ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2017-2021 INTEGRATED CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN FORT BLISS, TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO

Prepared for:

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December 2016
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2017-2021
INTEGRATED CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN
FORT BLISS, TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO

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U.S. ARMY GARRISON FORT BLISS

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Commanding

4/21/17
Date
1.0 PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

The purpose of the Proposed Action is for Fort Bliss to implement an updated 2017-2021 Fort Bliss Texas and New Mexico Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) as required under Army Regulation (AR) 200-1; Title 54 of the United States Code (U.S.C.) of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1996, as amended in 2014; Section 106 of the NHPA, and Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 4715.16, which mandates use of the ICRMP as the DoD instrument for compliance. The 2017-2021 ICRMP is needed to describe cultural resource stewardship programs and conservation initiatives that would sustain military mission capabilities and, concurrently, minimize training constraints. Impacts of implementing the ICRMP on the environment were analyzed through an Environmental Assessment (EA) per 32 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 651 Environmental Analysis of Army Actions Subparts 651.10 (b) and 651.33 (h). Only the No Action Alternative and Proposed Action were analyzed in the EA.

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF ALTERNATIVES

No Action
Under the No Action Alternative, the proposed management measures set forth in the 2017-2021 ICRMP would not be implemented. Fort Bliss would continue to manage its cultural resources under the goals, objectives, and strategies outlined in the 2008-2012 ICRMP. However, the No Action Alternative would not be in compliance with AR 200-1, which mandates that Fort Bliss prepare and implement the updated ICRMP.

Proposed Action
Fort Bliss proposes to implement the 2017-2021 ICRMP, in cooperation with regional stakeholders, to act as the blueprint for management of cultural resources on the Installation through 2021. The 2017-2021 ICRMP is an update of the 2008-2012 plan that would continue the management programs currently in place, as well as implement new specific program element techniques, goals, objectives, and action items. This would allow Fort Bliss to manage its cultural resources through an updated, integrated, and adaptive management approach designed to sustain and be consistent with the military mission. In addition, the ICRMP would be implemented in conjunction with a 2015-2025 Programmatic Agreement (PA) between Fort Bliss, the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), the Texas SHPO, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

3.0 SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND IMPACTS

The EA determined that implementation of the Proposed Action would have no significant adverse effects on land use, soils, biological resources, cultural resources, water resources, air quality, and health and safety on Fort Bliss or in the surrounding area. The new goals, objectives, and projects established and undertaken under the Proposed Action are anticipated to have beneficial, long-term effects on the environment and cultural landscape.
4.0 CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis of the Proposed Action presented in this EA, I conclude that impacts of implementing the ICRMP would not significantly affect the human or natural environment of Fort Bliss or the surrounding area and, thus, a Finding of No Significant Impact is warranted. Furthermore, the implementation of the Proposed Action would not constitute a major Federal action requiring the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Public Law 91-190).

Mike Hester
Colonel, U.S. Army
Commanding

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NPS    National Park Service
NRHP   National Register of Historic Places
OLA    Off-Limits Area
PA     Programmatic Agreement
PL     Public Law
RCMP   Range Complex Master Plan
ROD    Record of Decision
RPMP   Real Property Master Plan
SEIS   Supplemental EIS
SHPO   State Historic Preservation Officer
SOP    Standard Operating Procedure
SWPPP  Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
T&E    Threatened and Endangered
TCP    Traditional Cultural Property
TCEQ   Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
THC    Texas Historical Commission
TPWD   Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
USAEC  U.S. Army Environmental Command
U.S. Army United States Department of the Army
USDA   U.S. Department of Agriculture
USDI   U.S. Department of the Interior
USEPA  U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USFS   U.S. Forest Service
USFWS  U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
UXO    Unexploded Ordnance
VEC    Valued Environmental Component
WSA    Wilderness Study Area
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Environmental Assessment (EA) analyzes the effects on the environment from proposed actions described in the United States Department of the Army (U.S. Army) Fort Bliss Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, 2017-2021 (ICRMP). The ICRMP was developed by Fort Bliss in accordance with the Title 54 (54 United States Code [U.S.C] 306101 through 306114) and Section 106 (36 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 79) of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 4715.16, which mandates use of the ICRMP as the DoD instrument for compliance, and Army Regulation (AR) 200-1 \textit{Environmental Protection and Enhancement} (U.S. Army 2007a). The purpose of the Fort Bliss 2017-2021 ICRMP is to provide guidance for the implementation and management of cultural resources on Fort Bliss during the 5-year period from 2017 through 2021.

The Fort Bliss 2017-2021 ICRMP uses an integrated and adaptive cultural resources management approach for sustainability and consistency with the military missions on Fort Bliss. The U.S. Army, with the assistance of a Programmatic Agreement (PA) with the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), the Texas SHPO, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), is responsible under Title 54 and Section 106 of the NHPA and the Sikes Act (16 U.S.C 670a-670f, as amended) for carrying out programs and implementing strategies to conserve and protect biological and cultural resources on Fort Bliss lands. Implementation of this ICRMP is imperative for increasing mission capabilities, minimizing military training constraints, and maintaining maximum flexibility. Implementation of this ICRMP could create potential impacts on the natural and human environments and, as such, requires an EA per 32 CFR Part 651 Environmental Analysis of Army Actions, § 651.33 (h).

This EA identifies, documents, and evaluates the potential environmental effects of the implementation of the ICRMP at Fort Bliss, and has been prepared by Fort Bliss Directorate of Public Works – Environmental Division (DPW-E) to comply with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (Public Law [PL] 91-190;42 U.S.C 4321-4347), as amended. NEPA is a Federal environmental law establishing procedural requirements for all Federal agency actions, and directs the Army to disclose the environmental effects of its proposed activities to the public and officials who must make decisions regarding a proposed action.

The Fort Bliss 2017-2021 ICRMP, as proposed, is an update of the \textit{Fort Bliss Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan 2008-2012} (U.S. Army 2008). Differences from the 2008-2012 ICRMP that drive this EA include the following:

- Introduction of program goals and objectives and specific projects for the management of individual resources.

- Fort Bliss continues to operate under a 2015-2025 PA, as amended, among the U.S. Army Garrison - Fort Bliss, the New Mexico SHPO, the Texas SHPO, and the ACHP for the management, operation, and development of historic properties on Fort Bliss under Section 106 of the NHPA. The PA provides stipulations for project review, updates to the significance standards, reporting damage to cultural resources, notification and
involvement of institutions and interested members of the public, broader Fort Bliss outreach, inadvertent discovery of archaeological sites, dispute resolution, annual reports, fiscal requirements and sources, amendments, termination of the PA, and duration of the PA.

- As of July 2016, a total of 20,812 archaeological sites and approximately 1,305 historic buildings and structures have been identified on Fort Bliss. One archaeological district, seven historic districts, and 12 historic landscapes have also been identified on Fort Bliss. Of the archaeological sites recorded, 3,684 have been recommended as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (17.7 percent), 10,621 have been recommended as not eligible (51 percent), and the remaining 6,507 sites (31.3 percent) have not yet been evaluated for eligibility. Under the 2017-2021 ICRMP, additional inventories would be conducted on unsurveyed lands to document any new resources, or in areas that require resurvey to locate previously recorded archaeological sites and structures and to update those resources, as necessary. Additional evaluations would be conducted for sites, buildings, and structures with undetermined eligibility.

The Proposed Action of this EA is to implement the Fort Bliss 2017-2021 ICRMP, which would guide cultural resources management on the Installation through 2021. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to ensure the conservation and sustainability of natural and cultural resources on Fort Bliss through compliance with applicable environmental and cultural laws and regulations so as to maintain quality lands upon which the U.S. Army can continue to accomplish its training mission.

The U.S. Army (and by extension, Fort Bliss) is the lead agency responsible for the completion of this EA. If no significant environmental impacts are determined based on the evaluation of impacts in this EA, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) would be determined and signed by the Garrison Commander (GC). If it is determined that the Proposed Action would have significant environmental impacts, the Proposed Action would be suspended, revised, and reevaluated, or a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would be published in the Federal Register.

The U.S. Army invites public participation in the NEPA process to promote open communication and enable better decision making. Input and comments were solicited from the public in accordance with NEPA. The EA and draft FNSI were made available to the public with a Notice of Availability (NOA) published in the El Paso Times and Las Cruces Sun-News, and the EA was also posted on the Fort Bliss website: [https://www.bliss.army.mil/DPW/Environmental/EISDocuments2.html](https://www.bliss.army.mil/DPW/Environmental/EISDocuments2.html).

The EA and draft FNSI were made available to the public for a 30-day comment period from November 6, 2016 to December 7, 2016. During this time, the U.S. Army considered any comments submitted on the Proposed Action, the EA, or the draft FNSI. No public comments were received during the public comment period, and at the conclusion of the comment period, the Army executed the FNSI and will proceed with the Proposed Action.
SECTION 1.0
PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION
1.0 PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Fort Bliss is a multi-mission United States Department of Army (U.S. Army) Installation encompassing approximately 1.12 million acres in western Texas and south-central New Mexico. Approximately 11 percent of the Fort Bliss land area is in El Paso County, Texas, and approximately 89 percent is in Doña Ana and Otero counties in New Mexico (Figure 1-1). The main post is adjacent to the city of El Paso and comprises East and West Bliss, Biggs Army Airfield, William Beaumont U.S. Army Medical Center, Logan Heights, and Castner Range. The Fort Bliss Training Center (FBTC), on which most of the training activities occur, consists of the South Training Area in Texas and the Doña Ana Range – North Training Area and McGregor Range in New Mexico. The FBTC comprises several major physiographic features including the Organ Mountains, the Tularosa Basin, Otero Mesa and its escarpment, and the foothills of the Sacramento and Hueco mountains.

As a result of the Base Closure and Realignment Act (BRAC) mandates and Army Transformation and Growth Initiatives, Fort Bliss has transitioned from the Army’s Air Defense Artillery School to a major mounted training facility that supports the U.S. Army 1st Armored Division. Fort Bliss is a training platform for multiple units deploying to theater and is a focal point for the U.S. Army as a major Installation for training Soldiers for combat readiness. The change in mission has resulted in the stationing of approximately 30,000 Soldiers and their families at Fort Bliss and has increased the demand and impact on Fort Bliss’s resources. The impacts of this mission change have been analyzed in the Fort Bliss, Texas and New Mexico Mission and Master Plan Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS), for which a Record of Decision (ROD) was signed on 30 April 2007 (U.S. Army 2007b); and the Fort Bliss Army Growth and Force Structure Realignment Final Environmental Impact Statement (GFS EIS), for which a ROD was signed on 08 June 2010 (U.S. Army 2010). This Environmental Assessment (EA) would incorporate these documents by reference.

Fort Bliss proposes to implement the Fort Bliss Texas and New Mexico Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan 2017-2021. The Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) was developed by Fort Bliss in accordance with Title 54 (54 United States Code [U.S.C.] 306101 through 306114) and Section 106 (36 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 79) of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Army Regulation (AR) 200-1 Environmental Protection and Enhancement (U.S. Army 2007a), and Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 4715.16.

An ICRMP is a planning document that allows DoD installations to implement land-level management of their cultural and historic resources in cooperation with various stakeholders. The Fort Bliss ICRMP would provide guidance for the management of cultural resources and the implementation of cultural resources programs and initiatives from 2017 through 2021, while increasing mission capabilities and minimizing military training constraints. Implementation of the ICRMP would create potential impacts on the natural, cultural, and human environments and, as such, would require an analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) per 32 CFR Part 651 Environmental Analysis of Army Actions subpart 651.33 (h).
Figure 1-1. Fort Bliss Vicinity Map
The proposed ICRMP is an update of the *Fort Bliss Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan 2008-2012* (U.S. Army 2008). Differences from the 2008-2012 ICRMP that would be addressed in this EA include the following:

- Fort Bliss would introduce program element goals and objectives and specific projects for the management of individual resources.

- Fort Bliss would continue to operate under a 2015-2025 Programmatic Agreement (PA), as amended, among the United States Army Garrison - Fort Bliss, the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), the Texas SHPO, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) for the management, operation, and development of historic properties on Fort Bliss under Section 106 of the NHPA of 1966, as amended. The PA provides stipulations for project review, updates to the significance standards, reporting damage to cultural resources, notification and involvement of institutions and interested members of the public, broader Fort Bliss outreach, inadvertent discovery of archaeological sites, dispute resolution, annual reports, fiscal requirements and sources, amendments, termination of the PA, and duration of the PA.

- As of July 2016, a total of 20,812 archaeological sites and approximately 1,305 historic buildings and structures have been identified on Fort Bliss. One archaeological district, seven historic districts, and 12 historic landscapes have been identified on Fort Bliss. Of the archaeological sites recorded, 3,684 have been recommended as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (17.7 percent), 10,621 have been recommended as not eligible (51 percent), and the remaining 6,507 sites (31.3 percent) have not yet been evaluated for NRHP eligibility. Under the 2017-2021 ICRMP, additional inventories would be conducted on unsurveyed lands to document any new resources or in areas that require resurvey to locate previously recorded archaeological sites and structures, and to update those resources, as necessary. Additional evaluations would be conducted for sites, buildings, and structures with undetermined eligibility.

### 1.2 PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Proposed Action is to implement the ICRMP at Fort Bliss that would guide cultural resources management on the Installation through 2021. The ICRMP is the primary tool for implementing the goals of the U.S. Army regarding cultural resources management. The Proposed Action would meet the need for Fort Bliss to comply with the body of laws that have been passed to protect and preserve historic properties under the jurisdiction of Federal agencies. Environmental management programs (such as an ICRMP or Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan [INRMP]) must undergo environmental impact analysis. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to ensure the conservation and sustainability of cultural resources on Fort Bliss through compliance with applicable cultural laws and regulations so as to maintain quality lands upon which the Army continues to accomplish its training mission. The laws, regulations, and guidance specifically addressed in this ICRMP are listed in Table 1-1 below.
Table 1-1. Cultural Resources Laws, Regulations, Executive Orders, and Guidelines

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<td>Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) of 1979</td>
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<td>Public Law 101-601</td>
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<td>Public Law 98-341</td>
<td>American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA) of 1978</td>
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<td>Protection of Archaeological Resources</td>
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<td>36 CFR Part 68</td>
<td>The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Preservation Projects</td>
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Analysis of the current cultural resources management program at Fort Bliss shows that a number of actions must be taken during 2017-2021 to address concerns associated with each of the laws listed in Table 1-1. Action plans have been developed in the 2017-2021 ICRMP to assist the Garrison Commander (GC) in addressing concerns and achieving compliance with these laws. During the life of this ICRMP, the action plan outlines the following goals that would direct the cultural resources program at Fort Bliss:

- Integrate cultural resources and historic preservation compliance requirements with other Installation plans, including but not limited to the Installation master plan, the facilities maintenance plan, training and range area management plans, natural resources management plans, mobilization and deployment plans, and information management systems, and with military training, construction, maintenance, real property management, land use decisions, and other undertakings.
- Establish procedures for compliance with Federal laws, regulations, and executive orders requiring the protection and management of cultural resources with the least possible effect on military training and mission support activities.
- Maintain the historic fabric and character of buildings and landscapes contributing to the Fort Bliss historic districts.
- Avoid, minimize, and mitigate adverse effects on all cultural resources and historic properties on Fort Bliss meeting criteria for listing, or that are listed, in the NRHP, in concert with the execution of military training and support activities.
- Conduct data recoveries on NRHP-eligible properties under the attached PA, eliminating the necessity for an individual Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on each project.
• Continue development of project manuals and handbooks for the guiding treatment of historic buildings, structures, and landscapes, as well as regular systematic inventory and evaluation of these properties.

• Set priorities based on currently available information for the inventory and evaluation of cultural resources and establish a procedure for revising those priorities: (1) survey and conduct NRHP evaluation of archaeological sites and historic properties for eligibility in all areas where military training has or is expected to have the greatest impact; (2) evaluate any site with “undetermined” eligibility; and (3) if adverse impacts are unavoidable, seek ways to mitigate those adverse impacts on historic properties, or conduct ongoing data recovery of sites in areas expected to receive the greatest impact. This plan can incorporate the use of remote sensing, geographic information systems (GIS) data, and predictive modeling.

• Give top priority to management of properties most at risk for adverse effects by the military mission.

• Use a system of internal controls for review of routine and mission-critical undertakings.

• Eliminate, or exempt from review, undertakings that do not or are not likely to adversely affect cultural resources.

• Enforce Federal laws prohibiting the vandalism of cultural resources or illegal collection of archaeological materials on Fort Bliss and strengthen that effort with continued training and additional staff (as funding is available).

• Implement the existing plan to ensure management of archaeological collections relevant to cultural resources at Fort Bliss in compliance with 36 CFR Part 79.

• Make collections available for research by professionals, interested Native Americans, and other members of the public at the Fort Bliss curatorial facility during normal duty hours.

• Establish and implement a management plan for currently endangered paper collections relating to historic structures, archaeology, cultural landscapes, and objects on Fort Bliss.

• Work with New Mexico and Texas SHPOs to explore and define Fort Bliss’s interested parties. Once identified, define how the interested parties would be brought into implementation of this ICRMP.

• Implement and enhance the public awareness program, including maintaining a mailing list and sending out brochures to interested parties detailing the findings of recently completed projects addressing cultural resources.

• Maintain cultural resources/historic preservation training opportunities for military and civilian personnel whose jobs or building occupancies have an influence on cultural resources.

• Establish realistic budgetary goals based on ongoing and future projects and available industry data.

• Ensure that staff responsible for cultural resource management meet the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation, (Federal Register Vol. 48, No. 190, pp. 44717-44742) and receive continuing training.

• Through the implementation of this ICRMP, develop an innovative program that may serve as a model for other Federal facilities, demonstrate the value of cultural resources and historic preservation management programs, and publicize and promote the commitment of Fort Bliss to those programs.
1.3 SCOPE

This EA identifies, documents, and evaluates the potential environmental effects of the implementation of the ICRMP at Fort Bliss, and has been prepared by Fort Bliss Directorate of Public Works – Environmental Division (DPW-E) to comply with the NEPA of 1969 (Public Law [PL] 91-190; 42 U.S.C. 4321-4347), as amended. NEPA is a Federal law establishing procedural requirements for all Federal agency actions, and directs the Army to disclose the environmental effects of its proposed activities to the public and officials who must make decisions regarding a proposed action. Preparation of the EA follows instructions established in 32 CFR 651, Environmental Analysis of Army Actions; 40 CFR 15000-1508, Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations; and AR 200-1, Environmental Protection and Enhancement (U.S. Army 2007a).

