountains. The basin is suspected of containing significant amounts of natural gas resources and is currently experiencing exploration by industry (FAPH 2015b). FAPH restricts any gas and oil drilling on the Installation, due to its incompatibility with the military mission/training (FAPH 2013a). The FAPH ENRD Oil and Gas Resources Management Plan, completed in 2015, provides management guidance for oil and gas resources.

Soils

Soil survey data for the Installation identify numerous unique soil series at FAPH. Most soils at FAPH are categorized as upland soils, which are mostly well-drained sandy soils that develop on sandy, clayey, and loamy Coastal Plain sediments. These soils have high permeability and low shrink-swell potential and are susceptible to moderate to severe erosion. Representative upland soils at FAPH include the Kempsville-Emporia and Slagle-Kempsville complexes (USDA 2015).

3.2.2 Environmental Consequences

Preferred Alternative (Proposed Action)

No significant impacts to topography or soils are anticipated to occur as a result of implementing the Proposed Action. No impacts to geology are expected.

Minor short-term soil disturbance would be expected during certain natural resources management activities, such as prescribed burns, timber harvests, grounds maintenance, vegetation management, and invasive species removal. However, these disturbances would be less than significant. To minimize impacts to soils, a site-specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan and a Virginia Stormwater Management Program permit would be obtained for individual projects within the INRMP and ICRMP that involve land disturbance of more than 1 acre. For regulated land-disturbing activities greater than 2,500 square feet (sf) and less than 1 acre, an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan and Stormwater Management Plan is required, but a permit is not. For land disturbances less than 2,500 sf, appropriate BMPs are selected and implemented to minimize soil impacts. Larger-scale projects, such as timber harvesting and prescribed burns, would be expected to have the most impact; however, when conducted in compliance with the INRMP, the impacts would be minimized. Additionally, FAPH implements best management practices (BMPs) from the Virginia Department of Forestry's BMP Handbook to ensure water quality standards are maintained during and following all forest management activities. Agricultural outleasing and vegetation management would be expected to result in long-term beneficial impacts to soils, as they promote appropriate vegetative cover and reduce soil erosion, which can indirectly improve the quality of soils. Additionally, the ITAM program would also result in minor, short-term impacts to soils, but would have long-term, beneficial impacts on soil conservation, as the objective of the Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance component of the ITAM is to repair and maintain disturbed training lands.

Minor, short-term impacts would also result from resource identification projects proposed in the ICRMP. Ground-disturbing activities associated with archaeological surveys, such as excavation or intentional site burial, would be expected to be less than significant and would be temporary in nature. Soils at archaeological project sites are mostly returned to their presurvey state at the conclusion of the survey. Furthermore, the ICRMP identifies the future use of light distancing and ranging technology, which would minimize soil disruption during surveys by using a non-ground-disturbing method to identify areas with archaeological resources.

No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative would not result in any significant impacts to topography, geology, or soils. FAPH would continue to manage natural and cultural resources under the previous versions of the INRMP and ICRMP. No impacts to geology would be expected and no new impacts to topography or soils would be anticipated.

Cumulative Impacts

Other projects proposed for FAPH would require project-specific BMPs, including stormwater control and erosion control measures that would limit the amount of soil disturbance and erosion. Therefore, no significant cumulative impacts to FAPH's topography, geology and soils would be expected. Implementation of the Proposed Action when combined with development outside FAPH is not expected to result in cumulative impacts to regional topography, geology, or soils. Although FAPH restricts oil and gas drilling activities on the Installation, private industry exploration on properties surrounding the Installation may occur in the future. The Installation has prepared an Oil and Gas Management Plan that addresses the implications of potential, future exploratory digging around the Installation. There are no cumulative impacts expected from this potential exploration based on current data. However, future INRMP reviews should reevaluate exploratory drilling as more is approved for surrounding properties.

3.3 Hydrology and Water Resources

3.3.1 Affected Environment

Floodplains

The designated frequency for floodplain identification used by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is the 100-year flood. The 100-year floodplain is an area that has a 100 percent chance of flooding at least once within 100 years or a 1 percent chance of flooding per year. Floodplains occur throughout the Installation. EO 11988 requires federal agencies to avoid to the extent possible the long- and short-term adverse impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of floodplains and to avoid direct and indirect support of floodplain development wherever there is a practicable alternative.

Groundwater

The regional hydrogeologic framework of the Coastal Plain consists of eight confined aquifers, eight major confining units, and an uppermost water table aquifer. Coastal Plain groundwater is mainly recharged by precipitation infiltration and percolation to the water table. Water quality and permeability varies throughout the range of the Coastal Plain. Most unconfined groundwater flows relatively short distances and discharges to nearby streams; however, a small amount flows downward to recharge the deeper confined aquifers. Most groundwater flows laterally through the unconfined and confined aquifers, but some vertical flow also occurs.

The sole source of potable water at FAPH is the groundwater below the Installation. There are four aquifers in the FAPH area: the Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer, the Chickahominy-Piney Point Aquifer, the Aquia Aquifer, and the Middle Potomac Aquifer. FAPH pumps its water from the Middle Potomac Aquifer. This aquifer produces moderate to large quantities of high-quality fresh water. The average seasonal depth to groundwater in representative upland soils is greater than six feet (FAPH 2015).

Surface Water

There are numerous impoundments and ponds totaling approximately 798 acres at FAPH (Fisher 2014). The largest surface water features at FAPH include Travis Lake, Bowies Pond, Buzzards Roost Pond, Beaverdam Pond, Maxey Gregg Pond, Delos Lake, Smoots Pond, and White's Lake. Water quality within the lakes and ponds is typical of shallow lakes and ponds within the Coastal Plain, exhibiting slightly acidic, tannin-stained water with low buffering capacity (FAPH 2015).

FAPH is located within the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The Chesapeake Bay watershed spans six states and more than 64,000 square miles, all draining into the Chesapeake Bay and its rivers. The watershed is made of many smaller subwatersheds, which are further divided into smaller watersheds. FAPH is split between the Rappahannock Watershed and the Mattaponi Watershed, which are both subwatersheds of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The northern two-thirds of the Installation are within the Rappahannock watershed and drain northward to the Rappahannock River, and the southern one-third of the Installation is within the Mattaponi watershed and drains south-southeasterly to the Mattaponi River. Both eventually feed into the Chesapeake Bay (FAPH 2015).

Several streams are located on FAPH, totalling approximately 560 miles. Headwaters of these onsite streams are formed by shallow aquifer groundwater discharges, which commonly create wetland areas locally referred to as seepage swamps (FAPH 2015). Wetlands occurring on FAPH are discussed in Section 3.4, *Biological Resources*. FAPH has developed a Watershed Management Plan (WMP), which provides guidance for the protection and management of surface water and groundwater resources.

Coastal Zone

The federal Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) of 1972 (Title 16 U.S.C. 1451, *et seq.*) provides management of the nation's coastal resources and balances economic development with environmental conservation by preserving, protecting, developing, and where possible restoring or enhancing the nation's coastal zone. CZMA provisions facilitated the development of the federally approved Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (CZMP) in 1986. The Virginia CZMP is administered by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ), which enforces laws, regulations, and policies that protect coastal resources. Virginia's coastal zone encompasses 29 percent of the Commonwealth's land, including 29 counties, 17 cities, and 42 incorporated towns (VDEQ 2014). All of Caroline County, including FAPH, is within Virginia's coastal zone and is subject to the CZMP regulations. Federal actions that have reasonably foreseeable effects on any land or water use, or natural resource of the coastal zone, must be consistent with the enforceable policies of a coastal state's federally approved coastal management program before they can occur; a Coastal Zone Consistency Determination for the Proposed Action is therefore provided in Appendix A.

3.3.2 Environmental Consequences

Preferred Alternative (Proposed Action)

The Preferred Alternative would not be expected to result in any significant impacts to water resources. Regulated land-disturbing activities will obtain and implement the appropriate permits and plans, and nonregulated activities such as forestry management, will be conducted in accordance with applicable, approved management plans, technical guidance, and industry-specific BMPs. Certain vegetation and forestry management activities may result in minor, short-term impacts to water quality as a result of vegetation cover loss. However, these impacts would be temporary and impacts are anticipated to be less than significant. Nonpoint source pollution would be minimized as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action through use of BMPs and compliance with applicable management plans and permits. No new point sources of pollution would result from the implementation of the Preferred Alternative.

No Action Alternative

There would be no impacts to hydrology or water resources under the No Action Alternative. FAPH would continue to manage natural and cultural resources under the previous versions of the INRMP and ICRMP.

Cumulative Impacts

No significant adverse cumulative impacts to water resources are anticipated to occur as a result of the Proposed Action. The potential exists for short-term surface water quality changes during natural and cultural resources management activities, and this could combine with other impacts to surface water quality on or around the Installation. Given the short duration of the added impact during these activities, it is unlikely to result in any lasting damage to existing

water resources. Ongoing collaborative water conservation efforts and use of environmentally sound, water-saving technologies would also minimize potential adverse impacts to the groundwater supply. Cumulative adverse impacts to water resources are expected to be less than significant.

All activities occurring on FAPH with the potential to impact water quality and other watershed resources have been assessed in the Installation's WMP. FAPH carefully considers all activities proposed for use on the Installation to identify potential stressors, allowing FAPH to implement adequate land use controls and BMPs to eliminate or limit impacts to the watershed. The WMP is updated on a regular basis. When carried out in accordance with the WMP and other management plans such as the INRMP, cumulative impacts to water resources are expected to be less than significant, even when combined with other activities occurring on and off the Installation.

3.4 Biological Resources

3.4.1 Affected Environment

Vegetation

The majority of FAPH is undeveloped land with forested area comprising approximately 85 percent of the Installation. The forests are generally classified into three types: southern yellow pines, mixed hardwoods, and mixed pine-hardwoods. Typical species of trees on FAPH include loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*), Virginia pine (*P. virginiana*), yellow poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), oaks (*Quercus* spp.), and hickories (*Carya* spp.). Grassland vegetation represents approximately 6 percent of the Installation. Grasslands include native grass, shrub, and seedling trees; fire-maintained grasslands; cultivated pastures and fields; and manicured landscape (FAPH 2015).

Wildlife

Numerous biological surveys have been conducted at FAPH, identifying approximately 350 fish and wildlife species. Common mammal species include white-tail deer (*Odocoileus virginiana*), opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*), muskrat (*Ondatra zibethica*), woodchuck (*Marmota monax*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), eastern mole (*Scalopus aquaticus*), eastern gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*), cottontail rabbit (*Sylvilagus floridanus*), gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*), and red fox (*Vulpes fulva*). Common reptile and amphibian species expected to occur at FAPH include northern copperhead (*Agkistrodon contortrix mokasen*), northern black racer (*Coluber constrictor constrictor*), eastern kingsnake (*Lampropeltis getulus*), eastern garter snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis*), eastern box turtle (*Terrapene carolina*), snapping turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*), spotted salamander (*Ambystoma maculatum*), red-spotted newt (*Notophtalmus viridescens*), American toad (*Bufo americanus*), spring peeper (*Pseudacris crucifer*), and bullfrog (*Rana catesbeiana*) (FAPH 2015).

Common bird species on FAPH include red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), great-horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*), American goldfinch (*Carduelis tristis*), downy woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*), Eastern wood-pewee (*Contopus virens*), American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), red-eyed vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*), yellow warbler (*Dendroica petechia*), gray catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*), ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*), wood thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*), wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), song sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*), northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), Carolina chickadee (*Poecile carolinensis*), white-breasted nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*), Carolina wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*), and eastern kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) (FAPH 2015).

The DoD, in cooperation with Partners-in-Flight (PIF), prepared a Strategic Plan for the conservation and management of migratory and resident landbirds and their habitats on DoD lands (DoD PIF 2002). Initially, the focus on bird species of conservation concern was on species that breed in temperate North America and winter in the tropics (neotropical migrants) that were declining. Habitat loss, degradation, and fragmentation of the temperate breeding and tropical wintering grounds are likely the major reasons for these declines (Flather and Sauer 1996, Sherry and Holmes 1996), as well as the loss of important stopover habitat used during migration (Moore et al. 1993). In response to declines in bird populations, EO 13186, *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, was issued on 10 January 2001. This EO requires federal agencies to evaluate the effects of their actions and plans on migratory bird species of concern. Species of concern are those identified in 1) *Migratory Nongame Birds of Management Concern in the United States* (USFWS 1995); 2) priority species identified by established plans such as those prepared by PIF; and 3) listed species in 50 CFR 17.11. The focus on these species of concern was expanded to include all landbirds breeding in the continental United States (DoD PIF 2005) as well as some aquatic bird species. In addition to the Strategic Plan (DoD PIF 2002), lists of bird species of conservation concern were prepared by conservation region. FAPH is in DoD PIF Conservation Region 27 (DoD PIF 2014).

Special Status Species

The federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) protects federally listed animal and plant species and their critical habitats. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) maintains a listing of species that are considered threatened, endangered, proposed, or candidates under the ESA. An endangered species is defined as any species in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. A threatened species is defined as any species likely to become an endangered species in the foreseeable future. Candidate species are those that the USFWS has enough information on file to propose listing as threatened or endangered, but whose listing has been precluded by other agency priorities. Although federal agencies are not required by the ESA to consider candidate species, AR 200-1 requires the Army to consider candidate species in all actions that may affect them.

The INRMP for FAPH lists six special status species known to occur on FAPH. For purposes of this EA, special status species include federally or state threatened species. Special status

species known to occur on FAPH include: swamp pink (*Helonias bullata*), a federally listed threatened and state listed endangered species; small whorled pogonia (*Isotria medeoloides*), a federally listed threatened and state listed endangered species; American ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius*), a state listed threatened species; New Jersey rush (*Juncus caesariensis*), a state listed threatened and federally listed species of concern; Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), a federally listed endangered species, and northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), a federally listed threatened species. Although not currently recorded on the Installation, the Bachman's sparrow (*Peucaea aestivalis*), a state listed threatened species, has historically been recorded. Additionally, the Rappahannock Spring amphipod (*Stygobromus foliatus*), a federal species of concern, occurs on the Installation (FAPH 2015).

The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act provides federal protection to bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) and golden eagles (*Aquila chrysaetos*), including their parts, nests, or eggs. Bald eagles do occur on FAPH, and a historical high of 11 active bald eagle nests have been documented on the Installation (FAPH 2015).

Habitat for Protected Species

Critical habitat is defined as a specific geographic area that is essential for the conservation of a federally threatened or endangered species and that may require special management and protection. Critical habitat may include areas that are not occupied by the species, but are necessary for its recovery. No critical habitat has been designated on FAPH.

Wetlands

The U.S. Congress enacted the Clean Water Act (CWA) in 1972 to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters (33 U.S.C. 1251, *et seq.*). Section 404 of the CWA delegates jurisdictional authority over wetlands to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Waters of the U.S. protected by the CWA include rivers, streams, estuaries, as well as most ponds, lakes, and wetlands. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the EPA jointly define wetlands as "areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions."

There are approximately 6,300 acres of wetlands at FAPH. Typical wetland areas at FAPH are perennial swamps containing combinations of trees, shrubs and aquatic species. In accordance with the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area Designation and Management Regulation, FAPH requires the establishment and conservation of 100 ft wide resource protection areas (RPA) around all wetlands and perennial and intermittent streams to maintain vegetation and soil conditions.

3.4.2 *Environmental Consequences*

Preferred Alternative (Proposed Action)

Implementation of the Preferred Alternative is anticipated to result in less than significant direct and indirect impacts to biological resources. The objective of the INRMP is to effectively manage the natural resources occurring on the Installation in support of the Installation's military mission. Although some adverse impacts are expected as a result of the activities proposed within the INRMP, they would be less than significant and in most scenarios the long-term benefit to the natural environment outweighs the temporary adverse impacts.

Activities that would most commonly result in minor, adverse impacts to biological resources would be timber harvests, prescribed burns, and pesticide application. Timber harvesting and prescribed burns would create temporary alterations to the natural habitat in the project areas. The loss of habitat that would result from these activities would temporarily displace wildlife and potentially result in the loss of some wildlife. However, most wildlife would be expected to clear the project area without being harmed. Additionally, the majority of prescribed burns at the Installation are conducted during the winter months when wildlife is less likely to be affected. Although these activities create minor, short-term adverse impacts, the long-term, beneficial impacts are much more important. These vegetation management activities promote a healthy, sustainable forest ecosystem that benefits numerous species, and timber harvests benefit the local economy.

Pesticide application has the potential result in short-term, minor impacts to biological resources as a result of accidental spills, runoff, or leaching. However, all applications would be conducted in accordance with the Installation's Integrated Pest Management Plan and applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations. No pesticides or herbicides would be applied within the 100 ft RPA buffers around wetlands and streams. Therefore, the risk of the adverse impacts is minimized. Additionally, in the event of an accidental spill, the Installation has spill plans in place that would be implemented to ensure appropriate containment and cleanup measures are completed. Pesticide applications would provide long-term, beneficial impacts by eradicating pest and invasive species that damage or destroy native species.

All proposed activities would be evaluated to ensure that they do not result in any adverse impacts to special status species. Prior to all land disturbing activities, the Environmental and Natural Resources Division conducts field reconnaissance surveys of the project area to identify special status species, so that proper mitigation measures can be implemented if necessary. Due to safety issues, field reconnaissance surveys are not conducted in areas where unexploded ordnance (UXO) is present. However, aerial imagery and other historical data are reviewed prior to the start of projects in these areas. Buffer zones have been established around special status species habitat to ensure that projects do not negatively impact the species. In most cases, military training is not prohibited in these buffer zones or within special status species colonies, but certain restrictions are in place to provide species and habitat protection. In the event an adverse impact is unavoidable, the FAPH Environmental and Natural Resources Division would coordinate with the appropriate state and/or federal agencies to

ensure that impacts are minimized and any necessary mitigation requirements are implemented. The INRMP has a component dedicated to the preservation and conservation of the sensitive species known to occur on the Installation. As long as the military mission is not compromised, areas with known sensitive species are avoided in accordance with the guidelines within the INRMP.

In the event either a new special status species is discovered or a known species is discovered in a new location, project activities would cease and the FAPH Environmental and Natural Resources Division would be contacted to ensure that appropriate measures are put in place to protect the species. Many projects proposed in the INRMP would result in beneficial impacts to special status species, including regular habitat maintenance, beaver dam removal to restore natural stream conditions, and the removal of failing culverts that are affecting swamp pink habitat. FAPH also conducts regular special status species monitoring and provides environmental awareness training to personnel as needed.

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 (6 U.S.C. 703-712) as amended makes it illegal to take and possess any migratory bird, or parts, nests, or eggs of a bird except under the terms of a valid permit from the USFWS. Migratory birds protected by this act occur on and around FAPH. However, the Preferred Alternative is expected to have minor impacts to these species and their habitat. Loss of foraging and nesting habitat is expected as a result of some of the proposed natural resources management activities, such as prescribed burning and timber harvesting, but the impact would not be significant since the acreage of lost habitat is small within the entire breeding range of these species. Additionally, sites harvested for timber would be replanted and prescribed burns promote natural regrowth, which would provide foraging opportunities after activities are complete. To avoid “take” of migratory species and their nests, it is recommended that certain activities with the potential to affect migratory birds be done during the nonbreeding season for bird species known to occur on FAPH. If activities occur during the breeding season, surveys may be necessary. If nesting migratory birds are found in the project area and “take” is anticipated, FAPH will consult with the USFWS Division of Migratory Bird Management. To further ensure the protection of migratory birds, implementation of the INRMP would involve the establishment of PIF stations to monitor avian productivity and survival.

Outdoor recreation management would not be expected to result in any significant impacts to biological resources. Common outdoor recreational activities such as hiking, jogging, canoeing, picnicking, bird watching, and bicycling are very low-impact and are limited by force protection regulations. These regulations limit access to certain areas of the Installation that are restricted from use by the general public, including protected natural resource areas. Hunting, fishing, and camping activities are strictly managed and monitored by the FAPH ENRD.

Implementation of the ICRMP is not anticipated to result in any significant impacts to biological resources. Although no impacts would be anticipated, surveys and preservation projects would be reviewed individually by the Environmental and Natural Resources Division to evaluate environmental impacts prior to the start of the project.

The FAPH Directorate of Emergency Services, with support from the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, administers and implements conservation law enforcement at FAPH. This specialized law enforcement ensures adherence to federal and state laws and regulations pertaining natural and cultural resources occurring on FAPH. In addition to enforcing these protective laws and regulations, they also provide training to FAPH personnel and the general public to help prevent inadvertent violations (FAPH 2015b).

No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, FAPH would not implement the INRMP and ICRMP. While implementation of the No Action Alternative would not directly impact biological resources adversely on the Installation, it would likely result in long-term adverse indirect impacts as the previous INRMP would continue to be implemented using outdated monitoring, maintenance, and protective measures.

