APPENDIX H

CURRENT ARMY MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS AND EXISTING MITIGATION

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A. SUSTAINABLE RANGE PROGRAM

The sustainable range program includes the Range and Training Land Program (RTLP) and the Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM) Program.

A.1 Range and Training Land Program

The RTLP is the Army program that conducts range operations and maintenance to train soldiers in the field. Range Control implements RTLP by operating firing ranges and regulating use of training and impact areas. Since military use is the primary use of USARAK lands, the RTLP provides a framework within which land management is conducted. Range Control regulates access to training areas and ranges, and is instrumental in supporting protection and conservation of sensitive natural resources from military and recreational use alike.

The key RTLP planning product is an installation range development plan (RDP). The RDP defines the range and training land requirements for use in the installation Real Property and Master Plan (RPMP), INRMP, and ICRMP. These efforts, together with the ITAM work plan, should produce a sound business approach for consistent and proactive management of training land balancing mission, infrastructure, and environmental stewardship.

Range Operations

Range Control is responsible for providing safe, functional ranges and training facilities, assigning priorities, scheduling facilities and issue of range equipment and targets. Each post has a separate Range Control organization. The USARAK Range Manager formulates common policy, manages the assets and interface between Range Control and USARAK staff.

Range Operations firing desk is the routine and emergency communication base station for training. As the designated controlling authority for use of the range complex, Range operations issues orders regarding the opening and closing of training facilities, routine and emergency check-fires, resolution of training conflicts and reallocation of resources. Range Control will make every effort to avoid interference with training, but operational and safety directives from Range Control shift NCO's, Range Inspectors, the Range Utilization Specialist and the Range Facilities Manager must be obeyed immediately, with discussion and resolution of issues to follow.

Range Inspectors, under direction of each post Range Facility Manager, patrols the range complex to assist units in training, conduct courtesy inspections and enforce this and other related regulations. Range Inspectors are authorized to check-fire ranges or stop training on facilities if safety violations are noted. Range Inspectors also conduct exit inspections of facilities to grant unit clearance after training.

Safety

Unit leaders utilizing range and training facilities will conduct risk assessments of each operation. Range Officers (OIC/RSO) are responsible for completing the Risk Management/Assessment process before opening a range. The process will include all steps, i.e. hazard identification, hazard assessment, development and implementation of control measures, and supervision. Range Officers are required to certify in writing that the Risk Management process has been completed when signing for range/training facilities. The Risk Management process is located in USARAK Regulation 350-1, Training, Battle Focused Training FM 25-101, Risk Management FM 101-5, and Staff Organization and Operations FM 100-14.

Scheduling

The assignment of training areas, ranges and training facilities is conducted by Range Scheduling at each post Range Control.

Range and Training area request are reviewed and processed by Range Scheduling at each post. Normal operating hours for Range Scheduling are 0800-1530hrs Monday through Friday.

Request for Ranges, Training areas, and Training facilities must be submitted by: Range or Training area request (USARAK Form 279) or a memorandum to Range Control identifying:

- Range training area(s) and/or Training facility.
- Date and time of use.
- Number of personnel to be trained.
- Type of weapons.
- Type of ammunition.
- Point of contact and telephone/fax number.

Range Facility Management Support System (RFMSS) is a range, training area and training facility scheduling program, installed on unit computers by Range Control, that will allow requestors to remotely access Range Scheduling at any time and ;

- Review the availability of a range, training area or training facility.
- Submit an electronic request for a range, training area or training facility.
- Add or delete information or cancel a previously submitted request.
- Receive and print reservation contracts.
- Send to and receive electronic messages from Range Scheduling.
- Telephonic reservations can also be made but must be followed up by a USARAK Form 279, Memorandum or RFMSS entry with in 7 workdays. Range Scheduling will void all verbal reservation for which a hard copy request is not received, opening those ranges/ training facilities for first come first serve bookings.

Noise Management

<u>General (Army Regulation 200-1)</u>

a. This chapter defines the objectives of the Army's Environmental Noise Management Program (ENMP) which incorporates and replaces the Installation Compatible Use Zone Program (ICUZ).

b. The goals of the Army's Environmental Noise Management Program are to:

(1) Control environmental noise to protect the health and welfare of people, on- and off-post/CWF, impacted by all Army-produced noise, including on- and off-post/CWF noise sources.

(2) Reduce community annoyance from environmental noise to the extent feasible, consistent with Army training and materiel testing activities.

c. This chapter supplements the following:

(1) The Quiet Communities Act of 1978;

(2) The Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended;

(3) Federal regulations issued per above Acts;

(4) AR 95- 1.

(5) TM 5-803-4.

d. Federal regulations that implement the above laws are referenced in appendix A.

e. The policies and guidance provided in this chapter pertain to the control of environmental noise within the U.S.

f. Policies and guidance related to the control of hearing hazards and industrial noise are contained in AR 40-5 and DA PAM 40-501.

g. The responsibilities for the Army's Environmental Noise Management Program are defined in chapter 1.

Policy

The Army environmental noise policies are based on land use compatibilities as indicated by, objective noise levels. Under the environmental, noise program, the Army will:

a. Continually evaluate the impact of noise that may be produced by ongoing and proposed Army actions/activities, and minimize impacts and annoyance to the greatest extent practicable.

b. Comply with applicable Federal laws and regulations respecting the management of environmental noise. Questions regarding the applicability of state and local laws and regulations should be referred to the command legal officer and through channels to HQDA, Environmental Law Division for ultimate resolution.

c. Maintain an active environmental noise management program to protect the present and future operational capabilities of the installation or facility. Encroachment problems are caused by land uses that are not compatible with the existing and future noise environments, both on and off the installation/CWF. Predictions for long-range planning purposes can be made for several years into the future.

d. Assess the effect of noise from both on-post/CWF and off-post/CWF sources and identify mitigation measures for incompatible land uses.

e. Reduce interior noise to acceptable levels through architectural and engineering controls for buildings with sensitive activities such as medical treatment, education, and general living.

f. Maintain a noise complaint management program. Noise complaints will be handled with integrity, sensitivity, and timeliness.

g. Monitor the noise environment to verify levels that have produced major public and/or political controversy. Short-term monitoring can be used for this purpose. Long-term monitoring is useful for complaint and damage claim management.

h. Develop and procure weapons systems and other military combat equipment that produces less noise, when consistent with operational requirements.

i. Procure commercially manufactured products, or those adapted for general military use that produce less noise, and comply with regulatory noise emissions standards.

j. Consider acquisition of property rights solely on the basis of incompatible noise levels only after all practical means of achieving acceptable levels have been exhausted, and the operational integrity of the mission is threatened.

Major Program Requirements

a. Noise descriptors and compatibility.

(1) The day-night level (DNL) is the primary descriptor. The DNL is the time weighted energy average sound level with a 10 decibel (dB) penalty added to the nighttime levels (2200 to 0700 hours). The annual average is used for all activities. For special operations, such as Army National Guard and other part-time operations, additional analyses may be required in accordance with applicable and appropriate Federal, state and local laws and regulations.

(a) Noise from transportation sources, such as vehicles and aircraft, and from continuous sources, such as generators, win be assessed using the A-weighted DNL (ADNL).

(b) Impulsive noise resulting from armor, artillery and demolition activities will be assessed in terms of the C-weighted DNL (CDNL).

(c) Noise from small arms ranges will be assessed using the peak unweighted sound level until the international standard procedure currently being developed is approved.

(2) The primary means of noise assessment will be through mathematical modeling and computer simulation. Noise maps will be prepared showing noise zones I, II, and III. These noise zones are defined in Table 7-1.

(3) Noise-sensitive land uses, such as housing, schools, and medical facilities, are compatible with the noise environment in zone I, normally incompatible in zone II, and incompatible in zone III.

b. Supplemental noise assessment. Even though a noise assessment for an existing situation or proposed action may indicate land use compatibility, in the following cases there may be increased public perception of noise and adverse community reaction to increased noise. Compatibility determinations should be supplemented by a description of the projected noise increase and potential public reaction:

- Where the noise environment is determined by a few infrequent and very high-level noise sources (e.g., blasts with C-weighted sound exposure levels in excess of 110 dB).
- If single event noise levels from the proposed action are 10 dB or more greater than the existing levels.
- In areas where the ADNL is between 60 and 65 dB, and a proposed action is projected to increase the DNL by 3 dB or more.
- In areas where the ADNL is above 65 dB, and the proposed action is projected to increase the DNL by 1.5 dB or more.

The following programs and issues are related to the Environmental Noise Management Program:

a. Environmental noise can adversely affect wildlife (threatened and endangered species) and domestic animals and is becoming a concern at many installations and facilities. There are no standards or programmatic methodologies to address noise impacts to wildlife and domestic animals. These noise impacts will be studied and addressed on an as-needed basis as part of the Army's environmental noise management and natural resources programs, including assessments required to comply with the Endangered Species Act, and AR 200-3.

b. Vibration is an element of impulsive noise that can cause annoyance and structural damage. Unlike noise, vibration cannot be assessed with mathematical modeling and computer simulation. It will be assessed on an as-needed basis (e.g., response to damage complaints, damage to historic structures) with on-site monitoring.

c. Clear Zones, Accident Potential Zone I (APZ I) and Accident Potential Zone II (APZ II) are a component of land use compatibility at Army airfields (see TM-5-803-7). These zones extend immediately beyond, the end of airfield runways and along approach and departure flight paths. The zones identify areas which statistically have higher potential for aircraft accidents. For this reason, these areas should remain undeveloped in order to limit the adverse effects of a possible aircraft accident. The application of these zones would result in increased safety of the, general public.

Specific Noise Regulation USARAK Regulation 350-2

(1) Firing demolition, artillery, and mortar is prohibited from 2200 to 0600 except for the Yukon Stuart Creek area. Demolition charge sizes are limited as noted in chapter 9. In addition, any training activity that generates noise (firing of blanks, pyrotechnics, simulators, etc.) between 2200 and 0600 in areas adjacent to populated areas is prohibited.

(2) Exceptions to firing hours require public notification of late firing. An exception to firing hours can be obtained by submitting a late-fire request (see sample at fig. 2-1) to range control. Range control will submit the notification to the public affairs office so that a notice of firing (see sample at fig. 2-2) can be published. Late-fire requests must be submitted 12 working days before the desired training event.

Access

Public access

Per Public Law 87-327 and AR 200-3, USARAK controlled lands, when not scheduled for training, are open to civilians and off-duty military personnel for outdoor recreation such as hunting, fishing, trapping, berry picking, hiking, and nature photography. Units may encounter these people during the conduct of training. If the presence of civilians interferes with training activities, units will contact range control to have the civilians removed. Under no circumstances will trap lines or trapped animals be disturbed.

Off-limits areas

All areas within 1/2 mile of the military reservation boundaries are closed to training activities as a buffer to adjacent, nonmilitary land uses. The 1/2-mile restriction does not apply to the close-in training areas. Exceptions include all access routes and those areas specifically approved by range control. Improved recreational areas are closed to training unless otherwise approved by the DPW, Environmental Resources Division. All high hazard and dedicated impact areas are permanently off limits to recreational use.

Airspace Control

Training airspace is a resource managed in coordination with ranges, non-firing facilities, special use airspace, and land. This chapter covers training in the airspace bounded by restricted airspace or controlled firing areas.

Airspace use governed by USARAK Regulation 350-2 encompasses Range Control-managed sites and activities that require activation of the restricted airspace, or are of scope requiring

publishing of a Notice to Airmen. These activities may include but are not limited to the following:

- Artillery and mortar firing.
- Close air support, joint air attack training or aircraft reconnaissance.
- Parachute drops. (Personnel and equipment or cargo.)
- Field airstrip operations.
- Assault airstrips and the adjoining low-altitude parachute extraction system strips.
- Helicopter door gunnery training.
- Aviation unit field exercises from a ground base in a training area.
- Radio-controlled munitions aerial target operations.
- Small arms and subcaliber device ranges.
- Aerial delivery of live or simulated ordnance.
- Surface-to-surface and surface-to-air firing.
- Laser weaponry and targeting devices.
- Aircraft light-out operations between sunset and sunrise.
- Demolitions.

Federal Aviation Administration regulations require Notices to Airmen when a hazard exists to the safe flow of air traffic. Range Control at each post is responsible for scheduling and activating restricted airspace through the Federal Aviation Administration, Army airfields and flight service stations. Range Control will advise Terminal Radar Approach Control and the Army airfields when the reservation restricted airspace is to be closed (hot) or open (cold). This is done on a daily basis with Range Control providing these agencies with the proposed schedule of airborne operations and range firing for the following 7 day period. Changes to daily restricted airspace requirements can be made with Terminal Radar Approach Control with a minimum notification of 3 hours Monday through Friday. Changes for weekends and holiday require 24-hour notification. Units canceling or delaying activities published by Notices to Airmen will inform Range Scheduling immediately.