1.4 DECISION(S) TO BE MADE

The U.S. Army, Fort Bliss, is the lead agency responsible for the completion of this EA. No significant environmental impacts are determined based on the evaluation of impacts in this EA; therefore, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) has been signed by the GC. If it had been determined that the Proposed Action would have significant environmental impacts, the Proposed Action would be revised and reevaluated, or a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would be published in the Federal Register.

1.5 PUBLIC AND AGENCY PARTICIPATION

1.5.1 Public Participation

The U.S. Army invites public participation in the NEPA process to promote open communication and enable better decision making. Input and comments were solicited from the public in accordance with NEPA. This EA and signed FNSI will be made available to the public on the Fort Bliss public environmental documents website at: https://www.bliss.army.mil/DPW/Environmental/EISDocuments2.html.

This draft EA and draft FNSI were made available to the public for a 30-day comment period from November 6, 2016, to December 7, 2016. During this time, the Army did not receive any comments on the Proposed Action, the draft EA, or the draft FNSI. Therefore, at the conclusion of the comment period, the Army executed the FNSI and will proceed with the Proposed Action. A distribution and contact list for the EA can be found in Appendix B.

1.5.2 Agency Participation

The ICRMP was prepared in cooperation with the agency stakeholders listed below:

- **Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP).** The ACHP is an independent Federal agency responsible for reviewing policies and programs of Federal agencies to ensure their consistency with the policies and programs of the NHPA. The ACHP provides guidance on the application of the procedures in the Section 106 process and generally oversees the operation of the Section 106 process. Although identified as an interested party, the ACHP is a concurring party in the Army’s management of historic
properties under the NHPA and is included in the PA between Fort Bliss and the New Mexico and Texas SHPOs.

- **El Paso County Historical Commission (EPCHC).** EPCHC has statutory responsibility to initiate and conduct historic preservation programs suggested by the El Paso County Commissioners Court and the Texas Historical Commission (THC). In El Paso, the EPCHC works in a dynamic and positive partnership with the THC to preserve El Paso’s heritage for the use, education, enjoyment, and economic benefit of present and future generations. It has been responsible for the preservation of historic buildings, artifacts, documents, and other pieces of Texas history. The EPCHC is also responsible for reviewing applications for state historical markers in the El Paso area, including those at Fort Bliss, before they are sent to the THC. It also serves as advisor to the commissioner’s court on matters of historic preservation.

- **El Paso County Historical Society, Inc.** The mission of the El Paso County Historical Society is to study El Paso and El Paso County history, foster local research, acquire and preserve historical documents and archives, make collections available to the public for research and information, encourage historical writing and publication, and maintain and restore the Richard F. Burges House, which is home to the Society. Fort Bliss is significant in the history and development of the city and the county.

- **El Paso Historical Landmark Commission.** The City of El Paso is a Certified Local Government (CLG). This means that the city has a preservation program certified by the Texas SHPO and the National Park Service (NPS) as meeting the minimum standards to participate as a partner in the NHPA preservation programs and receive grant funds. As a CLG, the City of El Paso carries out the purposes of the NHPPA on the local level. The El Paso Historical Landmark Commission acts on behalf of the City of El Paso.

- **El Paso Preservation Alliance.** The mission of the El Paso Preservation Alliance is to promote the preservation of El Paso’s history as it is manifested in the community’s historic buildings.

- **New Mexico Heritage Preservation Alliance.** The New Mexico Heritage Preservation Alliance is a state-wide, private, non-profit organization that promotes, protects, and advocates for New Mexico’s heritage.

- **Preservation Texas.** Preservation Texas, with offices in Austin, Texas, is a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of Texas’s historic resources through education, promotion, and advocacy.

- **State Historic Preservation Officer.** Pursuant to Section 101 of the NHPA, the SHPO is responsible for administration of a State Historic Preservation Program as approved by the Secretary of the Interior. Although identified as an interested party, the SHPO is a consulting party in the Army’s management of historic properties under the NHPA. In addition, SHPO staff members are available to lend technical assistance in cultural resources management issues. Fort Bliss, with lands in both New Mexico and Texas,
coordinates with the New Mexico and Texas SHPOs. They are also included in the PA between Fort Bliss and the ACHP.

- **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) - U.S. Forest Service (USFS).** The USFS is not a signatory party to the ICRMP or EA; however, the USFS has management responsibility on lands withdrawn from public use in the Lincoln National Forest (approximately 17,000 acres), for use by the Department of the Army. Fort Bliss shares this land and has management responsibility for any military activities. This responsibility is defined by PL 99-606, the Military Lands Withdrawal Act (MLWA) of 1999, the Federal Lands Policy Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976, and the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Fort Bliss and the USDA (1971). The MOU establishes the USFS as the administering agency for all non-defense land uses and further establishes that these lands will be open to all forest users when not in use by the military.

- **U.S. Department of the Interior (USDI) - Bureau of Land Management (BLM).** The BLM is not a signatory party to the ICRMP or EA; however, the BLM has management responsibility for non-military activities on withdrawn lands on Fort Bliss (McGregor Range). This responsibility is defined by PL 99-606, MLWA, FLPMA, and the MOA between Fort Bliss and the USDI (2007). These responsibilities include management of cultural resources in withdrawal areas.

The following are Federally recognized Native American Tribes that have expressed interest in Fort Bliss’s management of cultural resources. Although identified as interested parties under this section, Native American Tribes have a government-to-government relationship with Fort Bliss and should be consulted with at that level. Native American Tribes are also part of an effort to establish a comprehensive agreement between Fort Bliss and other tribes regarding the inadvertent discovery and intentional excavation of Native American human remains and cultural items.

**Federally Recognized Native American Tribes**

- Comanche Nation of Oklahoma
- Fort Sill Apache Tribe
- Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma
- Mescalero Apache Tribe
- Pueblo of Isleta
- White Mountain Apache Tribe
- Ysleta del Sur Pueblo (Tigua)
SECTION 2.0
DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES
2.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

2.1 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Under the No Action Alternative, the proposed management measures set for the 2017-2021 ICRMP would not be implemented. Fort Bliss would continue to manage its cultural resources under the goals, objectives, and strategies outlined in the 2008-2012 ICRMP. The No Action Alternative would not comply with AR 200-1; Title 54 of the U.S.C., NHPA of 1996, as amended in 2014; or Section 106 of the NHPA. Fort Bliss requires an ICRMP review every 5 years in accordance with AR 200-1. The No Action Alternative serves as the baseline against which Federal actions can be evaluated and, as such, inclusion of the No Action Alternative is prescribed by CEQ regulations.

2.2 PROPOSED ACTION

Under the Proposed Action, Fort Bliss would implement the 2017-2021 ICRMP, which supports the management of cultural resources on the Installation and is a revision of the 2008-2012 ICRMP. The purpose of the Proposed Action is also to continue the management programs currently in place. The 2017-2021 ICRMP reviews the cultural resources activities undertaken at Fort Bliss since the implementation of the 2008-2012 ICRMP and proposes new projects and initiatives for the next 5 years. The 2017-2021 ICRMP is a living document and is designed to be a valuable, dynamic management tool that changes as the military mission or cultural resources conditions change. It serves as a practical guide for the management, sustainment, and stewardship of all cultural resources present on Fort Bliss, thus helping to ensure no net loss of mission capabilities.

The ICRMP establishes Installation-specific cultural resource management goals and objectives consistent with DoD 4715.16, AR 200-1; Title 54 of the U.S.C., NHPA of 1996, as amended in 2014; and Section 106 of the NHPA, as well as overall U.S. Army policy and guidance. Additionally, the ICRMP presents a series of projects and activities that would enhance cultural resources for multiple use, preservation, and protection without affecting other Installation plans, activities, or the overall mission. The goals and objectives would allow Fort Bliss to manage its cultural resources through an integrated and adaptive cultural management approach that is designed to sustain and be consistent with the military mission. The complete 2017-2021 ICRMP can be found at www.bliss.army.mil/DPW/Environmental/EISDocuments2.html.
SECTION 3.0
AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT
3.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

In accordance with NEPA and the CEQ regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR 1501.7[3]), the analysis of environmental conditions only needs to address those areas and environmental resources with the potential to be affected by either of the alternatives. A Table of Valued Environmental Components (VECs) was used to determine which resources would potentially be affected by either of the alternatives (U.S. Army Environmental Command [USAEC] 2007). The following resources are not affected by the Proposed Action and, as such, are not addressed in this EA:

- **Airspace**: The Proposed Action would not affect, or be affected by, the use of Fort Bliss military airspace or adjacent civilian airspace.
- **Geology**: The Proposed Action would not affect, nor be affected by, the use of geological and mineral resources on Fort Bliss provided that activities associated with geologic and mineral resources avoid cultural resources or are subject to the provisions of the PA. The implementation of the 2017-2021 ICRMP would not change the geology of the area, but some ground disturbance could be associated with the implementation of the ICRMP, particularly if it includes subsurface testing as part of the ICRMP either during survey, site evaluation testing, or data recovery efforts. While such activities would have an impact on soils, the potential impacts on geological or mineral resources would be insignificant.
- **Groundwater**: The Proposed Action would not affect groundwater resources.
- **Noise**: The Proposed Action would have no impact on the current noise emissions that would occur on Fort Bliss.
- **Socioeconomics**: The Proposed Action would not affect socioeconomics, as no additional personnel or facilities would be added to the Installation.
- **Environmental Justice**: No disproportionate health or environmental effects on minorities or low-income populations or communities would occur as a result of the Proposed Action. The protection of cultural resources and historic properties could provide indirect benefits to low-income populations and communities by enriching and preserving the cultural heritage (e.g., historic properties and districts) of low-income communities.
- **Traffic and Transportation**: No public transportation routes or methods would be affected by the Proposed Action.
- **Air Quality**: The Proposed Action would have no impact on air quality and any actions would comply with National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

The VECs that could be affected by the Proposed Action are Land Use, Cultural Resources, Biological Resources, Soils and Ecosystems, Hazardous Materials and Waste, and Health and Safety.

3.1 LAND USE

Fort Bliss is an Army Installation used primarily for military training. Several Plans, MOUs (BLM, USFS), a PA (Texas and New Mexico SHPO and the ACHP), and EISs direct the land use planning and management at Fort Bliss. Various management plans include the Range
Complex Master Plan (RCMP), the Real Property Master Plan (RPMP), the 2015 INRMP, the Integrated Training Area Management Plan (ITAM), the SEIS, the GFS EIS, and the 2008-2012 ICRMP.

To better manage the land use on Fort Bliss, the FBTC has been divided into Land Use categories. These categories are based on such resources as soils, topography, vegetation type, cultural resources, and limit what type of training activity can occur in that area (i.e., on-road maneuver, off-road maneuver, dismounted maneuver, live fire, and mission support). Fort Bliss has established special land use designations for certain areas of the FBTC. These include the Culp Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA), the Black Grama Grassland Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs), Limited Use Areas (LUAs), Off-Limits Areas (OLAs), and Controlled Field Training Exercise Sites (FTXs). These land use designations are based on protecting the underlying resources (i.e., riparian areas, grasslands, cultural resources), and impact or Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) areas (Figure 3-1 and Table 3-1) (U.S. Army 2010).

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 3-1. FBTC Land Use Categories</th>
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<td>FBTC Land Use Category</td>
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<td>WSA/ACEC*</td>
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<td>Impact Areas</td>
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<td>Range Camps</td>
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Source: U.S. Army 2010

* WSA = Wilderness Study Area
* ACEC = Area of Critical Environmental Concern

Non-military uses such as public road access and utility easements, hunting, hiking, and birding are allowed on portions of Fort Bliss, provided they do not conflict with military uses or pose safety risks to the public (Figure 3-1). Hunting on Fort Bliss is co-managed by Fort Bliss, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), and the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF). Currently, hunting is allowed on portions of the Doña Ana Range – North Training Areas, McGregor Range, and the South Training Areas. The total acreage available for hunting is approximately 681,000 acres. No hunting is permitted within the Main Post Area or
Figure 3-1. Fort Bliss Land Use Categories
Castner Range. All non-military uses can only be undertaken when military training is not ongoing and when authorized by Fort Bliss (U.S. Army 2010) (See Figure 3-1).

Per the MLWA, the Las Cruces District Office of the BLM manages livestock grazing on 14 grazing units (Figure 3-2) covering approximately 270,000 acres of the McGregor Range, while the USFS manages grazing within the Sacramento Mountains portion of the Lincoln National Forest. The number of grazing units and the number of livestock allowable per unit each year varies depending on ecological conditions. When active grazing units are utilized by the military, livestock are rarely relocated (U.S. Army 2010). Co-use of grazing units by the military and livestock have been occurring for more than 20 years with very few conflicts. This is due to restrictions on live-fire munitions and off-road vehicle maneuvering within grazing units.

The BLM uses four categories for rating visual aesthetics of landscapes. They are Class I and II, the most aesthetically valued; Class III moderate value; and Class IV the least aesthetically valued. A corridor along US 54 and NM 506 on McGregor Range has been designated as a Class III. The objective of the Class III designation is to partially retain the existing character of the landscape. The BLM has ranked Culp Canyon WSA on McGregor Range as Class II. A Class II designation indicates that changes to the characteristic landscape should be low impacts. The BLM objective is to retain the existing character of the landscape. The USFS also assigns visual classifications to its co-managed areas ranging from Preservation to Maximum Modification. The Lincoln National Forest adjacent to McGregor Range is classified as a Modification Area due its relatively low visual quality, its alterations such as roads and signage, and evidence of productive uses (U.S. Army 2010) (see Figure 3-2).

### 3.2 CULTURAL RESOURCES

Cultural resources represent the material manifestations of the knowledge, technologies, beliefs, art, morals, laws, and customs particular to the people who have resided in a region (U.S. Army 2010). Cultural resources on Fort Bliss are managed and protected through historic preservation laws, regulations, and other provisions including, but not limited to, NHPA, AIRFA, ARPA, NAGPRA, Executive Order 11593 Protection of the Cultural Environment (1971), Executive Order 13007 Indian Sacred Sites (1996), and the PA between Fort Bliss and the New Mexico and Texas SHPOs and the ACHP. Cultural resources include prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs), sacred sites, historic buildings, structures, artifacts, cultural landscapes, and historic districts. Fort Bliss has a designated historic district on the main cantonment, and OLAs have been established within the FBTC to protect a representative sample of significant cultural resources. The *Fort Bliss Texas and New Mexico, Mission and Master Plan, Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement* (U.S. Army 2000) describes in detail the cultural history of Native Americans and post-contact inhabitants in the region. The 2017-2021 ICRMP also contains detailed information regarding the history of Fort Bliss (U.S. Army 2016).

As of July 2016, a total of 20,812 archaeological sites and approximately 1,305 historic buildings and structures have been identified on Fort Bliss. One archaeological district, seven historic districts, and 12 historic landscapes have been identified on Fort Bliss. Of the archaeological sites recorded, 3,684 have been recommended as eligible for the NRHP (17.7 percent), 10,621
Figure 3-2. Fort Bliss Land Use and Aesthetics

Source: U.S. Army 2016
have been recommended as not eligible (51 percent), and the remaining 6,507 sites (31.3 percent) have not yet been evaluated for NRHP eligibility. In addition to archaeological sites, historic properties, and historic districts, Fort Bliss manages TCPs and sites that are sacred to affiliated Native American Groups.

Previous investigations have identified sites that span the range of cultural and temporal periods from the Paleoindian to the Protohistoric and range from large multi-room pueblos to small lithic scatters and rock art. The Historic Period begins with Spanish exploration and culminates with the Cold War era. The 2017-2021 ICRMP provides a detailed culture history of Fort Bliss and its surrounding environment, including the variety of types of sites that are known or can be expected within the Installation.

### 3.3 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Fort Bliss exhibits a high degree of biodiversity due to its varied topography and large size (approximately 1.12 million acres). Plant communities on the Installation range from Chihuahuan desertscrub in the Tularosa Basin to Rocky Mountain conifer forests in the Organ and Sacramento Mountains. The major plant community types in the lower areas of Fort Bliss are desert grasslands, Chihuahuan desertscrub, and plains mesa sandscrub. Vegetation types that occur in the mountains are juniper savanna, coniferous and mixed woodlands, and montane conifer forests. The Main Post contains trees and other landscaped shrubbery (U.S. Army 2007b).

Fort Bliss is generally characterized as a shrub-grassland vegetation community, as over 95 percent of the Installation is classified by these two general vegetation types. Grassland plant communities account for more than 26 percent of the land on Fort Bliss. Approximately 3 percent of Fort Bliss is sandy plains and basin desert grasslands, 11 percent is mesa and piedmont grasslands, and 12 percent is foothills desert grasslands. Approximately 31 percent of Fort Bliss is mesquite-dominated plant communities, most of which are coppiced dunes, while another 30 percent of the Installation is covered by creosote-dominated plant communities. Basin sandscrub communities cover about 8 percent of Fort Bliss and are areas where a high diversity of annual and perennial plant species can occur during years of average to above-average precipitation. Woodland plant communities cover approximately 1 percent of Fort Bliss (U.S. Army 2007b). The land cover vegetation types are shown in Figure 3-3.

The borderlands region of New Mexico and Texas is a center of biodiversity in temperate North America for birds, mammals, amphibians, and reptiles. Likewise, Fort Bliss supports a relatively high faunal diversity. Approximately 335 species of bird, 58 species of mammal, 39 species of reptile, and eight species of amphibian are known to occur on Fort Bliss lands. In addition, many more species have the potential to occur on Fort Bliss due to the presence of suitable habitat, but have not been documented to date.