Cumulative Impacts

Implementation of the Proposed Action is not anticipated to result in any significant cumulative impacts to biological resources or wetlands occurring on or near FAPH. Other projects proposed for FAPH would likely produce minor impacts to biological resources. However, projects would require compliance with federal, state, and Installation policies as well as local regulations to prevent or minimize impacts to natural resources. Future development may potentially decrease the amount of naturally occurring habitat both on and off the Installation. Development outside FAPH is guided by County and Town plans, which take biological resources into consideration during project planning. Additionally, FAPH partnered with several other agencies to create the Mattaponi Wildlife Management Area, which protects 2,500 acres of land from residential development in close proximity to the Installation and secures this land as open space for use in outdoor recreational activities such as canoeing, hunting, and hiking. Overall, the monitoring, maintenance, preservation, and protective measures in the INRMP and ICRMP would have a long-term beneficial impact to the Installation and the surrounding area's biological resources. The Installation's continued implementation of RPAs and buffer zones for wetlands and special status species and their habitat, would contribute to beneficial cumulative impacts to natural resources occurring on the Installation.

3.5 Cultural Resources

3.5.1 Affected Environment

Cultural resources is a broad term that includes all aspects of human activities, including material remains of the past and the beliefs, traditions, rituals and cultures of the present. As mandated by law, all federal installations and personnel must participate in the preservation and stewardship needs of archaeological and cultural resources and must consider potential impacts to these resources prior to any installation undertaking. Resources include historic properties as defined by the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), cultural items as defined by the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), archaeological resources

as defined by the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA), sacred sites as defined by EO 13007, to which access is provided under the American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA), significant paleontological items as described by 16 U.S.C. 431-433 (Antiquities Act of 1906) and collections as defined in 36 CFR 79, *Curation of Federally Owned and Administered Archaeological Collections* (DA 2007).

The NHPA of 1966 and AR 200-1 constrain land uses and development where cultural resources are affected. The FAPH ICRMP guides the Installation's Cultural Resources Management Program. Specific guidance and procedures for managing and maintaining historic buildings is provided in Technical Manual (TM) 5-801-1, *Historic Preservation Administrative Procedures*, and TM 5-801-2, *Historic Preservation Maintenance Procedures*.

Implementation of the ICRMP ensures that current management complies with applicable laws and regulations and effectively combines with public interests to promulgate a plan of action that sacrifices neither the integrity of the Installation's mission nor that of the archaeological and cultural resources. Many requirements include consultation with affected parties before a planned action, as well as allowing maximum time for treatment efforts, alternative plans, or avoidance actions to be implemented. Determination of effects and decisions regarding appropriate treatment are specific to individual actions.

FAPH is a steward to an abundance of cultural and archaeological resources. According to the ICRMP, archaeological surveys have been conducted on approximately 27,400 acres of the Installation. Those surveys have identified 428 archaeological sites, of which 45 represent Native American sites, 361 are historic period sites, and 22 have both prehistoric and historic components. Architectural surveys on the Installation have identified 110 architectural resources on FAPH, which includes two historic resources that predate the establishment of the Installation and have been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and are listed in the Virginia Landmarks Register.

3.5.2 *Environmental Consequences*

Preferred Alternative (Proposed Action)

Implementation of the Preferred Alternative is not anticipated to result in any significant impacts to cultural resources. The main objective of the ICRMP is to integrate and coordinate effective stewardship of cultural resources with FAPH's operational demands and military mission. The ICRMP is designed to preserve and protect known cultural resources on the Installation and provide guidance on the Installation's efforts to identify unknown resources. All proposed natural and cultural resource management activities would be conducted in compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts would be anticipated. Individual INRMP projects would be evaluated by the FAPH Environmental and Natural Resources Division for potential impacts to cultural resources prior to the start of the project. In the event a proposed project was found to present an adverse impact to cultural resources, the FAPH Cultural Resources Program Manager would coordinate with the applicable state and federal agencies.

No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative would not result in any significant impacts to cultural resources. However, under this alternative, the ICRMP would not be implemented, and cultural resources at FAPH would continue to be managed using an outdated ICRMP. Therefore, over time, the No Action Alternative would likely result in minor adverse impacts.

Cumulative Impacts

The cultural resources located at FAPH are well preserved and located within Installation boundaries, making them inaccessible to the general public and therefore better protected. The Installation's ICRMP is required to be updated at least every five years. The ICRMP anticipates projects that may affect historic properties, based on the Installation's mission and proposed activities. The ICRMP also guides the Installation in ensuring that historic properties are treated in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. All projects occurring on the Installation are evaluated for their potential to affect cultural resources. Projects are guided by the Installation's ICRMP and comply with all applicable laws and regulations, including the NHPA, ARPA, AIRFA, and NAGPRA. Implementation of the Proposed Action when combined with past, present, and anticipated future projects, including those occurring outside the Installation, would not be expected to result in any significant cumulative impacts to cultural resources.

3.6 Air Quality

3.6.1 Affected Environment

The Clean Air Act (CAA) (42 U.S.C 7401-7671q), as amended, allows the EPA to set limits on certain air pollutants. The CAA requires the EPA to establish primary and secondary National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for pollutants that may be harmful to public health and the environment. Primary standards protect public health, including the health of sensitive populations, such as asthmatics, children, and the elderly; and secondary standards protect public welfare, including protections against decreased visibility and damage to animals, crops, vegetation, and buildings (EPA 2012). The NAAQS (40 CFR 50) set acceptable threshold standards for six criteria pollutants consisting of carbon monoxide (CO); nitrogen oxides (NO_x), particularly nitrogen dioxide (NO₂); ozone (O₃); sulfur dioxide (SO₂); lead (Pb); and particulate matter, including very fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) and fine particulate matter (PM₁₀).

Areas where criteria pollutants are below NAAQS are designated as attainment areas and areas where criteria pollutants meet or exceed NAAQS are designated as nonattainment areas.

Caroline County, including all of FAPH, is within the Northeastern Virginia Intrastate Air Quality Control Region (AQCR). This AQCR is in attainment for all criteria pollutants. The CAA General Conformity Rule requires federal agencies to determine whether their action would increase emissions of criteria pollutants above preset threshold levels. These *de minimis* levels vary depending on the severity of nonattainment status and geographic location. Since the air quality at FAPH and the surrounding area is in compliance with federal standards and the Installation is in a designated attainment area, a general conformity analysis is not required.

The VDEQ regulates stationary air emissions within the Commonwealth of Virginia. Mobile sources, such as motor vehicles and aircraft, are regulated by the EPA, which regulates the source manufacturers and types of fuels used by the sources. Therefore, only stationary air emissions sources are subject to VDEQ permitting. Existing stationary sources of air emissions at FAPH include boilers, generators, degreasers, and gasoline dispensers. FAPH is considered a minor source of criteria pollutants and operates under VDEQ Synthetic Minor Permit No. 40306. A major source permit is required when emissions of any one criteria pollutant exceed 100 tons per year. Table 3-1 summarizes the 2013 FAPH emissions reported to the VDEQ, which is the most recent information available on the VDEQ website.

**Table 3-1. FAPH 2013 Annual Point Source
Criteria Pollutant Emissions (Tons per Year)**

SO ₂	CO	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}	NO ₂	VOC
0.08	1.04	0.23	0.08	2.92	2.54

Source: VDEQ 2013

VOC – volatile organic compound

Greenhouse Gases

The EPA made an endangerment finding stating that “current and projected concentrations of the six key well-mixed greenhouse gases (GHGs) (carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride) in the atmosphere threaten the public health and welfare of current and future generations” (EPA 2014). This finding has opened the door for the regulation of GHG emissions published in 75 Federal Register (FR) 31514 (3 June 2010), which led to what is known as the prevention of significant deterioration (PSD) and Title V GHG Tailoring Rule (FR 2010). For the purposes of PSD and Title V, this rule has set a major source emission threshold of either 75,000 or 100,000 tons per year of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) depending upon circumstances (FR 2010).

In addition, on 22 September 2009, the Administrator of the EPA signed the Final Mandatory Reporting of the GHG Rule, known as the Mandatory Reporting Rule. The final rule was published in 40 CFR 98 on 30 October 2009. The final rule requires reporting of GHG emissions from identified stationary sources that emit 25,000 metric tons of CO₂e or more per year.

3.6.2 Environmental Consequences

Preferred Alternative (Proposed Action)

Short-term, minor impacts to local and regional air quality would be anticipated as a result of the implementation of the Preferred Alternative. Many of the natural resources management activities would generate little to no emissions of criteria air pollutants. Most activities' emissions would be limited to fugitive dust, in the form of particulate matter, from site disturbance and exhaust generated from vehicles on individual project sites for short durations. Dust emissions would consist primarily of large particles that generally settle on nearby surfaces rather than

becoming airborne for any great distance. The limited use of these vehicles and equipment is not anticipated to impact regional or local air quality conditions. FAPH is well below the threshold for emissions requiring a major source permit, as evident in Table 3-1, and none of the proposed activities would be expected to generate enough emissions to exceed those thresholds or exceed the EPA's GHG thresholds requiring additional permits. Air emissions are not expected to exceed *de minimis* threshold levels or contribute emissions in violation of any federal, state, or local air quality regulations.

Prescribed burning activities would contribute the greatest amount of criteria pollutants. These activities would produce large quantities of smoke, containing particulate matter, volatile organic compounds, carbon monoxide, and some nitrogen oxides. These prescribed burns are conducted in accordance with the FAPH Integrated Wildland Fire Management Plan, which also addresses wildfire management. The amount of pollutant emissions varies and is dependent on many factors, including the size of the burn, the heat at which the fire burns, and the fuel (vegetation type that is being burned). However, given the temporary and seasonally limited nature of these burns, no significant impacts to air quality would be anticipated. Additionally, FAPH does not conduct prescribed burning on high ozone days.

Another minor, short-term impact to air quality would be anticipated from the use of chemical pesticides. These pesticides may be applied in small amounts from handheld aerosol cans, electric spray pumps, or from high-volume spray rigs for terrestrial or aerial applications. All pesticide must be applied in accordance with the Installation's Integrated Pest Management Plan and applicable local, state, and federal laws. Given the temporary nature and appropriate application methodology, no significant impacts to air quality would be anticipated.

None of the activities proposed in the ICRMP would be anticipated to generate a significant amount of air pollutants. Therefore, implementation of the ICRMP is expected to result in less than significant impacts to local and regional air quality.

No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative would not result in significant impacts to local or regional air quality. Under the No Action Alternative, FAPH would continue to manage its natural and cultural resources using the previous INRMP and ICRMP. Similar emissions would be expected as those generated under the Preferred Alternative from prescribed burning, projects requiring the use of vehicles and equipment, and pesticide application.

Cumulative Impacts

The long-term air quality impacts expected to result from implementation of the INRMP and ICRMP are negligible and would not contribute to any significant cumulative impacts to regional air quality or violate federal, state, or local air regulations. The air emissions associated with proposed projects within the INRMP and ICRMP would be *de minimis*, and when combined with proposed development on and off the Installation, is not expected to affect the attainment status of the region.

3.7 Noise

3.7.1 Affected Environment

For the purpose of environmental analysis, noise is considered to be sound that is loud or unpleasant or that causes a disturbance. When sound interrupts daily activities such as sleeping or conversation, it becomes noise. The degree to which noise becomes disruptive depends on the way it is perceived by the receptors (people) living or working in the affected area.

Noise is measured in decibels (dB) with zero dB being the least perceptible sound to more than 130 dB at which noise becomes a health hazard. Because the human ear is more sensitive to certain ranges of the sound spectrum, a weighted scale has been developed to more accurately reflect what the human ear perceives. These measurements are adjusted into units known as A-weighted decibels (dBA). According to AR 200-1, sensitivity to noise varies by the time of day, with receptors being more sensitive at night. To reflect this sensitivity, ambient noise measurements are normally adjusted by adding 10 dB to actual measurements between the hours of 2200 and 0700. Decibel levels adjusted in this way are known as day-night decibel measurements, or DNL (DA 2007).

Construction activities can generate noticeable levels of noise. A single item of construction equipment may generate noise levels of 80 to 90 dBA at a distance of 50 ft. Numerous equipment items operating concurrently can produce relatively high noise levels within several hundred feet of active construction sites. Sources of noise at FAPH result from construction activities, facility maintenance activities, military and private vehicle uses, aircraft operations, weapons discharge and testing, training activities, and natural and cultural resources management activities.

The primary DA strategy is to protect humans and animals from environmental impacts through land use planning (DA 2007). The RPMP considered sources of noise and acceptable noise thresholds when identifying future land uses for the Installation. Noise related to airfield operations is addressed by the Air Installation Compatible Use Zone Program. FAPH also maintains an Operational noise Management Plan which provides guidance for noise management on the Installation, including education, complaint management, and mitigation and noise abatement procedures.

3.7.2 Environmental Consequences

Preferred Alternative (Proposed Action)

Implementation of the Preferred Alternative would be expected to result in less than significant noise impacts. Most activities proposed in the INRMP and ICRMP would involve minimal amounts of noise, and most vehicles and equipment that would be used are already in use on a regular basis on the Installation. Slightly greater noise levels may result from forest management and pest management activities, such as timber harvesting, prescribed burns, and pesticide application. However, given the temporary nature of these events, and limited amount

of development surrounding the Installation's boundaries, these impacts would minor and most work would be conducted during daylight hours, when noise receptors are less sensitive.

No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, FAPH would not implement the INRMP and ICRMP. The No Action Alternative would not generate any noise in addition to those that are currently generated from activities outlined in the previous INRMP and ICRMP, and therefore no impacts would be expected as a result.

Cumulative Impacts

Noise generated by the implementation of the Proposed Action would be temporary and minor in context and intensity. Other activities at FAPH that generate noise include aircraft operations, training noise, and vehicle noise associated with training and general traffic. These temporary sources of noise attenuate within short distances of the source. While small surges in noise may occur when, for example, an aircraft passes over a construction site, the average noise levels would not be anticipated to exceed acceptable thresholds (greater than 65 DNL) for nearby sensitive receptors. The noise may result in a temporary annoyance during the surge but would be less than significant given the short duration. Therefore, cumulative noise impacts are anticipated to be less than significant.

3.8 Visual Resources

3.8.1 Affected Environment

Most of FAPH consists of undeveloped land. The natural habitat provides an aesthetically pleasing landscape from both within and outside the Installation boundaries. FAPH recognizes the importance of maintaining the natural beauty and unique landscape of the Installation. The FAPH INRMP ensures the natural resources on the Installation are maintained and protected, which subsequently preserves the beauty of the natural environment at FAPH. The FAPH ICRMP ensures that the cultural resources are also preserved and protected. Additionally, development on the Installation is guided by several management programs and documents, such as the RPMP and Installation Design Guide. These programs and documents ensure that new development is consistent with existing development on the Installation.

3.8.2 Environmental Consequences

Preferred Alternative (Proposed Action)

FAPH's commitment to sustaining the environment includes preserving the natural beauty of the Installation. Under the Proposed Action, minor adverse impacts to visual resources are anticipated during certain natural resource management activities. The activities creating the greatest disruption to the natural environment would be prescribed burns and timber harvests. However, visual resources are a subjective topic and what may be aesthetically pleasing to one viewer may not be for another. The charred forest that remains after a prescribed burn may

generate different responses from different individuals. However, the long-term benefit of the prescribed burns, outweighs the temporary impact on the natural environment. Considering prescribed burns and timber harvesting have been conducted at the Installation for many years, and there is no significant increase of either under the INRMP, no significant impact to the Installation's overall natural environment is anticipated.

Short-term, minor adverse impacts may also result during activities where vehicles, equipment, and materials will be present on site and would temporarily disrupt the existing landscape. However, these visual impacts will be temporary and only last for the duration of the project.

No impacts to visual resources are anticipated as a result of the implementation of the ICRMP.

No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative would not result in any impacts to visual resources. FAPH would continue to manage natural and cultural resources using the previous INRMP and ICRMP; therefore there would be no changes to the current natural environment.

Cumulative Impacts

The Proposed Action, combined with known future development on the Installation, is not anticipated to have a significant cumulative impact on visual resources. The Installation Design Guide ensures that buildings and structures are uniform in construction and conform to the overall aesthetics of the area. Development outside the Installation is not anticipated to result in any combined, cumulative impacts to visual resources on or surrounding FAPH. Additionally, FAPH's ACUB program preserves approximately 30,000 acres of undeveloped land surrounding the Installation, protecting viewsheds off post, including some within historic districts. The continued success of the ACUB program limits encroachment and further minimizes the potential for any cumulative impacts to visual resources.

3.9 Socioeconomics

3.9.1 Affected Environment

Socioeconomic resources are defined as basic attributes associated with the human environment, primarily population and economic activity. Population encompasses the magnitude, characteristics, and distribution of people, and economic activity refers to employment distribution, business growth, and individual income. The region of influence (ROI) subject to this analysis is the City of Fredericksburg, and Caroline, Essex, King George, Spotsylvania, and Stafford counties. The ROI covers an area of 1,653 square miles in northeastern Virginia.

FAPH is located almost completely in Caroline County, along the I-95 corridor, between two major metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs): the Baltimore-Washington MSA, comprising a population in excess of 2.4 million, and the Richmond-Petersburg MSA, with a population of more than 1.1 million (FAPH 2007b). The Town of Bowling Green is south of the Installation and

the Town of Port Royal is north of the Installation. Both towns are small in comparison to the total population of Caroline County, which as reported from the 2010 U.S. Census is 28,545. Port Royal has a population of 126 and Bowling Green 1,111 (U.S. Census Bureau 2010). The towns provide networks of local businesses that supply the Installation with retail, commercial, and dining establishments.

Caroline County's unemployment rate for 2013 averaged 6.7 percent, which is higher than the Commonwealth's rate of 5.5 percent, but lower than the national rate of 7.4 percent (Bureau of Labor Statistics 2014, VEDP no date). FAPH is one of Caroline County's largest employers. Other major employers include the Union Bankshares Corporation, VSE Corporation, M.C. Dean, and McKesson (VEDP no date).

The Installation supports approximately 550 full-time employees. The average number of personnel training at FAPH per day is 2,000. The Installation maintains only 25 on-post housing units. The majority of personnel commute from within 20 to 30 miles outside the Installation. There is no significant increase in population projected for the Installation over the next 5 years (FAPH 2013a)

EO 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*, ensures fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin or income, with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies. FAPH is not in an area that has a disproportionately high concentration of minority or low-income populations. Caroline County's 2013 population was 66.4 percent White; 29.4 percent Black or African American; 0.6 percent American Indian or Alaska Native; 0.5 percent Asian; 0.0 percent Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander; and 2.3 percent persons of two or more races. Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin composed 3.7 percent of the total population (U.S. Census Bureau 2013). Note that persons of Hispanic or Latino origin can be of any race, so they are also included in applicable race categories. The 2013 population for individuals in Caroline County living below poverty level was 12.7 percent, which is slightly higher than the Commonwealth's estimated 11.3 percent, but lower than the national average of 15.4 percent (U.S. Census 2013). Population estimates in the other counties within the ROI are similar to Caroline County. No areas within the ROI have a disproportionately high concentration of minority or low-income populations.

3.9.2 *Environmental Consequences*

Preferred Alternative (Proposed Action)

Implementation of the Preferred Alternative would not result in an increase in FAPH's full-time personnel. Therefore, there will be no impacts to the population at the Installation or in the surrounding ROI. Activities proposed in the INRMP and ICRMP would be expected to create minor, short-term beneficial impacts to the local economy. These impacts may result from supporting local business employment and materials sales, or increasing local sales revenue from outside contractors staying in the region for the duration of proposed projects. Additionally,

approximately 40 percent of the annual profits generated by FAPH through timber harvest sales benefits Caroline County.

No environmental justice impacts are anticipated. FAPH is not in an area that has a disproportionately high concentration of minority or low-income populations.

No Action Alternative

Implementation of the No Action Alternative would not result in any impacts to the local or regional population or economy. FAPH would continue to manage natural and cultural resources under the previous versions of the INRMP and ICRMP.

Cumulative Impacts

Implementation of the Proposed Action, when considered with the growth of the surrounding community, is not anticipated to result in any significant cumulative impacts. Since the Proposed Action would have negligible direct impacts on population, demographics, employment, housing, and the demand on community services, no adverse cumulative socioeconomic impacts are anticipated to occur. Long-term beneficial impacts to the local economy would be expected as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action when combined with other proposed FAPH projects and the growth of the surrounding community. The combination of proposed projects would generate employment opportunities and support local business sales within the ROI.

3.10 Transportation and Circulation

3.10.1 Affected Environment

Access to FAPH is primarily limited to highway travel. Highway access to the Installation is available regionally via I-95, and Routes 1, 2, 17 and 301. Route 301, a four-lane, north-south route that bisects FAPH, provides access to the Installation's main entrance. Level of service (LOS) is a qualitative measure which describes the operational conditions within a traffic stream, generally described in terms of such factors as speed and travel time, freedom to maneuver, traffic interruptions, comfort and convenience, and safety. There are six LOS levels (A through F). LOS A represents the best operating conditions, with no congestion, whereas LOS F represents the worst conditions, with heavy congestion. The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) rates Route 301 as LOS B or better, and projects no change through 2035 (VDOT 2010).