“Controller” and “user” are special terms in the context of Federal Aviation Administration restricted airspace. The controller of restricted airspace is the Federal Aviation Administration. The user is USARAK with day-to-day management by Range Control.

The restricted airspace is composed of subunits with a vertical limit established by Federal Aviation Administration for each subunit. The restricted airspace at FRA is identified as R2203 with Subunits A, B and C. The vertical limits for R2203A is surface to 11,000 feet mean sea level, R2203B is surface to 11,000 feet mean sea level and R2203C is surface to 5,000 feet mean sea level. At FWA R2205 is surface to 20,000 feet mean sea level. FGA is R2202A and R2202B surface to 10,000 feet mean sea level, and R2202C 10,000 feet mean sea level and above.

Restricted airspace is activated by the Federal Aviation Administration on request from Range Operations, initiated by the using unit. Since the Federal Aviation Administration activates restricted airspace on a real-time basis the DZ safety officer (DZSO) or combat control team (CCT) will establish radio communication with Range Control 1 hour before the start of the block time scheduled for the event. Activation of restricted airspace is done only by Range Control. New events or changes to scheduled events must be submitted to Range Operations in time for notice to the Federal Aviation Administration. Late requests may be disapproved if the area is already heavily scheduled.

When the restricted airspace is active, access for aircraft not involved in the training event will be controlled in the following manner:

- Due to weather or air traffic congestion, it is sometimes necessary that Army airfields, Air Force bases or Terminal Radar Approach Control utilize the restricted airspace for air traffic control. When this occurs, Range Control is contacted by those agencies requiring a stop-fire for the above conditions. Upon notification, Range Control will contact the firing unit(s) and attempt to arrange for a stop-fire of all live fires in the restricted area. The duration of the stop-fire under normal conditions is generally less than 15 minutes.
- All activity in the restricted or controlled firing areas will be placed into an immediate "cease fire" for life saver missions and will not be resumed until clearance is given by Range Control.
- Aircraft will contact Range Control (FM 38.30) before entering the restricted airspace or other training lands to receive flight advisory or clearance. Range Control is the only agency to grant clearance into the restricted airspace when it is active, Eielson Range Control is the contact point when restricted areas R2202, R2205, or R2211 are scheduled by Range Control for use by USAF. When this occurs the airspace is under the control of the USAF.
- Aircraft will maintain constant radio communications with Range Control when operating in and around the restricted airspace.
- Aircraft will cease operations and depart the restricted airspace immediately upon the request of Range Control.
- Aircraft will report when the mission is completed and it has departed the restricted area.

USARTRAK

The US Army Recreation Tracking (USARTRAK) system has been established to facilitate the reporting of recreational user days on military lands by allowing the recreational user of military lands to check in by telephone. Phase II of the system will be web-based, allowing for web check-in, as well as renewal of Recreational Access Permits (formerly HTF Permits) online.

The Sikes Act, as amended in November 1997, requires that every installation have an INRMP and that each INRMP must include:

- Fish and wildlife management, land management, forest management, and fish and wildlife oriented recreation.
- Fish and wildlife habitat enhancements or modifications.
- Integration of, and consistency among, the various activities conducted under the plan.
- Sustainable use by the public of natural resources to the extent that the use is not inconsistent with the needs of fish and wildlife resources.
- Enforcement of applicable natural resources laws (including regulations).
- No net loss in the capability of military installation lands to support the military mission of the installation.
- Provisions for spending hunting and fishing permit fees exclusively for the protection, conservation, and management of fish and wildlife, including habitat improvement, and related activities in accordance with INRMP.
- Public access to the military installation that is necessary or appropriate for sustainable use of natural resources by the public to the extent that such use is consistent with the

military mission and the needs of fish and wildlife resources, subject to requirements necessary to ensure safety and military security.

In order to provide for and report on these requirements, a simple but reliable system of tracking recreational use by days and type of activity has been designed.

The old access system involve getting an HTF (hunting, fishing, trapping) permit from the post, usually the Military Police, MWR, or Natural Resource office. This type of permit only allowed for the reporting of numbers of permits issued to users, but not total numbers of user days and type of activities. A call in system was developed, but it did not meet the full intent of the program.

The new system for access to military lands for recreational activities is designed to streamline both the reporting process for USAG-AK and the check-in process for the user.

USAG-AK will no longer issue HTF permits. Instead, recreational users, including firewood cutters, will be issued a Recreational Access Permit (RAP). Current HTF holders will not have to acquire a RAC. The new RAC permits will continue to be valid for all types of recreational access.

When you call the USARTRAK phone line you will be given a series of prompts that will allow you to select the area you want, activity you will be engaged in, and provide you with information about training area closures.

As always, recreational activities are permitted in the training areas as long as there are no conflicts with the military mission or training activities. This is for your safety, the safety of the troops, and to maintain the integrity of the military training experience.

Your post recreation access permit number and one of the local phone numbers is all you need to access this phone system.

The Fairbanks area number is (907) 353-3181
The Delta Junction number is (907) 873-3181
The Anchorage area number is (907) 384-3181

When you call the USARTRAK phone line you will be prompted through the system as follows

- First you will hear the welcome message
- You will be asked to enter your Recreation Access Permit (RAP) number
- Select the post you wish to enter (press 1, 2, or 3 for Fort Wainwright, Donnelly Training Area, or Fort Richardson).
- Select the activity from the list that most closely identifies the activity you will be engaged in that day. You will then hear the closures for that post for the week.
- You will be asked if you are cutting firewood or Christmas trees. If you select yes, you will be at the end of the check in system.
- If you are not cutting firewood, you will next be asked to select which specific area you will be entering on that post. You will then be asked which major area of the installation do you want to enter. For Example at Fort Wainwright, do you want to enter the Tanana Flats Training Area (TA), the Yukon TA or the Fort Wainwright Main Post? The menu will prompt you for the number that corresponds to the area of choice. If you selected Fort Richardson in a previous menu, you will be asked to select two areas of choice.

- Each large TA of an installation is then divided into smaller segments; for example within the Tanana Flats TA there is the Wood River corridor, the Tanana River corridor, The Salchaket/Clear Creek corridor, Blair Lakes Area, Clear Creek Landing Strip or other.
- You will be asked to enter the number of consecutive days you will be in that location.
- You are now at the end of the menu and you are checked in to the system.

The USARTRAK phone system allows you to check into the installation and training area of your choice from home or your cell phone.

You may check in up to 24 hours in advance. You may also check in from any location. For example, if you are in Fairbanks on Monday you may check into a training area at Donnelly Training Area for Tuesday using the local phone number. You do not have to use the DTA number to check into DTA.

Remember multiple permit numbers can be entered at the beginning for groups, and there is no check out requirement. Enjoy your time on the Alaska Army Military Lands!

The next step in making this USARTRAK system as user-friendly as possible is to implement a web-based check in system. Recreational users will be able to check into the area of choice, see which areas are closed and renew their permits.

Fire Management

1. Seasonal fire hazards caused by dry weather may restrict use of tracer and other potentially incendiary ammunition. Units will be informed of the firing restrictions during daily use-reporting call-ins. Regardless of the season, trainers must ensure that flame-producing pyrotechnics are not used on or near fuels that may start a forest or range fire. Throwing away cigarettes, matches, or other burning materials is prohibited. Fire hazard levels, posted at Range Control and announced to units during occupation or check-in call, are based on Fire Weather Index (FWI).
    a. The Army restrictions on training and ammunitions USARAK Reg. 350-2..
        (1) Low: No restrictions.
        (2) Moderate
            (a) Ball and Blank ammunition only in training areas.
            (b) Pyrotechnics, including smoke, trip flares and tracers prohibited on training areas,
            (c) No restrictions west of the 24 grid in Stuart creek Impact area.
        (3) HIGH:
            (a) Ball, blank, non-aerial pyrotechnics permitted on the small arms complexes only.
            (b) Flare burnout at 5,000 feet in Stuart creek only.
            (c) Units will carry fire suppression tools and water.
        (4) EXTREME:
            (a) Ball and blank ammo on the small arms complexes, no pyrotechnics.
            (b) No flares in any impact or training area, including Stuart creek.
    b. USAF activities and ordnance restrictions are summarized below:
        (1) LOW: No restrictions.

(2) MODERATE: No restrictions west of the 24 Grid line in the Stuart creek impact area.

(a) No restrictions on Delta creek impact area.

(b) Inert ordnance, cold spot BDU-33s, chaff and M206, MJU 7 or MJU 10, used on Oklahoma, Washington, Mississippi, east of 24 Grid on Stuart creek, and Blair lakes.

(c) Flares or foreign equivalent must burnout above 1000 feet AGL.

(3) HIGH: Flare burnout above 5000 feet AGL on all restricted areas or other land. Same ordnance restrictions as Moderate.

(4) EXTREME:

(a) Flare burnout above 5000 feet AGL. Other areas, only cold spot BDU-33 and inert ordinance.

c. Fire index calculations. The fire index computed by the Fire Chief on Army posts is the only official index. It is disseminated through the COC before 0930 and is valid for 24 hours. The following day forecast index will be disseminated at 1600; however, the index for the day is the 0930 index. Range Controls have the current information on the index.

d. The fire index is based on the National Fire Danger Rating System, ignition component and manning class.

e. During critical fire periods, all units utilizing ranges or training areas will carry fire fighting materials, such as full water trailers or drums of water, burlap bags, shovels and will be prepared to assist in suppressing any range fires that might occur in the training areas.

f. Anyone observing a fire in any range area will report it immediately to Range Control by one of the following methods:

(1) Range control frequency (FM 38.30).

(2) Post fire department: dial 911 at FRA and FGA, dial 353-7470 at FWA.

g. Range fires may occur at any time of the year on any range. Fires are most likely to occur on ranges where tracers or HE ammunition are used. On ranges where dud-producing ammunition is used, fires will be reported to Range Operations (FM 38.30) and observed. On all other ranges, the range OIC will report the fire to Range Operations and if instructed, dispatch troops to fight the fire. Fires in all up-range administrative areas will be fought. The range OIC will exercise judgment to ensure the fire does not endanger unit personnel. The range OIC will ensure control of weapons, ammunition and government property is not lost and evacuation of these items is possible if the fire becomes a hazard.

2. Waiver authority is delegated to the USARAK Deputy Commander, the 172nd SIB Commander, USARAK Garrison Commander and USAF 611th AOG/CC Commander. Units subordinate to those must use risk assessments and submit a written request to the appropriate chain of command for approval.

(a) Units receiving waivers must carry fire fighting tools, i.e., polaski, beaters and portable water extinguishers with water supply.

(b) A written copy of the approved waiver will be presented to the affected range control prior to continued firing.

3. Army and Air Force may be financially liable for fires resulting from failure to abide by fire danger restrictions as described in paragraph 2 and 3 above. USARAK and 611th AOG/CC are responsible to ensure that visiting units hosted by them maintain policy compliance.

Reporting

(1) Immediately report all fires to range operations or the fire department. Know the grid location, fire nature, and size. Units are to stop training and assist the fire fighters except when the fire is in an impact area.

(2) The use of pyrotechnics, smoke pots, and grenades may be restricted when fire danger is high. Smoke grenades and star-cluster flares will be used only for emergency operations during high fire danger times.

(3) Burn pans are required to burn excess powder charges and all residue from burn pans will be treated as hazardous material.

(4) Open fires are prohibited except in emergencies or as part of approved training exercises. Units desiring to build fires should submit a request to burn to range control. The request should include materials to be burned, quantity, length of burning, and the location. The request should be submitted in advance of the planned burning.

A.2 Protection of Environmental Resources During Training

The intent of this section is to enhance training by conserving the training environment and terrain. It is extremely important to use the training resources to your advantage while conserving them for future use. Preventing maneuver damage and maintaining the training quality is a command responsibility. Training will be conducted in a manner that ensures optimum use of the land while adhering to environmental and natural resource regulations, policies, and planning decisions. The Army has an obligation to act responsibly and effectively in the use of land and other natural resources required in fulfilling its mission.

USARAK is dedicated to maintaining and enhancing the quality of its training lands. This allows for the most realistic training opportunities possible. In fact, the ability to uphold the Army's mission depends on training lands that provide authentic combat conditions. Authentic conditions cannot be met when training lands are damaged.