Seven exotic plant species considered noxious occur on Fort Bliss. African rue (*Peganum harmala*) is the only actively controlled invasive species on Fort Bliss. It invades disturbed areas and, once successfully established, can spread and outcompete native grasses. Russian thistle (*Salosa tragus*) is another species that has been established on disturbed ground throughout Fort
Figure 3-3. Fort Bliss Plant Communities
Saltcedar (*Tamarix ramosissima*) exists at some stock tanks and at other widely scattered locations on Fort Bliss. Malta starthistle (*Centaurea melitensis*) is another invasive species that grows on Fort Bliss along U.S. Highway 54, and may occur along other roadways on the Installation as well. Other exotic species of concern include Johnsongrass (*Sorghum halepense*) which occurs in some drainages, Bermudagrass (*Cynodon dactylon*) which is found on some abandoned farmland that is no longer irrigated, and kochia (*Bassia scoparia*), which occurs on Otero Mesa (U.S. Army 2015).

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and the states of New Mexico and Texas list various species of flora and fauna that are known to occur, or have the potential to occur, on Fort Bliss as threatened, endangered, or species of concern. Additionally, Locally Important Natural Resources (LINRs) have been identified for protection by Fort Bliss. LINRs include black grama grasslands, sand sagebrush communities, shinnery oak islands, and arroyo-riparian drainages and playas (U.S. Army 2010). Fort Bliss has 57 sensitive, threatened, or endangered species of flora and fauna that are known to occur, or have the potential to occur, on the Installation (U.S. Army 2010). Of these 57 species, nine have Federal special status. Eight species are Federally listed as threatened or endangered (T&E) and one is a candidate for listing. Of the eight listed species, only the Sneed’s pincushion cactus (*Escobaria sneedi* var. *sneedi*) occurs on Fort Bliss. The remaining seven species, Kuenzler’s hedgehog cactus (*Echinocereus fendleri* var. *kuenzleri*), interior least tern (*Sterna antillarum athalassos*), yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*), southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*), piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*), northern aplomado falcon (*Falco femoralis septentrionalis*) and the Mexican spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis lucida*), are not known to occur, have no suitable habitat or insufficient habitat to maintain a population, or exist as rare, transitory, or seasonal migrants, and breeding is not known to occur on Fort Bliss. The northern aplomado falcon is a Nonessential Experimental Population within the states of New Mexico and Arizona. The species is known to occur on Otero Mesa. Sprague’s pipit (*Anthus spragueii*) is a Federal candidate species for listing as endangered and occurs on grasslands of Otero Mesa in winter.

### 3.4 SOILS AND ECOSYSTEMS

Most of Fort Bliss is located in a large intermontane basin called the Tularosa-Hueco Basin. The basin lies between the Franklin and Organ mountains to the west, and the Sacramento and Hueco mountains to the east. Fort Bliss elevations range from the basin floor at approximately 3,800 feet above sea level, to over 8,800 feet in the Organ Mountains. The region is part of the Basin and Range Physiographic Province of the western United States, as well as the northern part of the Chihuahuan Desert, an interior continental desert which receives most of its rainfall during the hot summer months (USAEC 2013).

Fort Bliss uses pedological, geomorphic, vegetative, and other criteria to define Ecological Management Units (EMUs) that contain similar natural characteristics. Fort Bliss EMUs were created for use as a management tool to maintain ecological connectivity between Fort Bliss and surrounding lands (Figure 3-4) and to assist in the development of goals for ecosystem management. The EMU concept helps promote better land stewardship and sustainment practices on Fort Bliss within the INRMP (U.S. Army 2015).
Fort Bliss EMUs consist of areas of similar vegetation, fauna, topography, soils, and climate and are as follows:

- **Basin Aeolian:** Major landforms of the Basin Aeolian EMU are wind-driven, large shifting sands, coppice dunes, and sandsheets. Elevations range from 3,900 to 5,200 feet. Wind-deposited (Aeolian) coppice dunes anchored by mesquite (*Proposis glandulosa* var. *torreyana*) and other shrubs, cover most of the basin floor. The dune soils are mainly Entisols, exhibiting little soil horizon development, and having formed only within the last few hundred years. They are sands and loamy sands that are highly susceptible to wind erosion due in part to the lack of soil structural development and sparse vegetative cover. Typically underlying the coppice sand dunes is a much older (Pliocene-Pleistocene) calcrete soil up to 7 meters thick. The calcrete (“caliche”) is a massive white calcium carbonate unit that generally has a soil texture of sandy clay loam. Where calcrete horizons are exposed on the surface or are shallowly buried, the soils are classified as Aridisols, a soil order having diagnostic subsurface soil horizons (in this case, calcrete) (USAEC 2013).

Vegetation associated with the coppice dunes includes mesquite, broom snakeweed (*Gutierrezia sarothrae*), and four-winged saltbush (*Atriplex canescens*). Large-scale wind-driven shifting sand dunes contain typical sand-obligate plant species including sensitive briar (*Mimosa quadrivalvis*), pink plains penstemon (*Penstemon ambigus*), sand reverchonia (*Reverchonia arenaria*), bindweed heliotropium (*Heliotropium convolvulaceum*), hoary rosemary mint (*Poliomintha incana*), and shinnery oak (*Quercus havardii*). Shinnery oak occurs in the northern portions of McGregor Range and represents one of the westernmost outlier stands for the species’ geographic distribution. Outside the dune systems, sandy soils persist on the piedmont to the basin bottom transition, forming sparse desert grassland and shrublands of sandscrub (*Ceanothus* spp.), mesquite, and a mix of mesa dropseed (*Sporobulus flexuosus*), four-wing saltbush, and creosote bush (*Larrea tridentata*) (U.S. Army 2015).

- **Basin Alluvial:** The Basin Alluvial is the landform intermediate between Basin Aeolian and the Foothill-Bajada Complex EMUs. Water-mediated erosion and deposition are the major terrain-forming processes as indicated by intermontane valleys, arroyos, alluvial fans, alluvial plains, and playas. Soils are mainly Entisols and Aridisols, and are predominantly alluvial (derived from water-deposited sediments). Elevation ranges from 3,900 to 5,200 feet, with upper elevations composed of mainly gravelly soils. At lower elevations loamy and silty soils occupy depressions adjacent to Basin Aeolian sandsheets and dunes. Silt and clay soils are found in low-lying playas and other depressions that are subject to occasional flooding (USAEC 2013).

Desertsrub with scattered inclusions of desert grassland occurs on the shallow rocky soils and tarweed (*Madia* spp.) is found on the lower, gently grading to flat bottom areas with siltier soils. Sandy-loam soils support mesquite, sandsage (*Artemisia filifolia*), and a mix of mesa dropseed, four-wing saltbush, and creosote bush. The basin alluvial areas are the most productive lowland areas and are valuable for wildlife habitat (U.S. Army 2015).
Figure 3-4. Regional and Fort Bliss Ecological Management Units
• **Foothill-Bajada Complex:** The Foothill-Bajada Complex EMU is located in two separate areas of Fort Bliss: (1) near the western boundary on the east and south slopes of the Organ Mountains, and (2) running north to south along the western edge of the Sacramento Mountains, Hueco Mountains, and Otero Mesa. Elevation is between 4,000 and 5,500 feet. This EMU comprises a gently sloping piedmont dissected by drainages originating from the Organ, Franklin, Sacramento, and Hueco mountains, and Otero Mesa. The texture for these alluvial soils is typically sandy loam, but the soils also contain variable amounts of rock fragments eroded from the adjacent mountains. Soils in the upper elevations of this EMU consist of shallow loamy or gravelly soils atop sedimentary or igneous bedrock. These soils are susceptible to gully and sheet erosion from running water and less prone to wind erosion (USAEC 2013).

The Foothill-Bajada Complex EMU supports a diversity of shrubs such as beargrass (*Nolina* spp.), sotol (*Dasylirion wheeleri*), feather pea bush (*Dalea formosa*), Mormon tea (*Ephedra viridis*), mariola (*Parthenium incanum*), javelin bush (*Condalia ericoides*), acacia (*Acacia* spp.), mesquite, dropseed (*Sporobulus* spp.), grama grass (*Bouteloua* spp.), muhly grass (*Muhlenbergia* spp.), and numerous cacti. The area also has high-quality grama grasslands in portions of the EMU (U.S. Army 2015).

• **Franklin Mountains:** The Franklin Mountains are a relatively small EMU located within the Castner Range. Elevations range from 4,300 to 5,500 feet. Vegetation is a mix of desert scrub with some riparian vegetation and a high diversity of cacti. Water erosion is a potential hazard if plant cover is disturbed (U.S. Army 1996).

• **Hueco Mountains:** The Hueco Mountains EMU is at the southeastern border of Fort Bliss. Elevation ranges from 4,500 to 6,000 feet. Steep limestone mountain and hill slopes with shallow soils alternate with narrow to broad mountain valleys that drain northwest through alluvial piedmonts to the basin floor. Water erosion is a potential hazard if plant cover is disturbed (USAEC 2013).

Succulent communities with agave, sotol, yucca (*Yucca* spp.), beargrass, and cacti populate the lower elevations; juniper (*Juniperus* spp.) grows sparingly on the higher slopes and in canyons. Although there are mesic canyons, there is no montane riparian vegetation or perennial water. In addition, lechuguilla (*Agave lechuguilla*), creosote bush, and mariola dominate the shallow soils on the steep, rocky limestone slopes. Sideoats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*) and occasionally black grama (*Bouteloua eriopoda*) desert grasslands occupy gentle slopes, as well as gravelly, somewhat deeper soils on the upper piedmont. The lower piedmont often supports creosote bush communities (U.S. Army 1996).

• **Organ Mountains:** The Organ Mountains EMU encompasses the slopes and peaks of the Organ Mountains, which are at the northwest border of Fort Bliss. Elevation ranges from 4,500 to 8,800 feet. Topographic relief is high with steep, precipitous slopes alternating with deep canyons. Steep elevation gradients combine with diverse geologic substrates to support the highest vegetation diversity of any EMU on Fort Bliss (USAEC 2013).
Pinyon pine (*Pinus edulis*) and juniper are dominant forest types, but ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) and Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) stands occur at the higher elevations. Oak woodlands are found on the middle slopes along with montane grasslands. Chihuahuan Desert grassland and scrub occur at lower elevations. Water erosion is a potential hazard if plant cover is disturbed (U.S. Army 1996).

- **Otero Mesa:** The Otero Mesa EMU is located adjacent to the Sacramento Mountains and the Foothill-Bajada Complex. This area is tableland (a nearly flat, elevated plateau) with a broad drainage system that originates in the Sacramento Mountains to the north and the Otero Mesa escarpment to the west. Elevations on the mesa range from 4,756 to 5,248 feet, with average cooler temperatures and rainfall several inches higher than adjacent lowlands (U.S. Army 1996).

  Otero Mesa contains deep, well-drained, sandy and loamy soils and has a large expanse of relatively intact black grama grassland mixed with shrubs. Vegetation includes grama grasses, muhly grasses, and three-awn (*Aristida* spp.), with swale areas having coarser grasses such as tobosa grass (*Pleuraphis mutica*). Four separate plots of land at Fort Bliss have been designated as ACECs and were established to ensure that portions of black grama grasslands remain intact (U.S. Army 1996).

- **Sacramento Mountains:** This EMU comprises the southern end of the Sacramento Mountains, which occur at the northeastern border of Fort Bliss. The elevation range is 4,450 to 7,700 feet. This area is made up of a complex of limestone foothills of diverse aspects alternating with steep-sided canyons and narrow to moderately wide valleys. The entire mountain range includes coniferous forest, riparian zones, and springs. Water erosion is a potential hazard if plant cover is disturbed (USAEC 2013).

  Fort Bliss occupies only a small portion of the Sacramento Mountains range which primarily consists of pinyon-juniper and mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus montanus*) at higher elevations, and sandscrub and Chihuahuan desertscrub at lower elevations. There is no montane riparian vegetation and very little ponderosa pine forest on the McGregor Range portions of the Sacramento Mountains.

More detailed information on Fort Bliss soils and ecosystems can be found in the Fort Bliss Soil Survey (USDA 2004), which includes physical, chemical, and engineering properties, as well as limitations for military uses and ecological site descriptions and classifications. The soil survey contains data characterizing current conditions of soils, vegetation, and overall ecology, which may be useful in planning military actions and selecting locations for construction and training purposes.

### 3.5 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND WASTE

Hazardous materials are substances that cause human physical or health hazards (29 CFR 191.1200). Materials that are physically hazardous include combustible and flammable substances, compressed gases, and oxidizers. Health hazards are associated with materials that cause acute or chronic reactions, including toxic agents, carcinogens, and irritants. Hazardous
materials are regulated in Texas and New Mexico by a combination of mandated laws promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), and the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). In addition to the mandates established by these agencies, Fort Bliss manages hazardous materials under the Installation Hazardous Waste Management Plan (IHWMP).

3.6 HEALTH AND SAFETY

Federal, state, and Fort Bliss guidelines, rules, and regulations are in place to protect personnel throughout and near the Installation. Safety information and analysis is found in literature published by Fort Bliss, such as Fort Bliss Regulation 385-63 and AR 385-10, Army Safety Program (U.S. Army 2011). Health programs are promoted through the U.S. Army Public Health Command and Medical Command. Fort Bliss has also established various procedures to meet health and safety requirements of the Installation. Health hazards throughout the Installation include exposure to UXOs, dehydration and heat illness, venomous wildlife, exposure to smoke, bird/wildlife aircraft strike hazard (BASH), vehicle accidents, and exposure to pests. Major pests include mice, gophers, skunks, termites, mosquitos, flies, cockroaches, crickets, ants, spiders, and ticks (U.S. Army 2015). Such pests are managed under the Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPMP), Fort Bliss, Texas and New Mexico (Fort Bliss DPW-E 2012a).
4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

Environmental impacts (consequences or effect) can either be beneficial or adverse, and can be either directly related to the action or indirectly caused by the action. Direct impacts are those effects that are caused by the action and occur at the same time and place (40 CFR 1508.8[a]). Indirect impacts are those effects that are caused by the action and are later in time or further removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable (40 CFR 1508.8[b]). As discussed in this section, the No Action Alternative and the Proposed Action may create temporary (lasting the duration of construction), short-term (up to 3 years), long-term (greater than 3 years), or permanent impacts.

Environmental impacts on each resource can vary in degree or magnitude from a slightly noticeable change to a total change in the environment. For the purpose of this analysis, the intensity of the impacts would be classified as negligible, minor, moderate, or major. The intensity thresholds are defined as follows:

- **Negligible**: A resource would not be affected or the effects would be at or below the level of detection, and changes would not result in any measurable or perceptible consequences.
- **Minor**: Effects on a resource would be detectable, although the effects would be localized, small, or of little consequence to the sustainability of the resources. Mitigation measures, if needed to offset adverse effects, would be simple and achievable.
- **Moderate**: Effects on a resource would be readily detectable, long-term, localized, and measurable. Mitigation measures, if needed to offset adverse effects, would be extensive and likely achievable.
- **Major**: Effects on a resource would be obvious, long-term, and would have substantial consequences on a regional scale. Extensive mitigation measures to offset the adverse effects would be required and success of the mitigation measures would not be guaranteed.

Resources that would be impacted by the Proposed Action and discussed in this EA are land use, cultural resources, biological resources, soils and ecosystems, hazardous materials and waste, and health and safety. A summary of the impacts on these resources are shown in Table 4-1.

4.1 LAND USE

4.1.1 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, Fort Bliss would continue to manage its cultural resources as detailed within the 2008-2012 ICRMP, PA, existing guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place. These primarily address the management of its cultural resources from an individual activity or project basis. No changes in current land use would occur and land use would continue to be managed under guidelines, rules, regulations, and MOUs currently in place. However, the No Action Alternative does not meet the long-term needs of Fort Bliss as a sustainable military training Installation.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>No Action Alternative</th>
<th>Proposed Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Land Use</strong></td>
<td><strong>Negligible.</strong> No changes in current land use would occur. Land use would continue to be managed under guidelines, rules, regulations, and MOUs currently in place.</td>
<td><strong>Moderate, beneficial.</strong> New goals, objectives, and projects would be established or undertaken that would have a beneficial long-term impact on land use and how it is managed. They would allow Fort Bliss to become a sustainable military training installation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cultural Resources</strong></td>
<td><strong>Minor, adverse.</strong> The proposed management measures set forth in the 2017-2021 ICRMP would not be implemented. Fort Bliss would continue to manage its cultural resources under the goals, objectives, and strategies outlined in the 2008-2012 ICRMP. However, the No Action Alternative would not be in compliance with AR 200-1, which mandates that Fort Bliss prepares and implements the ICRMP.</td>
<td><strong>Major, beneficial.</strong> The 2017-2021 ICRMP is an update of the 2008-2012 plan that would continue the management programs currently in place, as well as implement new specific program element techniques, goals, objectives, and action items. This would allow Fort Bliss to manage its cultural resources through an updated, integrated, adaptive, management approach designed to sustain and be consistent with the military mission. The Proposed Action would allow Fort Bliss to comply with AR 200-1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Biological Resources</strong></td>
<td><strong>Negligible.</strong> The biological resources would continue to be managed as detailed within the 2015 INRMP, the MOUs, the guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place.</td>
<td><strong>Minor, beneficial.</strong> The 2017-2021 ICRMP would better integrate with the 2015 INRMP to ensure avoidance or minimal impact to T&amp;E species and ACECs. Protection and avoidance of cultural resources and landscapes may inadvertently provide added protection to flora and fauna species.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Soils and Ecosystems</strong></td>
<td><strong>Negligible.</strong> Soils and ecosystems would continue to be managed as detailed within the 2015 INRMP and the Fort Bliss Construction Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) guidance.</td>
<td><strong>Minor, beneficial.</strong> The 2017-2021 ICRMP would better integrate with the 2015 INRMP to ensure avoidance or minimal impact to soils and ecosystems. Protection and avoidance of cultural resources and landscapes may inadvertently provide added protection to ACECs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hazardous Materials and Waste</strong></td>
<td><strong>Negligible.</strong> Hazardous materials and waste would continue to be managed under guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place.</td>
<td><strong>Minor, beneficial.</strong> The 2017-2021 ICRMP would ensure that proper procedures are followed in the rehabilitation of historic structures, minimizing adverse effects associated with the exposure for hazardous materials such as asbestos.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health and Safety</strong></td>
<td><strong>Negligible.</strong> Health and safety would continue to be managed under guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place.</td>
<td><strong>Minor, beneficial.</strong> The 2017-2021 ICRMP would ensure that proper procedures are followed in the rehabilitation of historic structures, minimizing exposure to hazardous materials such as asbestos to Soldiers, families, employees, contractors, and the general population.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.1.2 Proposed Action
The Proposed Action would not affect the land use or change the character of the landscape, as the primary land use would remain military. Instead, the Proposed Action establishes goals, objectives, and projects that would have a long-term beneficial impact on land use and how it is managed. The goals, objectives, and projects would allow Fort Bliss to become a sustainable military training Installation.