FAPH has two entrance gates, the north gate and south gate. The north gate is the Installation's main gate and is the Installation's only access point open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The north gate is a controlled-access, 100 percent identification checkpoint that serves as the primary entry point for the Installation. All visitors to FAPH must enter through the north gate. The south gate, located across Route 301 from the north gate, is open during peak hours throughout the week. This gate eliminates traffic congestion during peak hours. Other entrances along Installation boundaries may be opened for limited periods of time (FAPH 2013a) to accommodate unit training and avoid congestion at the north and/or south gates.

The primary transportation network within the Installation consists of roads and streets that act as main distribution arteries and provide access to all functional areas. The road network at FAPH consists of approximately 160 miles of paved roads. There is also a vast network of unpaved roads and tank trails used for military training. Secondary and tertiary light-duty roadways provide access between and within various functional areas. Wide, clear trails for the use of heavy tactical vehicles are adjacent to some roads. Unless otherwise posted, the maximum speed limit on the Installation is 40 miles per hour for most vehicles, 25 miles per hour for tactical vehicles, and 10 miles per hour for all vehicles when passing troops.

No rail access or service is available at FAPH. The closest city to FAPH served by rail transportation, via Amtrak, is Fredericksburg, Virginia, which is 20 miles north of the main entrance of the Installation. Ground transportation between Fredericksburg and the Installation (approximately 30 minutes driving time) is available via privately owned vehicle, bus, limousine, taxi, or rental car. The City of Richmond is approximately 35 miles south of the Installation and is also served by rail transportation via Amtrak.

No public transit access or bus service is available on FAPH. The Fredericksburg Regional Transit (FRED) provides public bus transportation between and within the City of Fredericksburg, and the counties of Caroline, King George, Spotsylvania, and Stafford. FRED provides regular service to Bowling Green (FRED 2012). General aviation services are available to the north of the Installation at Shannon Airport in Fredericksburg, and to the south at Hanover County Municipal Airport. The closest commercial airport is the Richmond International Airport, located approximately 45 miles south of FAPH.

FAPH has one Army airfield (AAF), one drop zone, one assault airstrip, and many authorized landing or pickup zones to support airborne and aviation training for both fixed-wing and rotary aircraft. These include eight Flight Training Areas for helicopter training and several helicopter-landing pads throughout the Installation. The Army conducts fixed-wing aircraft operations primarily at the drop zone, which is in the northwest portion of the Installation. The U.S. Army Night Vision Laboratory also uses the Installation drop zone and assault airstrip for night-vision research. The 70-acre AAF is on the southeast side of the north gate on Route 301, and the Army uses the AAF only for rotary-wing operations. FAPH does not support private access to the Installation via aircraft. Because there are no permanently assigned aircraft on the installation, military aviation support facilities are limited.

3.10.2 Environmental Consequences

Preferred Alternative (Proposed Action)

Implementation of the Preferred Alternative would be expected to result in less than significant impacts to transportation and circulation on and around FAPH. On-post roads are designed to handle the traffic created by military vehicles and convoys and can support the vehicles and equipment that would be traveling to and from the project sites during proposed activities. Passenger vehicles traveling to and from the project sites on a daily basis are not expected to increase traffic flow to an extent that would create a significant impact. There is no significant

increase in the amount of traffic anticipated above the current amount of traffic generated during projects being conducted under the current INRMP and ICRMP. These negligible impacts would be short term and would last only during the duration of the individual project.

No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative would not result in any impacts to transportation or circulation on or around the Installation. FAPH would continue to manage natural and cultural resources using the previous versions of the INRMP and ICRMP; there would therefore be no change in transportation or circulation.

Cumulative Impacts

Activities associated with the Proposed Action are not anticipated to contribute to any cumulative impacts to regional transportation. The capacity of existing routes into FAPH is adequate to accommodate both the anticipated future growth in the surrounding communities, development on FAPH, as well as any minor increases associated with the Proposed Action. Additionally, FAPH's RPMP will guide future transportation and circulation improvements and development within Installation boundaries.

3.11 Utilities

3.11.1 Affected Environment

Rappahannock Electric Cooperative operates and maintains FAPH's electrical system and provides electrical service to FAPH via three substations along the perimeter of the Installation. Most electrical power is provided by the FAPH substation, located west of the Headquarters Area of the Installation on State Route 608. Telephone service is provided by Verizon.

The only potable water supply at FAPH is groundwater from the regional aquifer. Potable water is accessed through a series of wells throughout FAPH. Production facilities draw water to the surface, disinfect it, and pump it to elevated storage tanks. Production and distribution are managed by a private service contractor, American Water. Water supply and storage at FAPH is adequate to meet current and foreseeable future demands (FAPH 2013a).

The Installation's wastewater collection and treatment system is operated and maintained by American Water. Two sewage treatment plants (STPs) exist at FAPH, the Wilcox STP and Cooke STP. Most of the Installation utilizes the Wilcox STP, which has a designed capacity of 530,000 gallons per day and a peak emergency capacity of 1,030,000 gallons per day in extended aeration mode. The STP also has two storage facilities that include two 1.5-million-gallon basins (FAPH 2007a). Discharge from the STP is permitted under two Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits (Nos. VA0032034 and VAN020035).

Solid waste accumulated at the Installation has been transported off the post since the Installation's landfill closed in 1992. Most solid waste is diverted to the King George County Landfill, with approximately 40 percent of total solid waste being recycled (FAPH 2013a). All

solid waste generated from proposed activities would be subject to the FAPH Solid Waste Management Plan. FAPH also operates a recycling program for metals, aluminum cans, paper, plastic, and cardboard.

3.11.2 Environmental Consequences

Preferred Alternative (Proposed Action)

The Preferred Alternative is not anticipated to result in any significant adverse impacts to utilities at FAPH. Activities proposed in the INRMP and ICRMP would not require any new electrical, water, wastewater, natural gas, or telecommunications infrastructure. The demand on this infrastructure is not anticipated to increase as a result of the proposed activities and would be consistent with current demand under the previous versions of the INRMP and ICRMP. Solid waste generated during proposed activities would continue to be disposed of off post.

No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, FAPH would not implement the INRMP and ICRMP. Natural and cultural resources would continue to be managed under previous versions of the INRMP and ICRMP and no impacts to utilities would be expected.

Cumulative Impacts

The growth and development on and around the Installation continues to increase the demand for utilities such as those providing electricity, telecommunications, water, and wastewater. However, the less than significant impacts expected from implementation of the Proposed Action combined with the proposed future development are not expected to result in any cumulative adverse impacts to utilities. The Army requires that all renovations and new construction meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Silver certification, which would be anticipated to contribute to the long-term, beneficial environmental impacts associated with future development.

3.12 Hazardous Materials and Wastes

3.12.1 Affected Environment

“Hazardous materials” refers to any item or agent (biological, chemical, or physical) that has the potential to cause harm to humans, animals, or the environment, either by itself or through interaction with other factors. Across the Army, the Hazardous Material Management Program is used to integrate the accountability for hazardous materials into day-to-day decision-making, planning, operations, and compliance across all Army missions, activities, and functions. The program’s policies, including its objectives and goals, are set forth in AR 200-1. A complete list of federally recognized hazardous substances as well as their reportable quantities is provided in 40 CFR 302.4. Many substances not on this list may be considered hazardous according to their ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, or toxicity as defined by 40 CFR 261.20-24.

FAPH is a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) large quantity generator of hazardous wastes and a former transportation, storage, and disposal facility. The Installation's Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System (CERCLIS) identification number is VA2210020416. The Installation cannot store hazardous waste more than 90 days and uses a RCRA-permitted contractor to transport and dispose of the waste offsite. The FAPH Directorate of Public Works' management of hazardous wastes is guided by the Installation Hazardous Waste Management/Waste Minimization Plan. The Hazardous Materials Management Program guides the management of hazardous materials for all Installation, tenant, and contractor activities at FAPH. The Installation also maintains the Hazardous Substance Management database, which tracks all hazardous materials procured, stored, or used on the Installation.

3.12.2 Environmental Consequences

Preferred Alternative (Proposed Action)

Implementation of the Preferred Alternative is not anticipated to cause any significant impacts from the use of hazardous materials or generation of hazardous wastes. Hazardous materials used during proposed activities would include pesticides, gasoline, diesel fuel, and other petroleum, oils, and lubricants typical in maintaining and operating vehicles and equipment. Use of these materials would vary depending on the individual projects. The use of these materials would be temporary and is not anticipated to result in a significant increase in the amount of hazardous wastes generated by the Installation. All hazardous materials and wastes must be handled, stored, transported, and disposed of in accordance with applicable Installation policies, Army regulations, and local, state, and federal laws. In the event of a hazardous spill, FAPH would implement appropriate containment and cleanup in accordance with the Installation's spill plans and applicable laws and regulations. Therefore, no significant impacts are expected to result from the use, storage, or disposal of hazardous materials associated with the Preferred Alternative.

No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, FAPH would not implement the INRMP and ICRMP; therefore, no changes in the use, storage, or disposal of hazardous materials and waste would occur. No impacts would be anticipated as a result of the No Action Alternative.

Cumulative Impacts

The Installation Spill Contingency Plan describes the procedures to be implemented in the event of a spill of hazardous materials or petroleum, oil, and lubricants. Due to the extensive policies and procedures in place to prevent and mitigate potential spills and mishandling of hazardous and toxic substances, it is expected that the Proposed Action will not result in a cumulative local or regional impact from the use of hazardous and toxic substances. Any hazardous waste generated during proposed activities would be turned in to the Installation's Hazardous Waste Accumulation Center for proper transfer and disposal.

3.13 Human Health and Safety

3.13.1 Affected Environment

Health and safety services, including police, fire and rescue protection, can be obtained on FAPH and within surrounding communities throughout Caroline County and the State of Virginia. Caroline County consists of two incorporated municipalities, the Towns of Bowling Green and Port Royal.

The FAPH Directorate of Emergency Services, Law Enforcement Division has the primary responsibility of enforcing the rules, regulations and security of the Installation. The FAPH Fire Department provides fire prevention and protection services, including inspections and tests of fire protection equipment and systems at FAPH. The Fire Department also provides hazardous materials, first responder, and emergency medical services to the Installation. There are three fire departments on FAPH.

The FAPH Lois E. Wells Health Clinic provides basic medical care to military personnel. The clinic, however, does not offer X-ray services or medical care for military family members. Basic sick call services are offered 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday through Friday, while clinic services are offered 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Paramedic services are offered 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Major hospitals located offsite in the area include Mary Washington Hospital and Spotsylvania Memorial Regional Hospital in Fredericksburg, and Henrico Doctors Hospital, Medical College of Virginia, St. Mary's Hospital, and the Richmond Community Hospital in Richmond. Additional facilities and emergency services are located in Richmond and Fredericksburg.

The Caroline County Department of Fire-Rescue and Emergency Management provides fire and medical services to Caroline County residents. They are also available to assist surrounding communities and the FAPH Fire Department if needed. The Caroline County Sheriff's Office and Virginia State Police Department provide law enforcement protection throughout Caroline County and the state, respectively. They are also available to assist FAPH Law Enforcement if needed.

EO 13045, *Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks*, recognizes a growing body of scientific knowledge that demonstrates that children may suffer disproportionately from environmental health risks and safety risks. The EO directs federal agencies to make it a high priority to identify and assess environmental health risks and safety risks that may disproportionately affect children.

3.13.2 Environmental Consequences

Preferred Alternative (Proposed Action)

Implementation of the Preferred Alternative is not anticipated to result in any significant adverse impacts to human health and safety. Individuals conducting certain proposed activities would be

exposed to some health and safety risks, but those risks would be minimized through careful planning, worker training, and regular maintenance vehicles and equipment. All individuals conducting natural and cultural resources management activities will comply with all applicable safety and occupational health regulations and receive appropriate levels of training specific to the individual task being performed.

Given the historical use FAPH, UXO is expected to occur in certain areas of the Installation. Areas known to contain UXO have been mapped, are clearly identified by signage on the Installation, and would not be accessed during proposed activities. If any evidence of UXO is encountered on the site during natural or cultural resource management activities, all work will immediately cease and remain stopped until the Installation's Range Control has been notified and appropriate clearance procedures have been completed. Visitors to FAPH engaging in outdoor recreational activities are provided a recreation use map that depicts areas where recreational activities are allowed and restricted. Hunters are required to participate in special training that outlines the risks of encountering UXO. In addition, all hunters and fisherman must be properly licensed/permitted prior to hunting or fishing on the Installation.

The Preferred Alternative will not result in any impacts that disproportionately affect children.

No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative would not result in any impacts to human health and safety. FAPH would continue to manage natural and cultural resources under the previous versions of the INRMP and ICRMP.

Cumulative Impacts

Implementation of the Proposed Action, in combination with other proposed FAPH projects and surrounding community growth, would not result in any significant cumulative impacts to health and human safety, or any environmental health or safety risks that may disproportionately affect children. No adverse cumulative impacts are anticipated to occur with regard to human health and safety.

4.0 FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

A summary of the potential impacts and measures to minimize adverse impacts is provided in Table 4-1. Based on the analysis contained herein, this EA concludes that neither the implementation of the Preferred Alternative (Proposed Action) nor the No Action Alternative will constitute a major federal action with significant impact to human health or the environment. It is recommended that a FNSI be signed to complete the process of analysis under the NEPA.

Table 4-1. Summary of Potential Impacts and Measures to Minimize Impacts for Preferred Alternative (Proposed Action)

Resource Area	Level of Anticipated Impact			Summary of Potential Impacts and Measures to Minimize Impacts
	Significant	Less than Significant	No Impact	
Land Use		X		No significant impacts to land use are anticipated as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action. Projects proposed in the INRMP and ICRMP would not change land use on the Installation and would not result in any land use incompatibilities. Proposed natural resources management projects benefit current land use by maintaining safe recreational and training areas.
Topography, Geology, and Soils		X		No impacts to geology would be expected. No significant impacts to topography or soils would be anticipated. Minor short-term impacts to soils would result from natural and cultural resources management activities that involve ground disturbance. For these types of projects, however, site-specific plans would be developed to minimize soil disturbance and erosion. Agricultural outleasing and vegetation management activities would result in long-term beneficial impacts to soils by promoting healthy, quality top soils.
Hydrology and Water Resources		X		No significant impacts to hydrology and water resources would be expected as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action. Individual projects would be evaluated for potential impacts. Site-specific plans would be developed and permits obtained if necessary to minimize the potential for nonpoint source pollutants impacting water resources.

Resource Area	Level of Anticipated Impact			Summary of Potential Impacts and Measures to Minimize Impacts
	Significant	Less than Significant	No Impact	
Biological Resources		X		No significant impacts to biological resources would be anticipated as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action. The objective of the INRMP is to preserve and protect the natural resources on the Installation, while supporting the military mission. Although some minor, short-term adverse impacts would be expected as a result of some natural resources management activities, the long-term, beneficial impacts outweigh them by promoting the sustainment of a healthy ecosystem. The most notable minor, short-term impacts would be expected during prescribed burns, timber harvest, and pesticide application. However, implementing best management practices established in the INRMP and other guidance documents, such as the Integrated Pest Management Plan and Integrated Wildland Fire Management Plan, would limit those impacts. Additionally, these impacts would mostly be temporary.
Cultural Resources		X		No significant impacts to cultural resources are anticipated as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action. The objective of the ICRMP is to protect and preserve the cultural resources on the Installation. All projects are evaluated for their potential effect on known cultural resources. If an unknown cultural resource is discovered on a project site, work ceases and the Installation's Cultural Resources Manager is consulted. The Cultural Resources Manager coordinates with applicable state and federal agencies when necessary.
Air Quality		X		No significant impacts to air quality are expected. The Installation is in an attainment area for all criteria pollutants and its annual emissions are well below thresholds requiring additional permits. Minor, short-term impacts would be expected during certain natural and cultural resources management activities. Most activities' emissions would be fugitive dust and vehicle and equipment exhaust. Pesticide application would result in minor, temporary impacts to air quality. Prescribed burns would be expected to contribute the greatest amount of air pollutants; however, those impacts would be temporary and compliance with BMPs within the Integrated Wildland Fire Management Plan would minimize impacts. Overall, impacts would be less than significant and would not contribute significant emissions to local or regional air quality.
Noise		X		No significant impacts would result from the noise generated by the Proposed Action. Noise associated with project vehicles and equipment would be consistent with noise already occurring on the Installation. Larger-scale projects, such as prescribed burns, timber harvesting or large-scale pesticide application, may generate noise above normal levels; however, those impacts would be temporary and most likely would occur during daylight hours when noise receptors are less sensitive.

Resource Area	Level of Anticipated Impact			Summary of Potential Impacts and Measures to Minimize Impacts
	Significant	Less than Significant	No Impact	
Visual Resources		X		No significant impacts to visual resources would result from the implementation of the Proposed Action. Minor, short-term impacts would result from certain projects. Most notable would be the impacts from prescribed burns and timber harvest. However, given the temporary nature of the impacts and long-term benefits, the impacts are considered less than significant.
Socioeconomics		X		No significant impact to socioeconomics would be expected. The Proposed Action would not result in a permanent increase in population. Short-term, minor, beneficial impacts to the local economy may result from increased sales volumes during the duration of some proposed activities. Proposed timber harvest would also benefit the local economy, as a portion of the profit is given to Caroline County. No impacts would result in environmental injustice issues.
Transportation and Circulation		X		No significant impacts to transportation and circulation are anticipated as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action. The Installation's road network is capable of handling the vehicle and equipment traffic associated with the proposed activities. Minor, short-term increase in traffic would occur during the implementation of certain projects, but these would not result in any significant impacts.
Utilities		X		No significant impacts to utilities are anticipated as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action. The Installation's utilities and infrastructure are capable of handling the demand associated with the proposed activities. The Proposed Action would not result in the creation of any new utilities on the Installation.
Hazardous Materials and Wastes		X		No significant impacts from the use of hazardous materials and waste are anticipated as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action. The materials and waste associated with the proposed activities are consistent with the materials used and wastes generated currently by the Installation. All handling, storage, transportation, and disposal of hazardous materials and waste would comply with applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations. The Installation maintains an Installation-wide spill response plan that would be implemented in the event of an accidental release.
Health and Human Safety		X		No significant impacts to human health and safety are anticipated as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action. Emergency services and medical facilities on and around the Installation are capable of responding to any issues arising from the proposed activities. All personnel would be required to comply with applicable health and safety regulations. No impacts would result in disproportionately effects on children.

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**APPENDIX A. COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM CONSISTENCY
DETERMINATION**

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**Determination of Consistency with
Virginia's Coastal Resources Management Program for
Implementation of the INRMP and ICRMP at
Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia**

Pursuant to Section 307 of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) of 1972, as amended, this document provides the Commonwealth of Virginia with the U.S. Army's consistency determination under CZMA section 307(c)(1) and Title 15 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 930, Subpart C, as enforced by the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (CZMP). The Army's Proposed Action described herein would be carried out in a manner consistent with the Virginia CZMP's enforceable policies.

1. Description of the Proposed Action

The Proposed Action analyzed in the Environmental Assessment (EA) is the implementation of the Fort A.P. Hill (FAPH) Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) 2016-2020, and Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) 2013-2018. These plans reflect FAPH's commitment to conserve, protect, and enhance the Installation's natural and cultural resources in a manner that supports and enhances realistic military training. The primary objective of these plans is to provide a proactive natural and cultural resources management tool that allows FAPH to achieve resource management goals, mission requirements, and compliance with environmental regulations and policies. Each plan has elements specific to the management of the resources it is designed to support.

2. Assessment of Probable Effects

The planning and design phase of the Proposed Action would not have any effects on coastal zone resources. No permits are required for the implementation of the INRMP or ICRMP. A review of permits and/or approvals required under Virginia CZMP enforceable policies will be conducted prior to the start of each project. Any applicable permits required for individual projects within the INRMP or ICRMP would be obtained prior to the start of the project and complied with throughout the duration of the project. The Proposed Action has been evaluated and the probable effects on enforceable policies are as followed:

Fisheries Management: The Proposed Action does not involve the building, dumping, or otherwise trespassing on or over, encroaching on, taking or using any material from the beds of bays, ocean, rivers, streams, or creeks within Virginia. The Proposed Action would have no reasonably foreseeable effects on fish spawning, nursery, or feeding grounds; and therefore has no foreseeable impacts to finfish or shellfish resources and would not affect the promotion of commercial or recreational fisheries. Additionally, no paints containing tributyltin would be used as part of the Proposed Action.

Subaqueous Lands Management: The Proposed Action does not involve encroachment in, on, or over state-owned submerged lands. Therefore, no reasonably foreseeable effects to subaqueous lands are expected to result from implementation of the Proposed Action.