To guide and regulate the actions of Army personnel using and managing training lands, the Army has developed the ITAM program. The goals of ITAM program are to evaluate, repair, maintain, and enhance training lands. A major component of the ITAM program is sustainable range awareness, and USARAK Regulation 350-2 is an essential part of the sustainable range awareness program. Sustainable range awareness is important to maintain and enhance the quality of training lands and to comply with federal, state, and Army laws and regulations that require all Army personnel to maintain certain environmental standards and record keeping.

Damage Control

a. Careless use of the training areas will result in terrain damage. If the mission of USARAK is to be fulfilled, realistic training conditions are required. Maneuver damage will decrease the training realism. This will result in substandard training conditions and will undermine the training mission. Maneuver damage needs to be kept to a minimum. The damage that occurs must be repaired. If not, the damage will result in artificial constraints on maneuver training including loss of training acreage, creation of safety hazards, decreased tactical maneuverability, increased maintenance costs, loss of vegetation, loss of quality training terrain, destruction of natural camouflage, and controversy with the general public.

b. The key to preventing maneuver damage is knowing how to respond properly to different situations. As leaders, the decisions you make will affect the training area by promoting or preventing damage. Once the training land is damaged it is extremely hard and expensive to replace or repair. Training for combat on the modern battlefield often cannot be conducted without damage, but trainers are expected to consider the impact of events, modify plans to avoid damage that violates Army policy, and ensure the repair of unavoidable scenario-driven damage. Training plans will include locations of known sensitive areas and plans for maneuver-damage repair. Procedures to reduce maneuver damage include the following:
   (1) Avoid making tactical turns such as missile avoidance or neutral steer turns, unless necessary. These types of turns will rip up all the vegetation and it will take the terrain several years to recover.
   (2) Avoid digging or damaging wetlands or any wet areas. Avoid damage to trees.
   (3) Drive on established roads during administrative time. Although it may take longer than moving cross-country, the expense incurred in repairing maneuver damage is very high. Units causing ruts must fill them in as soon as possible.
   (4) Stay away from the edges of roads. Driving on the edges will cause the edges to break and crumble. This can cause the road to wash out from rain and result in erosion problems.
   (5) Do not drive directly up steep hills.
   (6) Use camouflage nets instead of live vegetation. The nets are designed to break up the visual lines of equipment and structures.
   (7) Do required training with a concern for conservation and future use of range areas.
c. Units will report maneuver damage to range control. Range control will determine the cause of the maneuver damage. If the damage was caused as a result of unavoidable scenario-driven maneuvers, the units will not be assessed for maneuver-damage repair. However, if range control determines that the damage was unnecessary and negligent, the DPW, Environmental Resources Division will conduct a damage assessment and offending units may be charged for maneuver-damage repair. The DPW, Environmental Resources Division will provide technical guidance on cleaning up hazardous materials and the ITAM office will provide guidance on rehabilitation of damaged lands.

Wetlands

USARAK has obtained a 5-year general wetland permit to conduct military maneuver training in wetlands at FWA and DTA. This permit allows limited maneuver or other military activities to occur in some wetland areas, a change from the past, where no activity was permitted at all. Impacts to wetlands from training activities on FWA and DTA may not damage more than 40 acres per year per post (FWA and DTA). If that amount is exceeded, training in wetlands will be prohibited and individuals may be liable for fines and other penalties. Restoration of any such damage is mandatory.

As part of the mitigation for potential damage, the environmental pre-approval overlay must be used when requesting to train in wetland areas in order to avoid possible fines. The overlay clarifies which activities are approved/restricted for each training area. The environmental pre-approval overlays are described in detail in paragraph 2-8.

Upon completion of any activity occurring in a wetland, ITAM staff is required to check the area for damage and make arrangements with the unit for mitigation or restoration.

New permanent construction (buildings, roads, pads, etc.), weapons firing into impact areas, bank stabilization, unexploded ordnance, recreational activities, or ice bridges are not covered in this permit and require a separate, individual wetland permit and/or other permits.

Use of wetland areas at FRA also requires a wetland permit. Depending on the activity, this process can take up to 6 months. Consult the ITAM/environmental office early.

In addition to use of the environmental pre-approval overlays, several additional conditions must be met as part of the 5-year wetland general permit. These include:

(1) Only the minimum footprint necessary shall be used for training. Wetland areas adjacent to military operations not necessary for training will not be encroached upon, thus minimizing additional disturbance.

(2) Only 10-percent, incidental damage is permitted in any given area or trail. This 10-percent figure refers to the clearing of the vegetative mat and the exposure of bare soil. Once that amount has been exceeded, the areas or trail must be rotated out of use until the area has sufficiently recovered and can once again support training. The percentage of incidental damage will be monitored by ITAM personnel.

(3) When utilizing yellow areas adjacent to red areas, ITAM/environmental staff must flag a 50-meter buffer around the utilized area. The unit must remove flagging before leaving the area.

(4) During excavation activities, the vegetative mat must be stockpiled so that it can be used for reclamation after the exercise.

Environmental Pre-Approval Overlays

The environmental pre-approval overlays were developed as a tool for planning military training activities. Approved/restricted activities are listed in three color-coded categories. The environmental pre-approval overlays are available at each range control or ITAM office. ITAM or range staff will provide instruction on use of overlay. Each overlay is available in a summer and winter version. Check with range control for which version you should be using when planning your activity.

Vehicle Movement

(1) Vehicles will remain on marked trails and designated routes except when directed otherwise during tactical deployment. Vehicles will drive on established roads during administrative time. During breakup (usually 1 April through 15 May), all vehicles are restricted to established roads and dry trails. During summer months (usually May through September), cross-country movement is permitted in all areas except designated creek bottoms, lakes, streams, and open, flowing water as shown on the environmental pre-approval overlay. No tracked or wheeled maneuvering is permitted within a 50-meter buffer around all streams, lakes, and any open, flowing water during the summer unless crossing at a 90- degree angle to the stream. Fish spawning streams will not be crossed during summer. Vehicular stream crossing is allowed in winter months (usually October through March) at permitted ice bridge sites and other areas if there is no flowing water. Tactical turns, such as missile avoidance or neutral steer turns, will be avoided unless absolutely necessary. Vehicles will not drive directly up steep hills.

(2) Movement into off-limits areas is strictly prohibited. Personnel found in violation are subject to disciplinary action.

(3) Parked tactical vehicles must have drip pans placed under the vehicle at all times to catch any oil or fuel dripping from the vehicles.

Digging

(1) Mechanical digging and earth moving is limited to areas shown on the environmental preapproval overlay. Foxholes, trench systems, tank traps, hull down positions, explosive excavations, etc., must be refilled and leveled before redeployment. Where excavation is required, the organic layer will be removed first and stockpiled so it can be spread over disturbed sites after back filling is complete. All overhead cover, such as logs, must be disassembled and scattered. Wire, rope, and string will be removed and disposed of properly.

(2) Units and range control will ensure that no digging takes place in wetlands without a permit.

(3) Dig permits are required for activities occurring within the local training areas at all posts. Contact DPW to determine what areas require a dig permit. Dig permits can be obtained at DPW.

Snow Plowing

(1) Exercise caution when snowplowing trails and bivouac sites in the winter. A minimum of 6 inches of snow must remain on the ground when plowing trails, bivouacs, tactical operation centers, etc. The blade must be kept elevated to avoid tearing up the vegetative mat or soil beneath the snow pack.

(2) Snow berms around tactical operation centers, battalion support areas, etc., must be leveled after the exercise.

(3) Plow debris must not be pushed on top of any lakes or streams in winter. Large areas of woody vegetation must not be disrupted.

Vegetation (camouflage)

(1) Live trees greater than 4 inches in diameter will not be cut or damaged during training without prior approval. If trees larger than 4 inches in diameter are required, contact the DPW, Environmental Resources Division for an approved area to cut in. Destruction of trees and brush must be avoided unless it is required to achieve training objectives.

(2) Trees less than 4 inches in diameter may be cut without coordination with the DPW, Environmental Resources Division, if necessary to achieve training objectives. Spruce boughs (limbs) may NOT be cut from live, standing trees. Boughs may be obtained by cutting spruce trees under 4 inches in diameter. Remaining stumps must not be more than 6 inches tall.

(3) Use camouflage nets instead of live vegetation. The nets are designed to break up the visual lines of equipment and structures. Once live vegetation is cut, it wilts quickly, and does not conceal your position.

(4) Communications wire, power lines, and auxiliary cables should be strung along the edge of open areas or trails and run along the ground when feasible and compatible with training objectives. When it is necessary to suspend wire above the ground, care should be taken not to break trees, branches, stems, etc., and the use of nails and wire loops should be minimized.

Policing

(1) Police all training areas before, during, and after use. Even if it is not your litter, pick it up, because it can give away your position. All cartridges, tubes, containers, packing material, and all other material introduced into the environment in conjunction with maneuver activities will be removed to the maximum practical extent. Remove all barbed, communications, concertina, and trip wire and properly dispose of it per post procedures. Wire left behind can injure wildlife and recreational users of the land.

(2) Under no circumstances will units bury or burn waste.

(3) All vehicles are required to have a supply of plastic garbage bags for trash collection.

(4) ITAM/environmental staff is required to assist range control when clearing units from training areas.

Fish and Wildlife

(1) Harassment of fish and wildlife is prohibited. Any action that disturbs fish and wildlife is considered harassment by federal and Alaska State law. Harassment includes such things as pursuit with vehicles or aircraft, feeding, and shooting of wildlife. Individuals who harass fish and wildlife are subject to prosecution.

(2) Dedicated impact areas are permanently off limits and training areas may be temporarily closed during periods of significant wildlife use. The Alpha Impact Area at FWA is closed 15 May through 30 June for moose calving and cannot be used for artillery or mortar firing.

Cultural Resources

Identified historical and archaeological sites will be left undisturbed. Any historical or archaeological discoveries made as a result of any military activities should also be left undisturbed and must be reported immediately to the DPW, Environmental Resources Division.

Petroleum, Oils, and Lubricants

(1) Alaska State law requires that all spills be reported and cleaned up. A spill can be as little as one drop of POL if it hits the ground. Failure to report a spill will result in punishment of the individual(s) responsible.

(2) POL distribution points and refueling operations shall be set up and operated per USARAK Regulation 200-4. Drip pans must be used at all dispensing points. Each unit shall have a spill kit available that consists of at least a shovel, absorbent material (dry sweep), plastic bags, and drip pans. Improper handling of POL products constitutes gross negligence, punishable by fine or imprisonment.

(3) Immediately report POL spills to the fire department and range control. Know the size, location, and type of POL spill. Take immediate action to control, contain, and clean up the spill per the Installation Spill Contingency Plan. Failure to immediately report spills may result in prosecution.

(4) All hazardous wastes and materials will be handled per the USARAK hazardous waste and materials management plan for each post. All disposal actions will be coordinated with the DPW, Environmental Department.

(5) Always turn in unused or waste oil and fog oil (see USARAK Regulation 200-4) for recycling along with empty drums and other hazardous wastes, such as old batteries, solvent, and paints.

Field Sanitation

Human waste disposal procedures during training differ from those during combat conditions. The “bag and drag” method is not authorized on FRA lands and selected off-post training sites, due to recent environmental restrictions.

a. Fort Richardson. Waste disposal will follow either paragraph c or d below. Slit trenches and cat holes can be used during the summer on Training Areas 14A, 14B, and 14C. This policy applies to FRA training land users.

b. Fort Wainwright. Slit trenches and cat holes may be used for summertime disposal in the YTA. Bagged human waste from other areas will be disposed of at the FWA post landfill year round. Human waste may not be disposed of in any of the Eielson Air Force Base dump locations when leaving the YTA.

c. Fort Richardson disposal procedures.

(1) Sealable, reusable, 15-gallon cans and large holding tanks will be used for human waste during field activities. Plastic bag liners are not authorized. Major units may obtain an initial issue of these containers and are expected to issue them to subordinate units. The cans are heavy-gauge steel with removable lids and gaskets that are held in place with clamping rings. Units will maintain these cans and requisition replacements (National Stock Number 8110-00-254-5717).

(2) The number of cans needed can be calculated as 4 percent of the number of soldiers deployed per day. For example, if 130 soldiers are in the field for 3 days, 4 percent of 130 is 5.2 (cans). Multiply 5.2 (cans) by 3 (days), which equal 15.6 (or 16) (cans). Thus, 16 cans are required for 130 soldiers for 3 days.

(3) When paragraphs (1) and (2) above do not apply, units will write an SOP on waste disposal procedures. The following information should be included:

(a) No plastic liners permitted. One of the reasons the “bag and drag” method was discontinued is because bags were put into the sewer system and plugged it.

(b) Cans originally issued will be numbered. The supply officer or separate companies will track the assignment of the cans and any additional cans obtained. Cans not returned and accounted for after a field exercise will be retrieved and disposal procedures followed.