The Proposed Action would integrate cultural resources and historic preservation compliance requirements with other Installation plans including, but not limited to, the Installation master plan, the facilities maintenance plan, training and range area management plans, natural resources management plans, mobilization and deployment plans, and information management systems, and with military training, construction, maintenance, real property management, land use decisions, and other undertakings. It would also establish procedures for compliance with Federal laws, regulations, and executive orders requiring the protection and management of cultural resources with the least possible effect on military training and mission support activities. The Proposed Action would ensure that Fort Bliss is in compliance with AR 200-1 and other Federal laws and would ensure the protection and management of cultural resources, which would allow land use at Fort Bliss to continue as a sustainable military training installation with minimal impacts on the mission. Implementation of the 2017-2021 ICRMP would not affect recreational activities such as hunting, hiking, or birding, except where sensitive cultural resources may require additional protection. The Proposed Action would also not significantly alter the landscape or visual aesthetics of the area.

Archaeological and historical districts, as well as cultural and historical landscapes, may limit certain land use categories, such as Off-Road Vehicle Maneuver areas and certain training activities (e.g., live fire, surface impact) that could alter, damage, or destroy cultural resources within districts/landscapes. For example, newly identified cultural resources including archaeological sites, historic buildings, archaeological districts, historic districts, and historic landscapes would potentially change the land use categories of the Installation where new sites are found in areas where there were no known cultural resources. Areas classified currently as A or B may need to be changed to F or G, or WSA/ACEC, to limit off-road traffic and ground disturbance.

4.2 CULTURAL RESOURCES

4.2.1 No Action Alternative
Under the No Action Alternative, Fort Bliss would continue to manage its cultural resources as detailed within the 2008-2012 ICRMP, PA, existing guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place. The proposed management measures set forth in the 2017-2021 ICRMP would not be implemented. However, the No Action Alternative does not meet the long-term needs of Fort Bliss as a sustainable military training Installation. The No Action Alternative would not be in compliance with AR 200-1, which mandates that Fort Bliss prepare and implement the ICRMP. The No Action Alternative does not meet the long-term needs of Fort Bliss as a sustainable military training Installation.
4.2.2 Proposed Action

Any operations that involve ground-disturbing activities have the potential to adversely affect cultural resources on Fort Bliss. Mission activities that may affect archaeological sites include excavation and ground-disturbing activities associated with military training, off-road maneuvers, construction of new facilities, and static positions where troops, vehicles, or equipment are concentrated. Mission activities likely to affect architectural properties include demolition of historic properties, construction of new facilities, landscaping, or maintenance and renovation.

Fort Bliss manages its cultural resources through the ICRMP and PA. Archaeological sites, historic buildings, and districts can be identified through survey and evaluation prior to disturbances associated with activities described above. Protections also extend to historic buildings that are rehabilitated utilizing the provisions outlined in the ICRMP. In unsurveyed areas, prior to any ground disturbance for a specific project, an archaeological survey must be performed to ascertain if any cultural resources are present in accordance with Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). If any cultural resources are encountered, an evaluation as to their eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP must be conducted. SOPs 1 through 5 of 2017-2021 ICRMP would provide for review of new activities and construction, and as a result, protect cultural resources from impacts while at the same time allowing for the successful completion of mission activities:

- SOP No. 1: Compliance with ARPA
- SOP No. 2: Compliance with NAGPRA
- SOP No. 3: Native American Consultation under NHPA
- SOP No. 4: Identifying Consulting Parties
- SOP No. 5: Curatorial and Collection Management of Archaeological and Historical Collections and Associated Records.

If a site is found eligible for inclusion in the NRHP, appropriate mitigation measures are then prescribed. The preferred measure is usually avoidance of the site.

With the implementation of the 2017-2021 ICRMP, archaeological surveys are planned to be conducted on more than 55,000 acres of land that were not previously surveyed for cultural resources. In addition, Fort Bliss would evaluate more than 140 buildings constructed between 1921 and 1972, evaluate and test dozens of previously recorded sites, monitor and evaluate rock art, and conduct data recovery at select sites. These surveys, evaluations, monitoring, testing, and data recovery efforts would identify previously unrecorded cultural resources and known archaeological sites that would have potentially been adversely impacted by mission activities conducted on the Installation. As a result, significant cultural resources can be identified and protected before they can be affected by mission activities. In addition to the provisions outlined in the ICRMP, the Integrated Wildland Fire Management Plan (IWFMP) identifies wildfire protection measures regarding cultural resources (DPW-E 2013a). Implementation of the 2017-2021 ICRMP would ultimately have long-term beneficial impacts on cultural resources.
4.3 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

4.3.1 No Action Alternative
Under the No Action Alternative, Fort Bliss would continue to manage its cultural resources as detailed within the 2008-2012 ICRMP, PA, existing guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place. The biological resources would continue to be managed as detailed within the 2015 INRMP, the MOUs, the guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place. However, the 2008-2012 ICRMP does not meet all updated guidelines, rules, and regulations of the 2015 INRMP and undertakings with a cultural resources component could have the potential to adversely affect the biological resources and sensitive species. The No Action Alternative does not meet the long-term needs of Fort Bliss as a sustainable military training Installation.

4.3.2 Proposed Action
It is possible that provisions within the ICRMP may require survey, testing, and data recovery in biologically sensitive areas or near the presence of endangered and protected species. Ground-disturbing cultural resources investigations also have the potential to promote the spread of invasive species, though on a very limited scale, if the disturbed areas are not subject to environmental restoration (e.g., backfilling and hydroseding, if necessary). While implementation of the ICRMP may involve ground-disturbing activities and possible disturbance of habitat and endangered species, actions conducted under the implementation of the ICRMP would also be subject to the provisions outlined in the INRMP. Adherence to the provisions of the INRMP would avoid, minimize, or mitigate any potential effects on biological resources. As a result, no adverse impacts on biological resources are anticipated from the implementation of the 2017-2021 ICRMP. Furthermore, the 2017-2021 ICRMP would better integrate with the 2015 INRMP to ensure avoidance or minimal impact on T&E species and ACECs. Protection and avoidance of cultural resources and landscapes may inadvertently provide added protection to select flora and fauna species.

4.4 SOILS AND ECOSYSTEMS

4.4.1 No Action Alternative
Under the No Action Alternative, Fort Bliss would continue to manage its cultural resources as detailed within the 2008-2012 ICRMP, PA, existing guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place. Soils and ecosystems would continue to be managed as detailed within the 2015 INRMP and the Fort Bliss Construction Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) guidance. However, the 2008-2012 ICRMP does not meet all updated guidelines, rules, and regulations of the 2015 INRMP and undertakings with a cultural resources component could have the potential to adversely affect soils (e.g., causing erosion) and sensitive ecosystems (e.g., introducing invasive and disturbed-ground species). The No Action Alternative does not meet the long-term needs of Fort Bliss as a sustainable military training Installation.

4.4.2 Proposed Action
It is unlikely that implementation of the 2017-2021 ICRMP would adversely affect soils or ecosystems, but relatively minor ground disturbance could result, particularly from subsurface testing during surveys, site evaluation testing, and data recovery efforts. Soil erosion as a result of minor excavations would not be significant. Such ground-disturbing activities would conform to provisions outlined in the 2015 INRMP, and would include measures such as a SWPPP,
backfilling of spoils, and revegetation of disturbed areas to prevent or limit the spread of invasive species.

The 2017-2021 ICRMP would better integrate with the 2015 INRMP to ensure avoidance or minimal impact on soils and ecosystems. Implementation of the 2017-2021 ICRMP may indirectly protect soils, ecosystems, and ACECs within and surrounding archaeological sites and historic properties through avoidance and monitoring.

4.5 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND WASTE

4.5.1 No Action Alternative
Under the No Action Alternative, Fort Bliss would continue to manage its cultural resources as detailed within the 2008-2012 ICRMP, PA, existing guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place. Hazardous materials and waste would continue to be managed under guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place. Materials that are physically hazardous include combustible and flammable substances, compressed gases, and oxidizers, but are typically not associated with cultural resources activities. The primary health hazard associated the cultural resources would be exposure to asbestos and lead during the rehabilitation of historic structures. The 2008-2012 ICRMP does not necessarily conform to up-to-date laws regulating hazardous materials and waste by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), and the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), or the Installation Hazardous Waste Management Plan. The No Action Alternative does not meet the long-term needs of Fort Bliss as a sustainable military training Installation.

4.5.2 Proposed Action
Cultural resources investigations do not typically result in the generation of hazardous materials and waste. However, hazardous materials can often be associated with historic building materials (e.g., asbestos treatment, particularly tiles; lead paint), so rehabilitation and conservation efforts would often encounter issues with hazardous materials. Hazardous materials would be disposed of properly, and replaced with new, non-hazardous, in-kind material to avoid adverse effects on health and safety of personnel.

The 2017-2021 ICRMP would ensure that proper procedures are followed in the rehabilitation of historic structures, minimizing adverse effects associated with the exposure to hazardous materials such as asbestos and lead.

4.6 HEALTH AND SAFETY

4.6.1 No Action Alternative
Under the No Action Alternative, Fort Bliss would continue to manage its cultural resources as detailed within the 2008-2012 ICRMP, PA, existing guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place. Federal, state, and Fort Bliss guidelines, rules, and regulations are in place to protect personnel throughout and near the Installation. Safety information is found in literature published by Fort Bliss, such as Fort Bliss Regulation 385-63 and AR 385-10, *Army Safety Program* (U.S. Army 2011). Fort Bliss has also established various procedures to meet health and safety requirements of the Installation. The 2008-2012 ICRMP does not contain current
guidelines associated with health hazards throughout the Installation such as exposure to UXOs, dehydration and heat illness, venomous wildlife, and exposure to pests. The No Action Alternative does not meet the long-term needs of Fort Bliss as a sustainable military training Installation.

4.6.2 Proposed Action
Personnel participating in cultural resources fieldwork have the potential to be exposed to wildlife, dehydration, and heat illness, and would follow standard safety protocols to minimize health and safety dangers. The 2017-2021 ICRMP would ensure compliance with Fort Bliss Regulation 385-63 and AR 385-10, Army Safety Program (U.S. Army 2011) and the Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPMP), Fort Bliss, Texas and New Mexico (Fort Bliss DPW-E 2012a). The rehabilitation of buildings that could contain hazardous materials, such as asbestos and lead, has the potential to affect construction personnel. Removal and disposal of hazardous materials would be done by professionals who follow standard protocols to minimize health and safety threats during the rehabilitation of historic structures. The 2017-2021 ICRMP would ensure that proper procedures are followed in the rehabilitation of historic structures minimizing exposure to hazardous materials such as asbestos and lead on Soldiers, families, employees, contractors, and the general population.
SECTION 5.0
CUMULATIVE IMPACTS
5.0 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Cumulative Impacts are defined as the impacts on the environment that result from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions. The Proposed Action is to implement a revised ICRMP, which would have beneficial cumulative impacts on the management and sustainability of cultural resources on Fort Bliss, when added to or augmenting the programs and procedures already in effect under the 2008-2012 ICRMP. The 2017-2021 ICRMP would be used to address numerous actions and the following examples are a representative sample of the types of actions and the cumulative impacts.

Fort Bliss proposes to implement Net Zero energy, water, and waste goals by 2020, while meeting energy mandates for renewable energy production and greenhouse gas emissions reduction (DPW-E 2013b). Fort Bliss plans to implement Alternatives 2 through 7, which include conservations policies and procedures, a water reclamation pipeline, a waste-to-energy plant, geothermal energy facility, dry-cooled concentrating solar power technology, and to implement other renewable energy technologies. The only significant impact would occur on parade-ground vegetation from irrigation with reclaimed water; however, this action is no longer foreseeable. All other impacts are less than significant, and the Section 106 process would be completed prior to any construction associated with Alternatives 2 through 7 (DPW-E 2013b). Following procedures and guidelines of the 2017-2021 ICRMP, extensive archaeological inventories and evaluations of identified sites would be necessary. Fort Bliss would consult with Texas and New Mexico SHPOs, tribal governments, and other possible interested parties. If NRHP-eligible historic properties are identified, strategies for avoidance and mitigation would be developed and carried out prior to construction in accordance with the procedures outlined in the PA.

Fort Bliss proposes to construct, operate and maintain mountain village training facilities within Fort Bliss on northern McGregor Range (USACE 2012a). Under Alternative 2 (Preferred), there is one archaeological site of undetermined NRHP eligibility that would require further testing to determine whether adverse effects would occur as a result of the implementation of the Preferred Alternative. The site would be avoided by all actions and no adverse effects on cultural resources are anticipated. Under Alternative 2, there were two sites of undetermined eligibility and two that were recommended eligible. All four sites would be delineated with stakes for avoidance. If avoidance is not possible, a mitigation plan for their treatment would be developed under the PA in accordance with the 2017-2021 ICRMP. No adverse effects are anticipated.

Fort Bliss proposes to issue a renewable permit to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to construct, operate, and maintain one or more buildings totally approximately 90,000 square feet on approximately 19 acres within Fort Bliss, Texas (Fort Bliss DPW-E 2012b). No adverse impacts on cultural resources are anticipated. The parcel had been previously surveyed as part of three separate investigations, followed by subsequent testing and evaluations. A re-evaluation of the sites recommended that none were NRHP-eligible. However, any unanticipated subsurface cultural resources encountered during the construction of the proposed ICE facility would be properly mitigated under Fort Bliss supervision in accordance with the procedures set forth in PA between Fort Bliss and the Texas SHPO, and the 2017-2021 ICRMP.
The U.S. Army proposes to sell two parcels on the periphery of the Fort Bliss Cantonment to provide land for private housing and light commercial development suited, but not exclusive, to Fort Bliss military personnel (USACE 2012b). The purpose of the Proposed Action is to optimize the land use of certain areas on the margins of the Fort Bliss Cantonment to meet crucial U.S. Army needs in terms of additional military housing, buffer areas, and other uses. Under Alternatives 2 through 5, there could be minor impacts to cultural resources. Numerous cultural investigations have been conducted in the various parcels associated with each Alternative. Several of the archaeological sites have also been subject to archaeological testing. NRHP-eligible archaeological sites would remain protected through avoidance, or would need to be subject to mitigation as outlined in the PA and 2017-2021 ICRMP if avoidance is not possible. Individually eligible structures/buildings and landscape features would be subject to Historic American Buildings Survey, Historic American Engineering Record, and Historic American Landscapes Survey documentation to mitigate any adverse effects as per the PA and 2017-2021 ICRMP, if avoidance/preservation in place is not feasible. All cultural resources and historic properties (undetermined, unevaluated, or eligible) would be managed under the guidelines of the 2017-2021 ICRMP and PA with the ACHP and Texas and New Mexico SHPOs.

Ultimately, the Proposed Action would result in the greatest possible protection and management of cultural resources while complying with Federal law and ensuring no net loss of mission capabilities.
6.0 REFERENCES


Fort Bliss DPW-E. 2014. *Programmatic Agreement among the United States Army Garrison, Fort Bliss and the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer and the Texas State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for the Management, Operation, and Development of Historic Properties on Fort Bliss under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as Amended), Fort Bliss, Texas and New Mexico*.


U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Tulsa District. 2012a. *Environmental Assessment for the Construction and Training Use of Sacramento Mountain Villages, McGregor Range, Fort Bliss, New Mexico*.