Wetlands Management: Best management practices (BMPs) would be implemented during proposed activities to avoid impacts to wetlands occurring on the Installation. During the course of the Proposed Action, if an unforeseen impact to wetlands is encountered, applicable federal, state, and local permits would be obtained for the project.

Dunes Management: The Proposed Action does not involve the alteration, destruction, or construction upon any coastal sand dunes. No sand dunes exist on FAPH; therefore no effects are expected to result from implementation of the Proposed Action.

Nonpoint Source Pollution Control: The Proposed Action would not be expected to result in any significant nonpoint source pollutants, as a result of sound, proactive stormwater management procedures. To minimize impacts, a site-specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan and a Virginia Stormwater Management Program permit would be obtained for individual projects within the INRMP and ICRMP that involve land disturbance of more than one acre. For regulated land disturbing activities greater than 2,500 sf and less than one acre an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan and Stormwater Management Plan is required, but a permit is not. For land disturbances less than 2,500 sf appropriate BMPs are selected and implemented to minimize soil impacts. A minimum of a 100 foot buffer will be maintained around wetlands and streams. Pesticides and herbicides will not be sprayed within these buffer zones. Through implementation of BMPs and compliance with applicable management plans and permits, nonpoint source pollution would be minimized as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action.

Point Source Pollution Control: The Proposed Action does not involve the generation of any new point source pollutant discharge.

Coastal Lands Management: The INRMP allows encroachment into Resource Protection Areas (RPAs) regulated by the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act for low-impact silvicultural activities. Through implementation of BMPs and compliance with applicable management plans, regulations, and permits, no effects on coastal lands are anticipated as a result of the Proposed Action.

Shoreline Sanitation: The Proposed Action would not involve the construction of septic systems or sanitation facilities. Wastewater generated from the individual project sites would be directed to the existing wastewater system at FAPH. Wastewater would not adversely affect any streams, rivers, or other waters of the Commonwealth.

Air Pollution Control: The Proposed Action would not generate air emissions that exceed *de minimis* threshold values. A Clean Air Act general conformity determination is not required.

Chesapeake Bay Preservation Areas: The Proposed Action does not involve the development or redevelopment of any RPAs. Therefore, no effects to Chesapeake Bay Preservation Areas are expected to result from implementation of the Proposed Action.

3. Summary of Findings

Based on the information provided within this document and the analysis provided in the EA for the Proposed Action, it is the Army's determination that the Proposed Action would have no adverse effect on the land and water uses or natural resources within Virginia's coastal zone. This determination is consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with the Virginia CZMP enforceable policies. Pursuant to 15 CFR section 930.41, the Virginia CZMP has 60 days from receipt of this document to concur with or object to the Army's consistency determination, or to request an extension under 15 CFR section 930.41(b). The Virginia CZMP's concurrence will be presumed if a response is received by the Army on or before the end of the 60 days. A written response should be sent to the Fort A.P. Hill Environmental and Natural Resources Division, Attn: NEPA Coordinator, 19952 North Range Road, Building 1220, Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia 22427.

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APPENDIX B. SCOPING LETTERS AND RESPONSES

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. Floyd Thomas
Mattaponi District
P.O. Box 964
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Dear Mr. Thomas:

Fort A.P. Hill is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the implementation of the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) and Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) for Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia. These plans reflect the Installation's commitment to conserve, protect, and enhance natural and cultural resources in a manner that supports and enhances realistic military training. The primary objective of these plans is to provide a proactive natural and cultural resources management tool that allows the Fort to achieve resource management goals, mission requirements, and compliance with environmental regulations and policies. Each plan has elements specific to the management of the resources it is designed to support.

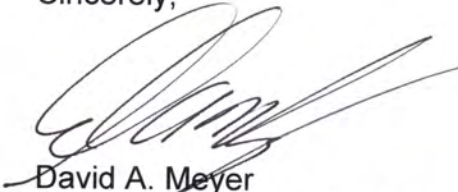
During the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, detailed investigations will be undertaken to identify potential environmental impacts related to the proposed action. These impacts will be documented in the EA as required by the NEPA. In addition to meeting the requirements of the NEPA, compliance with other relevant environmental regulations such as Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, will be accomplished during the NEPA process.

As part of the early coordination and NEPA scoping process, we are identifying key issues that will need to be addressed as part of this study. Please provide your comments on reasonable alternatives, environmental impacts, or other issues or concerns you may have relevant to the proposed action. Once the EA is complete, it will be available on the Fort A.P. Hill website at <http://www.aphill.army.mil>. If the NEPA analysis results in a determination that an Environmental Impact Statement will be required, then a Notice of Intent will be prepared.

In order to sufficiently address key project issues while maintaining the project schedule, we are requesting that you provide a written response to this letter within 30 days of receipt. Please send your response to NEPA Coordinator, Fort A.P. Hill, Environmental Division, Directorate of Public Works IMPH-PWE, 19952 N. Range Road, Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia 22427-3123 or by email at usarmy.aphill.incomnortheast.mail.ernd@mail.mil. If you have any questions, please contact the Environmental Division at (804) 633-8417 or at the above referenced email address.

We look forward to working cooperatively with you to make this important project successful for all parties involved.

Sincerely,



David A. Meyer
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
Commanding



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. Calvin Taylor
Port Royal District
14023 Stonewall Jackson Road
Woodford, VA 22580

Dear Mr. Taylor:

Fort A.P. Hill is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the implementation of the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) and Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) for Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia. These plans reflect the Installation's commitment to conserve, protect, and enhance natural and cultural resources in a manner that supports and enhances realistic military training. The primary objective of these plans is to provide a proactive natural and cultural resources management tool that allows the Fort to achieve resource management goals, mission requirements, and compliance with environmental regulations and policies. Each plan has elements specific to the management of the resources it is designed to support.

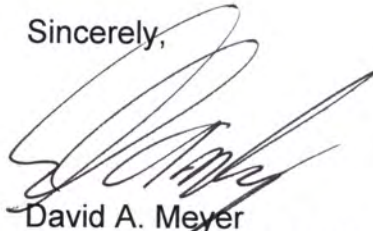
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We look forward to working cooperatively with you to make this important project successful for all parties involved.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Meyer', with a large, sweeping flourish extending from the end of the signature.

David A. Meyer
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
Commanding



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. Jeffrey Black
Western Caroline District
208 Woodside Lane
Ruther Glen, VA 22546

Dear Mr. Black:

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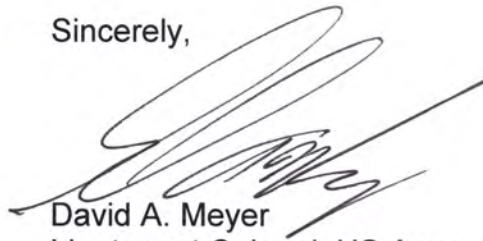
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*Thanks for all,
you do for us.*

Sincerely,



David A. Meyer
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
Commanding



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
ATLANTIC REGION
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

The Honorable Otis Wright
Bowling Green Town Council
P.O. Box 468
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Dear Mr. Wright:

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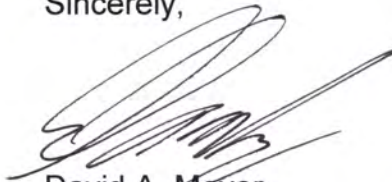
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Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
ATLANTIC REGION
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. Chuck Womble
President, Sparta Ruritan Club
25131 Stump Road
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Dear Mr. Womble:

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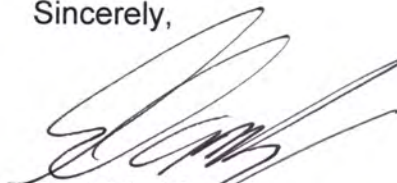
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HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. Robert Wilson
George Washington Regional Commission
406 Princess Anne Street
Fredericksburg, Virginia 22404

Dear Mr. Wilson:

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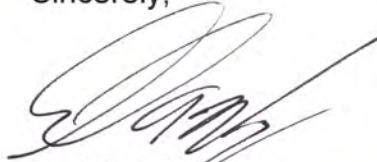
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HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

The Honorable Bill Wick
Councilmember, Town of Port Royal
P.O. Box 29
Port Royal, Virginia 22535

Dear Mr. Wick:

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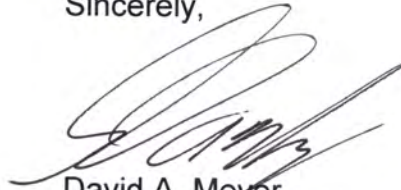
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18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. David Whitlow
Essex County Administrator
P.O. Box 1079
Tappahannock, VA 22560

Dear Mr. Whitlow:

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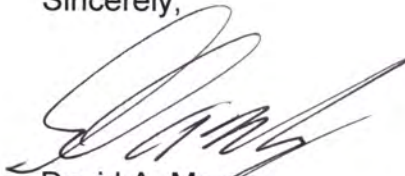
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US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Ms. Sharon Carter
Caroline County Commissioner of the Revenue
17622 Lakewood Road
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Dear Ms. Carter:

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Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
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INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
ATLANTIC REGION
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

The Honorable Daniel Webb
Bowling Green Town Council
P.O. Box 468
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Dear Mr. Webb:

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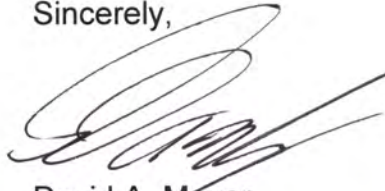
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Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
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HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. Walter A. Davis, Jr.
Chairman, Caroline County Planning Commission
P.O. Box 424
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Dear Mr. Davis:

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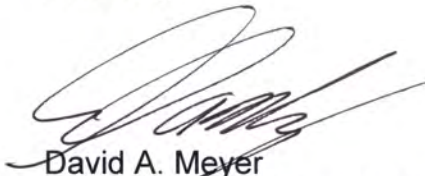
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
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18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

The Honorable Rosie Upshaw
Councilmember, Town of Port Royal
P.O. Box 29
Port Royal, Virginia 22535

Dear Ms. Upshaw:

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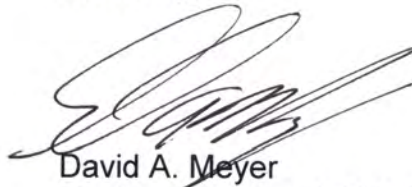
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We look forward to working cooperatively with you to make this important project successful for all parties involved.

Sincerely,

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David A. Meyer
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
Commanding



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
ATLANTIC REGION
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

The Honorable Reggie Underwood
Reedy Church District, Caroline Co. Board of Supervisors
26090 Ruther Glen Road
Ruther Glen, Virginia 22546

Dear Mr. Underwood:

Fort A.P. Hill is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the implementation of the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) and Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) for Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia. These plans reflect the Installation's commitment to conserve, protect, and enhance natural and cultural resources in a manner that supports and enhances realistic military training. The primary objective of these plans is to provide a proactive natural and cultural resources management tool that allows the Fort to achieve resource management goals, mission requirements, and compliance with environmental regulations and policies. Each plan has elements specific to the management of the resources it is designed to support.

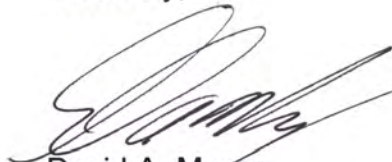
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ATLANTIC REGION
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

The Honorable Thomas Tomzak
Mayor, City of Fredericksburg
P.O. Box 7447
Fredericksburg, VA 22404

Dear Mr. Tomzak:

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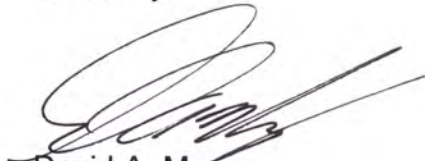
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ATLANTIC REGION
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Colonel Sandra Thacker
Peumansend Creek Regional Jail
11093 SW Lewis Memorial Drive
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Dear Colonel Thacker:

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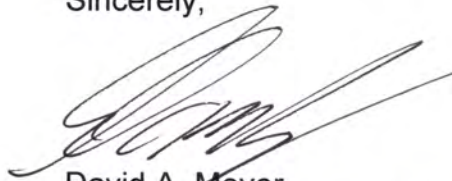
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ATLANTIC REGION
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

The Honorable David Storke
Mayor, Town of Bowling Green
P.O. Box 468
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Dear Mr. Storke:

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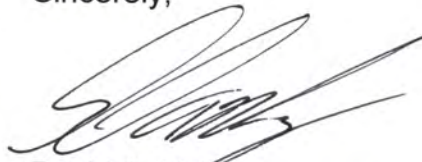
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ATLANTIC REGION
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Ms. Susan Spears
President, Fredericksburg Regional Chamber of Commerce
2300 Fall Hill Avenue, Suite 240
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Dear Ms. Spears:

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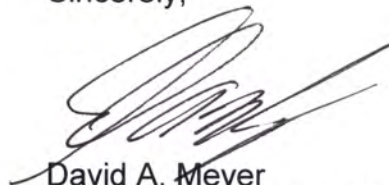
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HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

The Honorable Edwin E. Smith, Jr.
Chairman, Essex County Board of Supervisors
P.O. Box 878
Tappahannock, VA 22560

Dear Mr. Smith:

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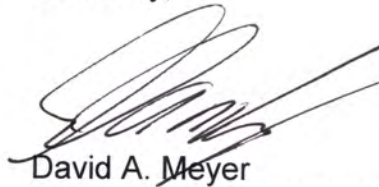
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INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
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HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

The Honorable Gary Skinner
Spotsylvania County Board of Supervisors
406 Princess Anne Street
Spotsylvania, VA 22553

Dear Mr. Skinner:

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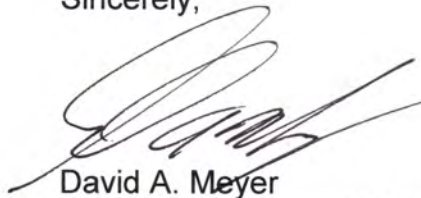
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HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

The Honorable Dale Sisson, Jr.
Chairman, King George County Board of Supervisors
10459 Courthouse Road
King George, VA 22485

Dear Mr. Sisson:

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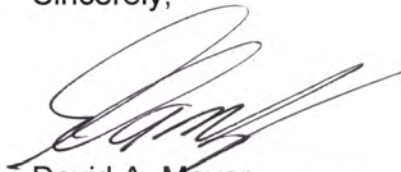
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ATLANTIC REGION
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

The Honorable Jeff Sili
Caroline County Board of Supervisors – Bowling Green District
205 Travis Street
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Dear Mr. Sili:

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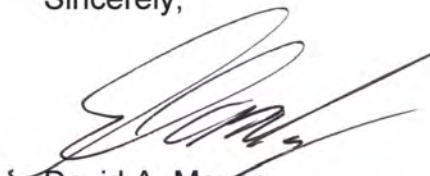
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ATLANTIC REGION
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. Stan Scott
Virginia National Defense Industrial Authority
P.O. Box 798
Richmond, Virginia 23218

Dear Mr. Scott:

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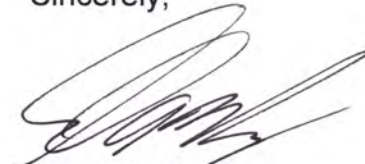
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We look forward to working cooperatively with you to make this important project successful for all parties involved.

Sincerely,

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David A. Meyer
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
Commanding



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
ATLANTIC REGION
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

The Honorable Jason Satterwhite
Bowling Green Town Council
P.O. Box 468
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Dear Mr. Satterwhite:

Fort A.P. Hill is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the implementation of the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) and Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) for Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia. These plans reflect the Installation's commitment to conserve, protect, and enhance natural and cultural resources in a manner that supports and enhances realistic military training. The primary objective of these plans is to provide a proactive natural and cultural resources management tool that allows the Fort to achieve resource management goals, mission requirements, and compliance with environmental regulations and policies. Each plan has elements specific to the management of the resources it is designed to support.

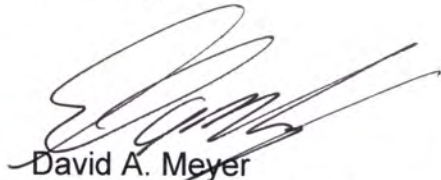
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David A. Meyer
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
Commanding



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INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
ATLANTIC REGION
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. Hart Rutherford
Chairman, Fredericksburg Regional Chamber of Commerce Military
Affairs Council
2300 Fall Hill Ave., Suite 240
Fredericksburg, Virginia 22401

Dear Mr. Rutherford:

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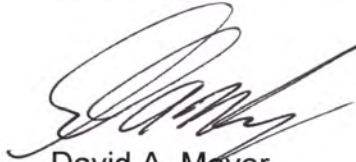
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David A. Meyer
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
Commanding



Fredericksburg Regional

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The voice of the business community

August 13, 2014

LTC David Meyer
C/O NEPA Coordinator
Fort A.P. Hill
Environmental Division
Directorate of Public Works IMNE-APH-PWE
19952 N. Range Road
Fort AP Hill, VA 22427-3123

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for contacting the Fredericksburg Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Council regarding the Environmental Assessment for the implementation of the Integrated Natural Resources management Plan and the Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan.

To this date our organization has received no written or verbal concerns from our membership to be addressed in your Assessment.

Please contact me at (540) 373-9400 or dale@fredericksburgchamber.org with any questions. We appreciate your effort to include the MAC in this process.

Sincerely,

Dale Hendon
Military Affairs Manager



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
ATLANTIC REGION
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. Travis Quesenberry
King George County Administrator
10459 Courthouse Road, Suite 200
King George, VA 22485

Dear Mr. Quesenberry:

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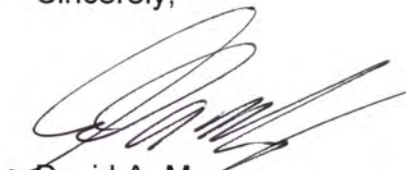
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We look forward to working cooperatively with you to make this important project successful for all parties involved.

Sincerely,



David A. Meyer
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
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REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
ATLANTIC REGION
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON, FORT A.P. HILL
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

July 31, 2014

Mr. Alan Partin
Interim Caroline County Administrator
P.O. Box 447
Bowling Green, Virginia 22427

Dear Mr. Partin:

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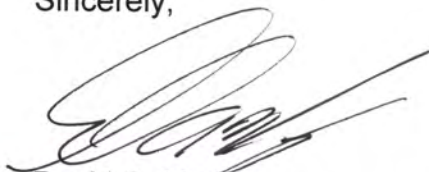
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David A. Meyer
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
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US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Dr. W. Angus Muir
President, Caroline County Countryside Alliance
2426 Prospect Hill Lane
Fredericksburg, VA 22408

Dear Dr. Muir:

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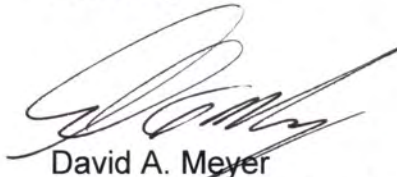
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HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Ms. Della Mills
Port Royal Town Council
616 Frederick St.
P.O. Box 215
Port Royal, Virginia 22535

Dear Ms. Mills:

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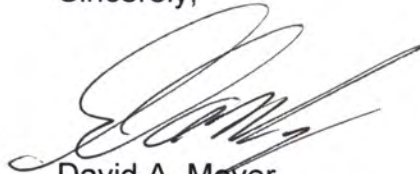
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18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. Stephen Manster
Town Manager, Town of Bowling Green
117 Butler Street
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Dear Mr. Manster:

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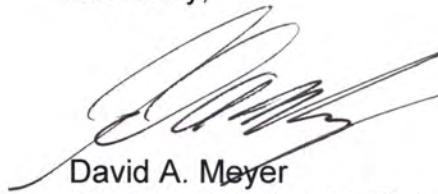
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*Thanks for all
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David A. Meyer
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

The Honorable Nancy Long
Mayor, Town of Port Royal
621 Main Street
Port Royal, VA 22535

Dear Ms. Long:

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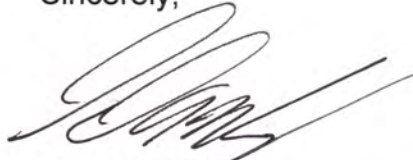
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David A. Meyer
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
Commanding



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Sheriff Tony Lippa
Sheriff, Caroline County
P.O. Box 447
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Dear Sheriff Lippa:

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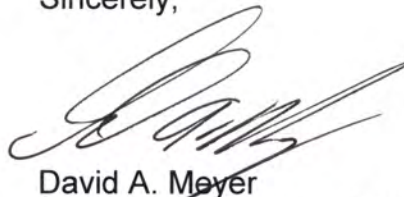
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David A. Meyer
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
Commanding



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. John Lampmann
Portobago Bay Home Owners Association
P.O. Box 367
Port Royal, VA 22535

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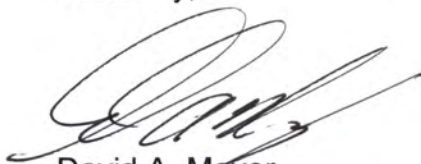
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We look forward to working cooperatively with you to make this important project successful for all parties involved.