(c) Simple Green or other cleaners and brushes may be used to clean the cans and reduce odor in the field.

(d) Cans should be carried by two soldiers; they weigh approximately 100 pounds full.

(e) If the cans freeze, they can be thawed before emptying.

(f) Take care to ensure an airtight seal is maintained. Rubber gaskets and clamping nuts and bolts can be easily lost or broken, and the clamping ring sprung.

(g) The cans may be dumped into unit latrines and sanitized there, or into the DPW’s evacuator truck pad. Units must schedule an appointment with DPW for access during duty hours. A detail NCO will be in charge of the soldiers and will clean up the evacuator pad to DPW’s satisfaction. Units may contact DPW, Roads and Grounds Division at FRA for access to the wash pad.

(h) Raingear, gas masks, and chemical gloves are appropriate attire for the cleaning detail. Units may also procure disposable coveralls, goggles, and rubber gloves from the General Services Administration.

(i) Waste will NOT be buried, burned, or dumped in manholes, streams, the Black Spruce campground dump station, or fixed latrines at ranges or training areas. Visiting units who frequently use FRA land may procure their own drums (National Stock Number 8110-00-254-5717 ($35.00 each)).

(j) Units will maintain and issue cans and write an SOP implementing this change and ensure field sanitation is addressed in operation orders. Replacement cans must be funded and ordered from unit resources. The DPW will prepare and issue cans and devise a procedure for units to dump them.

d. Alternatives (recommended for FRA and Donnelly Training Area).
   (1) Units can activate a standing contract for portable latrines through the Directorate of Contracting. However, contractors may have difficulty responding to changing tactical situations and the contractor's trucks will not have the same mobility in range areas that unit vehicles do.
   (2) Use the permanent latrines for human waste, when available. Where permanent latrines are not available, unit commanders must provide ample portable latrines. Unit commanders are personally responsible to prevent contamination of water resources.
   (3) Cat holes are for emergencies only and permissible for groups of five or less.

e. Off-post training areas. The rules for human waste disposal on off-post lands are specified in the permit or contract and will be issued as part of the approval for their use. The rules for Spencer and Knik Glaciers are known. Solid human waste must be backhauled. Since access is limited and units are rotated back to back, cans can be exchanged via helicopter. Extra cans should be on hand in case weather prevents flights.

Range Maintenance

a. Range Control will:
   (1) Schedule ranges.
   (2) Issue target materials.
   (3) Conduct administrative range procedures as outlined in this regulation.
   (4) Inspect all ranges daily for cleanliness and damage. Ranges used during the day will be inspected before units are cleared from the range. A record of inspections will be maintained for 90 days and provided on request.
   (5) Provide units with a range inspection and maintenance worksheet for each assigned range. These worksheets will contain a list of repairs which must be completed.
   (6) Provide material to accomplish the repairs listed on the worksheet.
   (7) Maintain all electrical and moving target mechanisms.
   (8) Submit work orders to the DPW for all work beyond the unit's capability and scope of responsibility.
   (9) Coordinate all unexploded ordnance removal activities with the 716th Explosive Ordnance Detachment before performing maintenance in the impact area of a range employing explosive projectiles.
   (10) Provide units with a map with all range and training areas delineated.

b. Commanders will:
   (1) Maintain the general police of assigned ranges and training areas.
   (2) Perform all self-help repair (i.e., repair and replace windows, paint structures, cut grass 5 feet out from fixed objects and areas where tractors cannot be operated for safety reasons, fill and replace sandbags and replace target holding frames) as listed on the worksheet provided by Range Control.
   (3) Provide Range Control with a list of tasks requiring engineer support, whereby Range Control will prioritize.
   (4) Coordinate responsibilities during times causing the least training distraction.

c. The Director of Public Works will:

(1) Provide self-help material required to repair structures in response to Range Control requests.

(2) Provide mowing equipment to Range Control for grass maintenance.

(3) Provide work requested on maintenance and service work orders submitted by Range Control.

(4) Provide snow removal of range and training area access roads and target access routes.

(5) Operate tractor-driven grass mowers (except on target berms and ditch banks where they cannot be operated for safety reasons).

A.3 Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM)

The ITAM program is the Army's formal strategy for focusing on sustained use of training and testing lands. The intent of the ITAM program is to systematically provide a uniform training land management capability across the total Army. The Army will manage it's lands in a manner to ensure no net loss of training capabilities and to support current and future training and mission requirements. The integration of stewardship principles into training land and conservation management practices ensures that the Army's lands remain viable to support future training and mission requirements.

ITAM establishes a systematic framework for decision-making and management of Army training lands. It integrates elements of operational, environmental, master planning, and other programs that identify and assess land use alternatives. The ITAM program also supports sound natural and cultural resources management practices and stewardship of land assets, while sustaining those assets to support training, testing, and other installation missions.

ITAM is a key part of the Army's commitment to environmental stewardship. Four of the Chief of Staff of the Army's goals serve as the foundation for official ITAM policy. ITAM goals and objectives all contribute to one or more of the overall natural resources program goals of stewardship, military training support, compliance, quality of life, and integration. The four Army-wide ITAM goals are listed below:

- Integrate environmental planning procedures into all operations.
- Protect natural and cultural resources.
- Ensure operations comply with environmental standards and receive no notices of violation or fines for noncompliance.
- Prevent future pollution and reduce hazardous waste and toxic releases.

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cultural resources management practices and stewardship of land assets, while sustaining those assets in support of training, testing, and other installation missions.

The goals of the USARAK's ITAM program are as follows:

- Achieve optimal sustained use of lands for the execution of realistic training by providing a sustainable core capability, which balances usage, condition, and level of maintenance.
- Implement a management and decision-making process, which integrates Army training and other mission requirements for land use with sound natural and cultural resources management.
- Advocate proactive conservation and land management practices.
- Align Army training land management priorities with the Army training, testing, and readiness priorities.

USARAK intends to employ the following objectives to meet ITAM program goals by determining the capacity of the land to:

- Sustain training and testing through diagnostic methods, models, and tools.
- Support assignment of the optimum type, frequency, duration and intensity of training and testing that can be conducted on a given parcel.
- Identify the risks and costs associated with exceeding the capacity of the land.
- Allocate training land uses, including the type, frequency, duration and intensity of use, based on the capacity of the land to sustain those uses.
- Support sustained use of land by planning, programming, and executing repair and maintenance projects and by reconfiguring and redesigning training and testing areas to meet recognized requirements.
- Educate users to prevent avoidable damage to the land and minimize unavoidable damage resulting from training, testing, and other mission activities.
- Establish a defined land condition baseline for natural and cultural resources that will be maintained through ITAM and is relevant to the installation environmental setting and mission activity.
- Monitor land and natural resources conditions and determine trends in those conditions.
- Stabilize and sustain natural and cultural resources conditions by changing type, frequency, duration, or intensity of use, or by applying adjusted levels of repair and maintenance.
- Increase understanding of Army mission training requirements by educating environmental and natural resources personnel.

ITAM Components

There are four components of the ITAM program. These four components work in unison to accomplish the ITAM mission:

- Land Condition Trend Analysis (LCTA)
- Training Requirements Integration (TRI)
- Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance (LRAM)
- Sustainable Range Awareness (SRA).

Training Requirements Integration (TRI)

TRI is a decision support procedure that integrates all requirements for land use with natural and cultural resources management processes. TRI integrates the installation training and testing requirements for land use derived from the Range and Training Land Program (RTLP); the range operations and training land management processes; and the installation training readiness requirements with the installation's natural resources conditions. The Army Training and Testing Area Carrying Capacity (ATTACC) program is the standard ITAM methodology for estimating training land carrying capacity by relating training load, land condition, and land maintenance practices. The integration of all requirements occurs through continuous consultation among the Directorate of Plans, Training, and Mobilization (DPTM), natural and cultural resources managers, and other environmental staff members. The output of the TRI process is incorporated in the installation's Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP).

TRI supports the Army's requirements for environmentally sustainable training lands. TRI improves coordination and facilitates cooperation, decision-making, and allocation by providing uniform information regarding land conditions, trends, and any necessary modification of requirements. The TRI goals are achieved when training, testing, and environmental requirements are balanced in the decision-making process. The Sikes Act requires "no net loss" in the capability of military lands to support the military mission.

Land Condition Trend Analysis (LCTA)

Land Condition Trend Analysis (LCTA) is the component of the ITAM Program that provides for the collecting, inventorying, monitoring, managing, and analyzing of tabular and spatial data concerning land conditions on an installation. LCTA provides data needed to evaluate the capability of training lands to meet multiple use demands on a sustainable basis. It incorporates a relational database and GIS to support land use planning decision processes. LCTA collects physical and biological resources data to relate land conditions to training and testing activities. These data are intended to provide information to effectively manage land use and natural resources.

Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance (LRAM)

LRAM is a preventive and corrective land rehabilitation and maintenance procedure that reduces the long-term impacts of training and testing on an installation. It mitigates training and testing effects by combining preventive and corrective land rehabilitation, repair, and/or maintenance practices. It includes training area redesign and/or reconfiguration to meet training requirements.

LRAM uses technologies such as re-vegetation and erosion control techniques to maintain soils and vegetation required to support the military mission. These specifically designed efforts help installations maintain quality military training lands and minimize long-term costs associated with land rehabilitation or additional land purchases. LRAM includes programming, planning, designing, and executing land rehabilitation, maintenance, and reconfiguration projects based on requirements and priorities identified in the TRI and LCTA components of ITAM.

Below are general objectives of projects to directly support military maneuver on USARAK lands. Categories are not exclusive, and many projects support more than one objective, such as the development and maintenance of maneuver corridors, which could support all four below objectives.

General Improvement

General improvement projects are designed to maintain lands in conditions that can indefinitely support training, which is a direct requirement of the Sikes Act. Often these projects are designed to maintain accessibility, maneuverability, and trafficability of lands that are being used for training. Examples include repair and revegetation of maneuver lands.

Access Improvement

Access improvement projects are designed to open and maintain access to lands that are difficult to access to provide more training options. Examples include projects that create maneuver corridors, harden low water crossings and improve firing points and bivouac areas.

Trafficability (Mobility) Enhancement

Trafficability enhancement projects are designed to open lands that cannot physically support military vehicles (e.g., wetlands, slopes over 30%) to provide more training options. Examples include maneuver corridor upgrades, prescribed burns and forest stand thinning.

Maneuverability Enhancement

Maneuverability enhancement projects are designed to open and maintain accessibility to lands that are trafficable but not readily accessible to provide more training options. Examples (Appendix 5.3.2) include low water crossings, bridging, and tactical vehicle crossings.

Sustainable Range Awareness (SRA)

SRA is the component of ITAM that fosters a conservation ethic in military personnel. SRA consists of the following three elements: training/education materials, an implementation plan for awareness training, and command emphasis. SRA consists of the development of a videotape production, soldier handbooks, soldier field cards, and posters focused on maneuver damage prevention. The videotape, which is shown to all soldiers during in-processing and at Range Control safety briefings, focuses on prevention of maneuver damage. The handbook includes a summary of restrictions on training to preserve the quality of training lands as well as a map showing areas with special environmental considerations. The videotape, handbooks, and soldier field cards were all developed in conjunction with USARAK's SRA program. SRA provides a means to educate land users on their environmental stewardship responsibilities. It provides for the development and distribution of educational materials to land users. These materials relate the principles of land stewardship and the practices of reducing training and/or testing impacts. SRA also includes information provided to environmental professionals concerning operational requirements.

The Sikes Act requires "no net loss" in the capability of military lands to support the military mission. SRA supports this compliance goal by reducing maneuver damage, reducing long- term maintenance costs for repair of training lands, and improving operational security skills. When land users practice environmental stewardship in the field, they are also achieving Army mission objectives. The SRA program provides the land users with an understanding of how mission, training, testing, and other activities impact the land's capacity for sustaining a realistic training environment. SRA also educates land users on how their land use affects the resident wildlife and vegetation.

ITAM Projects

Training Requirements Integration

- Integrate training and testing requirements with training land management into a prioritized ITAM work plan, and execute requirements subject to availability of resources.
- Optimize training land management decisions by coordinating mission requirements and land maintenance activities with training and testing land carrying capacity.
- Identify existing and projected training land resources and prioritized land use requirements.
- Generate prioritized requirements for land rehabilitation, repair, and/or reconfiguration.

Land Condition – Trend Analysis

- Conduct annual LCTA monitoring
- Conduct annual LCTA data analysis and management during 2002-2006.
- Prepare annual LCTA report during 2002-2006.

Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance

- Implement Training Area Recovery Plan (TARP) Program
- Arctic Warrior Maneuver Corridor Phase 1
- Bunker Hill Maneuver Corridor
- Harden Bravo Battery Brigade Bivouac Area
- Harden Johnson Road Maneuver Corridor
- Mark Lake Maneuver Corridor
- Develop And Harden Manchu Road Bivouac Site
- Harden Husky DZ Bivouac Phase 1
- Harden Walden Lake Swim Site
- Harden Jarvis Creek Low Water Crossing
- 33 Mile Loop Access Phase 5
- Repair Firebird Landing Strip Ph I
- Harden Ober Creek Low Water Crossing
- Harden 12 Mile Creek Low Water Crossing
- Connors-Beach Lake Maneuver Corridor
- Bars Blvd. Maneuver Corridor
- Firing Point 5
- Clunie Lake Maneuver Corridor
- Arctic Warrior Maneuver Corridor Phase 2
- Manchu Road Maneuver Corridor Phase 2
- FRA TARP FY05
- FWA TARP FY05
- DTA TARP FY05
- Op Road Maneuver Corridor

- Harden Husky DZ Bivouac Phase 2
- Harden Bulldog Trail Low Water Crossing
- 33 Mile Loop Access Phase 6
- Repair Firebird Landing Strip Ph II
- Access Trail To Malamute
- Upper Fox Mortar Point
- Firing Point 3
- Firing Point 23
- Arctic Warrior Maneuver Corridor Phase 3
- Blair Lakes Maneuver Corridor Phase 1
- Donnelly DZ Maneuver Corridor Phase 2
- FRA TARP FY06
- FWA TARP FY06
- DTA TARP FY06
- 33 Mile Loop Access Phase 7
- Harden Firebird Bivouac Area (TA 4)
- Prescribed Burn, Lakes Impact Area
- Prescribed Burn, Stuart Creek Impact Area
- Repair Training Area 104
- Improve Quarry Road Maneuver Corridor Phase 2
- Improve Skyline Maneuver Corridor
- Lower Fox Mortar Point
- FRA TARP FY07
- FWA TARP FY07
- DTA TARP FY07
- Bunker Hill Low Water Crossing
- Blair Lakes Maneuver Corridor Phase 2
- Donnelly DZ Maneuver Corridor Phase 3
- 33 Mile Loop Access Phase 8
- Harden Husky DZ Bivouac Phase 3
- Improve Hill 1500 Bivouac
- Grey Tactical Vehicle Crossings
- Meadows Tactical Vehicle Crossings
- Allison Tactical Vehicle Crossing
- Erin Tactical Vehicle Crossing
- Harden MPTR Bivouac #1
- Harden MPTR Bivouac #2
- Harden MPTR Bivouac #3
- Harden CTT/Confidence Course Site
- Bars Boulevard Maneuver Corridor Upgrade, Phase 2

- Improve Intersection Corridor Trail
- Blair Lakes Maneuver Corridor Phase 3
- Donnelly DZ Maneuver Corridor Phase 4
- 33 Mile Loop Access Phase 9
- Upgrade Beaver Creek Maneuver Corridor
- Harden Ice Bridge Approaches
- Harden EIB Site
- Harden TA 7 Bivouac
- Bars Boulevard Maneuver Corridor Upgrade, Phase 3
- Fire Tower Ridge Road, Mc, Phase 1
- Fire Tower Ridge Road, Mc, Phase 2
- Artillery Road Mc Phase 1
- Repair Jarvis East Training Area
- Repair Ober Training Area
- Repair Donnelly Training Area
- Thompson Lake Maneuver Corridor
- Perry Mortar Point
- Harden Approach Hill Bivouac Site
- Harden Bde Toc Site
- Op Vital Maneuver Corridor
- Harden Chena River Low Water Crossing
- Repair Training Area 9a And 9b
- Repair Training Area 10a And 10b
- Repair Training Area 11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, And 11e
- Repair Training Area 12a And 12b
- Repair Jarvis North Training Area
- Repair Training Area 8a And 8b
- Repair Training Area 108
- Repair Training Area 5
- Repair Training Area 6a And 6b
- Repair Training Area 7a And 7b
- Repair Training Area 109
- Route Sweat Maneuver Corridor
- Waldon Lake Maneuver Corridor
- Repair Training Area 107
- Repair Op Training Area
- Repair Greely Training Area
- Repair Training Area 3
- Repair Training Area 4
- Bulldog Trail Maneuver Corridor

- Repair Training Area 105
- Clunie Bivouac
- Repair Training Area 1a, 1b And 1c
- Repair Training Area 2a And 2b
- Radio Tower Maneuver Corridor
- Repair Training Area 106
- Fire Tower Ridge Maneuver Corridor, Phase 3
- Repair Training Area 110
- Repair Butch Training Area
- Repair Training Area 111
- Repair Training Area 112
- Repair Training Area 113
- Repair Training Area 114
- Repair Granite North Training Area
- Repair Training Area 13
- Harden Tanana River Low Water Crossing
- Harden TFTA Swim Site
- Harden FWA-LTA Swim Site
- Harden YTA North Low Water Crossing
- Harden Delta Creek Low Water Crossing
- Harden YTA Swim Site
- Harden YTA South Low Water Crossing
- Repair Training Area 14a, 14b And 14c
- YTA 7 Fire Break
- Harden Brigadier Maneuver Corridor
- Improve Trapper Trail Bivouac

Sustainable Range Awareness (SRA)

- Brief SRA during range safety briefings, pre-command course classes, and pre-exercise briefings.
- Distribute up-to-date SRA handbooks and soldier cards.
- Update SRA handbook and field cards in 2003.
- Update SRA video in 2004.
- Develop ITAM web page by 2003.

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B. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

B.1 USARAK Stewardship of Environmental Resources

USARAK's commitment to environmental resources management is reflected in the U.S. Army Environmental Strategy. The Army environmental strategy is depicted as a building established on a solid foundation with four pillars supporting the environmental stewardship vision and the Army mission. The four pillars symbolize the Army environmental program and represent the four major areas of activity: compliance, restoration, pollution prevention, and conservation. Planning serves as the foundation.

B.2 Environmental Planning

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) was created to disclose environmental concerns created by human activities and resolve them to the extent possible. Army NEPA regulations (AR 200-2, *Environmental Effects of Army Actions*) require mitigation of significant impacts to the environment. NEPA was not legislated to stop actions. Rather, it was crafted to identify and consider environmental problems and attempt to resolve them using planning at early stages of project development.

USARAK must comply with NEPA to ensure its activities are properly planned, coordinated, and documented. An effects analysis and documentation is required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970 and Army regulations, particularly AR 200-2.

B.3 Pollution Prevention

The number one objective of Pollution Prevention (P2) is source reduction. This includes substituting materials and changing processes to avoid the use of hazardous substances. Pollution prevention is any cost-effective mechanism or practice that eliminates or reduces the sources of pollutant discharges or emissions. Reducing the Army's reliance on products or processes that degrade the environment also reduces operating costs and liability from environmental compliance and cleanup.

B.4 Compliance

The goal of the compliance program is to meet federal, state, and local environmental requirements. These requirements include laws and regulations on a wide range of activities. The Compliance Program in USARAK consists of eight major program areas: Air Quality, Asbestos, Water Quality, Hazardous Waste and Hazardous Materials, Lead Hazard, Solid Waste, Storage Tanks, and Wastewater.

Air Quality Program

USARAK's Air Quality Management Program was implemented to comply with the substantial requirements of the Clean Air Act (CAA). The program is administered and coordinated through the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine (USACHPPM), which has a local office located on Fort Richardson. The goals of the Air Quality Program are to 1) identify, inventory, and monitor air pollutant emissions and ambient air quality, 2) reduce pollutants to regulatory levels to protect health and reduce permit costs, 3) procure control equipment that meets regulatory standards, and 4) ensure that design and operation of military equipment are in accordance with regulations.

Asbestos Program

USARAK has developed Asbestos Management Plans in accordance with Army Regulation 200-1 that are designed to reduce exposure to occupants and workers on the posts and to ensure compliance with federal laws. USARAK has also conducted asbestos surveys to identify asbestos containing materials in facilities on the posts.

Water Quality Program

The goals of the program are to ensure that drinking water meets the regulatory requirements, to ensure that safe drinking water is available to all facility personnel, and to conserve and protect drinking water resources, including surface water and groundwater sources. Aspects of the program include 1) providing adequate supplies of drinking water that meet all applicable standards, 2) developing and maintaining sampling and analysis programs that comply with regulations, 3) maintaining an active cross-connection and backflow prevention control program, 4) developing an appropriate wellhead protection or source water protection program to protect source water areas, 5) ensuring that treatment facility operators obtain required certifications, 6) obtaining permits for new or modified drinking water facilities, and 7) producing and distributing annual Consumer Confidence reports to consumers.

Hazardous Waste and Hazardous Materials Management Program

Hazardous materials are used in nearly every part of the Army mission and include such things as paints, solvents, batteries, fuels, and weapon cleaning materials. USARAK has established installation and unit SOPs to ensure regulatory compliance, trained personnel who work with hazardous waste materials, and regularly inspected all activities generating HW to ensure proper implementation of procedures. In addition, the USARAK uses the Hazardous Substance Management System (HSMS) that is designed to allow the installation to control the issue of hazardous materials, helping it to reduce the amount of hazardous wastes generated. HSMS helps the Army track HM/HW, maintain HM/HW inventories, and meet HW reporting and other compliance requirements.

Lead Hazard Program

Lead hazard management is the management of lead-based paint (LBP) and other lead hazards. To comply with current regulations, USARAK has developed a Lead-Based Paint Management Plan and conducted lead paint surveys and risk assessments. USARAK is also tasked with the proper disposal of lead waste and debris (such as paint chips and painted building parts) from the demolition of buildings and other structures on Army installations.

Solid Waste Program

The Army constantly evaluates its solid waste management practices and tries to reduce waste sources. The objectives of the program are 1) develop a Solid Waste Management Plan, 2) to reduce, reuse, and recycle solid waste to the greatest extent possible, 3) privatize solid waste management facilities or contract for waste disposal services, including recycling, 4) cooperate to the extent practicable in recycling programs conducted by the civilian community, 5) continually evaluate and reduce waste sources, and 6) comply with all applicable laws and regulations for generating, treating, storing, disposing, and transporting solid waste.

Storage Tank Program

The Storage Tank Program ensures that all tanks meet specific installation standards and requirements for corrosion protection, spill/overfill prevention and leak detection. USARAK met the December 20, 1998, deadline to upgrade all USTs with leak detection, corrosion, spill, and overfill protection. In addition to USTs, the program also oversees requirements for above ground storage tanks (ASTs). ASTs are regulated under National Fire Protection Association standards (NFPA-30), and Title 40 CFR Part 112, Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure Plan (SPCCP) for POL tanks.

Wastewater Program

The Wastewater Program strives to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the navigable waters surrounding USARAK properties. Adequate treatment of wastewater from sanitary uses, industrial processes, and stormwater runoff maintains the quality of the water receiving the wastes. To achieve compliance with the CWA, the USARAK controls and eliminates sources of pollutant discharge, cooperates with regulatory authorities in forming and implementing water pollution control plans, and controls and eliminates runoff and erosion through land management practices. Specific program actions are to develop and maintain wastewater monitoring programs to ensure compliance with NPDES permits and regulations, and obtain operating permits for treatment facilities.

B.5 Restoration

USARAK administers an Installation Restoration Program (IRP) to identify, investigate, and clean up contamination from hazardous substances, pollutants, and contaminants. The first priority of the IRP is to identify and clean up the sites that present the highest risk to public health and the environment. One of the main priorities is remediation of contaminants such as chlorinated solvents, which are regulated by the Comprehensive Environmental Restoration, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). In addition, USARAK also investigates and remediates all types of contaminants such as PCBs and petroleum. These contaminants are not regulated under CERCLA, but are regulated by various other federal, state, and Army regulations.

In general, all contaminant source areas fall under the scope of one of several active interagency agreements designed to ensure that IRP objectives are achieved and to ensure that cleanup efforts adequately address stakeholder concerns. The Army, EPA, and State of Alaska signed Federal Facility Agreements for both Forts Richardson and Wainwright that outlined how the CERCLA cleanup process would be administered. In addition, companion Environmental Restoration Agreements, between the State of Alaska and the Army (Two-Party Agreements), were developed to outline cleanup processes at non-CERCLA sites.

B.6 Conservation

The conservation pillar consists of natural and cultural resources management and well as compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The conservation pillar focuses on responsibly managing Army lands to ensure long-term natural resource productivity so the Army can achieve its mission. These three components are covered in the following sections.