SECTION 7.0
LIST OF PREPARERS
7.0 LIST of PREPARERS

The following people were primarily responsible for preparing this Environmental Assessment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Agency/Organization</th>
<th>Discipline/Expertise</th>
<th>Experience</th>
<th>Role in Preparing EA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Barrera</td>
<td>Fort Bliss Directorate of Public Works (DPW) Environmental Division</td>
<td>NEPA Program Manager</td>
<td>23 years NEPA studies</td>
<td>Fort Bliss NEPA Manager; EA review and comment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Kipp, PhD</td>
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<td>Soil science, Geomorphology</td>
<td>28 years earth science and NEPA studies</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belinda C. Mollard</td>
<td>Fort Bliss DPW Environmental Division, Cultural Resources Manager</td>
<td>Archaeology</td>
<td>19 years archaeology and Federal cultural resource management and compliance</td>
<td>Fort Bliss Project Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Oivanki</td>
<td>Gulf South Research Corporation</td>
<td>Geology/NEPA</td>
<td>36 years natural resources and NEPA studies</td>
<td>EA review and comment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave Hart</td>
<td>Gulf South Research Corporation</td>
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<td>22 years cultural resources management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liz Ayarbe-Perez</td>
<td>Gulf South Research Corporation</td>
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<td>14 years GIS/graphics experience</td>
<td>GIS analysis and graphics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logan Mccardle</td>
<td>Gulf South Research Corporation</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>10 years biological studies</td>
<td>Biological resources</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
AMONG
THE UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FORT BLISS AND
THE NEW MEXICO STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER AND
THE TEXAS STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER AND
THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION
FOR THE MANAGEMENT, OPERATION, AND DEVELOPMENT OF HISTORIC
PROPERTIES ON FORT BLISS
UNDER SECTION 106 OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT OF 1966 (AS
AMENDED)
FORT BLISS, TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO

WHEREAS, Fort Bliss Garrison Command (Fort Bliss) proposes to continue to coordinate and
administer ongoing programs of operation, maintenance and development as part of its mission to provide
support to Soldiers and their Families, while operating, maintaining, and utilizing installation lands,
facilities, training areas, and ranges in support of Army Readiness on Fort Bliss (Projects); and

WHEREAS, Fort Bliss, a federally owned and operated facility, plans to carry out Projects pursuant to
Army Regulation, thereby making the Projects undertakings subject to review under Section 106 of the
National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. Section 470f and its implementing regulations, 36
CFR Part 800; and

WHEREAS, Fort Bliss has determined that the development of a Programmatic Agreement (PA), in
accordance with 36 CFR § 800.14(b)(2), is warranted because specific details on some Projects are
unknown and the effects on historic properties cannot be fully determined prior to their approval, and for
the routine nature of many actions that are part of the ongoing management and operation of Fort Bliss;
and

WHEREAS, the Garrison Commander (GC), under Army Regulation (AR) 200-1, Environmental
Protection and Enhancement, is responsible for compliance with legally applicable and appropriate
Federal, state, and local environmental regulations; and

WHEREAS, Fort Bliss has defined, for this PA, the area of potential effect (APE) as the Fort Bliss
Installation (as shown in Appendix E), so as to include the potential for impacts to visual, auditory and
sociocultural factors, as well as natural resources; and

WHEREAS, Fort Bliss has determined that undertakings may have an adverse effect on historic
properties (to include as yet unidentified properties), all of which are eligible (or upon evaluation could
become eligible) for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and has consulted with the
New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer (NMSHPO) and the Texas State Historic Preservation
Officer (TXSHPO) pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800; and

WHEREAS, Fort Bliss executed the Programmatic Agreement Among the Fort Bliss Garrison Command
and the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer and the Texas State Historic Preservation
Officer and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for the Management of Historic Properties on
Fort Bliss, Fort Bliss, Texas, Under Sections 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of
implementing Army Transformation resulting in the change in military mission from an Air Defense
Artillery training mission to the stationing and training of an Armored Division (plus additional units) and
specifically the changing land use to open up an additional 700,000 acres of potential off road maneuver area; and

WHEREAS, from 2006 to 2013, Fort Bliss conducted archaeological survey of over 300,000 acres in response to the 2006 PA, evaluated 8,472 archaeological sites, completed data recovery mitigation on 443 archaeological sites and standard treatment measures on 60 buildings to mitigate potential adverse effects resulting from military construction and training, and established Off Limits Areas (aka Red Zones); and

WHEREAS, Fort Bliss, using the National Park Service (NPS) Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) online database, the Department of Housing and Urban Development Tribal Directory Tool, as well as past consultation experience and known interest, has identified and consulted with the following federally-recognized Indian tribes: the Comanche Nation, the Fort Sill Apache, the Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma, the Mescalero Apache, the White Mountain Apache, and the Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo (Tigua), for which some sites at Fort Bliss have religious and cultural significance and has invited the Tribes to participate in the development of this PA; and

WHEREAS, Fort Bliss, consulting with the above-referenced tribes, has identified 32 unnamed properties as having religious and cultural significance; and

WHEREAS, Fort Bliss has invited the El Paso Historic Landmark Commission, El Paso Preservation Alliance, Preservation Texas, City of Socorro, Texas, and the El Paso County Historic Society, Inc. to comment and participate on this PA via email; and

WHEREAS, Fort Bliss has invited the public to comment through notice in local newspapers and has made the draft PA available on the Fort Bliss Directorate of Public Works (DPW), Environmental Division’s (DPW-E) webpage (https://www.bliss.army.mil/dwp/Environmental/EISDocuments2.html) and has considered all recommendations, if any, into this PA; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.6(a)(1), Fort Bliss has notified the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) of its adverse effect determination providing the specified documentation, and the ACHP has chosen to participate in the consultation pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.6(a)(1)(ii); and

WHEREAS, the management of certain historic properties and day-to-day operations are covered by the Programmatic Memorandum of Agreement Among the United States Department of Defense, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers Regarding the Demolition of World War II Temporary Buildings (as amended); the Program Comment for Capehart and Wherry Era Army Family Housing and Associated Structures and Landscape Features (1949-1962); the Program Comment for Cold War Era Unaccompanied Personnel Housing (1946-1947); the Program Comment for World War II and Cold War Era (1939-1974) Ammunition Storage Facilities; and Programmatic Agreement regarding the Fort Bliss Residential Communities Initiative (RCI) and therefore are not part of this PA; and

WHEREAS, Fort Bliss has developed, in consultation with the NMSHPO, TXSHPO, and the Tribes the Significance and Research Standards for Prehistoric Archaeological Sites at Fort Bliss: A design for the Evaluation, Management, and Treatment of Cultural Resources (Miller et al. 2009) (Significance Standards) in order to provide an innovative program for assessing NRHP eligibility for prehistoric sites, and the NMSHPO and the TXSHPO concurred on the Significance Standards in 2009 for Fort Bliss to implement the Significance Standards and update by December 30, 2016; and
WHEREAS, in 2008 Fort Bliss completed the *Reevaluation of Selecting Ranching Sites on Fort Bliss* (Victor, et. al., 2008) that includes two historical contexts: *Agricultural Development in South Central NM 1870-1955* and *Irrigation and the Engineering of Water Resources in South Central NM 1870-1955* and is currently developing a historic context for historic railroads on Fort Bliss, and these contexts help provide Fort Bliss with tools to define site eligibility criteria, levels of adequate inventory, and site documentation requirements to guide the evaluation of historic sites, buildings, structures, objects and districts that may be eligible for listing in the NRHP; and

NOW, THEREFORE, Fort Bliss, the NMSHO, the TXSHPO, and the ACHP agree that the management of historic properties shall be implemented in accordance with the following stipulations in order to take into account the effect of undertakings on historic properties.

STIPULATIONS

Fort Bliss shall ensure that the following measures are carried out:

I. PROJECT REVIEW

A. Policy: Fort Bliss shall avoid adverse effects to historic properties under its management, to the extent possible, while meeting mission needs, and coordinating Section 106 responsibilities with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

B. Procedure

1. Qualifications:

   a) All work required to meet the Stipulations of this PA will be carried out under the supervision of a person who meets the minimum standards as identified in the Secretary of the Interior’s “Archaeology and Historic Preservation: Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and Guidelines (as amended and annotated)” (Professional Qualifications) as appropriate for the historic property being addressed.

   b) Fort Bliss staff

      (1) Cultural Resources Manager (CRM): the CRM is the person responsible, on behalf of the GC, for meeting the Stipulations of this PA. The DPW-E Conservation Branch Chief shall be designated as the CRM. If the CRM does not meet the Professional Qualifications, then qualified staff members will fulfill those responsibilities. Fort Bliss will notify the signatories of the name(s) of staff fulfilling CRM responsibilities.

      (2) CRM Staff: the CRM Staff shall include qualified staff implementing the Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) for Garrison Command, supervised by the CRM.

2. Determine the Undertaking
a) The CRM or CRM Staff shall determine if the proposed project is an undertaking as defined in 36 CFR § 800.16(y) and subject to this PA.

b) If the CRM or CRM Staff determines the proposed project is not an undertaking as defined in 36 CFR § 800.16(y), or subject to this PA, Fort Bliss has no further obligations under this Stipulation.

c) If the CRM or CRM Staff determine that the proposed project is an exempted undertaking as listed in Appendix B, the CRM shall document this determination for inclusion in the official Fort Bliss, and Fort Bliss has no further obligations under this Stipulation.

d) If the CRM or CRM Staff determines the proposed project is not listed in Appendix B and is an undertaking, the CRM or CRM Staff shall document this determination for inclusion in the Record of Historic Properties Consideration (RHPC), see Appendix D for an example, for the undertaking and continue the Project Review process.

3. Define the Area of Potential Effects and Identify Historic Properties

a) The CRM or CRM Staff shall determine and document the project APE for each specific undertaking, appropriate to the scope and scale of the undertaking, and considering direct, indirect, and cumulative effects in the RHPC.

(1) The CRM or CRM Staff shall determine whether previous identification and evaluation work has been conducted in the APE, if historic properties have been identified, the standard under which the inventory and evaluations were conducted, the types of historic properties are likely to be found, and whether a existing historic context applies.

   (i) Any survey, in which standards in Appendix C apply or Fort Bliss consulted on with the appropriate SHPO, is adequate enough not to require Fort Bliss to undertake a new cultural resource survey.

(2) The CRM or CRM Staff shall determine if new cultural resource surveys (to include determinations of eligibility) are needed and shall use one of the following two processes to complete new surveys.

   (a) The CRM or CRM Staff shall use a process as outlined in Appendix C, to make a reasonable and good faith effort to identify and evaluate historic properties in the APE.
(b) The CRM or CRM Staff shall consult with the appropriate SHPO, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO), Tribe, and/or other Consulting Party (as appropriate) to determine the process as needed to complete a reasonable and good faith effort to identify and evaluate historic properties in the APE. 

b) If the CRM or CRM Staff does not identify historic properties within the APE, and there is no need for a new cultural resource survey, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall document this determination for inclusion in the official Fort Bliss database, and Fort Bliss has no further obligations under this Stipulation. 

c) If there are properties requiring evaluation present in the APE, the CRM and/or CRM Staff will evaluate the property for eligibility to the NRHP and will forward documentation supporting the evaluations to the appropriate SHPO for review and concurrence. 

(1) The SHPO shall be afforded 30 days, upon receipt of all pertinent information, to respond to the determinations of eligibility. 

(2) If the CRM or CRM Staff and the SHPO agree that the cultural resources in the APE are or are not eligible for inclusion on the NRHP, the CRM or CRM Staff may proceed to Stipulation I(B)(4)(b). 

(3) If the CRM or CRM Staff and the SHPO do not agree on determinations of eligibility, the CRM can attempt to resolve the disagreement through further consultation, with SHPO responding no longer than 15 days upon receipt of all pertinent information (or as appropriate in consultation with the appropriate SHPO) or the CRM can consult the Keeper of the National Register pursuant to 36 CFR Part 63 if needed. 

4. Evaluate Effects of the Undertaking 

a) The CRM or CRM Staff shall work with the appropriate project proponent to discuss best management practices to avoid or minimize effects to historic properties. 

(1) The CRM or CRM Staff may consult with the appropriate SHPO and/or Tribe to discuss best management practices to avoid or minimize effects to historic properties. 

(2) The best management practice(s) identified by the CRM or CRM Staff and discussed with the appropriate project proponent shall be documented in the RHPC.
(3) If any contributing resource within the boundary of an eligible or listed historic district is proposed for demolition, the CRM or CRM Staff shall consider the demolition in accordance with 36 CFR §§ 800.5 through 800.7 and not in accordance with this PA.

b) The CRM or CRM Staff shall assess the effects of the proposed undertaking on historic properties, including direct, indirect, and cumulative effects, using the criteria of adverse effects (36 CFR § 800.5(a)(1)) and shall make one of the following determinations:

(1) "No Effect to Historic Properties": if the CRM or CRM Staff determines that there are no historic properties or that historic properties present in the APE will not be affected by the undertaking, the CRM or CRM Staff shall document this determination in the RHPC, and Fort Bliss has no further obligations under this Stipulation.

(2) "No Adverse Effect to Historic Properties": if the CRM or CRM Staff determines that historic properties present in the APE will not be adversely affected by the undertaking, the CRM or CRM Staff shall document this determination in the RHPC, and Fort Bliss has no further obligations under this Stipulation.

(3) "Adverse Effect to Historic Properties": if the CRM or CRM Staff determines that historic properties present in the APE will be adversely affected by the undertaking, the CRM or CRM Staff shall document this determination in the RHPC and proceed in the Project Review process.

5. Resolution of Adverse Effect to Historic Properties

a) For those undertakings with a finding of "Adverse Effect to Historic Properties" the CRM or CRM Staff shall provide the appropriate SHPO and Tribe(s) with the RHPC including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) project description, to include but is not limited to depth and amount of ground disturbance anticipated and a summary of best management practices and/or alternatives to avoid or minimize effects to historic properties considered but ultimately rejected;

(2) APE map showing the location of the project and of any identified historic properties;

(3) description of the historic properties affected;

(4) any photos as necessary;

(5) standard mitigation measure to be used (see Appendix G); and/or
(6) an alternative mitigation measure as appropriate.

b) The Tribes are under no obligation to provide comments on the effect determination or mitigation measure selected; however, if they wish Fort Bliss to consider their comments regarding the effect determination, Tribes should submit comments in writing within 30 days of receipt. If no comments are received within that time, the CRM or CRM Staff shall make a second attempt to ensure that the original notification was received, if comments will be submitted, and if they wish to participate in the resolution of adverse effects before concluding consultation. Fort Bliss shall take any tribal comments received into consideration before concluding the consultation and will notify the SHPO of any tribal concerns, respecting the Tribal request for confidentiality, and the Fort Bliss response to those concerns.

c) SHPO shall provide any comments to the Fort Bliss effect determination and mitigation measure within 30 days of receipt of all pertinent documentation.

d) The CRM or CRM Staff shall notify appropriate Consulting Parties, and the public, within 10 days of notifying the appropriate SHPO and Tribes of an adverse effect finding and mitigation measure for an undertaking using the following process:

(1) The CRM or CRM Staff shall prepare and send the RHPIC to the appropriate Consulting Parties including a description of the undertaking, an illustration of the APE, a list of identified historic properties within the APE, the explanation for the finding of adverse effects, steps taken or considered by Fort Bliss to avoid or minimize the adverse effects, and any appropriate SHPO comments received by Fort Bliss regarding the undertaking.

(2) When the Adverse Effect is part of an action being analyzed through an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with NEPA, then Fort Bliss will solicit public participation following Stipulation IV.

e) Appropriate Consulting Parties are under no obligation to provide comments on the effect determination or proposed mitigation measure; however, if they wish Fort Bliss to consider their comments, Consulting Parties should submit comments in writing within 30 days of receipt. If no comments are received within that time, the CRM or CRM Staff shall make a second attempt to ensure that the original notification was received, if comments will be submitted, and if they wish to participate in the resolution of adverse effects before concluding consultation. If comments are received, Fort Bliss shall take those comments into consideration before concluding the consultation and shall notify the
appropriate SHPO of any concerns and the Fort Bliss response to those concerns.

f) The CRM or CRM Staff shall organize a consultation meeting if appropriate, to include the appropriate SHPO, 45 days after notifying appropriate Consulting Parties, to discuss standard or alternative mitigation measures if necessary. Additional meetings shall be scheduled as needed.

g) If through consultation with the appropriate SHPO and Consulting Parties the adverse effects are minimized or mitigated, then the measures agreed to by Fort Bliss, the appropriate SHPO, and Consulting Parties shall be documented in the RHPC or a Memorandum of Agreement as appropriate.

h) The ACHP will only participate in the resolution of adverse effects for individual undertakings if a written request is received from Fort Bliss, a SHPO, or a Tribe.

II. Updates to the Significance Standards

A. Policy: Fort Bliss relies on the Significance Standards to guide the evaluation of historic properties, particularly prehistoric/protohistoric archaeological sites.

B. Procedure

1. Fort Bliss shall update the 2009 Significance Standards within two years after execution of this PA in consultation with SHPOs and Tribes.

2. Fort Bliss shall update the Significance Standards every five years in conjunction with major ICRM updates, with new archaeological and ethnographic data as appropriate.

III. Reporting Damage to Cultural Resources

A. Policy: Fort Bliss recognizes that routine Army activities (i.e., training, operation, and maintenance) pose some risk of damage to historic properties. Through the project review process, project monitoring, and cultural resources awareness training of Garrison staff, military units, and contractors by the CRM or CRM Staff, Fort Bliss attempts to minimize that risk.

B. Procedure
1. When the CRM or CRM Staff are made aware of damage to a historic property (or an unevauluted cultural resource that may be eligible for inclusion in the NRHP), either from unintentional or intentional causes (and may or may not be associated with an ongoing project or training exercise), the CRM or CRM Staff shall review the site records, visit the property, and assess the damage to the property. Activity in and around the site (or portion of site) will cease until the procedures applicable to the level of damage in this Stipulation are completed.

2. If the damage proves to be intentional, Fort Bliss will follow the guidelines in Archaeological Resources Protection Act.

3. If the cultural resource is unevaulated, the CRM or CRM Staff will follow the procedures for documentation and evaluation of that property type and consult on the determination of eligibility with the appropriate SHPO and the CRM or CRM Staff will follow the procedures found in this Stipulation if the property is determined to be eligible for inclusion in the NRHP.

4. If the damage is so slight as to have no effect on the site, or does not affect the characteristics that qualify the property for inclusion in the NRHP in a manner that would diminish the integrity of the property's location, design, setting, materials, craftsmanship, feeling, or association (36 CFR § 800.5(a)(11)), the CRM or CRM Staff shall make a finding of No Adverse Effect, complete the RHPC, and report the incident in the Annual Report.

5. If the damage rises to the level of an Adverse Effect, the CRM or CRM Staff shall notify the appropriate SHPO via email, phone, or fax within 48 hours of the initial damage. Within 30 working days, Fort Bliss shall update or prepare a RHPC and the appropriate supporting documents (e.g., site form updates) with a letter signed by the GC.

   a) The RHPC will document the circumstances of the damage, its extent and effect, along with potential mitigation measures, as appropriate.

   b) The appropriate SHPO shall have 30 days to comment on that submission.

   c) If mitigation is proposed, and there are no objections to the methods, those measures shall be completed after that 30-day review period and thereafter be reported to the appropriate SHPO.

   d) If some other treatment is agreed to by the parties that treatment will be completed after the 30-day review period and thereafter be reported to the appropriate SHPO.

   e) If the parties are in dispute over proposed mitigation or treatment measures, the parties will follow the procedures in Stipulation VII.

6. If the damage is to a property of traditional religious and cultural importance to the Tribes, the CRM or CRM Staff shall review the incident, prepare a report for
the GC, make recommendations for treatment, if any, and recommend procedures
that avoid future effects. The GC will begin consultation with the Tribes within
30 working days of notice of the damage, on the nature of the damage, any
proposed treatment, and procedures proposed to avoid future effects.

7. If the damage is to a property that is known to have or is discovered to have
human remains or other NAGPRA objects, Fort Bliss will follow the process
outlined in NAGPRA.

IV. Notification and Involvement of Institutions and Interested Members of the Public

A. Policy: Fort Bliss shall notify and invite public comment on planned projects within the
implementation of this PA.

B. Procedures

1. Through the NEPA process, the public is invited to comment on planned projects
when an EA or an EIS is the appropriate document for a given project as well as
the Section 106 review.