Sincerely,

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David A. Meyer
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
Commanding



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Dr. Gregory Killough
Superintendent, Caroline County Public Schools
16221 Richmond Street
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Dear Dr. Killough:

Fort A.P. Hill is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the implementation of the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) and Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) for Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia. These plans reflect the Installation's commitment to conserve, protect, and enhance natural and cultural resources in a manner that supports and enhances realistic military training. The primary objective of these plans is to provide a proactive natural and cultural resources management tool that allows the Fort to achieve resource management goals, mission requirements, and compliance with environmental regulations and policies. Each plan has elements specific to the management of the resources it is designed to support.

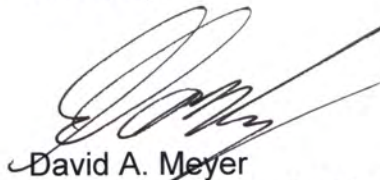
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HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Ms. Rene Hypes
Environmental Review Coordinator
DCR Division of Natural Heritage
217 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Ms. Hypes:

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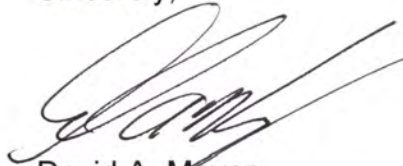
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18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. Andy Hofmann
Eastern Virginia Rivers Refuge Complex
336 Wilna Rd.
P.O. Box 1030
Warsaw, VA 22572

Dear Mr. Hofmann:

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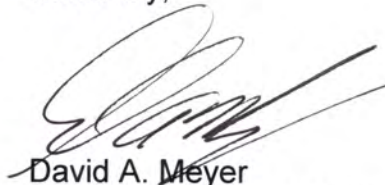
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HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Dr. James Heimbach
Port Royal Town Council
923 Water Street
Port Royal, VA 22535

Dear Dr. Heimbach:

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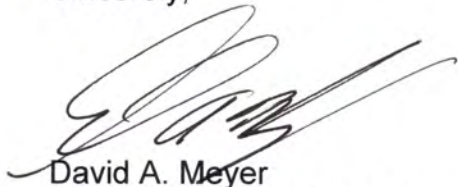
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HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

The Honorable Mary Katherine Greenlaw
Mayor, City of Fredericksburg
715 Princess Anne Street, Room 208
Fredericksburg, VA 22404

Dear Ms. Greenlaw:

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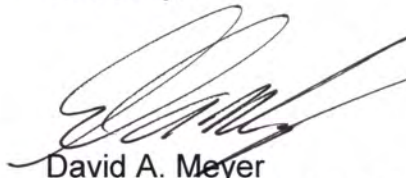
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REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

The Honorable Roy Gladding
Mayor, Town of Tappahannock
P.O. Box 266
Tappahannock, VA 22560

Dear Mr. Gladding:

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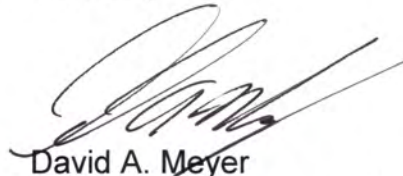
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FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. Mike Finchum
Caroline County Department of Planning
And Community Development
P.O. Box 424
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Dear Mr. Finchum:

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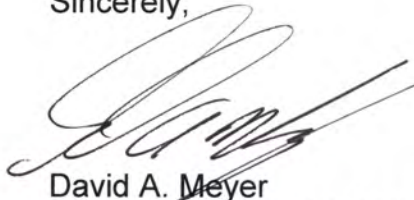
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FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Ms. Ellie Irons
Commonwealth of Virginia
Department of Environmental Quality
629 East Main Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Ms. Irons:

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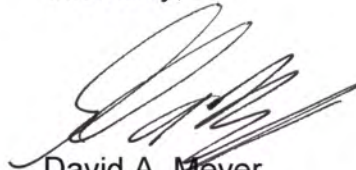
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FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Captain (Retired) James Day
President, Rappahannock Chapter Association
Of the United States Army
P.O. Box 465
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Dear Mr. Day:

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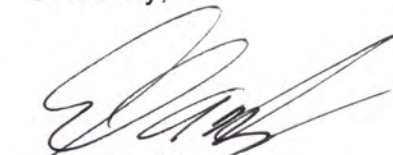
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18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

The Honorable Jean Davis
Bowling Green Town Council
P.O. Box 468
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Dear Ms. Davis:

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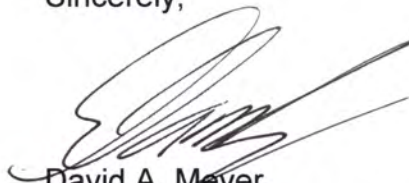
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We look forward to working cooperatively with you to make this important project successful for all parties involved.

Sincerely,

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David A. Meyer
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
Commanding



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. Charles Culley
Caroline County Administrator
P.O. Box 447
212 North Main Street
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Dear Mr. Culley:

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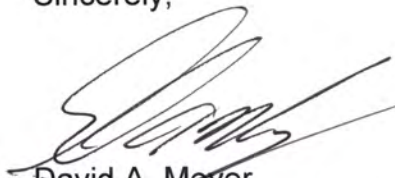
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FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

The Honorable Mary Frances Coleman
Bowling Green Town Council
P.O. Box 468
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Dear Ms. Coleman:

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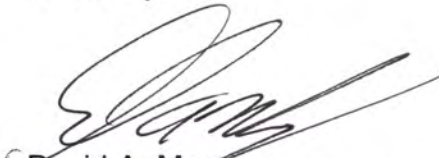
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US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. Mike Coleman
Virginia National Defense Industrial Authority
P.O. Box 798
Richmond, Virginia 23218

Dear Mr. Coleman:

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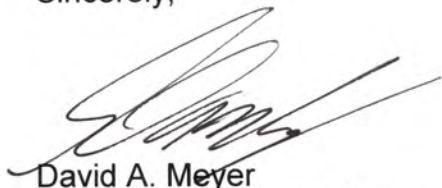
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HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Ms. Anne Richardson
Chief, Rappahannock Tribe Cultural Center
5036 Indian Neck Road
Indian Neck, VA 23148

Dear Chief Richardson:

Fort A.P. Hill is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the implementation of the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) and Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) for Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia. These plans reflect the Installation's commitment to conserve, protect, and enhance natural and cultural resources in a manner that supports and enhances realistic military training. The primary objective of these plans is to provide a proactive natural and cultural resources management tool that allows the Fort to achieve resource management goals, mission requirements, and compliance with environmental regulations and policies. Each plan has elements specific to the management of the resources it is designed to support.

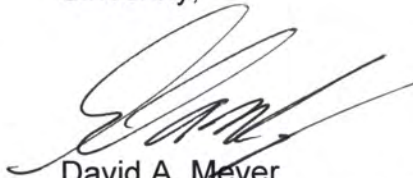
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18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. Beverly Cameron
Fredericksburg City Manager
P.O. Box 7447
Fredericksburg, VA 22404

Dear Mr. Cameron:

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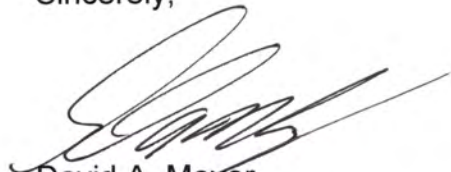
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REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. Kevin Byrnes
George Washington Regional Commission
406 Princess Anne Street
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Dear Mr. Byrnes:

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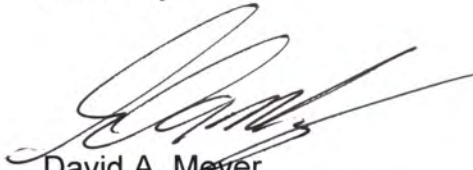
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HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. Cedell Brooks, Jr.
King George Board of Supervisors
Shiloh District
10459 Courthouse Road
King George, VA 22485

Dear Mr. Brooks:

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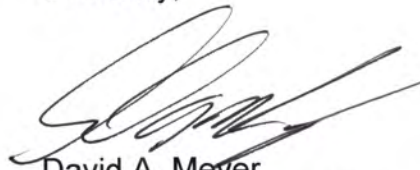
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18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Ms. Regena Bronson
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
1329 Alum Spring Road, Suite 202
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Dear Ms. Bronson:

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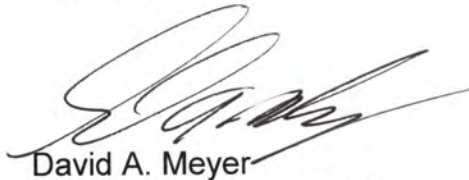
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FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. Thomas Blackwell
Essex County Commissioner of the Revenue
P.O. Box 879
Tappahannock, VA 22560

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

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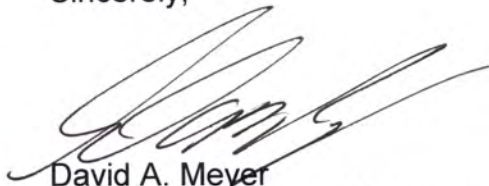
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REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. C. Douglas Barnes
Spotsylvania County Administrator
P.O. Box 99
Spotsylvania, VA 22553

Dear Mr. Barnes:

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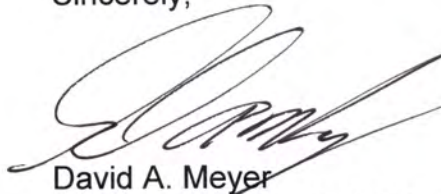
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18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Mr. Troy M. Andersen
US Fish and Wildlife Service
6669 Short Lane
Gloucester, VA 23061

Dear Mr. Andersen:

Fort A.P. Hill is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the implementation of the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) and Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) for Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia. These plans reflect the Installation's commitment to conserve, protect, and enhance natural and cultural resources in a manner that supports and enhances realistic military training. The primary objective of these plans is to provide a proactive natural and cultural resources management tool that allows the Fort to achieve resource management goals, mission requirements, and compliance with environmental regulations and policies. Each plan has elements specific to the management of the resources it is designed to support.

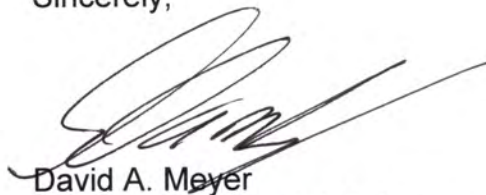
During the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, detailed investigations will be undertaken to identify potential environmental impacts related to the proposed action. These impacts will be documented in the EA as required by the NEPA. In addition to meeting the requirements of the NEPA, compliance with other relevant environmental regulations such as Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, will be accomplished during the NEPA process.

As part of the early coordination and NEPA scoping process, we are identifying key issues that will need to be addressed as part of this study. Please provide your comments on reasonable alternatives, environmental impacts, or other issues or concerns you may have relevant to the proposed action. Once the EA is complete, it will be available on the Fort A.P. Hill website at <http://www.aphill.army.mil>. If the NEPA analysis results in a determination that an Environmental Impact Statement will be required, then a Notice of Intent will be prepared.

In order to sufficiently address key project issues while maintaining the project schedule, we are requesting that you provide a written response to this letter within 30 days of receipt. Please send your response to NEPA Coordinator, Fort A.P. Hill, Environmental Division, Directorate of Public Works IMNE-APH-PWE, 19952 N. Range Road, Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia 22427-3123 or by email at usarmy.aphill.incomnortheast.mail.ernd@mail.mil. If you have any questions, please contact the Environmental Division at (804) 633-8417 or at the above referenced email address.

We look forward to working cooperatively with you to make this important project successful for all parties involved.

Sincerely,



David A. Meyer
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
Commanding



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

The Honorable Wayne Acors
Caroline County Board of Supervisors
18157 Ms. Clara Lane
Ruther Glen, Virginia 22546

Dear Mr. Acors:

Fort A.P. Hill is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the implementation of the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) and Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) for Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia. These plans reflect the Installation's commitment to conserve, protect, and enhance natural and cultural resources in a manner that supports and enhances realistic military training. The primary objective of these plans is to provide a proactive natural and cultural resources management tool that allows the Fort to achieve resource management goals, mission requirements, and compliance with environmental regulations and policies. Each plan has elements specific to the management of the resources it is designed to support.

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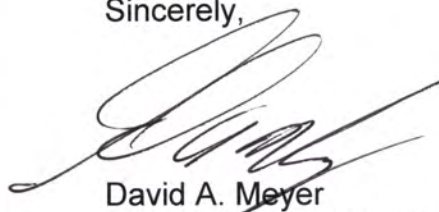
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We look forward to working cooperatively with you to make this important project successful for all parties involved.

*Thanks for all,
you do for us.*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Meyer", written over a horizontal line.

David A. Meyer
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
Commanding



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY GARRISON
18436 4TH STREET
FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA 22427-3114

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

July 31, 2014

Dear Interested Party:

Fort A.P. Hill is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the implementation of the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) and Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) for Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia. These plans reflect the Installation's commitment to conserve, protect, and enhance natural and cultural resources in a manner that supports and enhances realistic military training. The primary objective of these plans is to provide a proactive natural and cultural resources management tool that allows the Fort to achieve resource management goals, mission requirements, and compliance with environmental regulations and policies. Each plan has elements specific to the management of the resources it is designed to support.

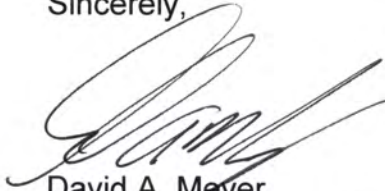
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We look forward to working cooperatively with you to make this important project successful for all parties involved.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Meyer', with a large, sweeping flourish extending from the end of the signature.

David A. Meyer
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
Commanding

Sara Jackson

From: Brown, Kristine L CIV USARMY USAG (US) [kristine.l.brown.civ@mail.mil]
Sent: Thursday, October 29, 2015 11:00 AM
To: Sara Jackson
Cc: Karen Collins
Subject: FW: Comments for the INRMP and ICRMP (UNCLASSIFIED)

Sara/Karen,
Below are comments on the INRMP/ICRMP EA.
Kristine

-----Original Message-----

From: Bronson, Regena D NAO [<mailto:Regena.D.Bronson@usace.army.mil>]
Sent: Thursday, October 29, 2015 10:41 AM
To: USARMY Ft AP Hill IMCOM Atlantic Mailbox ERND
Cc: Bronson, Regena D NAO; Banks, Terry L CIV USARMY IMCOM ATLANTIC (US); Fisher, George E (Gef) JR CIV USARMY IMCOM ATLANTIC (US)
Subject: Comments for the INRMP and ICRMP (UNCLASSIFIED)

This email was sent from a non-Department of Defense email account, and contained active links. All links are disabled, and require you to copy and paste the address to a Web browser. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm authenticity of all links contained within the message.

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is in response to a letter dated October 9, 2015 concerning comments for the "ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN AND THE INTEGRATED CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN AT FORT A.P. HILL, VIRGINIA". In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Vernadero Group Incorporated with Fort A.P. Hill Army Garrison (FAPH) has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) that is intended to meet regulatory requirements and ensure the successful management and protection of the Installation's natural and cultural resources.

Our regulations require that we consider a full range of public interest factors and conduct and alternatives analysis in order to identify the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative (LEDPA), which is the only alternative we can authorize. In addition to wetlands and waters impacted, we must consider factors such as land use (including displacements of homes and businesses), floodplain hazards and values, water supply and conservation, water quality, safety, cost, economics, threatened and endangered species, historic and cultural resources, and environmental justice.

Any projects that may affect historic and cultural resources, as per 36 CFR 800.2(a)(2), FAPH is hereby designated as the lead federal agency to fulfill the collective federal responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for the undertaking. We authorize your agency to conduct Section 106 coordination on our behalf.

Any Memorandum of Agreement prepared by your agency under 36 CFR 800.6 should include the following clause in the introductory text:

"WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 10 and/or Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, a Department of the Army permit will likely be required from the Corps of Engineers for this project, and the Corps has designated FAPH as the lead federal agency to fulfill federal responsibilities under Section 106;"

In addition, it is our understanding that FAPH will serve as the lead Federal agency for consultation in accordance with the Endangered Species Act.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have questions, you may contact Regena Bronson at (540) 548-2838 or regena.d.bronson@usace.army.mil.

Regena Bronson
USACE Fredericksburg Field Office
1329 Alum Spring Road, Suite 202
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
540-548-2838
regena.d.bronson@usace.army.mil

If you have a moment to take the following survey it would assist the Norfolk District in providing the highest level of support to the public. Caution-
http://corpsmapu.usace.army.mil/cm_apex/f?p=regulatory_survey
We value your comments and appreciate your taking the time to complete the survey.

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Street address: 629 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219

Mailing address: P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, Virginia 23218

Fax: 804-698-4019 - TDD (804) 698-4021

www.deq.virginia.gov

Molly Joseph Ward
Secretary of Natural Resources

David K. Paylor
Director

(804) 698-4020
1-800-592-5482

December 15, 2015

Chief Terry Banks
Attn: NEPA Coordinator
Fort A.P. Hill
Environmental and Natural Resources Division
19952 North Range Road, Building 1220
Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia 22427

RE: Environmental Assessment and Federal Consistency Determination:
Implementation of the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan and
Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan at Fort A. P. Hill in Caroline
County (DEQ 15-164F)

Dear Chief Banks:

The Commonwealth of Virginia has completed its review of the Environmental Assessment (EA), including a federal consistency determination (FCD), for the above-referenced project. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is responsible for coordinating Virginia's review of federal environmental documents prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and responding to appropriate federal officials on behalf of the Commonwealth. DEQ is also responsible for coordinating state reviews of FCDs submitted under the Coastal Zone Management Act. The following agencies participated in this review:

Department of Environmental Quality
Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
Department of Conservation and Recreation
Department of Health
Marine Resources Commission

The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Department of Historic Resources, Caroline County and George Washington Regional Commission also were invited to comment.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Fort A. P. Hill prepared an EA and FCD to analyze the potential for environmental impacts associated with the implementation of the fort's Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) and Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP). The primary objective of these plans is to provide a proactive natural and cultural resources management tool that allows Fort A.P. Hill to achieve resource management goals, mission requirements, and compliance with environmental regulations and policies. Each plan has elements specific to the management of the resources it is designed to support. Pesticide application would result in minor, temporary impacts to air quality. Prescribed burns would be expected to contribute the greatest amount of air pollutants; however, those impacts would be temporary and compliance with best management practices within the Integrated Wildland Fire Management Plan would minimize impacts. Impacts to surface waters and biological resources are not expected to be significant. According to the FCD, the project will be consistent with the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program to the maximum extent practicable.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION

1. Water Quality and Wetlands. The EA (A-4) states that best management practices (BMPs) would be implemented during proposed activities to avoid impacts to wetlands occurring in project areas. If an unforeseen impact to wetlands is encountered, applicable federal, state, and local permits would be obtained for the project.

1(a) Agency Jurisdiction. The State Water Control Board promulgates Virginia's water regulations covering a variety of permits to include the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit regulating point source discharges to surface waters, Virginia Pollution Abatement Permit regulating sewage sludge, storage and land application of biosolids, industrial wastes (sludge and wastewater), municipal wastewater, and animal wastes, the Surface and Groundwater Withdrawal Permit, and the Virginia Water Protection (VWP) Permit regulating impacts to streams, wetlands, and other surface waters. The VWP permit is a state permit which governs wetlands, surface water, and surface water withdrawals and impoundments. It also serves as §401 certification of the federal Clean Water Act §404 permits for dredge and fill activities in waters of the U.S. The VWP Permit Program is under the Office of Wetlands and Stream Protection, within the DEQ Division of Water Permitting. In addition to central office staff that review and issue VWP permits for transportation and water withdrawal projects, the six DEQ regional offices perform permit application reviews and issue permits for the covered activities:

- Clean Water Act, §401;
- Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines Mitigation Memorandum of Agreement (2/90);

- State Water Control Law, Virginia Code section 62.1-44.15:20 et seq.; and
- State Water Control Regulations, 9VAC25-210-10.

1(b) Agency Findings. The DEQ Northern Regional Office (NRO) states that a VWP permit from DEQ may be required should impacts to surface waters be necessary. Upon receipt of a Joint Permit Application for any proposed surface water impacts, DEQ VWP Permit staff would review the proposed project in accordance with the VWP permit program regulations and current VWP permit program guidance.

1(c) Agency Recommendation. Avoid and minimize surface water impacts to the maximum extent practicable as well as coordinate with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, as applicable.

2. Air Pollution Control. The EA (A-4) indicates that air quality would not be significantly affected by prescribed burns.