USARAK Natural Resources Management

The Natural Resources Program in USARAK is discussed in detail in the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan. Natural resources management is conducted in accordance with the Sikes Act and AR 200-3.

Integrated natural resources planning is accomplished through preparing and updating the INRMP at least every five years. Integrating the many components of natural resources can be a complex challenge. One of the objectives of ecosystem management in USARAK is to develop a process to objectively identify requirements for all species and users of the environment. In addition, natural and cultural resources projects can only be classified as military use (and therefore valid expenditures of military funds) if there is a direct link back to the accomplishment of the overall military mission.

The INRMP is structured to demonstrate direct support of the overall military mission, which includes stewardship of natural and cultural resources, compliance, quality of life, and military training support. Every single project and task in the INRMP is focused to add to the accomplishment of one or more of these natural resources goals.

USARAK Cultural Resources Management

The cultural resources program is described in the USARAK Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP). Cultural resources protection programs in USARAK are conducted in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (16 U.S.C. Section 470, as amended), the Archeological Resources Protection Act (16 U.S.C. Section 470aa-47011), the American Indian Religious Freedom Act (42 U.S.C.), the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) (25 U.S.C. Section 3001 et seq.), DOD Directive 4710.1 (*Archeological and Historic Resources Management*, 1984), and AR 200-4 (*Cultural Resources Management*, draft). BLM also has responsibility for cultural resources compliance on withdrawal lands.

Section 110, NHPA requires cultural resources surveys. These surveys are required to be conducted on all of Fort Wainwright lands. These surveys have been conducted opportunistically in the past, concentrating on areas where disturbance from the military mission is likely. These surveys are not complete in USARAK.

Another effort that will help prioritize the lands that need to be surveyed is the development of a predictive model for archaeological resources. Northern Land Use, Inc. drafted the first predictive model for Fort Wainwright and USARAK is continuing to update and refine it. The predictive model will eventually be the centerpiece of a programmatic agreement with the SHPO to deal with the potential impacts of military training and natural resources management on cultural resources.

USARAK will review proposed projects by consulting guidelines provided in implementing regulations for the National Historic Preservation Act (36 CFR 800) to determine their effect on cultural resources sites. Any project assessed as having an effect on a cultural resources site on Fort Wainwright will be coordinated with Alaska SHPO.

There are cultural resources in the Fort Wainwright training areas that require protection from military training and natural resources activities. Protection measures are primarily control of access to these sites, which is accomplished by showing these areas as restricted on the environmental limitations map.

C. INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN PROJECTS

These projects would be implemented as existing mitigation under Alternatives 3 as funding is available. These projects would be fully funded and implemented as mitigation proposed for Alternative 4.

Ongoing Planning Activities

USARAK recognizes that the INRMP is not all encompassing. USARAK will, in coordination with other agencies, develop specific management action plans to be incorporated into this INRMP as they are completed.

- Ecosystem Management Action Plan
- Habitat Management Action Plan
- Wetlands Management Action Plan
- Forest Management Action Plan
- Special Interest Areas Conservation Action Plan
- Outdoor Recreation Management Action Plan
- Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM) Action Plan
- Landscaping Action Plan
- Fire Management Action Plan
- Soil Resources Management Action Plan
- Aerial Monitoring Action Plan

While work on specific action plans remains to be completed, this INRMP uses existing information as a basis to continue and improve natural resources management concurrent with planning activities. Preparation and implementation of an INRMP, including updates to occur every five years, is required by law regardless of the stage of program development. The INRMP is not a static product. Rather, it is a dynamic mechanism to guide program operation for the next five years (2002-2006).

Below is a general list of proposed projects as identified by the most recent INRMPs. Please see individual INRMPs for site specific projects that are proposed. Additional NEPA documentation and permit applications would be completed where necessary.

Ecosystem Management Plan

- Evaluate and make changes to the ecosystem management plan as needed, following an adaptive management approach.
- Prepare a comprehensive update of the ecosystem management plan for the period 2007-2011.

Summary Ecosystem Management on USARAK lands

The goal of the USARAK Ecosystem Management Program (EMP) is to maintain ecosystem integrity at a broad landscape scale and continue to train soldiers to a high-level of military readiness. There are two components to the EMP. First, there is a multi-species management tool that is designed to help in land use and land alteration decisions on Army lands, and second, there is the Army's commitment to an ecoregional approach to land management in Alaska. Both

of these components are parts of the overall strategy of the EMP, which is to integrate military training with the management of a suite of species that are important to ecosystem integrity in boreal environments, and to manage Army lands in the context of the broader landscapes surrounding each of the Army posts in Alaska.

The first component of the EMP (a multi-species management tool) involves several steps, including the selection of the suite of species to be managed, a priority ranking of those species, and a determination of the habitat preferences for each species. The details outlining these steps are presented in the Draft USARAK Ecosystem Management Plan (2002). Briefly, the species included for management are either (1) species of conservation concern (as defined by specialist working groups at the national level or in Alaska), or (2) are important game species, or (3) are important in ecosystems as predators or prey. The selected species are then prioritized using a set of ranking criteria that address each species' biology and ecology relative to its' response to human-induced disturbances and alterations of habitats (high ranking species are likely to be less common and/or more susceptible to impacts). Finally, GIS data layers depicting the habitat preferences for each species are produced and maintained for use in land-use decision-making processes. Currently, USARAK is managing for a large set of vertebrates and vascular plants (over 90 species on each Army post in Alaska), although a short-list of 15-20 species per post will be used in cases in which a quick decision on a proposed land-use change is needed.

The data layers representing each selected species' habitat preferences are used whenever there are proposed changes in land uses or proposed land alterations on Army lands. By sequentially overlaying the proposed changes to the landscape (on a GIS) on top of each of the data layers representing the habitat preferences for the managed species, USARAK can determine what habitats are likely to be affected. In addition, the predicted changes in habitats for each species can be evaluated by quantifying the amount of preferred habitat remaining for that species elsewhere on post, and evaluating the geographic pattern of those habitat patches. That is, in addition to changes in total habitat acreage, the potential effects of habitat fragmentation on both the size and connectivity of remaining habitat patches can be taken into account to decide whether a proposed habitat change may be biologically significant or not. To further aid in the evaluation of a proposed habitat change, the ranking priority for each species (as above) is associated with the predicted effects of changes to preferred habitats to determine the overall importance of the habitat change.

Using these habitat data for the suite of species to be managed, it is the intent of USARAK to site the locations of new facilities and new land-uses so that the minimum impacts to existing habitats will occur. This means the siting of new facilities will be done under a flexible strategy that incorporates environmental concerns early in the planning process. Both the overall locations and the orientations of proposed facilities will be viewed as flexible as possible to allow adjustments that will help to minimize the impacts to existing habitats.

The second component of the EMP (an ecoregional approach to management) may be less clearly-defined than the multi-species management tool, but it is no less important. This part of the program involves the efforts of USARAK to manage Army lands with an explicit understanding of the broader, landscape ecological contexts in which Army lands function.

A prime example of this effort is the cooperation between Fort Richardson and the Alaska office of The Nature Conservancy, other state government agencies, and interested individuals to produce a landscape-scale biodiversity map and ecoregional development plan for the Cook Inlet Ecoregion. Fort Richardson has also cooperated with the ADF&G, the USFWS, the Municipality of Anchorage, and other interested parties in the production of a wildlife management document

that outlines a long-term vision for wildlife management within the municipality of Anchorage. In this latter effort, the management actions on Fort Richardson were of prime concern for the management of wildlife in Anchorage.

USARAK is also currently working to coordinate the long-term monitoring of landbirds on all three Army posts, so that the Army's monitoring efforts will contribute to the statewide effort at monitoring neotropical migrant and resident landbirds across the state of Alaska.

Other regional-scale projects include cooperation with the ADF&G on prescribed burn plans for lands west of the Wood River on the Tanana Flats at Fort Wainwright, the production of grazing plots for bison at the Donnelly Training Area, and the efforts of Fort Wainwright to contribute support to the restoration plan for the Forty-mile caribou herd. The Forty-mile caribou herd uses a broad area in eastern interior Alaska and adjacent areas in the Yukon Territory.

As part of USARAK's ecoregional approach to management, in the EMP process each future land management project that is contemplated on Army lands will be explicitly evaluated for the role it may play in the larger ecoregion that each installation functions within. Those projects that contribute positively to overall ecoregional goals will receive a higher ranking for funding than projects with only local benefits.

Aerial Monitoring Management Plan

- Evaluate and make changes to the aerial monitoring plan as needed.
- Prepare a comprehensive update of the aerial monitoring plan for the period 2007-2011.

Proposed Management Projects

- Conduct Soil and Water Quality Monitoring
- Conduct Conservation Enforcement
- Conduct Wetland Monitoring
- Conduct Wetland Management
- Conduct Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Species Management
- Conduct Erosion Control and Streambank Stabilization
- Conduct Fish and Wildlife Monitoring
- Conduct Geographic Information Systems Projects
- Conduct Soil Planning-level Survey Update
- Conduct Floristics Planning-level Survey Update
- Conduct Vegetation Planning-level Survey Update
- Conduct Wetland Planning-level Survey Update
- Conduct Fauna Planning-level Surveys Update
- Conduct Environmental Awareness
- Conduct Natural and Cultural Resources Education and Awareness
- Conduct Soil and Water Quality Management
- Conduct Recreational Use Management
- Conduct Training Requirements Integration
- Conduct Land Condition-Trend Analysis Monitoring
- Conduct Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance

- Conduct Special Interest Areas Management
- Conduct Fish and Wildlife Management
- Conduct Recreational Use Monitoring
- Conduct Habitat Management
- Conduct Forest Inventory
- Conduct Forest Management
- Conduct Fire Inventory

Soil Resources Management Plan

- Conduct annual updates of the soil resources management action plan.
- Prepare and update soil resources management action plan for the planning period of 2007-2011.

Soil and Water Quality Management Plan

- Conduct annual updates of the soil and water quality management action plan.
- Prepare and update soil and water quality management action plan for the planning period of 2007-2011.

Soil and Water Quality Monitoring

- Complete development of monitoring protocol to evaluate soil and water quality and determine if there are contaminants in soil and surface and groundwater.
- Monitor surface water and soils for potential contaminants.
- Continue to monitor existing wells for potential groundwater contamination.

Soil Planning-level Survey

- Update the soil planning-level survey in 2008.

Floristics Planning-level Survey

- Update the floristics planning-level survey.

Vegetation Planning-level Survey

- Update the vegetation planning-level survey.

Topography Planning-level Survey

- Update the topography planning-level survey.

Surface Water Planning-level Survey

- Update the surface water planning-level survey.

Surface and Groundwater Quality Management

- Evaluate moving targets away from open water.
- Consider using green ammunition.
- Evaluate the use of ammunition lot numbers that have a low dud rate.

Erosion Control and Streambank Stabilization Projects

- Implement Training Area Rotation Rest and Rehabilitation Program
- Repair training areas identified in INRMPs.
- Repair Training area roads and trails.
- ADF&G review of all streambank stabilization projects.

Wetland Management Plan

- Conduct annual updates of the wetland management action plan.
- Prepare and update wetland management action plan for the planning period of 2007-2011.

Wetland Monitoring

- Follow the Wetland Monitoring Protocol to track and record military training activities conducted in wetland areas as required by the five-year general wetland permit.
- Use Alaska Land Condition Trend Analysis (AKLCTA) methodology to monitor military use of wetlands.
- Use AKLCTA data to apply for 5-year general wetland permit renewal.
- Continue to monitor large military training field exercises.
- Use AKLCTA methodology to monitor nonmilitary use of wetlands.
- Produce annual report of project status

Wetland Planning-level Survey

- Update the wetland planning-level survey.

Wetland Management and Reclamation Projects

- Renew application for a five-year individual wetland permit to allow military training in low function wetlands.
- Apply for other Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 wetland permits and ADF&G permits on an as-needed basis.
- Apply for CWA Section 404 Permits for DPW.
- Apply for CWA Section 404 Permit for recreational areas.
- Update environmental limitations overlays and associated restrictions.
- Conduct wetland determinations using NWI and WES wetland delineations.
- Implement AFS policy on prescribed burns in wetland areas.
- Conduct rehabilitation activities on damaged wetlands following military use and after fire suppression activities.
- Implement and comply with five-year general wetland permit.
- Report on amount of annual wetland disturbance to USACE.
- Conduct rehabilitation activities on damaged wetlands occurring as a result of recreational activities and DPW activities.
- Produce annual report of project status.

Forest Management Plan

- Conduct annual updates of the forest management action plan.
- Prepare and update forest management action plan for the planning period of 2007-2011.