2. Mailing Lists of institutions and interested members of the public shall be
maintained by the CRM or CRM Staff by area of interest and/or research
concern. The institution or interested individual may then contact the CRM or
CRM Staff to request an electronic version of a report of interest.

V. Broader Fort Bliss Outreach

A. Policy: When Fort Bliss determines studies produced will have a wider range of interest, they
may be published in scholarly journals, periodicals, books, or given as papers at learned and
historical societies.

B. Procedure:

1. All studies prepared by the CRM or CRM staff shall be submitted through
channels to the Fort Bliss Public Affairs Officer (PAO) to ensure compliance
with AR 360-5, Public Information Policies.

2. Release of studies prepared under contract will be approved as specified in the
contract.

3. The CRM or CRM Staff shall ensure that a process that meets the standards of
AR 360-5 is included in the scope of work for contracts approved by Fort Bliss.

4. Exact location(s) of historic properties or other information that, in the opinion of
the CRM or CRM Staff, might endanger the resources or are administrative in
nature and have neither research value nor public interest will be released
consistent with Section 304 of the NHPA.
5. The CRM or CRM Staff shall provide copies of published articles to the SHPOs.

6. The CRM or CRM Staff may attend meetings of local and state organizations concerned with cultural resources management issues at county and state historical societies, and archeological societies.

   a) The CRM or CRM Staff may speak on the status of Fort Bliss cultural resources management program. Informal presentations, including slide presentations, may be presented without prior approval of the PAO.

   b) The CRM or CRM Staff shall notify the PAO in advance of anticipated formal presentations and coordinate further if the PAO so requests. If a formal paper is given and copies are distributed, the text will be submitted to the PAO prior to the presentation to ensure the requirements of AR 360-5.

   c) The CRM will inform the PAO and appropriate members of the command group of any potentially controversial issues raised during formal or informal presentations.

7. The CRM or CRM staff may include the development of popular publications as companions to technical reports when project budgets allow. Fort Bliss will provide Portable Document Files (PDF) of popular publications to individuals and organizations upon request.

8. The CRM or CRM Staff may develop an Internet web page that can be used to disseminate information to a broader audience on cultural resource materials and program.

VI. Inadvertent Discovery of Archeological Sites

A. Policy: It is the policy of Fort Bliss to handle the inadvertent discovery of archeological sites during its day-to-day activities, both expeditiously and with respect for the resource. It is specified in all applicable Fort Bliss work orders, service orders, training requests, other proposed project work, and any cultural resource training that the CRM or CRM Staff is to be immediately notified in the event of an inadvertent discovery of cultural materials.

B. Procedure

1. Fort Bliss shall follow the procedures in NAGPRA for the inadvertent discovery of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony; all other finds will be addressed in this stipulation.

2. If damage has been done to a historic property, Fort Bliss will also follow Stipulation III.
3. Fort Bliss shall first ensure that all activity ceases in and around the find; activity may resume when all applicable procedures in this stipulation have been completed.

4. The CRM or CRM Staff shall use the flowchart in Appendix F.

5. The CRM or CRM Staff shall inspect the location as soon as practical and document the find, first determining whether or not the materials constitute a site (either new or previously recorded), and, secondly, if the site is eligible, and thirdly, if any adverse effects are observable can occur if the activity were to continue.

   a) Isolated Occurrence: If the cultural materials are found to be an isolated occurrence (IO), activity can resume as soon as the CRM or CRM Staff make that determination; no additional reporting will be required.

   b) If the materials are found to be part of a previously recorded site determined Not Eligible for the NRHP, and the discovery does not change that recommendation, activity can resume as soon as the CRM or CRM staff make that determination.

   c) If, however, the discovery appears to change that recommendation to eligible, or if the property is eligible or listed on the NRHP, the CRM or CRM will consult with the Tribes and the appropriate SHPO on NRHP eligibility, determination of what type of effect (no adverse/adverse) the activity would have on that site, and if adverse, propose a treatment plan by email, phone, or fax within 48 hours of the find.

      (1) The SHPO and the Tribes shall then have 48 hours upon notification in which to review the documentation and any proposed treatment and provide comment back to Fort Bliss.

      (2) Fort Bliss shall take into account comments provided and shall move forward with the treatment plan. Activities can resume upon completion. If no treatment is required, work can resume.

6. If any consulting party fails to comment by the end of any review period, Fort Bliss will assume that that party concurs with the proposal and proceed to the next step as appropriate.

VII. Dispute Resolution

A. Should any signatory to this PA object at any time to any actions proposed, or the manner in which the terms of this PA are implemented, Fort Bliss shall consult with such party to resolve the objection. If Fort Bliss determines that such objection cannot be resolved, Fort Bliss will:

1. Forward all documentation relevant to the dispute, including the Fort Bliss proposed resolution, to the ACHP. The ACHP shall provide Fort Bliss with its advice on the resolution of the objection within 30 days of receiving adequate
documentation. Fort Bliss shall prepare a written response that takes into account any timely advice or comments regarding the dispute from the ACHP, signatories, and concurring parties, and provide them with a copy of this written response. Fort Bliss will then proceed according to its final decision.

2. If the ACHP does not provide its advice regarding the dispute within the 30 day time period, Fort Bliss shall prepare a written response that takes into account any timely comments regarding the dispute from the signatories and concurring parties to the PA, and provide them and the ACHP with a copy of such written response.

B. Fort Bliss shall carry out all other actions that are not the subject of the dispute, subject to the terms of this PA.

VIII. Annual Report

A. Fort Bliss shall provide an annual report of activities conducted under this PA to all consulting parties and interested members of the public that includes the following:

1. a summary of 25 sample reviews of exempted undertakings for the first two years of annual reporting.

2. a summary of all projects that proceeded under the procedures in this PA with the following sections:

   a) Determination of Eligibility (Texas and New Mexico)

      (1) State

      (2) Date

      (3) RPHC #

      (4) NEPA #

      (5) Project #

      (6) Building #

      (7) Project Description

      (8) Determination of Eligibility

      (9) SHPO Determination of Eligibility

   b) No Historic Properties Affected

      (1) State
(2) Date
(3) RHPC #
(4) NEPA #
(5) Project #
(6) Building #
(7) Project Description
(8) Project Analysis
(9) No Historic Properties Affected
(10) Comment
e) No Historic Properties Adversely Affected
   (1) State
   (2) Date
   (3) RHPC #
   (4) NEPA #
   (5) Project #
   (6) Building #
   (7) Project Description
   (8) Project Analysis
   (9) Not Adversely Affected
   (10) Comment
d) Adverse Effect
   (1) State
   (2) Date
   (3) RHPC #
   (4) NEPA #
3. a random stratified sample of five complete RHPCs for undertakings within the appropriate state for the appropriate SHPO with a finding of “no historic properties affected” and “no adverse effect” for the first two years of annual reporting.

4. all projects proposed for the coming year; and

5. recommendations for amending the PA, if any.

C. Upon request, the CRM shall include a list of Fort Bliss professionals who participated in implementation of this PA during the previous and current fiscal years in each PA annual report. The list will include a description of each professional’s current responsibilities.
D. Fort Bliss shall prepare the final report and submit it, through command channels, for approval, reproduction, and release on 15 November each year the PA is in effect.

E. Consulting parties will submit to Fort Bliss within 60 days of their receipt of the annual report any comments or any requests for specific RHPCs. If there is no response within this time, it will be assumed that the annual report is acceptable.

F. Fort Bliss shall hold an annual review and monitoring meeting as appropriate and/or upon request of a signatory party.

G. Fort Bliss shall retain the original documentation of each project undertaken without formal review of the appropriate SHPO for a period of three years. Original documentation shall be made available to consulting parties or interested members of the public upon written request.

H. The ACHP shall only receive a copy of the annual report if an amendment is proposed by Fort Bliss.

IX. Fiscal Requirement and Sources

The stipulations of this PA are subject to the provisions of the Anti-Deficiency Act (31 USC Section 1341) and availability of funds. If compliance with the Anti-Deficiency Act alters or impairs the ability of Fort Bliss to implement the stipulations of this PA, Fort Bliss will consult pursuant to stipulations X and XI.

X. Amendment

This PA may be amended when such an amendment is agreed to in writing by all signatories. The amendment will be effective on the date a copy signed by all of the signatories is filed with the ACHP.

XI. Termination

A. If any signatory to this PA determines that its terms will not or cannot be carried out, that party shall immediately consult with the other parties to attempt to develop an amendment per stipulation X. If within 60 days (or another time period agreed to by all signatories) an amendment cannot be reached, any signatory may terminate the PA upon written notification to the other signatories.

B. Once the PA is terminated, and prior to work continuing on the undertaking, Fort Bliss shall either 1) execute a Memorandum of Agreement pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.6 or 2) request, take into account, and respond to the comments of the ACHP under 36 CFR § 800.7. Fort Bliss shall notify the signatories as to the course of action it will pursue.

XII. Duration of this PA

A. This PA takes effect upon last signature date and will remain in effect thereafter for 10 years. Upon consultation with, and agreement by, other parties of this PA, it may be extended, amended, or terminated at 10 years.
B. This PA shall be reviewed periodically, not less than three years from the execution of the PA.

Fort Bliss shall consult with the Signatories to determine whether the PA needs to be extended, amended, or terminated and take such actions as appropriate one year to the date this PA would otherwise expire.

**Execution** of this PA by Fort Bliss, the NMSHPO, the TXSHPO, and the ACHP and implementation of its terms evidence that Fort Bliss has taken into account the effects of this undertaking on historic properties and afforded the ACHP an opportunity to comment.
PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
AMONG
THE UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FORT BLISS AND
THE NEW MEXICO STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER AND
THE TEXAS STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER AND
THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION
FOR THE MANAGEMENT, OPERATION, AND DEVELOPMENT OF HISTORIC
PROPERTIES ON FORT BLISS
UNDER SECTION 106 OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT OF 1966 (AS
AMENDED)
FORT BLISS, TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO

FORT BLISS, TEXAS

Date: 12/19/2014

Joseph Moscone
Garrison Manager
PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT

AMONG

THE UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FORT BLISS AND
THE NEW MEXICO STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER AND
THE TEXAS STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER AND
THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION
FOR THE MANAGEMENT, OPERATION, AND DEVELOPMENT OF HISTORIC
PROPERTIES ON FORT BLISS
UNDER SECTION 106 OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT OF 1966 (AS
AMENDED)
FORT BLISS, TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO

NEW MEXICO STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

[Signature]

Date: 12/19/14

Joe Pappas, Ph.D.
New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer
PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
AMONG
THE UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FORT BLISS AND
THE NEW MEXICO STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER AND
THE TEXAS STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER AND
THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION
FOR THE MANAGEMENT, OPERATION, AND DEVELOPMENT OF HISTORIC
PROPERTIES ON FORT BLISS
UNDER SECTION 106 OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT OF 1966 (AS
AMENDED)
FORT BLISS, TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO

TEXAS STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

Mark Wolfe
Date: 12/19/14
Mark Wolfe
Texas State Historic Preservation Officer
PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT

AMONG

THE UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FORT BLISS AND
THE NEW MEXICO STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER AND
THE TEXAS STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER AND
THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

FOR THE MANAGEMENT, OPERATION, AND DEVELOPMENT OF HISTORIC
PROPERTIES ON FORT BLISS

UNDER SECTION 106 OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT OF 1966 (AS
AMENDED)

FORT BLISS, TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

[Signature]

Date: 02/29/14

John M. Fowler
Executive Director
APPENDIX A

ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS

ACHP  Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
APE  Area of Potential Effect
AR  Army Regulation
ARPA  Archaeological Resources Protection Act
CATEX  Categorical Exclusion
CRM  Cultural Resources Manager
DOE  Determination of Eligibility
DPW  Directorate of Public Works
DPW-E  Directorate of Public Work, Environmental Division, Conservation Branch
EA  Environmental Assessment
EIS  Environmental Impact Statement
GC  Garrison Commander
GIS  Geographic Information System
GPS  Global Positioning System
HABS  Historic American Building Survey
HAER  Historic American Engineering Record
HALS  Historic American Landscape Survey
HCPI  Historic Cultural Properties Inventory
HP  Historic Property
ICRMP  Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan
IO  Isolated Occurrence
LA  Laboratory of Anthropology
MOA  Memorandum of Agreement
NAGPRA  Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
NEPA  National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA  National Historic Preservation Act of 1966
NMCRIS  New Mexico Cultural Resources Information System
NMSHPO  New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer
NPS  National Park Service
NRHP  National Register of Historic Places
PA  Programmatic Agreement
PAO  Public Affairs Office
PRD  Programmatic Research Design
REC  Record of Environmental Consideration
RHPC  Record of Historic Properties Consideration
SDZ  Surface Danger Zone
SHPO  State Historic Preservation Officer
TARL  Texas Archaeological Research Laboratory
TCP  Traditional Cultural Property
THPO  Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
TRU  Transect Recording Unit
TXSHPO  Texas State Historic Preservation Officer
UTM  Universal Transverse Mercator

36 CFR Part 800, The Codified Federal Regulation implementing Section 106 of the NHPA.
Aboveground properties. Properties or portions of properties, typically buildings, structures, and landscapes that are not archeology.

Adverse effect. Includes but is not limited to the physical destruction, damage, or alteration of part or all of a property's characteristics that contribute to the property's eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP. Adverse effects can also include alteration or loss of a property that is not consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties. Examples include the introduction of elements that are out of character with the property or affect its setting, neglect resulting in deterioration or destruction of the property, and transfer, lease or sale of the property.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Established under Title 11 of the NHPA, as amended. The ACHP is to be afforded a reasonable opportunity to comment with regard to proposed federal, federally licensed, federally permitted, or federally assisted undertakings that may affect properties included in or eligible for inclusion in the NRHP.

Anti-Deficiency Act. Legislation enacted by the United States Congress (September 13, 1982) to prevent the incurring of obligations or the making of expenditures in excess of amounts available in appropriations or funds. Prohibits the Federal Government from entering into a contract that is not "fully funded."

Area of potential effect. Geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist there. The APE includes the actual site of the undertaking, and may include other areas where the undertaking will cause changes in land use, traffic patterns, or other aspects that could affect historic properties.

Artifact. An object made or modified by human beings.

Assessment of Effect. Fort Bliss shall apply the criteria of adverse effect to historic properties within the APE. Fort Bliss shall consider any previous or known views concerning effects which have been provided by consulting parties and the public. An adverse effect is found when an undertaking may alter, directly or indirectly, any of the characteristics of a historic property that qualify the property for inclusion in the NRHP in a manner that would diminish the historic property's integrity.

Association. The link of a historic property with a historic event, activity, or person, also, the quality of integrity through which a historic property is associated with a particular past time and place.

Building. A historic property type that represents a resource, such as a house, created principally to shelter any form of human activity.

Consulting Parties. Those individuals and organizations concerned with the effects of a particular undertaking on historic properties. May include, but not limited to SHPO, ACHP, tribes, preservation groups, etc.

Criteria. The general standard by which the significance of a historic property is judged.

Cultural Resources Manager. The CRM is the DPW-E Conservation Branch Chief that meets qualifications as outlined by the Professional Qualifications and designated by the GC. The CRM is the
expert in cultural resources and the administrator of the ICRMP and this PA. The CRM acts on behalf of
the GC to coordinate compliance with this PA.

Days. In all instances of time periods for actions, "days" is intended to mean "calendar days" unless
otherwise noted.

Design. A quality of integrity applied to the elements that create the physical form, plan, space, structure,
and style of a property.

Determination of eligibility. The process of ascertaining a property's eligibility for listing on the NRHP.
A property eligible for the NRHP but not actually listed or formally determined eligible by the Secretary
of the Interior is afforded the same protection under Section 106 as a listed historic property.

Dig Permit. Form used by Army to request digging or excavation, for construction or training.

District. A historic property type that represents a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of
sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development.

Evaluation. Process by which the significance and integrity of a historic property are judged for
eligibility for the NRHP.

Feature. A feature can include any evidence of human activity and is usually non-portable: trash
middens, storage areas, houses, hearths, windmills, corrals, and fences, etc. A hearth feature, at a
minimum, is defined as 10 or more fire-cracked rocks in a one sq meter area.

Feeling. Quality of integrity through which a historic property evokes the aesthetic or historic sense of
past time and place.

Geographic Information System. A computer system capable of capturing, storing, analyzing, and
displaying geographically referenced information; that is, data identified according to location.
Practitioners also define a Geographic Information System (GIS) as including the procedures, operating
personnel, and spatial data that go into the system (from US Geological Survey web site).

Ground-disturbing activities. Any action that disturbs soil either temporarily or permanently
accomplished by any method including but not limited to hand or machine excavation, grading and
removal of vegetation, rocks, or other ground cover.

Historic American Buildings Survey. A program administered by the NPS to record in detail historic
buildings through architectural rendering, large format photography, and written documentation.

Historic American Engineering Record. A program administered by the NPS to record in detail historic
structures through engineering drawings, large format photography, and written documentation.

Historic American Landscape Survey. A program administered by the NPS to record in detail historic
landscapes through rendering, large format photography, and written documentation.

Historic context. An organizing structure for interpreting history that groups information about historic
properties that share a common theme, common geographical location, and common time period. The
development of historic contexts is a foundation for decisions about the planning, identification, evaluation, registration, and treatment of historic properties, based upon comparative significance.

**Historic Cultural Properties Inventory.** A form used by the State of New Mexico to record historic properties.

**Historic property.** Any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, object, or traditional cultural property included in, or eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. The term includes artifacts, records, and remains related to and located in such properties.

**Impact Areas.** (Department of the Army Training Circular No. 25-1). Impact Area - Dunded - an area having designated boundaries within which all dud-producing ordnance will detonate or impact. This area may include vehicle bodies that serve as targets for artillery/mortar direct and indirect fire. Impact areas containing unexploded ordnance may not be used for maneuver. Impact Area - Non-Dunded - an area having designated boundaries within which ordnance that does not produce duds will impact. This area is composed mostly of the safety fans for small arms ranges. These impact areas may be used for maneuver, at the cost of curtailing use of weapons ranges.

**Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan.** A required Department of Defense planning tool for compliance with statutory management requirements.