2(a) Agency Jurisdiction. The DEQ Air Division, on behalf of the State Air Pollution Control Board, is responsible for developing regulations that implement Virginia's Air Pollution Control Law (Virginia Code §10.1-1300 et seq.). DEQ is charged with carrying out mandates of the state law and related regulations as well as Virginia's federal obligations under the Clean Air Act as amended in 1990. The objective is to protect and enhance public health and quality of life through control and mitigation of air pollution. The division ensures the safety and quality of air in Virginia by monitoring and analyzing air quality data, regulating sources of air pollution, and working with local, state and federal agencies to plan and implement strategies to protect Virginia's air quality. The appropriate DEQ regional office is directly responsible for the issuance of necessary permits to construct and operate all stationary sources in the region as well as monitoring emissions from these sources for compliance. As a part of this mandate, environmental impact reviews (EIRs) of projects to be undertaken in the state are also reviewed. In the case of certain projects, additional evaluation and demonstration must be made under the general conformity provisions of state and federal law. The Air Division regulates emissions of air pollutants from industries and facilities and implements programs designed to ensure that Virginia meets national air quality standards. The most common regulations associated with major projects are:

- Open burning: 9VAC5-130 et seq.
- Fugitive dust control: 9VAC5-50-60 et seq.
- Permits for fuel-burning equipment: 9VAC5-80-1100 et seq.

2(b) Ozone Attainment Area. According to the DEQ Air Division, the project site is located in an ozone attainment area.

2(c) Requirements.

2(c)(i) Open Burning. If the project includes any open burning or use of special incineration devices in the disposal of land clearing debris during demolition and construction, this activity must meet the requirements under 9VAC5-130 et seq. of the regulations for open burning, and it may require a permit. The regulations provide for, but do not require, the local adoption of a model ordinance concerning open burning. The responsible party should contact the locality to determine what local requirements, if any, exist.

2(c)(ii) Fugitive Dust. As applicable, fugitive dust must be kept to a minimum by using control methods outlined in 9VAC5-50-60 et seq. of the Regulations for the Control and Abatement of Air Pollution. These precautions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Use, where possible, water or chemicals for dust control;
- Install and use hoods, fans and fabric filters to enclose and vent the handling of dusty materials;
- Cover open equipment for conveying materials; and
- Promptly remove spilled or tracked dirt or other materials from paved streets and dried sediments resulting from soil erosion.

3. Chesapeake Bay Preservation Areas. The EA (A-4) states that the INRMP allows encroachment into Resource Protection Areas (RPAs) regulated by the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act for low-impact silvicultural activities. No development or redevelopment of the RPA are proposed.

3(a) Agency Jurisdiction. The DEQ Office of Local Government Programs administers the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act (Virginia Code §62.1-44.15:67 et seq.) and Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area Designation and Management Regulations (9 VAC 25-830-10 et seq.). Each Tidewater locality must adopt a program based on the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act and the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area Designation and Management Regulations. The Act and regulations recognize local government responsibility for land use decisions and are designed to establish a framework for compliance without dictating precisely what local programs must look like. Local governments have flexibility to develop water quality preservation programs that reflect unique local characteristics and embody other community goals. Such flexibility also facilitates innovative and creative approaches in achieving program objectives. The regulations address nonpoint source pollution by identifying and protecting certain lands called Chesapeake Bay Preservation Areas. The regulations use a resource-based approach that recognizes differences between various land forms and treats them differently.

3(b) Chesapeake Bay Preservation Areas. In Caroline County, the areas protected by the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act, as locally implemented, require conformance with performance criteria. These areas include Resource Protection Areas (RPAs) and Resource Management Areas (RMAs) as designated by the local government. RPAs include tidal wetlands, certain non-tidal wetlands and tidal shores. RPAs also include a 100-foot vegetated buffer area located adjacent to and landward of these features and along both sides of any water body with perennial flow. RMAs, which require less stringent performance criteria, include floodplains, highly erodible soils, highly permeable soils, steep slopes in excess of 15 percent and other lands including but not limited to an area 300 feet in width contiguous to and landward of all RPAs.

3(c) Chesapeake Ecosystem Unified Plan. The 1998 Federal Agencies' Chesapeake Ecosystem Unified Plan (Plan) calls for the signatories of that Plan to cooperate with local and state governments in carrying out actions to comply with stormwater management regulations. The Plan further encourages low impact development practices that minimize the loss of natural areas and reduce impervious surfaces on federal facilities, as well as other best management practices to address stormwater management, and sediment and erosion control.

3(d) Chesapeake 2014 Agreement. The Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement 2014 committed the government agencies to sound land use and stormwater quality controls. The signatories additionally committed the agencies to lead by example with respect to controlling nutrient, sediment and chemical contaminant runoff from government properties. In December 2001, the Executive Council of the Chesapeake Bay Program issued Directive No. 01-1: Managing Storm Water on State, Federal and District-owned Lands and Facilities, which includes specific commitments for agencies to lead by example with respect to stormwater control.

3(e) Requirements. Pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, federal activities affecting Virginia's coastal resources or coastal uses must be consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with Virginia's Coastal Zone Management Program (CZM Program) (see § 307(c)(1) of the Coastal Zone Management Act and 15 CFR Part 930, sub-part C of the Federal Consistency Regulations). While Chesapeake Bay Preservation Areas (CBPA) are not locally designated on federal lands, this does not relieve federal agencies of their responsibility to be consistent with the provisions of the Regulations, 9VAC25-830-10 et seq., as one of the enforceable programs of the CZM Program. Federal actions on installations located within Tidewater Virginia are required to be consistent with the performance criteria of the Regulations on lands analogous to locally designated CBPA's. Projects that include land-disturbing activity must adhere to the general performance criteria, especially with respect to minimizing land disturbance (including access and staging areas), retaining indigenous vegetation and minimizing impervious cover. For land disturbance over 2,500 square feet, the project must comply with the requirements of

the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook, Third Edition, 1992. Additionally, stormwater management criteria consistent with water quality protection provisions of the Virginia Stormwater Management Regulations shall be satisfied.

3(f) Agency Findings. DEQ OLGP states that provided adherence to the above requirements, the proposed activity would be consistent with the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act and the Regulations.

4. Solid and Hazardous Waste Management. The EA (page 34) states that implementation of the proposed action is not anticipated to cause any significant impacts from the use of hazardous materials or generation of hazardous wastes.

4(a) Agency Jurisdiction. On behalf of the Virginia Waste Management Board, the DEQ Division of Land Protection and Revitalization is responsible for carrying out the mandates of the Virginia Waste Management Act (Virginia Code §10.1-1400 et seq.), as well as meeting Virginia's federal obligations under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation Liability Act, commonly known as Superfund. The DEQ Division of Land Protection and Revitalization also administers those laws and regulations on behalf of the State Water Control Board governing Petroleum Storage Tanks (Virginia Code §62.1-44.34:8 et seq.), including Aboveground Storage Tanks (9VAC25-91 et seq.) and Underground Storage Tanks (9VAC25-580 et seq. and 9VAC25-580-370 et seq.), also known as 'Virginia Tank Regulations', and § 62.1-44.34:14 et seq. which covers oil spills.

Virginia:

- Virginia Waste Management Act, Virginia Code § 10.1-1400 et seq.
- Virginia Solid Waste Management Regulations, 9 VAC 20-81
 - (9 VAC 20-81-620 applies to asbestos-containing materials)
- Virginia Hazardous Waste Management Regulations, 9 VAC 20-60
 - (9 VAC 20-60-261 applies to lead-based paints)
- Virginia Regulations for the Transportation of Hazardous Materials, 9 VAC 20-110.

Federal:

- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), 42 U.S. Code sections 6901 et seq.
- U.S. Department of Transportation Rules for Transportation of Hazardous Materials, 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 107
- Applicable rules contained in Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations.

4(b) Agency Findings. The DEQ Division of Land Protection and Revitalization (DLPR) did not conduct a review of its database files as no specific site action was identified in the EA. However, DEQ DLPR found that the document generally addressed potential solid and/or hazardous waste issues.

4(c) Requirements. Test and dispose of any soil that is suspected of contamination or wastes that are generated during construction-related activities in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

4(d) Agency Recommendations. DEQ encourages all projects and facilities to implement pollution prevention principles, including:

- the reduction, reuse and recycling of all solid wastes generated; and
- the minimization and proper handling of generated hazardous wastes.

5. Natural Heritage Resources. The EA (page 19) states that timber harvests, prescribed burns, and pesticide application would result in minor, adverse impacts to biological resources.

5(a) Agency Jurisdiction.

5(a)(i) The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) Division of Natural Heritage (DNH). DNH's mission is conserving Virginia's biodiversity through inventory, protection and stewardship. The Virginia Natural Area Preserves Act (Virginia Code §10.1-209 through 217), authorized DCR to maintain a statewide database for conservation planning and project review, protect land for the conservation of biodiversity, and the protect and ecologically manage the natural heritage resources of Virginia (the habitats of rare, threatened and endangered species, significant natural communities, geologic sites, and other natural features).

5(a)(ii) The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS). The Endangered Plant and Insect Species Act of 1979 (Virginia Code Chapter 39 §3.1-1020 through 1030) authorizes VDACS to conserve, protect and manage endangered and threatened species of plants and insects. Under a Memorandum of Agreement established between VDACS and the DCR, DCR represents VDACS in comments regarding potential impacts on state-listed threatened and endangered plant and insect species.

5(b) Agency Findings –Natural Heritage Resources. According to the information currently in DCR's files, several natural heritage resources have been documented throughout Fort A.P. Hill (see attached table and map). DCR supports the Implementation of the INRMP, including the Integrated Pest, Integrated Wildland Fire Management Plans (page vi) and the Watershed Management Plan (page 147).

5(c) Threatened and Endangered Plant and Insect Species. The current activity will not affect any documented state-listed plants or insects.

5(d) Natural Area Preserves. DCR states that there are no State Natural Area Preserves under DCR's jurisdiction in the project vicinity.

5(e) Agency Recommendations.

- Re-submit project information and map to DCR DNH for an update on this natural heritage information if the scope of the project changes and/or six months has passed before it is utilized.
- Submit copies of the baseline surveys of Fort A.P. Hill's biological resources (page 7, section 2.1.1) to DCR NDH.
- Use the Natural Heritage Inventories to direct development away from documented natural heritage resources.
- As specific projects are determined, conduct additional coordination with DCR DNH for determination of potential impacts to natural heritage resources.

6. Wildlife Resources. The EA (page 19) states that all proposed activities would be evaluated to ensure that they do not result in any adverse impacts to special status species.

6(a) Agency Jurisdiction. The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF), as the Commonwealth's wildlife and freshwater fish management agency, exercises enforcement and regulatory jurisdiction over wildlife and freshwater fish, including state- or federally-listed endangered or threatened species, but excluding listed insects (Virginia Code, Title 29.1). DGIF is a consulting agency under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.Code §661 et seq.) and provides environmental analysis of projects or permit applications coordinated through DEQ and several other state and federal agencies. DGIF determines likely impacts upon fish and wildlife resources and habitat, and recommends appropriate measures to avoid, reduce or compensate for those impacts. For more information, see the DGIF website at www.dgif.virginia.gov.

6(b) Agency Findings. DGIF commented on an early draft of the INRMP in summer 2015 and recommended changes to the INRMP. Based on that previous correspondence, DGIF has no further input on the INRMP or the EA. If the Department of the Army needs the DGIF Executive Director to sign the document, submit the request to Amy Ewing at Amy.Ewing@dgif.virginia.gov.

7. Public Water Supply. The EA does not address impacts to public water supplies.

7(a) Agency Jurisdiction. The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) Office of Drinking Water reviews projects for the potential to impact public drinking water sources (groundwater wells, springs and surface water intakes). VDH administers both federal and state laws governing waterworks operation.

7(b) Agency Findings. VDH ODW states that there may be impacts to public drinking water sources due to this project if the mitigation efforts outlined below are not implemented. The following public groundwater wells are located within a 1,000-foot of the project site:

PWSID	District	CNYCTY	SYSNAME	FACNAME
6033355	DISTRICT 15A	CAROLINE	HORNES	DRILLED WELL
6033620	DISTRICT 15A	CAROLINE	TIDEWATER MHP	WELL NO. 1
6033650	DISTRICT 15A	CAROLINE	TOWNFIELD SUBDIVISION	DRILLED WELL
6033528	DISTRICT 15A	CAROLINE	PORT ROYAL LANDING OF TOWNFIELD	WELL 1
6033260	DISTRICT 15A	CAROLINE	FT A P HILL – EOD	EOD WELL 1

There no surface water intakes located within a 5-mile radius of the project site. The project is not within the watershed of any public surface water intakes.

7(c) Agency Recommendations.

- Implement best management practices, including erosion and sedimentation controls as well as spill prevention controls and countermeasures, on the project site.
- Field mark the well(s) within the 1,000-foot radius to protect them from accidental damage due to project activities.

8. Subaqueous Lands. The FCD (page A-4) states that impacts to subaqueous lands are not anticipated.

8(a) Agency Jurisdiction. The Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) regulates encroachments in, on or over state-owned subaqueous beds as well as tidal wetlands pursuant to Virginia Code §28.2-1200 through 1400. For nontidal waterways, VMRC states that it has been the policy of the Habitat Management Division to exert jurisdiction only over the beds of perennial streams where the upstream drainage area

is 5 square miles or greater. The beds of such waterways are considered public below the ordinary high water line.

8(b) Agency Findings. If any portion of the project involves any encroachments channelward of ordinary high water along natural rivers and streams above the fall line or mean low water below the fall line, a permit may be required from VMRC. Any jurisdictional impacts will be reviewed by VMRC during the Joint Permit Application process.

9. Pesticides and Herbicides. In general, when pesticides or herbicides must be used, their use should be strictly in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations. In addition, DEQ recommends that the responsible agent use the least toxic pesticides or herbicides effective in controlling the target species. For more information on pesticide or herbicide use, please contact the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (804-786-3798).

FEDERAL CONSISTENCY PURSUANT TO THE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT

Pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, activities both within and outside of the Commonwealth's designated coastal zone with reasonably foreseeable effects on any coastal uses or resources resulting from a Federal agency activity (15 CFR Part 930, Subpart C) or Federal license or permit activity (15 CFR Part 930, Subpart D) must be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with Virginia's CZM Program. The Virginia CZM Program consists of a network of programs administered by several agencies. DEQ coordinates the review of FCDs and federal consistency certifications (FCCs) with agencies administering the enforceable policies of the Virginia CZM Program.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In accordance with 15 CFR §930.2, a public notice of this proposed action was published in OEIR's Program Newsletter and on the DEQ website from October 23, 2015 to November 16, 2015. No public comments were received in response to the notice.

FEDERAL CONSISTENCY CONCURRENCE

The FCD states that the project is consistent with the enforceable policies of the Virginia CZM Program. The reviewing agencies that are responsible for the administration of the enforceable policies generally agree with the FCD. Based on the review of the FCD and the comments submitted by agencies administering the enforceable policies of the Virginia CZM Program, DEQ concurs that the proposed project is consistent to the

maximum extent practicable with the Virginia CZM Program provided all applicable permits and approvals are obtained as described. However, other state approvals which may apply to this project are not included in this FCD. Therefore, the responsible agent must also ensure that this project is constructed and operated in accordance with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

REGULATORY AND COORDINATION NEEDS

1. Wetlands Management. The project must comply with the Virginia Water Protection Program (Virginia Code § 62.1-44.15 et seq.; 9VAC25-210 et seq.). Contact DEQ NRO (Trisha Beasley at Trisha.Beasley@deq.virginia.gov) for additional information regarding VWP Program requirements if necessary.

2. Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act. The project must satisfy the applicable requirements of the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act (Virginia Code §62.1-44.15:67 – 62.1-44.15:78) and Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area Designation and Management Regulations (Regulations). Contact DEQ (Daniel Moore at Daniel.Moore@deq.virginia.gov) for additional information as necessary.

3. Solid Waste and Hazardous Substances. Contact DEQ NRO (Richard Doucette at Richard.Doucette@deq.virginia.gov) for additional information on waste management as necessary.

4. Air Pollution Control. For information on any local requirements pertaining to open burning, contact Caroline County. Contact DEQ NRO (James LaFratta at James.LaFratta@deq.virginia.gov) for additional information about air quality laws and regulations.

5. Natural Heritage Resources.

- Contact the DCR DNH (804-371-2708) and re-submit project information and a map for an update on this natural heritage information if the scope of the project changes and/or six months has passed before it is utilized.
- Coordinate with DCR DNH (Rene' Hypes at Rene.Hypes@dcr.virginia.gov) regarding its requests and recommendations.

6. Wildlife Management. If the Department of the Army needs the DGIF Executive Director to sign the document, submit the request to Amy Ewing at Amy.Ewing@dgif.virginia.gov.

7. Water Supply Impacts. Contact VDH ODW (Roy Soto at Roy.Soto@vdh.virginia.gov) for additional information about its comments and recommendations.

8. Subaqueous Lands. If necessary, contact VMRC (Randy Owen at Randy.Owen@mrc.virginia.gov) for information on submitting a Joint Permit Application.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the EA and FCD. Detailed comments of reviewing agencies are attached for your review. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (804) 698-4204 or Julia Wellman at (804) 698-4326.

Sincerely,



Bettina Sullivan, Manager
Environmental Impact Review and Long Range
Priorities Program

Enclosures

ec: Amy Ewing, DGIF
Robbie Rhur, DCR
Keith Tignor, VDACS
Roy Soto, VDH
Roger Kirchen, DHR
Tony Watkinson, VMRC
Charles M. Culley, Caroline County
Tim Ware, George Washington Regional Commission
Kristine Brown, Fort A.P. Hill

Wellman, Julia (DEQ)

From: Burstein, Daniel (DEQ)
Sent: Wednesday, November 04, 2015 4:05 PM
To: Wellman, Julia (DEQ)
Subject: Army: Implementation of the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan and Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, Caroline County, DEQ #15-164F - Review

NRO comments regarding the Environmental Assessment and Consistency Determination for the Army: Implementation of the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan and Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, located in Caroline County, Virginia are as follows:

Land Protection Division – The project manger is reminded that if any solid or hazardous waste is generated/encountered during construction or implementation of the plans, DCR would follow applicable federal, state, and county regulations for their disposal.

Air Compliance/Permitting - The project manager is reminded that during the construction phases that occur with this project; the project is subject to the Fugitive Dust/Fugitive Emissions Rule 9 VAC 5-50-60 through 9 VAC 5-50-120. In addition, should the project install fuel burning equipment (Boilers, Generators, Compressors, etc...), or any other air pollution emitting equipment, the project may be subject to 9 VAC 5-80, Article 6, Permits for New and Modified sources and as such the project manager should contact the Air Permit Manager DEQ-NRO prior to installation or construction, and operation, of fuel burning or other air pollution emitting equipment for a permitting determination. Lastly, should any open burning or use of special incineration devices be employed in the disposal of land clearing debris during demolition and construction, the operation would be subject to the Open Burning Regulation 9 VAC 5-130-10 through 9 VAC 5-130-60 and 9 VAC 5-130-100.

Virginia Water Protection Permit (VWPP) Program - The project manger is reminded that a VWP permit from DEQ may be required should impacts to surface waters be necessary. DEQ VWP staff recommends that the avoidance and minimization of surface water impacts to the maximum extent practicable as well as coordination with the US Army Corps of Engineers. Upon receipt of a Joint Permit Application for the proposed surface water impacts, DEQ VWP Permit staff will review the proposed project in accordance with the VWP permit program regulations and current VWP permit program guidance.

Water Permitting/VPDES Program/Stormwater: The project manager is reminded to follow all applicable regulations related to stormwater management and erosion and sediment controls.

Daniel Burstein
Regional Enforcement Specialist, Senior II
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Northern Virginia Regional Office
13901 Crown Court
Woodbridge, VA 22193
Phone: (703) 583-3904
Fax: (703) 583-3821
daniel.burstein@deq.virginia.gov

Wellman, Julia (DEQ)

From: Ewing, Amy (DGIF)
Sent: Friday, November 20, 2015 11:41 AM
To: Wellman, Julia (DEQ)
Cc: Dye, Mike (DGIF); Harris, Johnathan (DGIF); Applegate, Jason R CIV USARMY USAG (US)
Subject: CORRECTED...RE: ESSLog# 23430_15-164F_Ft. AP Hill INRMP EIR

Sorry...working on Langley INRMP this morning as well...see changes in bold below...

Amy Ewing

Environmental Services Biologist/FWIS Manager
VA Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries
7870 Villa Park Dr., Henrico, VA 23228
804-367-2211 ☎ www.dgif.virginia.gov

 Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: Ewing, Amy (DGIF)
Sent: Friday, November 20, 2015 11:20 AM
To: Wellman, Julia (DEQ)
Cc: Dye, Mike (DGIF); Harris, Johnathan (DGIF); 'Applegate, Jason R CIV USARMY USAG (US)'
Subject: ESSLog# 23430_15-164F_Ft. AP Hill INRMP EIR

Julia,
We were provided the opportunity to read an early version of the draft INRMP for **Ft. AP Hill** late this Summer and provided our comments and recommended changes to the INRMP at that time. Based on that previous correspondence, we have no further input on the INRMP or the EIR for it. If the Dept. of the Army needs our Executive Director to sign the document, that request should be made directly to me.