Forest Inventory

- Conduct forest inventory on lands that may have viable commercial forest value.
- Conduct continuous forest inventory plot monitoring CFI plots.
- Prepare annual forestry report.

Forest Management Projects

- Conduct timber management USARAK lands.
- USARAK will remove or thin trees or shrubs per year to support military training activities.
- Conduct timber stand improvement.
- Conduct salvage cuts.
- Conduct forest pest protection.
- Provide fuelwood and Christmas trees to military and public annually.
- Conduct timber sales.
- ADF&G review of all actions affecting streambanks.

Fire Management Plan

- Conduct annual updates of the fire management action plan.
- Prepare and update fire management action plan for the planning period of 2007-2011.
- Produce annual report of project status
- Develop an Interagency Fire Management Plan that adheres to guidelines outlined by the Interagency Wildland Fire Coordinating Group.
- Develop pre-suppression plans.
- Develop plans for proposed prescribed fires.
- Develop plans and fuel treatment projects to reduce the threat of fires starting on military lands and impact areas and burning onto adjacent lands of high resource value.
- Develop generic burn plan for various military directorates to use for grounds maintenance projects.

Fire Management Inventory

- Collect fuel loading information as part of the forest inventory.
- Delineate and maintain GIS data layers showing historical fires.
- Map past areas where ordnance has been used and develop pre-suppression plans on how to deal with wildland fire suppression in these areas.
- Map all known cultural features on suppression maps and develop fire management recommendations for these features.
- Map all military structures on suppression maps. Assess fire suppression options and recommendations for these structures.

- Map all known natural resources features and areas of concern from wildland fire suppression and management activities on suppression maps. Develop management strategies to avoid conflicts with these natural resource features and areas of concern.
- Update fuels maps.
- Update fire history maps.
- Research causes of fire ignitions in certain areas to identify areas of high fire occurrence.
- Map all known non-sensitive structures.
- Update fire maps with military special use areas and fire management options for these areas.
- Research weather patterns influencing fire behavior and historical weather analysis for land units.

Fire Management Projects

- Conduct fire suppression activities as necessary.
- Identify and assess fuel management strategies for urban/wildland interface areas.
- Implement Firewise program for private landowners adjacent to military lands.
- Break up large continuous fuels in areas requiring fire suppression status.
- Develop more effective means of calculating fire weather indices for localized training areas and implement a program of relaying fire danger ratings to training units.
- Develop program of providing assistance to training military units during periods of high fire danger.
- Develop and disseminate procedures for detection and reporting of fires.
- Develop standard operation procedures for area units to assist firefighters and Incident Commanders in establishing priorities, making decisions, dealing with ordnance issues.
- Develop GIS system for military fire management office and for use on incidents with current data, maps, photos, suppression options, and restrictions.
- Identify and use fuel reduction treatments to reduce the threat of wildland fire at the urban/wildland interface, military structures, selected training areas, and cultural resources.

Habitat Management Plan

- Conduct annual updates of the habitat management action plan.
- Prepare and update habitat management action plan for the planning period of 2007-2011.

Fish and Wildlife Monitoring

- Conduct nongame monitoring every five years.
- Conduct furbearer monitoring every five years
- Conduct swan surveys on Fort Wainwright.
- Conduct raptor monitoring every five years.
- Conduct moose monitoring annually.
- Conduct grouse monitoring every five years.

- USARAK will, in coordination with ADF&G, conduct a one to two year monitoring program of Fort Wainwright lakes.
- Conduct BBS annually.
- Annually monitor neotropical birds using, MAPS stations.
- Continue black bear data collection and monitoring.
- During 2002-2006, update the bird checklist.

Fauna Planning-level Survey

- Update the fauna planning-level survey.

Fish and Wildlife Population Management

- Support ADF&G wildlife population control by allowing hunting and trapping on post.
- Annually stock lakes and ponds as identified by the INRMPs.
- Produce annual report of project status.

Habitat Management Areas

- Examples of habitat management actions identified in the INRMPs include, but are not limited to reducing forest density and forest understory, reducing scrub vegetation on a rotational basis, eliminating woody vegetation on a permanent basis, maintaining herbaceous and grass ground cover, and increasing woody vegetative cover through wildlife improvement plantings.

Habitat Management

- Conduct wildlife planting in urban areas.
- Improve and enhance moose habitat.
- Enhance military training habitat.
- Enhance ruffed grouse habitat.
- Control bluejoint grass on an opportunistic basis .
- Block vehicular access, including off-road vehicles, to riparian areas along lakes.
- Improve habitat by closing and revegetating unnecessary trails.
- Construct boreal owl (Aegolius funereus) nest boxes.
- Determine the need for stream and lake habitat improvement.
- Adjust construction and maintenance practices involving rights-of-way on Fort Wainwright to improve wildlife habitat.
- Provide for ADF&G review of all actions possible affecting streambanks
- Evaluate the relationship between moose numbers and habitat carrying capacity and identify areas where habitat improvement is most needed.
- Produce annual report of project status

Endangered Species Management

- Take appropriate steps to survey for threatened and endangered species if new species are listed or there is reason to believe that already listed species might be on USARAK lands.

- Conserve habitat for rare, uncommon, and priority species through the ecosystem management actions listed under habitat management and fish and wildlife management.
- Comply with USFWS protocols for TES.

Special Interest Area Management Plan

- Conduct annual updates of the special interest area management action plan.
- Prepare and update special interest area management action plan for the planning period of 2007-2011.

Special Interest Area Management

- Manage and protect alpine tundra areas.
- Manage and protect cultural resources areas.
- Manage and protect moose calving areas on TFTA.
- Manage and protect other riparian areas, lakes, and wetlands.
- Manage and protect other special interest areas as identified by the INRMPs.

Installation Pest Management Plan

- Conduct annual updates of the installation pest management action plan.
- Prepare and update installation pest management action plan for the planning period of 2007-2011.

Education, Awareness and Public Outreach Management Plan

- Conduct annual updates of the Education, Awareness and Public Outreach management action plan.
- Prepare and update Education, Awareness and Public Outreach management action plan for the planning period of 2007-2011.

Education, Awareness, and Public Outreach Management

- Update interpretive panels on watchable wildlife viewing platforms in 2002.
- Conduct hunting, trapping, and fishing awareness.
- Develop an informational sheet about fishing opportunities.
- Create hunting, trapping, and fishing brochure.
- Create educational video about natural resources.
- Attend natural resources training.
- Attend DOD natural resources meetings at conferences.
- Develop a public and military information and education program for wildland fire awareness, fire prevention, information on active fires on USARAK lands, and informational meetings on prescribed fires.
- Develop and construct signs at priority lakes, explaining the importance of lakeshore habitat and ways users can help protect this habitat.
- Prepare annual report on status of all projects.

Outdoor Recreation Management Plan

- Conduct annual updates of the outdoor recreation management action plan.
- Prepare and update the outdoor recreation management action plan for the planning period of 2007-2011.

Outdoor Recreation Monitoring

- Identify, delineate, and map impacts from recreational use.
- Inventory and map recreational winter trails on Fort Wainwright.
- Develop recreational trail map for Fort Wainwright.
- Report annually on the number of recreational users on.
- Maintain HTF database.
- Develop and conduct surveys of recreational users to determine their needs

Outdoor Recreation Management

- Implement ORV use policy
- Conduct recreational use impact study in TFTA.
- Implement Training Area Recovery Plan (TARP) Program
- Implement new hunting trapping and fishing (HTF) permit process.
- Implement Call-in System.
- Manage hunting, trapping, and fishing user access.
- Prepare and update annual hunting, trapping, and fishing harvest report.
- Create watchable wildlife driving tour and brochure.

Conservation Enforcement Management Plan

- Conduct annual updates of the conservation enforcement management action plan.
- Prepare and update the conservation enforcement management action plan for the planning period of 2007-2011.

Conservation Enforcement Management

- Conduct enforcement of conservation laws.
- Conduct trespass enforcement.
- Conduct conservation enforcement training.
- Interact with public.

Geographic Information System Management

- Complete USARAK GIS user interface.
- Field web version of USARAK GIS User Interface.
- Upgrade GIS hardware and software annually.
- Develop plan to conduct future expansion.
- Develop GIS Database.
- Obtain Digital Orthophotos.

- Convert Master Planning data.
- Acquire Statewide (Including City and Borough) digital data.
- Complete GIS projects as requested.

Conservation Program Management

- Update EPR, based on updated projects in this INRMP in 2002.
- Conduct training for conservation personnel annually during 2002-2006.
- Execute all conservation funding based on the priorities listed in this plan during 2002-2006.

Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan

- Conduct annual updates of the integrated natural resources management plan.
- Prepare and update the integrated natural resources management plan for the planning period of 2007-2011.

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D. INTEGRATED CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN AND REPRESENTATIVE PROJECTS

Cultural resources under the stewardship of Fort Richardson consist of archeological sites and historic properties. During 2002-2006 USARAK will implement the following programs on Fort Richardson to fulfill requirements to inventory, evaluate, nominate, and preserve cultural resources, based on availability of funds:

- archeological reconnaissance survey of areas with high cultural resources sensitivity and significant training impacts;
- evaluation of the eligibility of archeological sites and historic properties for the National Register, as the need arises;
- procedures for nominating eligible properties to the National Register;
- enforcement of the Archeological Resources Protection Act;
- implementation of a cultural landscape approach in cultural resources planning;
- consultation with the Alaska SHPO and Advisory Council on Historic Preservation;
- preservation and mitigation of historically significant cultural resources;
- stabilization and maintenance of Nike Site Summit Historic District;
- consultation with Native Alaskan entities; and
- communication with the public.

Goals and Objectives

Goal: The goal of cultural resources management on USARAK lands is to protect historically significant resources.

Objectives:

- Comply with federal laws and regulations governing the treatment of cultural resources while causing the least disturbance to the military mission.
- Implement a cultural landscape planning approach to cultural resources management that recognizes the complexity of the human cultural interaction with the natural terrain through time.
- Inventory and evaluate cultural resources for eligibility to the National Register.
- Have procedures for nominating eligible resources to the National Register.
- Minimize adverse effects on cultural resources that meet criteria for inclusion in the National Register.
- Develop efficient management procedures that streamline consultation and focus on significant cultural resources as opposed to those of little or no National Register potential.
- Enforce federal laws that prohibit vandalism of cultural resources on federal properties through law enforcement, monitoring, and public awareness.
- Consider outside interests, including those of Native Alaskan entities, local governments, and public groups.

The overall purpose behind these management objectives is the integration of legal requirements for preservation into the everyday operation of USARAK's military mission and supporting activities. This ICRMP incorporates guidelines, schedules, and standard operating procedures

for cultural resources management into a single document to more efficiently fulfill management responsibilities.

Army Regulation, 200-4, *Cultural Resources Management*, outlines responsibilities with regard to cultural resources legislation for installations, Major Commands, and supporting organizations. Specific responsibilities of the cultural resources management program are to:

- develop, approve, and maintain an integrated cultural resources management plan;
- inventory and evaluate cultural resources located on USARAK lands;
- have a policy regarding nomination of eligible cultural resources to the National Register;
- protect and maintain eligible resources and promote their rehabilitation and adaptive reuse;
- integrate preservation requirements with planning and management activities of the military mission; and
- cooperate with federal, state, and local agencies, Native Alaskan corporations, and the public in cultural resources management.

Geographic Information System

A Geographic Information System (GIS) can be a valuable tool for cultural resources management and its integration with other management programs on Fort Richardson. The Environmental Division installed a GIS in 1993 to support management programs on the three USARAK posts. The primary GIS software used is ArcInfo© (Version 7.0.3) (produced by Environmental Systems Research Institute). ArcInfo© is principally a vector-based GIS that can incorporate raster functionality. ERDAS Imagine© software (Version 8.1) is also online. Imagine© is a raster-vector based GIS with some of the industry's most advanced image processing capabilities. These two software packages are resident on the SUN Sparc© 2 and form a powerful GIS environment for Fort Richardson (USARAK 2002f).

Development of the GIS database for Fort Richardson is in progress. Data layers have been provided primarily by the Center for Ecological Management of Military Lands and the Cold Regions Research Engineering Laboratory. In addition, USARAK has GIS technicians who also develop data layers. To date, development has focused on natural resources and environmental data.

Army Pamphlet 200-4, providing guidance for implementation of AR 200-4, calls for the development of GIS data layers to support cultural resources management and cultural landscape planning (Army Pamphlet (AP) 200-4, 2-1(b)). Cultural landscape planning integrates cultural resources with natural ecosystems to address the complexity of human cultural interaction with the natural environment through time. The GIS is particularly a useful tool in relating cultural resources to natural features, such as terrain, habitat areas, and topography (AP 200-4, 2-1(b)).