**Integrity.** Authenticity of a property’s historic identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristic(s) that existed during the property’s historic or prehistoric period. Integrity consists of seven elements: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

**Isolated Occurrence.** Any cultural material recorded in a survey that does not fit the criteria for a site and is not close enough in proximity to other cultural materials to be added to a site boundary.

**Keeper:** NPS employ responsible for the NRHP program.

**Location.** A quality of integrity retained by a historic property existing in the same place as it did during its period of significance.

**Material.** A quality of integrity applying to the physical elements that were combined or deposited in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property.

**Memorandum of Agreement.** A formal Section 106 document that outlines an agreement made among individuals, groups, or entities, used to cooperatively work together on an agreed purpose or meet an agreed objective.

**Mitigate.** Reduce harm to historic properties.

**Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.** Federal Act that describes the rights of Native America lineal descendents, Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organization with respect to the treatment, repatriation, and disposition of Native American human remains, funerary objects and sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony; also provides greater protection for Native American burial sites and more careful control over removal of Native American human remains, funerary objects and sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony.
National Register of Historic Places. A list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture.

National Environmental Policy Act. A United State environmental law establishing a national policy promoting the enhancement of the environment and setting up procedures for all federal agencies in which to consider the effects of their proposed actions on the environment.

Object. A historic property type that represents a construction primarily artistic in nature or relatively small in scale and simply constructed, such as a statue or milepost.

Period of significance. Span of time in which a property attained the significance for which it meets the NRHP.

Programmatic Agreement. A Section 106 agreement document that records the terms and conditions agreed upon to resolve potential adverse effects, typically developed for a large or complex project or a class of undertakings that would otherwise require numerous individual requests for ACHP comments under the NHPA.

Programmatic Research Design. A strategic, systematic, and reusable program of identifying research goals and methods to address data recovery of a class of site types or time periods or some other unifying characteristic(s).

Proponent. The organization with technical and administrative control over the execution of a project or training exercise; e.g., the DPW acts as the user's agent for construction activity and is the implementing organization for those projects.

Red Zones. Restricted areas on Fort Bliss in which no activity is allowed.

Record of Historic Properties Consideration. Fort Bliss documentation of the Section 106 review process followed by the CRM or CRM Staff to document compliance under Section 106. Information included on the form includes: initiation date of review, associated Work Order number or Archeological Project number, name of Proponent, project description, APE, project analysis, documentation of determinations of eligibility and findings of effect, treatments of adverse effects, and date review closed.

Section 106 process. A review process established under NHPA Section 106 and administered by the ACHP under its regulations. During this process, agencies afford the ACHP an opportunity to comment on any agency activity or undertaking that may affect historic properties, and must take such comments into account.

Section 110. The section of the NHPA that defines federal agencies' responsibilities to preserve and use historic buildings and to establish a program to identify, evaluate and nominate historic properties to the NRHP.

Service Order. Request for work that can be completed for under $1,200 or under 40 man-hours of time.

Setting. A quality of integrity applying to the physical environment of a historic property.

Site. A historic property type representing a location of a significant event, a prehistoric or historic occupation or activity, or a building or structure, whether standing, ruined, or vanished, where the
location itself possesses historic, cultural, or archeological value regardless of the value of any existing structure.

**State Historic Preservation Officer.** A position created under the NHPA. The SHPO is appointed by the governor and charged with the administration of the NHPA and to ensure that the state’s interests are considered.

**Structure.** A historic property type representing a functional construction made for purposes other than creating shelter, such as a bridge.

**Surface Danger Zone.** (Department of the Army Pamphlet 385-63) The ground and airspace designated within the training complex to include associated safety areas for vertical and lateral containment of projectiles, fragments, debris, and components resulting from the firing, launching, or detonation of weapon systems to include explosives and demolitions. The SDZ is a depiction of the mathematically predicted area a projectile will return to earth either by direct fire or ricochet. (Exempted from project review only when active.)

**Tenant.** A person who occupies real property owned by another based upon an agreement between the person and the landlord/owner, almost always for rental payments.

**Traditional Cultural Property.** Properties associated with the traditional cultural practices of a living community that (a) are rooted in that community’s history or (b) are important in maintaining the continuing cultural identity of the community. A Traditional Cultural Property (TCP) is the terminology used by the NRHP program.

**Transect Recording Unit.** A 15 m by 15 m unit or “cell”, part of a larger, virtual grid placed over an archeological survey area, in which all cultural materials are recorded, usually by means of a hand-held computer, for later projection and use in a GIS.

**Undertaking.** Under this PA, an undertaking is defined as a project, activity, or program funded in whole or in part under the direct or indirect jurisdiction of a Federal agency including those carried out by or on behalf of the Army; those carried out in whole or in part with Army funds; and those requiring Army approval—from 36 CFR § 800.16(y).

**Universal Transverse Mercator.** Geographic coordinate system developed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to give locations on the surface of the earth. The system divides the earth into 60 zones, each a 6-degree band of longitude, and uses a secant transverse Mercator projection in each zone.

**Viewshed.** Areas under the direct or indirect jurisdiction of a federal agency that can be seen from historic properties, typically from the perimeter of a historic district or historic property.

**Workmanship.** A quality of integrity applying to the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture during any given period or prehistory.

**Work Order.** Requested on Department of the Army Form 4283, a request for maintenance, repair, or new work over $1,200 or 40 man-hours.
APPENDIX B

EXEMPTED UNDERTAKINGS

The categories of undertakings listed below have been determined by Fort Bliss, the SHPOs, and the ACHP to meet the criteria for exemption; i.e., they qualify as undertakings, but will have no effect on historic properties, or their potential effects will not be adverse. An undertaking of one or more of the types listed below will not require further Section 106 review with the appropriate SHPO, so long as the undertaking is limited to the types listed below, and is not a part of another undertaking. In addition, if at any time in the course of the undertaking information becomes available that would make this procedure inapplicable, including but not limited to the discovery of historic properties or human remains, Section 106 review or NAGPRA protocol shall be initiated by Fort Bliss.

A. 32 CFR § 651.9 (b)(1) Emergencies. Immediate actions to promote national defense or security and actions necessary for the protection of life or property, including but not limited to the following:
  1. In-place disposal of unexploded ordnance
  2. Disposal of ordnance in existing open burning/open detonation units
  3. Emergency response to releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, and contaminants (no cultural resources work would be conducted, unless and until the danger to human health and safety has been cleared).
  4. Military activities in existing designated Surface Danger Zones (SDZ). The exemption will apply to designated impact (doodled) areas, or areas with unexploded ordnance. SDZ are exempted only when active; areas within an SDZ that become contaminated with unexploded ordnance are then exempted, unless and until the unexploded ordnance is cleared.

B. Fort Bliss will proceed with undertakings required to support mobilization and training required due to unanticipated deployment, mobilization, or armed conflict. The CRM or CRM Staff with appropriate security clearance will conduct an internal review. In all cases, however, the CRM or CRM Staff will ensure that the effects of these undertakings on historic properties will be considered and a reasonable effort will be made to avoid damage to the historic property. The CRM or CRM Staff will include a summary of the undertaking in the Annual Report, provided no information is classified or would have the potential to affect classified actions.

C. Activities on other areas across Fort Bliss shall be exempted from project review because of the limited (or no) potential for cultural resources sites:
  1. Steep slopes (greater than 30 percent)
  2. Active arroyos
  3. Active floodplains
  4. Areas disturbed to a depth below the proposed undertaking

D. Decisions made through government-to-government consultation with tribes concerning management options for Sacred Sites.

E. Site Work
  1. Replace in kind existing damaged landscaping and plant material with native and/or regional landscaping material. New replacement plantings, xeriscaping...
and ground cover shall meet the following Fort Bliss Landscape: A Landscape Handbook for Historic Properties (2009) and shall maintain overall character of adjacent historic properties and historic view shed;

2. Repair or replace in kind existing streets, driveways, sidewalks and curbing. Undertaking includes stripping of pavement, spreading of new gravel on existing roads, and concrete formwork and curing;

3. Repair or replace existing water, sewer, natural gas, and communications lines in their present configuration, alignments and depth with no impact to character defining features;

4. Traffic signs as required by law;

5. Repair or replace in kind existing building signs. Signs should be mounted in a way as to minimize physical damage to historic building materials. New sign installation shall maintain character of historic properties and not alter character defining features;

6. Temporary buildings or structures that will not have a life longer than five years;

7. Undertakings that impact areas less than one square meter of ground disturbance;

8. Repair or replace in kind existing fencing and fence screens. Installation of perimeter security fencing and gates are acceptable provided surveys have not identified historic properties and character defining features are not altered; or

9. No, or minimal, ground disturbance, and ground disturbance within previously disturbed areas as long as new disturbance does not exceed dimensions of previous disturbance.

E. Roofs

1. Repair in kind existing roof. If roof is deteriorated beyond repair, a compatible replacement roof is acceptable. Replacement roof(s) shall not alter overall appearance of exterior or diminish character defining features.


3. Installation of new roofing, including white roofs or cool roofs, on a flat-roofed building with a parapet, such that the roofing material is not visible from any public right-of-way.

F. Exterior
1. Repair or replace in kind existing materials that maintain character defining features: stucco, concrete, masonry, wood siding, trim, porch decking, porch rails, joists, columns, and stairs.

2. Installation of materials such as netting, bird spikes or sonar equipment for the deterring of bird habitat and does not alter character defining features. Installation should be reversible and not result in physical damage.


G. Doors

1. Repair in kind existing historic door(s). If door is deteriorated beyond repair, a compatible replacement door is acceptable. Replacement door(s) shall match original design/configuration and shall not alter overall appearance of facade or diminish character defining features. Doors will typically be the same materials unless force protection or safety protocols require otherwise.

2. Installation of hardware to include dead bolts, door latches and locks, window latches, locks, hinges, and door peepholes, provided historic materials are not removed. New hardware shall be of a plain, contemporary design and made of the same material as existing historic hardware;

3. Repair in kind door screen(s). Door screen(s) shall be repaired in-kind prior to consideration of replacement. If replacement is necessary, screen shall be replaced in-kind with same material and thickness as existing screen.


H. Windows

1. Repair in kind existing damaged window components. If window components are deteriorated beyond repair, individual window component shall be replaced in-kind. Complete window replacement requires SHPO review;

2. Paint window components in-kind. Unpainted surfaces shall remain unpainted;

3. Adjustments of window counterweights including associated disassembly and reassembly;

4. Replace in kind existing broken window glazing. Replacement shall be clear glass with same thickness as broken glass;
5. Repair or replace in kind existing damaged window screens and storm windows;

6. Installation of hardware to include window latches, locks, hinges, provided character defining features are not removed. New hardware shall be of a plain contemporary design and made of the same material finish as remaining existing historic hardware;


I. Interiors

1. Repair or replacement of existing non-historic flooring, carpets, and blinds that does not alter character defining features;

2. Replacement or placement of window treatment such as mini-blinds and curtains;

3. Repair in kind damaged historic flooring. If flooring components are deteriorated beyond repair, individual flooring component shall be replaced in-kind. Replacement flooring shall match original design, color and material and shall not alter character defining features;


5. Installation of fire, smoke and security detectors;

6. Installation of new interior furniture/furnishing and information technology systems and equipment that does not alter or diminish character defining features;

7. Repair of structural and mechanical systems that are not visible and does not alter structural integrity or character defining features;

8. Repaint or refinish historic surfaces in kind. New paint color/finish shall match existing color and texture and does not alter character defining features;

9. Removal and replacement of non-historic asbestos flooring and mastic and does not alter character defining features.

J. Electrical/Plumbing/HVAC

1. Repair or replacement of existing electrical, plumbing fixtures, wiring, lines and pipes and does not alter character defining features;

2. Repair or replacement of existing heating and cooling systems, ductwork and ventilation systems that are not considered character defining features and do not alter character defining features;

3. Repair or replacement of existing electrical, power, lighting and communication lines in their present configuration and alignments and depth and do not alter character defining features;

4. Upgrading existing electrical and plumbing components such as hot water heaters, existing wiring, lines and pipes that do not alter character defining features;

5. All exempted mechanical and electrical work shall follow Fort Bliss Standards for the Treatment of Historic Buildings (2008).

K. Conservation

1. Repair or installation of insulation in roofs, crawl spaces, ceiling, attics, walls, floors and around pipes and ducts that do not alter character defining features;


3. Repair or replacement of existing non-historic lighting systems that do not alter character defining features;

4. Installation of environmental monitoring units, such as those for water, air quality and electrical usage;


7. Water conservation measures, such as installation of low-flow faucets, toilets, showerheads, urinals, or distribution device controls, provided that plumbing fixtures to be replaced are not original to the building;
8. Upgrading existing facility and infrastructure-related pumps and motors, including those water/wastewater facilities, to variable-speed or premium efficiency standards;

9. Hot water tank replacement that does not require a visible new supply or venting; and

10. Repairing plumbing systems in a manner that does not affect the interior or exterior of the building.

L. Maintenance

1. Maintenance and routine housekeeping that does not alter character defining features;

2. Removal of animals, birds, insects and their associated debris.

M. New Construction

1. New construction in areas that do not include historic properties or with the view shed of a historic district. New construction in or near a historic district and associated view shed shall be reviewed and approved by the CRM and/or CRM Staff.
APPENDIX C
IDENTIFYING AND EVALUATING PROPERTIES

The following procedures are applicable to all survey and/or evaluation work plans conducted under a Section 106/NEPA Review—or a general Section 110 project as appropriate. And will be applicable throughout the term of the PA. Work plans will describe the scope of work (including the boundaries of the survey area, acreage or numbers of buildings and structures to be inventoried), the methods to be used, and the expected output (or deliverables). All work will be conducted by or under the supervision of a professional who meets the minimum standards as identified in the Professional Qualifications as appropriate for the historic property being addressed and must be consistent with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation (48 FR 44716).

1. Archaeological Survey

   A. Policy: Fort Bliss shall obtain accurate, descriptive field data of all observed cultural materials in consultation with the appropriate SHPOs and Tribes.

   B. Procedure

      1. Transect Recording Unit (TRU) Survey

         a) The survey area is gridded into 15 m x 15 m units using GIS software.

         b) Each TRU is identified by the WGS 84 UTM coordinate of its southwest corner. Each crewmember walks a 15 m x 15 m line of units, until all units within the survey area have been observed.

         c) Each crewmember uses a handheld electronic data gathering unit to record all observed cultural materials within each 15 m x 15 m “cell.”

         d) The electronic data gathering unit usually includes a GPS application that displays the TRU coordinates, with a correctable accuracy of less than or equal to 1 meter, linked to a menu driven database for recording the artifact and feature types, and other pre-programmed data field.

      2. Recording methods

         a) Features

         (1) Features are recorded within each 15 m x 15 m unit.

         (2) Data to be gathered when recording a feature include: the type and quantity of materials, the size and shape of the feature, any construction details, probable function, and any relationship to nearby cultural materials.

         (3) Digital photos are taken of each feature.
(4) If the feature is tested for subsurface depth/content of materials, then plan and/or profile views are drawn.

b) Artifacts

(1) Artifacts are recorded within each 15 m x 15 m unit.

(2) Data to be collected can include: type of artifact, size, shape, color, material type (lithic type, ceramic type, glass type), count, maker’s mark or other identifiable markings or stamps.

(3) Crewmembers may estimate the number of artifacts for TRUs where large numbers of artifacts are observed.

3. Defining archaeological sites

a) Minimum standards

(1) Ten or more artifacts of any class or type (except for fire-cracked rock) within a 15 sq meter area (except when all pieces appear to originate from a single source—a ceramic pot, a broken glass bottle, deteriorated sheet of metal, etc.). An exception might be made for a single knapping area which could be considered an activity area, and thus a site; or

(2) One or more dateable features (that is, chronometric dating) with or without associated artifacts (associated within a 15-meter radius of the feature); or

(3) Two or more undateable features within 30 meters of one another; or

(4) One or more undateable features with any associated artifacts.

b) In general, 30 meters of no cultural materials is the maximum distance allowed between two 15 m x 15 m units containing cultural materials (or “positive” cells) to still be considered part of the same site. Field supervisors will be allowed to assign site status as appropriate to other situations outside of these criteria providing a logical and reasonable justification is made.

c) Prehistoric Site, Historic Site, or Multi-Component Site

(1) Archeological sites may be historic, or include historic components.

(2) A historic component is identified when the feature and/or artifacts can be shown to be 50 years of age or older, but not extending into prehistory.
At Fort Bliss that earliest date is 1659 A.D. (or the establishment of the first Spanish missions).

Relevant historic records searches will be conducted and in New Mexico, the appropriate state forms are completed when historic buildings or structures are present on the site. Appropriate state forms shall be completed by an individual meeting the Professional Standards.

d) Isolated Occurrences

(1) IOs are recorded when there is a positive TRU that contains cultural materials that do not fit the criteria for a site.

(2) Data to be gathered when recording an IO include: the type and quantity of materials, the size and shape of the feature, any construction details, probable function, and any relationship to nearby cultural materials.

4. Conducting Geomorphic Studies

a) Each investigation shall assess the potential for subsurface deposits and the integrity of those deposits at each site through subsurface testing, although natural cuts into the landscape (road cuts, arroyos, and rills) and other previously collected geomorphic/geologic data can be used.

b) Testing shall include trowel tests, auger tests, shovel tests or backhoe tests; testing shall be proportional to the size of the site, but otherwise have a minimal impact.

c) The investigation shall record the soil profile and any other distinguishing characteristics (such as pieces of charcoal or buried artifacts) to identify post-depositional activities that have affected the site (wind or water erosion, man-made impacts, and bioturbation), to estimate the extent of those activities, and to finally arrive at an estimate of the percentage of the site remaining intact.

d) When appropriate for a given project, a geomorphologist shall conduct geomorphological studies.

5. Assessing Chronological and Chronometric Potential

a) Each investigation shall assess the potential for chronological and/or chronometric dating.

b) Chronological or relative dating potential includes the presence of diagnostic ceramics or stone tool types or features; chronometric dating
potential includes the presence of charcoal pieces or carbon-stained soil
for AMS dating techniques.

c) The potential for other types of chronometric dating methods such as
dendrochronological (tree ring) or thermoluminescence (time elapsed
since last firing) can also be used.

d) Actual collection and testing shall be based on the availability of
funding.