Thank you,
Amy

Amy Ewing

Environmental Services Biologist/FWIS Manager
VA Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries
7870 Villa Park Dr., Henrico, VA 23228
804-367-2211 ☎ www.dgif.virginia.gov

 Please consider the environment before printing this email.

Molly Joseph Ward
Secretary of Natural Resources

Clyde E. Cristman
Director



Joe Elton
Deputy Director of Operations

Rochelle Altholz
*Deputy Director of
Administration and Finance*

David Dowling
*Deputy Director of
Soil and Water and Dam Safety*

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 16, 2015
TO: Julia Wellman, DEQ
FROM: Roberta Rhur, Environmental Impact Review Coordinator
SUBJECT: DEQ 15-164F, Implementation of the INRMP & ICRMP EA, Fort A.P. Hill

Division of Natural Heritage

The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Division of Natural Heritage (DCR) has searched its Biotics Data System for occurrences of natural heritage resources from the area outlined on the submitted map. Natural heritage resources are defined as the habitat of rare, threatened, or endangered plant and animal species, unique or exemplary natural communities, and significant geologic formations.

According to the information currently in our files, several natural heritage resources have been documented throughout Fort A.P. Hill (See Attached Table and Map). DCR supports the Implementation of the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan, including the Integrated Pest, Integrated Wildland Fire Management Plans (p.vi) and the Watershed Management Plan (p.147). DCR requests copies of the baseline surveys of Fort A.P. Hill's biological resources (p.7, section 2.1.1). DCR recommends using the Natural Heritage Inventories to direct development away from documented natural heritage resources. In addition, as specific projects are determined, DCR recommends further coordination with this office for determination of potential impacts to natural heritage resources.

There are no State Natural Area Preserves under DCR's jurisdiction in the project vicinity.

Under a Memorandum of Agreement established between the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) and the DCR, DCR represents VDACS in comments regarding potential impacts on state-listed threatened and endangered plant and insect species. The current activity will not affect any documented state-listed plants or insects.

New and updated information is continually added to Biotics. Please re-submit project information and map for an update on this natural heritage information if the scope of the project changes and/or six months has passed before it is utilized.

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) maintains a database of wildlife locations, including threatened and endangered species, trout streams, and anadromous fish waters that may contain information not documented in this letter. Their database may be accessed from <http://vafwis.org/fwis/> or contact Ernie Aschenbach at 804-367-2733 or Ernie.Aschenbach@dgif.virginia.gov. This project is located within 2 miles of a documented occurrence of a state listed animal. Therefore, DCR recommends

coordination with VDGIF, Virginia's regulatory authority for the management and protection of this species to ensure compliance with the Virginia Endangered Species Act (VA ST §§ 29.1-563 – 570).

The remaining DCR divisions have no comments regarding the scope of this project. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Cc: Amy Ewing, VDGIF

Natural Heritage Resources, Fort A.P. Hill, November 2015

GROUP NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Vascular Plant	Isotria medeoloides
Terrestrial Natural Community	Alnus serrulata - Magnolia virginiana / Andropogon glomeratus - Eupatorium pilosum - Rhynchospora gracilenta - Xyris torta Shrubland
Terrestrial Natural Community	Fagus grandifolia - Quercus (alba, velutina, montana) / Kalmia latifolia Forest
Terrestrial Natural Community	Acer rubrum - Nyssa sylvatica - Magnolia virginiana / Viburnum nudum / Osmundastrum cinnamomeum - Woodwardia areolata Forest
Vertebrate Animal	Peuceea aestivalis
Vascular Plant	Sarracenia purpurea
Vascular Plant	Helonias bullata
Invertebrate Animal	Epitheca spinosa
Vascular Plant	Lachnocaulon anceps
Vascular Plant	Sarracenia purpurea
Vascular Plant	Utricularia purpurea
Vascular Plant	Kalmia angustifolia
Vascular Plant	Rhynchospora alba
Terrestrial Natural Community	Semipermanent Impoundment
Vascular Plant	Helonias bullata
Vascular Plant	Juncus caesariensis
Vascular Plant	Potamogeton oakesianus
Invertebrate Animal	Nannothemis bella
Terrestrial Natural Community	Acer rubrum - Nyssa sylvatica - Magnolia virginiana / Viburnum nudum / Osmundastrum cinnamomeum - Woodwardia areolata Forest
Vascular Plant	Helonias bullata
Vertebrate Animal	Myotis sodalis

Vascular Plant	Isotria medeoloides
Terrestrial Natural Community	Acer rubrum - Nyssa sylvatica - Magnolia virginiana /
	Viburnum nudum / Osmundastrum cinnamomeum -
	Woodwardia areolata Forest
	Kalmia angustifolia
	Schoenoplectus subterminalis
Vascular Plant	Utricularia purpurea
Vascular Plant	Helonias bullata
Vascular Plant	Crocanthemum bicknellii
Terrestrial Natural Community	Acer rubrum - Nyssa sylvatica - Magnolia virginiana /
	Viburnum nudum / Osmundastrum cinnamomeum -
	Woodwardia areolata Forest
	Helonias bullata
	Sphagnum strictum
Nonvascular Plant	Sarracenia purpurea
Vascular Plant	Parathelypteris simulata
Vascular Plant	Digitaria cognata
Vertebrate Animal	Siren intermedia
Vascular Plant	Xyris caroliniana
Vascular Plant	Sabatia campanulata
Invertebrate Animal	Nehalennia gracilis
Terrestrial Natural Community	Fagus grandifolia - Quercus (alba, velutina, montana) /
	Kalmia latifolia Forest
Invertebrate Animal	Celithemis martha
Terrestrial Natural Community	Acer rubrum - Nyssa sylvatica - Magnolia virginiana /
	Viburnum nudum / Osmundastrum cinnamomeum -
Terrestrial Natural Community	Woodwardia areolata Forest
	Helonias bullata
Vascular Plant	Isotria medeoloides
Invertebrate Animal	Epitheca spinosa
Terrestrial Natural Community	Fagus grandifolia - Quercus (alba, rubra) - Liriodendron
	tulipifera / (Ilex opaca) / Polystichum acrostichoides Forest

Vertebrate Animal	Siren intermedia
Vertebrate Animal	Siren intermedia
Vascular Plant	Isotria medeoloides
Invertebrate Animal	Nannothemis bella
	Pinus taeda / Schizachyrium scoparium - Eupatorium hyssopifolium - Lespedeza stuevei - Symphyotrichum concolor Woodland
Terrestrial Natural Community	Alnus serrulata - Magnolia virginiana / Andropogon glomeratus - Eupatorium pilosum - Rhynchospora gracilentia - Xyris torta Shrubland
Terrestrial Natural Community	Solidago uliginosa var. uliginosa
Vascular Plant	Acer rubrum - Nyssa sylvatica - Magnolia virginiana / Viburnum nudum / Osmundastrum cinnamomeum - Woodwardia areolata Forest
Terrestrial Natural Community	Helonias bullata
Vascular Plant	Acer rubrum - Nyssa sylvatica - Magnolia virginiana / Viburnum nudum / Osmundastrum cinnamomeum - Woodwardia areolata Forest
Terrestrial Natural Community	Helonias bullata
	Alnus serrulata - Magnolia virginiana / Andropogon glomeratus - Eupatorium pilosum - Rhynchospora gracilentia - Xyris torta Shrubland
Terrestrial Natural Community	Siren intermedia
Vertebrate Animal	Sarracenia purpurea
Vascular Plant	Sarracenia purpurea
Invertebrate Animal	Epitheca spinosa
Vascular Plant	Juncus caesariensis
Vascular Plant	Kalmia angustifolia
Invertebrate Animal	Somatochlora provocans
Vascular Plant	Juncus caesariensis

	Acer rubrum - Nyssa sylvatica - Magnolia virginiana / Viburnum nudum / Osmundastrum cinnamomeum - Woodwardia areolata Forest
Terrestrial Natural Community	
Vascular Plant	Isotria medeoloides
Vascular Plant	Sarracenia purpurea
Invertebrate Animal	Somatochlora provocans
Invertebrate Animal	Celithemis martha
Vascular Plant	Helonias bullata
Vascular Plant	Juncus caesariensis
Invertebrate Animal	Stygobromus foliatus
Invertebrate Animal	Nannothemis bella
Terrestrial Natural Community	Fagus grandifolia - Quercus (alba, rubra) - Liriodendron tulipifera / (Ilex opaca) / Polystichum acrostichoides Forest
Vascular Plant	Kalmia angustifolia
Terrestrial Natural Community	Fagus grandifolia - Quercus (alba, rubra) - Liriodendron tulipifera / (Ilex opaca) / Polystichum acrostichoides Forest
Invertebrate Animal	Celithemis martha
Terrestrial Natural Community	Fagus grandifolia - Quercus (alba, rubra) - Liriodendron tulipifera / (Ilex opaca) / Polystichum acrostichoides Forest
	Acer rubrum - Nyssa sylvatica - Magnolia virginiana / Viburnum nudum / Osmundastrum cinnamomeum - Woodwardia areolata Forest
Terrestrial Natural Community	
Vascular Plant	Helonias bullata
Vascular Plant	Helenium brevifolium
Vascular Plant	Schoenoplectus subterminalis
	Acer rubrum - Nyssa sylvatica - Magnolia virginiana / Viburnum nudum / Osmundastrum cinnamomeum - Woodwardia areolata Forest
Terrestrial Natural Community	
Vascular Plant	Rhynchospora alba

Vascular Plant	Utricularia purpurea
Aquatic Natural Community	NC-Lower Rappahannock Second Order Stream
Aquatic Natural Community	NC-Lower Rappahannock Second Order Stream
Vascular Plant	Helonias bullata
	Alnus serrulata - Magnolia virginiana / Andropogon glomeratus - Eupatorium pilosum - Rhynchospora gracilentia - Xyris torta Shrubland
Terrestrial Natural Community	
	Fagus grandifolia - Quercus (alba, rubra) - Liriodendron tulipifera / (Ilex opaca) / Polystichum acrostichoides Forest
Vascular Plant	Utricularia purpurea
Vascular Plant	Utricularia purpurea
Vascular Plant	Schoenoplectus subterminalis
Vascular Plant	Potamogeton oakesianus
Invertebrate Animal	Nannothemis bella
Vascular Plant	Kalmia angustifolia
Vascular Plant	Helonias bullata
Vascular Plant	Helonias bullata
SITE NAME	B RANK
WILCOX CAMP SEEP	B4
PORTOBAGO CREEK - NAULAKLA TRIBUTARY	B3
HICKORY FORK SEEPS	B4
BRANDYWINE	B3
GOULDMAN'S CORNER	B5
GOLDENVALE CREEK TRIBUTARY SLOPES - LYON ROAD	B3
MEADOW CREEK	B2
MILL CREEK SLOPES	B3
GOLDENVALE CREEK - LYON ROAD	B3
GOLDENVALE CREEK	B4
MOUNT CREEK AT EWELL RD SCU	B3
REYNOLDS RUN	B5
MARTINS CORNER SEEP	B5
WARE CREEK AT RT 614 SCU	B4

CATTLET CREEK - TURKEY TRACK CREEK	B2
MASHBOX RUN SEEP	B5
CARTERS CORNER	B1
TA22B MILL CREEK TRIBUTARY SCU	B5
ROLLINS FORK RAVINES	B4
MOUNT CREEK SLOPES	B2
MARACOSSIC CREEK	B3
UPPER WARE CREEK	B3

COMMON NAME	LAST OBSERVED	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	FEDERAL STATUS	USFWS SPECIES OF CONCERN	STATE STATUS
Small Whorled Pogonia	2011-06/07	G2	S2	LT		LE
Coastal Plain / Outer Piedmont Seepage Bog	2007-07-06	G1	S1			
Northern Coastal Plain / Piedmont Oak - Beech / Heath Forest	2007-07-06	G4	S3			
Coastal Plain / Outer Piedmont Acidic Seepage Swamp	2006-07-03	G3?	S3			
Bachman's Sparrow	1993-06-17	G3	S1B			LT
Northern pitcher plant	2000-09-15	G5	S2			
Swamp-pink	2011-05/06	G3	S2S3	LT		LE
Robust Baskettail	1994-04-18	G4	S2S3			
Common bog-buttons	1941-10-13	G5	S1			
Northern pitcher plant	2007-09-25	G5	S2			
Purple Bladderwort	1993-07-26	G5	S2			
Sheep laurel	2005-04-21	G5	S2			
Northern white beaksedge	2007-09-12	G5	S2			
Semipermanent Impoundment	2007-10-01	G4G5	S4S5			
Swamp-pink	2010-05 to 07	G3	S2S3	LT		LE
New Jersey Rush	1999-08-16	G2G3	S2		SOC	LT
Oakes' pondweed	2006-07-03	G4	S1			
Elfin Skimmer	2006-07-21	G4	S1			
Coastal Plain / Outer Piedmont Acidic Seepage Swamp	2006-05-18	G3?	S3			
Swamp-pink	2005-04-27	G3	S2S3	LT		LE
Indiana Bat	2015-05-17	G2	S1	LE		LE

Small Whorled Pogonia	1991-05-06	G2	S2	LT		LE
Coastal Plain / Outer Piedmont Acidic Seepage Swamp	2008-04-29	G3?	S3			
Sheep laurel	2007-08-14	G5	S2			
Water Bulrush	1981-	G4G5	S1			
Purple Bladderwort	1985-06-21	G5	S2			
Swamp-pink	1993-07-28	G3	S2S3	LT		LE
Plains Frostweed	1941-11-21	G5	S1			
Coastal Plain / Outer Piedmont Acidic Seepage Swamp	1993-05-07	G3?	S3			
Swamp-pink	2008-04-30	G3	S2S3	LT		LE
Straight Peatmoss	1993-07-28	G5	S2			
Northern pitcher plant	2008-07-09	G5	S2			
Bog Fern	1993-07-28	G4G5	S1S2			
Fall witch grass	1992-10-19	G5	S1			
Lesser Siren	2005-08-02	G5	S2S3			
Carolina yellow-eyed grass	1941-11-21	G4G5	S1			
Slender Marsh Pink	2000-07-06	G5	S2			
Sphagnum Sprite	2007-07-03	G5	S2			
Northern Coastal Plain / Piedmont Oak - Beech / Heath Forest	2008-04-22	G4	S3			
Martha's Pennant	2006-07-21	G4	S2			
Coastal Plain / Outer Piedmont Acidic Seepage Swamp	2006-05-16	G3?	S3			
Swamp-pink	2005-05-05	G3	S2S3	LT		LE
Small Whorled Pogonia	2011-06/07	G2	S2	LT		LE
Robust Baskettail	2006-04-11	G4	S2S3			
Northern Coastal Plain / Piedmont Mesic Mixed Hardwood Forest	2007-07-06	G5	S5			

Lesser Siren	2006-04-12	G5	S2S3			
Lesser Siren	2006-04-13	G5	S2S3			
Small Whorled Pogonia	2012-12	G2	S2	LT		LE
Elfín Skimmer	2007-06-05	G4	S1			
Loblolly Pine / Little Bluestem Woodland / Savanna	2007-10-01	G5	SU			
Coastal Plain / Outer Piedmont Seepage Bog	2007-10-01	G1	S1			
Bog Goldenrod	2006-07-03	G4G5T4T5	S2			
Coastal Plain / Outer Piedmont Acidic Seepage Swamp	2006-05-18	G3?	S3			
Swamp-pink	2007-04-19	G3	S2S3	LT		LE
Coastal Plain / Outer Piedmont Acidic Seepage Swamp	2006-05-18	G3?	S3			
Swamp-pink	2013-04-08	G3	S2S3	LT		LE
Coastal Plain / Outer Piedmont Seepage Bog	2000-09-13	G1	S1			
Lesser Siren	1997-05-22	G5	S2S3			
Northern pitcher plant	1992-10-14	G5	S2			
Robust Baskettail	2006-04-13	G4	S2S3			
New Jersey Rush	1982-09-17	G2G3	S2		SOC	LT
Sheep laurel	2007-04-27	G5	S2			
Treetop Emerald	1995-07-17	G4	S2			
New Jersey Rush	2007-09-05	G2G3	S2		SOC	LT

Coastal Plain / Outer Piedmont Acidic Seepage Swamp	2007-08-14	G3?	S3			
Small Whorled Pogonia	2008	G2	S2	LT		LE
Northern pitcher plant	2000-09-13	G5	S2			
Treetop Emerald	1995-07-17	G4	S2			
Martha's Pennant	1993-09-13	G4	S2			
Swamp-pink	2015-03-27	G3	S2S3	LT		LE
New Jersey Rush	2007-09-25	G2G3	S2		SOC	LT
A Groundwater Amphipod	2008-03-26	G2	S2		SOC	
Elfin Skimmer	2008-06-10	G4	S1			
Northern Coastal Plain / Piedmont Mesic Mixed Hardwood Forest	2008-04-23	G5	S5			
Sheep laurel	2008-04-30	G5	S2			
Northern Coastal Plain / Piedmont Mesic Mixed Hardwood Forest	2008-04-22	G5	S5			
Martha's Pennant	2006-05-30	G4	S2			
Northern Coastal Plain / Piedmont Mesic Mixed Hardwood Forest	2006-05-17	G5	S5			
Coastal Plain / Outer Piedmont Acidic Seepage Swamp	2008-05-28	G3?	S3			
Swamp-pink	2008-05-28	G3	S2S3	LT		LE
Short-leaf sneezeweed	2008-05-28	G4	S2			
Water Bulrush	2007-09-12	G4G5	S1			
Coastal Plain / Outer Piedmont Acidic Seepage Swamp	2007-07-06	G3?	S3			
Northern white beaksedge	2007-09-25	G5	S2			

Purple Bladderwort	1993-06-08	G5	S2			
NC-Lower Rappahannock Second Order Stream	2011-01	G3G4	S3S4			
NC-Lower Rappahannock Second Order Stream	2011-01	G3G4	S3S4			
Swamp-pink	2009-07-08	G3	S2S3	LT		LE
Coastal Plain / Outer Piedmont Seepage Bog	2007-08-27	G1	S1			
Northern Coastal Plain / Piedmont Mesic Mixed Hardwood Forest	2007-08-14	G5	S5			
Purple Bladderwort	2005-08-31	G5	S2			
Purple Bladderwort	1992-09-10	G5	S2			
Water Bulrush	2007-09-11	G4G5	S1			
Oakes' pondweed	2007-07-05	G4	S1			
Elfin Skimmer	2006-07-03	G4	S1			
Sheep laurel	2007-04-18	G5	S2			
Swamp-pink	2011-05-06	G3	S2S3	LT		LE
Swamp-pink	2015-08-19	G3	S2S3	LT		LE
LEGAL STATUS						
FL						
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EO RANK	SITE NAME
C?	BRANDYWINE
A	CARTERS CORNER
B	ROLLINS FORK RAVINES
A	CARTERS CORNER
H?	CARTERS CORNER
B - (Introduced)	MEADOW CREEK
C	CARTERS CORNER
BC	CARTERS CORNER
H	
C - (Introduced)	MEADOW CREEK
E	HICKORY FORK SEEPS
C	CATTLE CREEK - TURKEY TRACK CREEK
C	CATTLE CREEK - TURKEY TRACK CREEK
A	CARTERS CORNER
A	CATTLE CREEK - TURKEY TRACK CREEK
D	UPPER WARE CREEK
C	CARTERS CORNER
B	CARTERS CORNER
BC	MILL CREEK SLOPES
D	REYNOLDS RUN
E	GOLDENVALE CREEK TRIBUTARY SLOPES - LYON ROAD