Using information provided by the Alaska SHPO, USARAK developed archeological sites (restricted access) and archeological survey areas data layers for Fort Richardson in 1998. These cultural resources data layers will allow Environmental Division and the CRM to more easily integrate concerns for cultural resources preservation into planning and review of projects. The GIS may also create maps to support cultural resources management (e.g. showing sensitive cultural resource areas to be avoided by military personnel). Any maps produced will comply with requirements of the ARPA, as discussed in Section 6.2. During 2002-2006 cultural resources data layers will be developed and updated as needed.

Natural Resources Management

Cultural and natural resources management are administered jointly by the Natural Resources Branch, Public Works. Therefore, the two programs are highly integrated This is reflected in Fort Richardson's Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) (USARAK 2002f), which includes measures to protect cultural resources during natural resources management practices.

Generally, natural resources management complements the preservation of archeological sites by limiting ground disturbance in sensitive natural areas. Such sensitive areas include:

- wetlands
- old growth forest
- alpine tundra
- stream riparian zones

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E. UNITED STATES ARMY ALASKA REGULATION 55-2 UNITED STATES ARMY ALASKA TRANSPORTATION OPERATIONS AND PLANNING IN ALASKA

Summary. This regulation establishes policies and procedures for United States Army Alaska (USARAK) units and agencies using transportation resources in support of Army operations. It covers highway, air, and rail movements.

Applicability. This regulation is applicable to all units assigned, attached or under the USARAK's operational control. Units not attached or under the USARAK's operational control will request transportation and coordinate movements with the Director of Logistics, USARAK Transportation Office (USARAK TRANS).

Interim changes. Interim changes to this regulation are not official unless the Director of Information Management authenticates them. Users will destroy interim changes on their expiration dates unless sooner superseded or rescinded.

Suggested improvements. This regulation's proponent agency is the Deputy Chief of Staff, Logistics. The Deputy Chief of Staff, Logistics invites users to send comments and suggested improvements on Department of the Army (DA) Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms) directly to APVR-RDL-T.

Chapter 3: Convoys and Motor Movements

E.1 Motor Transportation Support Requests

a. To the extent possible, all units will use their organic vehicles to support motor movements.
b. If a unit's equipment is insufficient or inappropriate to totally displace all organic assets, the unit will request support from the Motor Transport Officer (MTO) Fort Richardson. The request will state the type and amount of cargo to be moved, including the date, time, start point (SP), release point (RP), and a point of contact.
c. Upon receipt of a transportation request from a unit, the MTO will determine the most efficient and cost-effective mode of transportation to accomplish the mission (transportation motor pool or commercial) and notify the requester and USARAK TRANS of the mission status. Vehicle operators may drive 10 hours in a 12-hour period.
d. For requests for nontactical vehicle support see appendix B.
e. For requests for commercial lineal see appendix C.

E.2 General Convoys

A convoy is a group of vehicles organized for the purpose of control and orderly movement. Any group of six or more vehicles temporarily organized to operate as a column, proceeding together under a single commander, is considered a convoy. Additionally, when 10 or more vehicles per hour are dispatched to the same destination over the same route, they are considered a convoy. All military convoys moving over the Alaska State highway system require a convoy clearance, which will be issue by the Movement Control Center (MCC).

E.3 Convoy Clearances

Procedures for obtaining convoy clearances are as follows:

a. Units requesting convoy clearances will input their data into the Transportation Coordinator, Automated Command, and Control Information System (TC-ACCIS). If TC-ACCIS is not available the requestor may fill out Defense Department (DD) Form 1265 (Request for Convoy Clearance) (see app D) and DD Form 1266 (Request for Special Hauling Permit) for oversize/overweight vehicles and forward it to the MCC. The MCC is the approval authority for all convoys using State or Federal highways. After coordination with Alaska State authorities, the MCC assigns a convoy clearance number and returns the approved/ disapproved request (DD Form 1265) to the unit through the local Movement Control Team (MCT).

b. Requests for convoy movement that cannot be completed before 1200 on Saturdays or for convoy movement on Sundays and holidays will be disapproved unless it is essential in meeting a military training requirement. Units will submit requests for exceptions to policy to the MCC/MCT. These requests must be signed by the unit commander. The MCC is responsible for processing requests and obtaining Assistant Chief of Staff approval/ disapproval for each exception to policy submitted.

c. Requests for convoy clearances will be submitted at least 14 days before the scheduled movement. This allows adequate time for the requests to be coordinated by the MCC/MCT with Alaska State authorities. When this lead-time cannot be met due to unprogrammed operational requirements such as emergency deployment readiness exercises, requesting units will notify the MCC/MCT. The requesting unit will then prepare a DD Form 1265 as expeditiously as possible and submit it to local MCC/MCT for processing.

d. Procedures for obtaining convoy clearances for regular training exercises will be sent directly to the MCC/MCT.

e. Once a clearance is issued, convoy departure dates and times will not be changed unless a valid operational reason exists, and then only after appropriate coordination with the MCC/ MCT.

E.4 Convoy Organization

a When the number of vehicles in a convoy exceeds 20, the convoy will be broken down into serials, with each serial containing no more than 20 vehicles. Each serial will have a serial commander appointed to exercise control over that element.

b. The convoy commander of a larger convoy may further identify smaller elements within each serial as march units. For example, a convoy of 60 vehicles would have three serials of 20 vehicles and each serial would have two 10-vehicle march units. Each march unit would in turn have a march unit commander appointed. This arrangement gives the convoy commander greater command and control and decreases the possibility of vehicle damage and personnel injury due to carelessness or poor driving habits.

c. All convoys consist of three main elements:

   (1) The **head** is the first task vehicle of a march column in the order of march. The pacesetter rides in this vehicle, which is usually the largest and slowest vehicle in the column. The officer or noncommissioned officer at the head of each serial ensures the convoy is on the proper route, reports the SP, checkpoints (CPs), and RP, and maintains the convoy speed.

   (2) The **main body** of the convoy follows immediately behind the pacesetter and may be broken in to serials.

(3) The **trail** is the last element of the convoy. The trail officer or noncommissioned officer is responsible for maintaining convoy discipline, preventing straggling, and reporting final clearance of designated points. The trail party should also contain maintenance, medical, and recovery elements, if they are included in the convoy.

E.5 Requirements for Convoy Movements

Convoys require certain mandatory control measures to meet military and Alaska State requirements. The end goal is the safe and efficient movement of personnel and equipment. The following paragraphs identify a number of requirements that are mandatory for convoy operations within Alaska:

a. Convoy markings. Each serial of a convoy will have the following identification markings:
   (1) CONVOY FOLLOWS/CONVOY AHEAD signs for the lead and trail vehicles respectively. See appendix E.
   (2) A blue flag on the lead vehicle (National Stock Number (NSN) 8345-00-543-6912).
   (3) A green flag on the last vehicle (NSN 8345-00-543-6913).
   (4) A black and white flag on the convoy commander's vehicle (NSN 8345-00-543-6911).
   (5) The convoy clearance number marked in chalk on the vehicle doors.
   (6) A flashing, amber beacon on the top of the front and rear vehicle of each convoy serial.

b. Start point and release point. The SP and RP are specific locations that mark the beginning and ending of the convoy movements. As vehicles pass the SP, they are at their maximum rate of march and under the full control of the convoy commander. The SPs and RPs will be identified in the convoy clearance requests.

c. Strip maps. It is the convoy commander's responsibility to ensure that each vehicle driver has a strip map in their possession before the convoy departs the unit marshaling area.

d. Route reconnaissance. If time permits, it is highly recommended that the convoy commander or a member of their control team conduct a ground route reconnaissance the day before departure. If this is not feasible, road information of a general nature (weather, avalanche, etc.) is available by calling the numbers listed in appendix F.

e. Rate of movement (speed, pace, and rate of march). Rate of movement will be consistent with safe driving speed based primarily on road conditions. At no time will the rate of march exceed the posted speed limit. Convoy speed will be no greater than 40 miles per hour with a catch-up speed no greater than 45 miles per hour. This restriction includes areas with posted speed limits in excess of 50 miles per hour.

f. Messing and refueling. In support of USARAK concept, units are encouraged to plan for internal support for all mess and refueling requirements. In instances where a unit is incapable of being self-sufficient, requirements will be identified through logistics channels to the appropriate combat service support organization.

g. Rest halts. Convoying units will schedule a rest halt as a mandatory point of any convoy exceeding 50 miles traveled. Additionally, there will be one rest halt during the first hour of driving time and thereafter one halt for every 2 hours of driving time. Times and locations of halts must be indicated on the DD Form 1265.

h. Communications. Due to limited communications capabilities within the state, convoy commanders will have in their possession a list of available telephones along the route of march. A listing of known public telephone locations is provided in appendix F. Commanders will use organic communication assets to maintain close communication with their lead and trail elements. Convoy frequencies will be from the current Communications Electronics

Operating Instructions. Units requiring alternate frequencies will request them from the USARAK Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Information Management.

i. Back-up recovery service. Units must plan on being self-sufficient during convoy operations; however, it is recognized that several breakdowns enroute could use all of a unit's organic capability. To prevent this situation, units are encouraged to coordinate with their direct support element for hand-off recovery boundaries and points of contact. Unless otherwise specified in exercise directives or operations plans, normal hand-off boundaries are as follows:

   (1) Parks Highway south of Cantwell and Richardson Highway south of Glennallen – recovery by Fort Richardson support assets.

   (2) Parks Highway north of Cantwell and Richardson Highway north of Paxson – recovery by Fort Wainwright support assets.

j. Emergency medical service. Accidents or incidents may occur that require on-site medical assistance. A listing of available medical services and their telephone numbers is included as appendix G. This listing will be carried by convoy, serial, and march unit commanders during any convoy operation over Alaska State highways. All accidents will be reported to MCC (Fort Richardson, 1-800-478-2769 (ARMY)) or the appropriate MCT (Fort Wainwright, 1-800-353-1169 or Fort Greely, 1-907-873-1124). If contact cannot be made with the MCC, contact the Command Operations Center at Fort Richardson, 1-800-410-9144 or Fort Wainwright, 1-800-478-7588, the COC "800" numbers can **only be used for emergency and not for personal calls**.

k. Convoy commander's briefing. This briefing will always be given preceding any convoy movement. A sample checklist with topics to be covered is included at appendix H.

l. Local restrictions. Convoys are not normally authorized to move on any of the three posts' primary road network (paved surfaces) during the peak traffic hours (0630 to 0800, 1100 to 1300, and 1530 to 1700) Monday through Friday. This requirement may be waived due to operational requirements. The MCC/MCT, when reviewing convoy requests, will coordinate with the military police for exceptions when there is a valid operational requirement.

m. Covering of vehicle bumper numbers. At no time during routine training missions or convoy operations over Alaska State highways will vehicle unit identification and bumper numbers be covered. The only time markings will be covered is in a tactical maneuver area on order of the unit commander.

n. Vehicle operation requirements. All vehicles operating on off-post highways are required to have their headlights on low beam per AR 385-55. Any vehicle operating off post in Alaska during the winter months (15 October to 15 April) or when operating in areas where the temperature is below 32 degrees Fahrenheit regardless of time of year, must meet the following conditions before departure:

   (1) Have a licensed driver and assistant driver.

   (2) Have personal survival gear for all passengers, including the driver, containing not less than the following:

      (a) Arctic sleeping bag.

      (b) Vapor-barrier boots.

      (c) Parka.

      (d) Field trousers.

      (e) Arctic mittens.

   (3) Have tire chains.

(4) Have a highway-warning device.

(5) Drivers will not be assigned to drive an Army motor vehicle more than 10 continuous hours.

E.6 Convoying Small Unit Support Vehicles

Convoy movements for small unit support vehicles (SUSVs) fall under the same requirements as wheeled vehicles (see para 3-5) with the following exceptions:

a. A march unit/serial will consist of no more than 10 vehicles.

b. A minimum of a 30-minute time gap will be maintained between each march unit/serial.

c. Since SUSVs are classified as slow-moving vehicles (25 miles per hour or less) by the State of Alaska, SLOW MOVING VEHICLE triangles are required on the rear of each SUSV in a convoy.

d. In addition to required convoy signs and flags, a convoy of SUSVs is required to have a flashing, amber, warning beacon on the top of the front and rear vehicles of each convoy serial.

e. Operation of a single SUSV over State roads requires that a SLOW MOVING VEHICLE triangle be mounted on the rear of the SUSV. In this case, a flashing, amber, warning beacon is not required.

f. Windows, taillights, reflectors, and warning beacons must be kept clear of snow and mud.

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