6. Processing Survey Data

a) Survey data is downloaded to one unit and/or computer and/or server for
later Quality Assurance/Quality Control and further processing.

b) Those files shall be saved in the ESRI.shp file extension for use in one of
the ESRI geographic information system (GIS) products such as
ArcMap.

c) Data collection and summary descriptions shall include:

(1) general physical environment;

(2) horizontal boundary of the site;

(3) quantities and types of artifacts;

(4) number, size, and types of features;

(5) site integrity based on observation and subsurface testing; and

(6) potential for yielding chronometric and/or paleoclimatological
samples.

d) In general, a physical site datum shall be established for each site and a
site tag included as appropriate, unless otherwise directed by the CRM or
CRM Staff.

(1) The datum is usually a piece of rebar with an attached aluminum
tag.

(2) The tag includes the name of the investigator, date of placement,
Fort Bliss project number, and Fort Bliss and appropriate state
site numbers.

7. Creating Site Maps
a) An overall map of the project area and individual site maps shall be created for each survey and included in any report or other written record.

b) Individual site maps include

1. the site boundary;

2. nearby physiographic features and landmarks;

3. locations of features, site datum, test units, and collections;

4. a “north” arrow, a scale and a legend or key;

5. source graphics; and

6. both Fort Bliss and appropriate state numbers.

8. Completing State Site Forms

a) Appropriate state forms shall be completed for each recorded site, following the appropriate state guidance.

b) Fort Bliss numbers are assigned by the CRM or CRM Staff.

c) The primary number for any site on Fort Bliss is the “Fort Bliss” or “FB” number; the appropriate state number is the required secondary number.

d) Site maps attached to state site forms shall conform to the requirements of the appropriate state.

II. Historic Buildings, Objects, Structures, and District Surveys

A. Policy: Fort Bliss shall obtain accurate, descriptive field data of all buildings, objects, structures, and districts, not previously surveyed, in consultation with the appropriate SHPOs and Tribes.

B. Procedure

1. At a minimum the following information shall be collected in a survey of the built environment:

   a) Building Number;

   b) Year Built;

   c) Historic Function;
d) Evaluator/Date of evaluation;

c) Historic code:

f) Historic context;

g) Architectural description; and

h) Photo of the primary façade

2. Completing State Forms

a) Appropriate state forms shall be completed for each recorded building, object, or structure following the appropriate state guidance.

b) Fort Bliss numbers are assigned by the CRM or CRM Staff.

c) The primary number for any historic property on Fort Bliss is the “Fort Bliss” or “FB” number; the appropriate state number is the required secondary number.

d) Maps attached to state forms shall conform to the requirements of the appropriate state.
APPENDIX D

RECORD OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES CONSIDERATION

| Date:       | 11/3/2010   | State: TX  |
| RHPC No.:  | 1           | Archology  |
| RHPC Preparer: | Siton     | Architecture  |
| NEPA Number: | 99-999   | Archeology and Architecture  |
| Work Order No.: | XXX9999 | Dist Permit  |
| Proponent(s) Name: | Project Name: | Project Description: |
| Area of Potential Effect: | Describe near risk effects: |
| Project Analysis: | Describe process followed to complete review of property potential effects, research materials used, previous projects, and results, any work completed or already completed, etc. |
| Criteria for Evaluation: |  |
| Historic Context: | Summarize applicable Historic Context(s): |
| Criterion A: | How does the requirements under the criterion: |
| Criterion B: | How does the requirements under the criterion: |
| Criterion C: | How does the requirements under the criterion: |
| Criterion D: | How does the requirements under the criterion: |
| Criteria Considerations: Apply to Property: |  |
| Criterion Considered: | Test Result: |

Determination of Eligibility

THIS IS A DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY  
SHPO Consultation Date: 03-Nov-10
Comments: Log Number or Tracking Number, how any comments were addressed, report title and author

Assessing Effects

THIS IS AN ASSESSMENT OF EFFECT  
No Historic Properties Affected  
Comments: Any comments to better explain findings.

Historic Properties Not Adversely Affected  
Comments: Any comments to better explain findings.

Historic Properties Adversely Affected  
Comments: Any comments to better explain findings.

Treatment of Adverse Effect

SHPO Consultation Date: 11/3/2010
Comments: How any comments were addressed, other consultation conducted, timelines, or other information.

Attachment List: maps, reports, figures, etc.

Signature for Findings of Adverse Effect

Preparer:  
Date:  

Thursday, July 21, 2011
APPENDIX F

Flowchart – Inadvertent Discovery Procedures
APPENDIX G

Standard Mitigation Measures

If the CRM and/or CRM Staff make a finding of Adverse Effect, Fort Bliss has identify consulting parties, including Tribes, and have considered all comments on this plan to mitigate those adverse effects. Options for mitigating those effects which include avoiding the site or sites by design, data recovery, or some other creative mitigation plan (trade-offs, preservation of another site, development of a new historic context in lieu of data recovery, etc), or other plans as may be developed during consultation.

I. Recordation

A. Digital Photography Package: Prior to project implementation, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall oversee the successful delivery of a digital photography package prepared by staff or contractors meeting the Professional Qualifications for Architectural History, History, Architecture, or Historic Architecture, as appropriate. The digital photography package will meet the standards cited in the NPS’ National Register of Historic Places Photographic Policy March 2010 or subsequent revisions (http://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/photopolicy/index.htm).

1. The package shall include a comprehensive collection of photographs of both interior and exterior views showing representative spaces and details of significant architectural features and typical building materials. Exterior photographs shall include full oblique and contextual images of each elevation. Exterior views shall be keyed to a site plan while interior views shall be keyed to a floor plan of the building/structure. The photographs shall be indexed according to the date photographed, site number, site name, address, direction, frame number, subject matter and photographer’s name recorded on the reverse side in pencil.

2. The package shall include printed color copies of the digital photographs (on appropriate paper, per NPS Photographic Policy), a CD/DVD of the digital photographs (per NPS Photographic Policy), the completed appropriate state inventory form, select existing drawings, where available, and a written site history of the historic property.

3. The CRM and/or CRM Staff shall submit the package to the appropriate SHPO for review and approval. Once approved by the appropriate SHPO, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall submit a copy of the approved documentation to a state or local historical society, archive, and/or library for permanent retention.

B. 35mm Black and White Photography Package: Prior to project implementation, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall oversee the successful delivery of a 35 mm black and white film photography package prepared by staff or contractors meeting the Professional Qualifications for Architectural History, History, Architecture, or Historic Architecture, as appropriate.

1. The package shall include a comprehensive collection of photographs of both interior and exterior views showing representative spaces and details of significant architectural features and typical building materials. Exterior photographs shall include full oblique and contextual images of each elevation. Exterior views shall be keyed to a...
site plan while interior views shall be keyed to a floor plan of the building/structure. The photographs shall be indexed according to the date photographed, site number, site name, site address, direction, frame number, subject matter and photographer's name recorded on the reverse side in pencil.

2. The package shall include one full set of 35mm black and white photographs printed on fiber-based paper, the corresponding 35mm film negatives in acid free sleeves, the completed appropriate state inventory form, select existing drawings, where available, and a written site history of the historic property.

3. The CRM and/or CRM Staff shall submit the package to the appropriate SHPO for review and approval. Once approved by the appropriate SHPO, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall submit a copy of the approved documentation to a state or local historical society, archive, and/or library for permanent retention.

C. Large Format Photography Package: Prior to project implementation, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall oversee the successful delivery of a large format photography package prepared by staff or contractors meeting the Professional Qualifications for Architectural History, History, Architecture, or Historic Architecture, as appropriate.

1. The package shall include a comprehensive collection of photographs of both interior and exterior views showing representative spaces and details of significant architectural features and typical building materials. Exterior photographs shall include full oblique and contextual images of each elevation. Exterior views shall be keyed to a site plan while interior views shall be keyed to a floor plan of the building/structure. The photographs shall be indexed according to the date photographed, site number, site name, site address, direction, frame number, subject matter and photographer's name recorded on the reverse side in pencil.

2. The package shall include one full set of 4x5 or 5x7-inch photographs printed on fiber-based paper, the corresponding 4x5 or 5x7-inch negatives in acid free sleeves, the completed appropriate state inventory form, select existing drawings, where available, and a written site history of the historic property.

3. The CRM and/or CRM Staff shall submit the package to the appropriate SHPO for review and approval. Once approved by the appropriate SHPO, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall submit copies of the approved documentation to a local historical society, archive, and/or local library for permanent retention.

D. Data Recovery: Prior to project implementation, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall oversee the successful completion of data recovery undertaken by staff or contractors meeting the Professional Qualifications for Archaeology.

1. If data recovery for an archaeological site is the chosen mitigation method, a Data Recovery Plan will be developed in accordance with the ACHP’s Recommended Approach for Consultation on Recovery of Significant Information from Archeological Sites (1999), and consultations under this PA.
a) The Plan will be submitted to the appropriate SHPO and the Tribes for a 30 day review and comment period. If no comments are received, Fort Bliss will assume there are no objections and proceed with the Plan; if comments are received, the CRM and/or CRM Staff will continue consultation until that Plan is acceptable.

b) A copy of the finalized Plan will be provided to the appropriate SHPO and the Tribes.

c) Upon request of any party, the Plan may be submitted to the ACHP for review and comment, also with a 30 day review and comment period.

d) The final report of the execution of any Plan will be submitted to the appropriate SHPO and the Tribes.

2. Fort Bliss may propose to use a previously accepted Programmatic Research Design (PRD) to implement the mitigation.

a) The appropriate SHPO and the Tribes will continue to be given a 30 day review and comment period, the PRD may still be sent to the ACHP if requested, and the final report of the execution of the Plan will be submitted to the appropriate SHPO and the Tribes.

II. Public Interpretation

A. Prior to project implementation, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall work with the appropriate SHPO to design an educational interpretive plan.

B. The plan may include signs, displays, educational pamphlets, websites, workshops and other similar mechanisms to educate the public on historic properties within the local community, state, or region.

C. Once an interpretive plan has been agreed to by the parties, the appropriate SHPO and the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall continue to consult throughout implementation of the plan until all agreed upon actions have been completed by Fort Bliss.

III. Historical Context Statements and Narratives

A. Prior to project implementation, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall work with the appropriate SHPO to determine the topic and framework of a historic context statement or narrative Fort Bliss shall be responsible for completing.

B. The statement or narrative may focus on an individual historic property type, a set of related properties, or relevant themes as identified in the statewide preservation plan.

C. Once the topic of the historic context statement or narrative has been agreed to, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall continue to coordinate with the SHPO through the drafting of the document and delivery of a final product.
IV. Oral History Documentation

A. Prior to project implementation, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall work with the appropriate SHPO to identify oral history documentation needs and agree upon a topic and list of interview candidates.

B. Once the parameters of the oral history project have been agreed upon, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall continue to coordinate with the appropriate SHPO through the data collection, drafting of the document, and delivery of a final product.

C. The SHPO shall have final approval over the end product.

D. Fort Bliss shall use staff or contractors that meet the Secretary’s Professional Qualifications for the appropriate discipline.

V. Historic Property Inventory

A. Prior to project implementation, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall work with the SHPO to establish the appropriate level of effort to accomplish a historic property inventory.

B. Efforts may be directed toward the resurvey of previously designated historic properties and/or districts which have undergone change or lack sufficient documentation, or the survey of new historic properties and/or districts that lack formal designation.

C. Once the boundaries of the survey area have been agreed upon, the designated responsible party shall continue to coordinate with the appropriate SHPO through the data collection process.

D. The designated responsible party shall use appropriate SHPO standards for the survey of historic properties and appropriate SHPO forms as appropriate.

E. The CRM and/or CRM Staff shall prepare a draft inventory report, according to appropriate SHPO templates and guidelines, and work with the appropriate SHPO until a final property inventory is approved.

F. Fort Bliss shall use staff or contractors that meet the Secretary’s Professional Qualifications for the appropriate discipline.

VI. Geo-References of Historic Maps and Aerial Photographs

A. Prior to project implementation, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall work with the SHPO to identify the historic maps and/or aerial photographs for scanning and geo-referencing.

B. Once a list of maps and/or aerial photographs have been agreed upon, the designated responsible party shall continue to coordinate with the appropriate SHPO through the scanning and geo-
referencing process and shall submit drafts of paper maps and electronic files to the appropriate
SHPO for review.

C. The appropriate SHPO shall have final approval on the quality of the documentation provided by
Fort Bliss.

D. The final deliverable shall include a paper copy of each scanned image, a geo-referenced copy of
each scanned image, and the metadata relating to both the original creation of the paper maps and
the digitization process.
APPENDIX B
EA CORRESPONDENCE AND DISTRIBUTION
Fort Bliss Regulation ICRMP EA Mailing List

(Updated 31 October 2016)

FEDERAL AGENCIES

Bill Childress, District Manager
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Las Cruces, NM 88005-3371

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Austin, TX 78711
DOÑA ANA COUNTY, NM

Julia Brown
County Manager
Doña Ana County
845 N. Motel Blvd
Las Cruces, NM 88007

CITY / COUNTY OF EL PASO, TX

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Mayor, City of El Paso
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El Paso, TX 79901

El Paso County Historical Commission, Inc.
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El Paso, TX 79940

El Paso Preservation Alliance
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El Paso, TX 79923

Bernie Sargent
El Paso County Historical Commission
819 West Sunset Road
El Paso, TX 79922

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Kiowa Culture Preservation Authority
Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma
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Carnegie, OK 73015

Kellie Poolaw, Acting THPO
Office of Historic Preservation
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Carnegie, OK 73015

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Mescalero Apache Tribe
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Mescalero, NM 88340

Holly Houghten
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Mescalero Apache Tribe
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Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo Council
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El Paso, TX 79917-7579

Ric Quezada
Director of Cultural Preservation
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**PUEBLO OF ISLETA, NEW MEXICO**
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**FORT SILL APACHE TRIBE**
Jeff Haozous, Tribal Chairman  
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Michael Darrow, Historian  
43187 US Hwy 281  
RR2, Box 121  
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**WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE**
Ronnie Lupe, Chairman  
Box 700  
White River, AZ 85941

Mark Altaha, THPO  
Historic Preservation Office  
P.O. Box 507  
Fort Apache, AZ  85926
To Review EA and Draft FNSI: Go to www.bliss.army.mil, click on Environmental Public Documents

Comments must be postmarked or received via email by 07 December 2016

Return to:
DPW-E; Attn: John Barrera
Bldg. 624; Pleasonton Ave.
Fort Bliss, TX 79916-6812
The U.S. Army Garrison Fort Bliss (Fort Bliss) has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for the implementation of the 2017-2021 Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP), Fort Bliss, Texas and New Mexico. Fort Bliss proposes to implement the 2017-2021 ICRMP, in cooperation with regional stakeholders, to act as the blueprint for management of cultural resources on the Installation through 2021. It is an update of the 2008-2012 ICRMP. The 2017-2021 ICRMP implements new specific program element techniques, goals, objectives, and action items that would allow Fort Bliss to manage its cultural resources through an updated, integrated, and adaptive management approach designed to sustain and be consistent with the military mission.

The EA presents the purpose, need, and description of the Proposed Action and assesses the potential environmental consequences of the 2017-2021 ICRMP implementation (the Proposed Action) and the No Action Alternative. You have been identified as having an interest in the cultural resources of the El Paso region. In support of this process, we request your input in identifying general or specific areas of concern that you would like to see addressed regarding both the method of implementation proposed and the environmental analysis presented.

Submit written comments, postmarked by 07 December 2016, via mail to: DPW-E; Attn: J.F. Barrera Bldg. 624; Pleasanton Ave. Fort Bliss, TX 79916-6812

Or email comments by 07 December 2016 to: john.f.barrera.civ@mail.mil
GULF SOUTH RESEARCH CORPORATION
8081 GSRI AVE.
BATON ROUGE, LA 70820

PUBLISHERS AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF EL PASO

Before me, a Notary in and for El Paso County, State of Texas, on this day personally, appeared CECILIA UEBEL who states upon oath that she is the SENIOR VP OF SALES & MARKETING of the EL PASO TIMES, a daily newspaper published in the City and County El Paso, State of Texas, which is a newspaper of general circulation and which has been continuously and regularly published for the period of not less than one year in the said County of El Paso, and that he was upon the dates herein mentioned in the EL PASO TIMES.

That the LEGAL copy was published in the EL PASO TIMES for the date(s) of such follows 1 DAY(s) to wit NOVEMBER 06, 2016.

Signed

Subscribed and sworn to before me,
This 6TH day of NOVEMBER, 2016.

BELIA DUENES
Notary ID # 3439561
My Commission Expires
March 19, 2020

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
Draft Environmental Assessment for Implementation of the 2017-2021
Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan,
Fort Bliss, Texas and New Mexico

Fort Bliss has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate potential environmental impacts concerning the implementation of the 2017-2021 Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan. The Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) and EA can be viewed on the Fort Bliss website at www.bliss.army.mil; click on “Environmental Public Documents”.

The public is encouraged to review and comment on the Draft EA and FNSI. Public comments must be received no later than 7 December 2016 and can be submitted by e-mail at john.f.barrera.civ@mail.mil, or mailed to: Mr. John F. Barrera, DPW-E, Bldg. 624 Pleasanton Avenue, Fort Bliss, Texas 79916-6812.
PROOF OF PUBLICATION

I, being duly sworn, Maria Del Villar deposes and says that she is the Legal Coordinator of the Las Cruces Sun-News, a newspaper published daily in the county of Dona Ana, State of New Mexico; that the 1153246 is an exact duplicate of the notice that was published once a week/day in regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof for 2 consecutive week(s)/day(s), the first publication was in the issue dated November 6, 2016, the last publication was November 6, 2016. Despondent further states this newspaper is duly qualified to publish legal notice or advertisements within the meaning of Sec. Chapter 167, Laws of 1937.

Signed

[Signature]
Legal Coordinator
Official Position

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

ss.
County of Dona Ana
Subscribed and sworn before me this
30th day of November 2016

[Signature]
Notary Public in and for
Dona Ana County, New Mexico

September 14, 2020
My Term Expires

[Notary Seal]