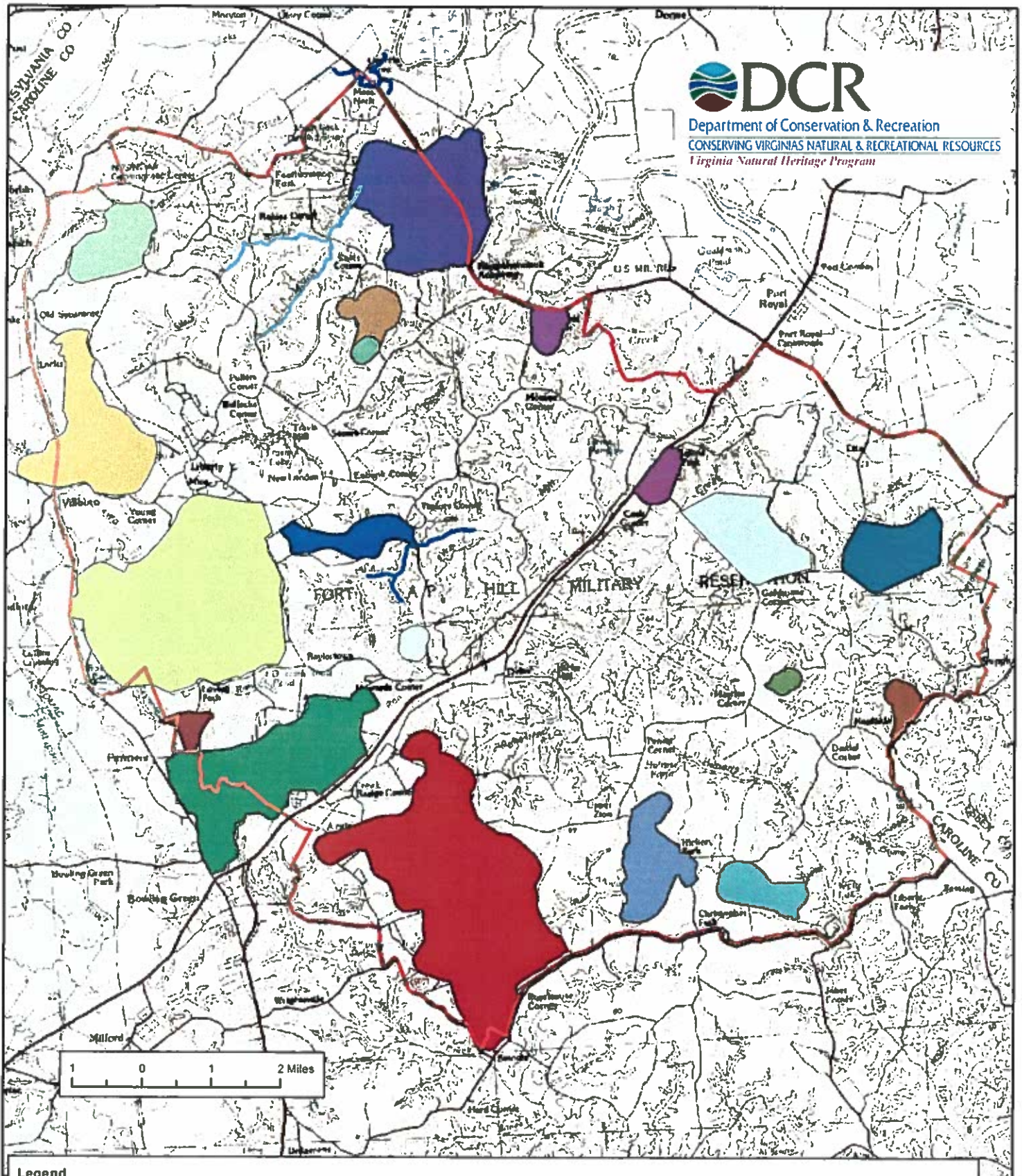
D?	CATTLET CREEK - TURKEY TRACK CREEK
B	CARTERS CORNER
C	CARTERS CORNER
H	MEADOW CREEK
F	MEADOW CREEK
CD	HICKORY FORK SEEPS
H	
X	
CD	MARACOSSIC CREEK
E	HICKORY FORK SEEPS
CD	
B	HICKORY FORK SEEPS
C	CARTERS CORNER
C?	CARTERS CORNER
H	
D - (Possibly introduced)	CATTLET CREEK - TURKEY TRACK CREEK
C	UPPER WARE CREEK
A	MOUNT CREEK SLOPES
B	CARTERS CORNER
A	CATTLET CREEK - TURKEY TRACK CREEK
BC	CATTLET CREEK - TURKEY TRACK CREEK , MILL CREEK SLOPES
C	CATTLET CREEK - TURKEY TRACK CREEK
C?	TA22B MILL CREEK TRIBUTARY SCU
C	ROLLINS FORK RAVINES

C	CATTLET CREEK - TURKEY TRACK CREEK
C	MARACOSSIC CREEK
D?	GOLDENVALE CREEK TRIBUTARY SLOPES - LYON ROAD, GOLDENVALE CREEK - LYON ROAD
C	MEADOW CREEK
B	CARTERS CORNER
AB	CARTERS CORNER
B	CARTERS CORNER
BC	CATTLET CREEK - TURKEY TRACK CREEK
CD	MARTINS CORNER SEEP
A	CATTLET CREEK - TURKEY TRACK CREEK
C	WILCOX CAMP SEEP
X?	
D	CARTERS CORNER
D	CARTERS CORNER
BC	MARACOSSIC CREEK
H	MEADOW CREEK
BC	PORTOBAGO CREEK - NAULAKLA TRIBUTARY
C?	GOULDMANS CORNER
D	CATTLET CREEK - TURKEY TRACK CREEK

	CARTERS CORNER
B	MARACOSSIC CREEK
D	
B - (introduced)	
C?	BRANDYWINE
BC	MEADOW CREEK
CD	MASHBOX RUN SEEP
C	MEADOW CREEK
B	MOUNT CREEK SLOPES
AB	CATTLET CREEK - TURKEY TRACK CREEK
B	GOLDENVALE CREEK
B	MARACOSSIC CREEK
AB	MOUNT CREEK SLOPES
C	CATTLET CREEK - TURKEY TRACK CREEK
BC	MILL CREEK SLOPES
AB	PORTOBAGO CREEK - NAULAKLA TRIBUTARY
D	PORTOBAGO CREEK - NAULAKLA TRIBUTARY
C?	PORTOBAGO CREEK - NAULAKLA TRIBUTARY
CD	CATTLET CREEK - TURKEY TRACK CREEK
B	CARTERS CORNER
CD	MEADOW CREEK

[illegible]

Fort A.P. Hill Natural Heritage Resources





MEMORANDUM

TO: Julia Wellman, Environmental Program Planner

FROM: Steve Coe, DLPR Review Coordinator

DATE: November 13, 2015

COPIES: Sanjay Thirunagari, DLPR Review Manager
EIR File

SUBJECT: EIR Project 15-164F Fort A.P. Hill Implementation of the INRMP and ICRMP– Review Comments

The staff from the Division of Land Protection and Revitalization (DLPR) has completed its review of the Environmental Review Request Form for the Fort A.P. Hill Implementation of the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) and the Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP), 18350 1st Street, Building 179, Bowling Green, VA 22427.

The project scope as presented in the submittal:

These plans reflect Fort A.P. Hill's commitment to conserve, protect, and enhance the installation's natural and cultural resources in a manner that supports and enhances realistic military training. Implementation of these plans would have no significant direct, indirect, or cumulative adverse impacts on the environment.

The submittal generally addressed potential solid and/or hazardous waste issues, and as no specific site action was identified, it did not indicate a search of solid and hazardous waste databases in the project area. The DLPR staff did not conduct a review of its database files under zip code 22427 as no specific site action was identified.

As projects are identified/planned, we encourage the project engineers/managers to research potential solid and hazardous waste sites in proximity to the project sites to avoid possible impacts to the environment. We offer the following information for any specific future projects:

RCRA/Hazardous Waste Facilities

(See: <http://www.epa.gov/enviro/facts/rcrainfo/search.html>.)

CERCLA sites

(See: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/cursites/index.htm>.)

FUDs Sites

For the next three site categories, see:

http://www.deq.virginia.gov/mapper_ext/default.aspx?service=public/wimby)

Solid Waste Facilities

VRP Sites

Petroleum Release Sites

Please note that the DEQ's petroleum contamination (PC) case files may identify petroleum releases that should be evaluated by the project engineer or manager to establish the exact location of the release and the nature and extent of the petroleum release and the potential to impact the proposed project. The facility representative should contact the DEQ's Northern Virginia Regional Office at 703-583-3800 (Tank Program) for further information and the administrative records of the PC cases which are determined to be in close proximity to the proposed project.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Soil, Sediment, and Waste Management

Any soil that is suspected of contamination or wastes that are generated must be tested and disposed of in accordance with applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations. Some of the applicable state laws and regulations are: Virginia Waste Management Act, Code of Virginia Section 10.1-1400 *et seq.*; Virginia Hazardous Waste Management Regulations (VHWMR) (9VAC 20-60); Virginia Solid Waste Management Regulations (VSWMR) (9VAC 20-81); Virginia Regulations for the Transportation of Hazardous Materials (9VAC 20-110). Some of the applicable Federal laws and regulations are: the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), 42 U.S.C. Section 6901 *et seq.*, and the applicable regulations contained in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations; and the U.S. Department of Transportation Rules for Transportation of Hazardous Materials, 49 CFR Part 107.

Asbestos and/or Lead-based Paint

All structures being demolished/renovated/removed should be checked for asbestos-containing materials (ACM) and lead-based paint (LBP) prior to demolition. If ACM or LBP are found, in addition to the federal waste-related regulations mentioned above, State regulations 9VAC 20-81-620 for ACM and 9VAC 20-60-261 for LBP must be followed. For questions contact DEQ's Northern Virginia Regional Office, Kathryn Perszyk, at 703-583-3856.

Pollution Prevention – Reuse - Recycling

Please note that DEQ encourages all construction projects and facilities to implement pollution prevention principles, including the reduction, reuse, and recycling of all solid wastes generated. All generation of hazardous wastes should be minimized and handled appropriately.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Steve Coe at (804) 698-4029.

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
DIVISION OF AIR PROGRAM COORDINATION**

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMENTS APPLICABLE TO AIR QUALITY

TO: Julia H. Wellman

DEQ - OEIA PROJECT NUMBER: 15 – 164F

PROJECT TYPE: ☐ STATE EA / EIR ☒ FEDERAL EA / EIS ☐ SCC

X CONSISTENCY DETERMINATION

PROJECT TITLE: **IMPLEMENTATION OF INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCES
MANAGEMENT PLAN & INTEGRATED CULTURAL RESOURCES
MANAGEMENT PLAN**

PROJECT SPONSOR: **DOD /DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY / FORT A. P. HILL**

PROJECT LOCATION: **X OZONE ATTAINMENT AREA**

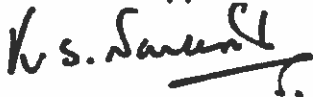
REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS MAY BE APPLICABLE TO: **X PLAN
IMPLEMENTATION
☐ OPERATION**

STATE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD REGULATIONS THAT MAY APPLY:

1. ☐ 9 VAC 5-40-5200 C & 9 VAC 5-40-5220 E – STAGE I
2. ☐ 9 VAC 5-40-5200 C & 9 VAC 5-40-5220 F – STAGE II Vapor Recovery
3. ☐ 9 VAC 5-45-780 et seq. – Asphalt Paving operations
4. **X** 9 VAC 5-130 et seq. – Open Burning
5. **X** 9 VAC 5-50-60 et seq. Fugitive Dust Emissions
6. ☐ 9 VAC 5-50-130 et seq. - Odorous Emissions; Applicable to _____
7. ☐ 9 VAC 5-50-160 et seq. – Standards of Performance for Toxic Pollutants
8. ☐ 9 VAC 5-50-400 Subpart _____, Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources, designates standards of performance for the _____
9. ☐ 9 VAC 5-80-1100 et seq. of the regulations – Permits for Stationary Sources
10. ☐ 9 VAC 5-80-1700 et seq. Of the regulations – Major or Modified Sources located in PSD areas. This rule may be applicable to the _____
11. ☐ 9 VAC 5-80-2000 et seq. of the regulations – New and modified sources located in non-attainment areas
12. ☐ 9 VAC 5-80-800 et seq. Of the regulations – Operating Permits and exemptions. This rule may be applicable to _____

COMMENTS SPECIFIC TO THE PROJECT:

Above are applicable with respect to any construction activities.



(Kotur S. Narasimhan)
Office of Air Data Analysis

DATE: October 20, 2015



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Street address: 629 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219

Mailing address: P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, Virginia 23218

Fax: 804-698-4019 - TDD (804) 698-4021

www.deq.virginia.gov

Molly Joseph Ward
Secretary of Natural Resources

David K. Paylor
Director

(804) 698-4020
1-800-592-5482

MEMORANDUM

TO: Julia Wellman, DEQ Environmental Program Planner

FROM: Daniel Moore, DEQ Principal Environmental Planner

DATE: October 21, 2015

SUBJECT: DEQ #15-164F: Dept. of the Army: Implementation of INRMP/ICRMP at Ft. A.P. Hill

We have reviewed the Environmental Assessment for the project referenced above and offer the following comments regarding consistency with the provisions of the *Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area Designation and Management Regulations* (Regulations):

In Caroline County, the areas protected by the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act, as locally implemented, require conformance with performance criteria. These areas include Resource Protection Areas (RPAs) and Resource Management Areas (RMAs) as designated by the local government. RPAs include tidal wetlands, certain non-tidal wetlands and tidal shores. RPAs also include a 100-foot vegetated buffer area located adjacent to and landward of these features and along both sides of any water body with perennial flow. RMAs, which require less stringent performance criteria, include floodplains, highly erodible soils, highly permeable soils, steep slopes in excess of 15 percent and other lands including but not limited to an area 300 feet in width contiguous to and landward of all RPAs.

Pursuant to the *Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972*, as amended, federal activities affecting Virginia's coastal resources or coastal uses must be consistent with Virginia's Coastal Zone Management Program (CZM Program) (see § 307(c)(1) of the Coastal Zone Management Act and 15 CFR Part 930, sub-part C of the *Federal Consistency Regulations*).

While Chesapeake Bay Preservation Areas (CBPA) are not locally designated on federal lands, this does not relieve federal agencies of their responsibility to be consistent with the provisions of the Regulations, § 9VAC25-830-10 et seq., as one of the enforceable programs of the CZM Program. Federal actions on installations located within Tidewater Virginia are required to be consistent with the performance criteria of the Regulations on lands analogous to locally

designated CBPAs. Projects that include land disturbing activity must adhere to the general performance criteria, especially with respect to minimizing land disturbance (including access and staging areas), retaining indigenous vegetation and minimizing impervious cover. For land disturbance over 2,500 square feet, the project must comply with the requirements of the *Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook*, Third Edition, 1992. Additionally, stormwater management criteria consistent with water quality protection provisions of the *Virginia Stormwater Management Regulations* shall be satisfied.

The 1998 *Federal Agencies' Chesapeake Ecosystem Unified Plan* (Plan) calls for the signatories of that Plan to cooperate with local and state governments in carrying out actions to comply with stormwater management regulations. The Plan further encourages low impact development practices that minimize the loss of natural areas and reduce impervious surfaces on federal facilities, as well as other best management practices to address stormwater management, and sediment and erosion control. In addition, the *Chesapeake 2000* agreement committed the government agencies to sound land use and stormwater quality controls. The signatories additionally committed the agencies to lead by example with respect to controlling nutrient, sediment and chemical contaminant runoff from government properties. In December 2001, the Executive Council of the Chesapeake Bay Program issued *Directive No. 01-1: Managing Storm Water on State, Federal and District-owned Lands and Facilities*, which includes specific commitments for agencies to lead by example with respect to stormwater control.

Provided adherence to the above requirements, the proposed activity would be consistent with the *Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act* and the Regulations.

Wellman, Julia (DEQ)

From: Warren, Arlene (VDH)
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2015 4:14 PM
To: Wellman, Julia (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Army: Implementation of the Integrated Natural PROJECT 15-164F (REVISED)

Project Name: Army: Implementation of the Integrated Natural PROJECT

Project #: 15-164F

UPC #: N/A

Location: Caroline County

VDH – Office of Drinking Water has reviewed the above project. Below are our comments as they relate to proximity to **public drinking water sources** (groundwater wells, springs and surface water intakes). Potential impacts to public water distribution systems or sanitary sewage collection systems **must be verified by the local utility.**

The following public groundwater wells appear to be located within a 1 mile radius of the project site (wells within a 1,000 ft. radius are formatted in **bold**):

PWSID	District	CNYCTY	SYSNAME	FACNAME
6033355	DISTRICT 15A	CAROLINE	HORNES	DRILLED WELL
6033620	DISTRICT 15A	CAROLINE	TIDEWATER MHP	WELL NO. 1
6033650	DISTRICT 15A	CAROLINE	TOWNFIELD SUBDIVISION	DRILLED WELL
6033528	DISTRICT 15A	CAROLINE	PORT ROYAL LANDING OF TOWNFIELD	WELL 1
6033260	DISTRICT 15A	CAROLINE	FT A P HILL – EOD	EOD WELL 1

There no surface water intakes located within a 5 mile radius of the project site.

The project is not within the watershed of any public surface water intakes.

Best Management Practices should be employed on the project site including Erosion & Sedimentation Controls as well as Spill Prevention Controls & Countermeasures.

The well(s) within the 1,000 ft. radius from project site, should be field marked and protected from accidental damage due to construction activities.

There may be impacts to public drinking water sources due to this project if the mitigation efforts outlined above are not implemented.

Best Regards,

Arlene Fields Warren
Office of Drinking Water
804-864-7781

From: Wellman, Julia (DEQ)
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2015 3:38 PM
To: Warren, Arlene (VDH)
Cc: Soto, Roy (VDH)

Subject: RE: Army: Implementation of the Integrated Natural PROJECT 15-164F

Importance: High

Will you please clarify the statement below?

One sentence states that there are no apparent impacts and the other states that there will be impacts.

From: Warren, Arlene (VDH)

Sent: Monday, November 16, 2015 10:45 AM

To: Wellman, Julia (DEQ)

Cc: Soto, Roy (VDH)

Subject: Army: Implementation of the Integrated Natural PROJECT 15-164F

Project Name: Army: Implementation of the Integrated Natural PROJECT

Project #: 15-164F

UPC #: N/A

Location: Caroline County

VDH – Office of Drinking Water has reviewed the above project. Below are our comments as they relate to proximity to **public drinking water sources** (groundwater wells, springs and surface water intakes). Potential impacts to public water distribution systems or sanitary sewage collection systems **must be verified by the local utility.**

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6033528	DISTRICT 15A	CAROLINE	PORT ROYAL LANDING OF TOWNFIELD	WELL 1
6033260	DISTRICT 15A	CAROLINE	FT A P HILL – EOD	EOD WELL 1

There no surface water intakes located within a 5 mile radius of the project site.

The project is not within the watershed of any public surface water intakes.

There are no apparent impacts to public drinking water sources due to this project.

Best Management Practices should be employed on the project site including Erosion & Sedimentation Controls as well as Spill Prevention Controls & Countermeasures.

The well(s) within the 1,000 ft radius from project site, should be field marked and protected from accidental damage due to construction activities.

There may be impacts to public drinking water sources due to this project if the mitigation efforts outlined above are not implemented.

Best Regards,

Arlene Fields Warren

Office of Drinking Water

804-864-7781

Wellman, Julia (DEQ)

From: Fulcher, Valerie (DEQ)
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2015 8:29 AM
To: Wellman, Julia (DEQ)
Subject: FW: NEW PROJECT ARMY 15-164F

From: Owen, Randy (MRC)
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2015 7:53 PM
To: Fulcher, Valerie (DEQ)
Subject: RE: NEW PROJECT ARMY 15-164F

Please be advised that the Commission, pursuant to Section 28.2-1200 et seq of the Code of Virginia, has jurisdiction over any encroachments in, on, or over the beds of the bays, ocean, rivers, streams, or creeks which are the property of the Commonwealth. Accordingly, if any portion of the subject project involves any encroachments channelward of ordinary high water along natural rivers and streams above the fall line or mean low water below the fall line, a permit may be required from our agency. Any jurisdictional impacts will be reviewed by VMRC during the Joint Permit Application process.

From: Watkinson, Tony (MRC)
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2015 2:30 PM
To: Owen, Randy (MRC)
Subject: FW: NEW PROJECT ARMY 15-164F

From: Fulcher, Valerie (DEQ)
Sent: Tuesday, October 20, 2015 2:22 PM
To: dgif-ESS Projects (DGIF); Tignor, Keith (VDACS); Rhur, Robbie (DCR); odwreview (VDH); Coe, Stephen (DEQ); Narasimhan, Kotur (DEQ); Gavan, Larry (DEQ); Moore, Daniel (DEQ); Sepety, Holly (DEQ); Carawan, Daniel (DEQ); Burstein, Daniel (DEQ); Kirchen, Roger (DHR); Watkinson, Tony (MRC); ware@gwregion.org; Culley, Charles
Cc: Wellman, Julia (DEQ)
Subject: NEW PROJECT ARMY 15-164F

Good afternoon - attached is a new EIR review request/ project:

**Army: Implementation of the Integrated Natural
Resources Management Plan and Integrated
Cultural Resources Management Plan
Caroline County, DEQ #15-164F**

The document is available at www.deq.virginia.gov/filesshare/oeir in the Army folder.

The due date for comments is **NOVEMBER 16, 2015**. You can send your comments either directly to Julia by email (Julia.Wellman@deq.virginia.gov), or you can send your comments by regular interagency/U.S. mail to the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Impact Review, 629 E. Main St., 6th Floor, Richmond, VA 23219.

If you have any questions, please email Julia.

Thanks!

Valerie

Valerie A. Fulcher, CAP-OM, Executive Secretary Sr.
Department of Environmental Quality
Environmental Enhancement - Office of Environmental Impact Review
629 E. Main St., 6th Floor
Richmond, VA 23219
804/698-4330
804/698-4319 (Fax)
email: Valerie.Fulcher@deq.virginia.gov
<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/EnvironmentalImpactReview.aspx>

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