



## 2020 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards Environmental Quality, Individual/Team Award

Each year since 1962, the Secretary of Defense (SecDef) has honored installations, teams, and individuals for outstanding achievements in Department of Defense (DoD) environmental programs. These accomplishments include outstanding conservation activities, innovative environmental practices, and partnerships that improve quality of life and promote efficiencies without compromising DoD's mission success. The 2020 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards cycle encompasses an achievement period from October 1, 2017, through September 30, 2019 (Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-2019). A diverse panel of 54 judges with relevant expertise representing Federal and state agencies, academia, and the private sector evaluated all nominees to select one winner for each of the nine categories. These nine categories cover six subject areas including natural resources conservation, environmental quality, sustainability, environmental restoration, cultural resources management, and environmental excellence in weapon system acquisition.

### About the Environmental Quality, Individual/Team Award

The Environmental Quality, Individual/Team award recognizes individuals and teams for efforts to ensure mission accomplishment and protection of human health and the environment in the areas of environmental planning, waste management, and compliance with environmental laws and regulations (e.g., Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Safe Drinking Water Act). Meeting or exceeding all environmental requirements not only enhances the protection of our environmental assets, but also sustains DoD's ability to effectively train and maintain readiness. The 2020 winner of the Environmental Quality, Individual/Team award is the *Environmental Information Management System Team, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, Virginia*.

### About the Environmental Information Management System Team, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, Virginia

The Environmental Information Management System (EIMS) Team of U.S. Fleet Forces Command (USFFC) DoD civilians and Science Applications International Corporation contractors supports USFFC and U.S. Pacific Fleet information technology mission requirements for Fleet environmental, natural resources, range sustainment, and operational energy programs. EIMS is an information management system that provides multiple integrated tools, capabilities, and data through a single Navy-owned, USFFC-managed access point. EIMS supports the Fleets by modeling and automating typical project administrative functions, hosting authoritative Fleet geospatial and tabular data and documents, protecting Navy data in a secure environment, providing authorized users with 24/7 access to necessary data and capabilities, and hosting applications critical to Fleet training and range sustainment.



*The Science Applications International Corporation Technical Service Center (TSC) of the Environmental Information Management System Team. From left to right: Mark Lawrence, Task Order Manager; David Wiggins, Developer; Sara Campbell, Technical Writer/Training Specialist; Christopher Preslar, System Administrator; Prayer Singleton, Help Desk Administrator/User Liaison; and Tod Hollis, Team Lead/Developer. TSC members not pictured: Joshua Lapp, Maurice Compton, Joe Maciera, and Beatrice Canter. The TSC is responsible for developing, sustaining, and upgrading the capabilities and data of EIMS and associated applications. U.S. Navy photo courtesy of Sara Campbell.*

## Major Accomplishments in FY 2018-2019

- The EIMS Team facilitated the management, production, and timely delivery of eight environmental impact statements that included thousands of pages, involved dozens of stakeholders, and adhered to very tight timelines, saving the Navy time and money while generating high-quality documents. This effort enabled the Fleet leadership to make informed decisions about environmental impacts for testing and training at sea.
- EIMS Team members developed the Navy's first publicly available environmental planning project website and helped migrate it into the DoD Public Web for wider use. This progression provides the Navy environmental community with its first National Environmental Policy Act-compliant project website with a well-vetted, templated structure that can be easily replicated for subsequent environmental planning projects.
- The EIMS Team programmed hand-held tablets to model the end-to-end USFFC operational range clearance process that includes routine clearance, processing, and disposal of range debris and spent munitions on Atlantic Fleet air-to-ground bombing ranges. The tablets simplify clearance event planning, tie photos of unexploded ordnance to global positioning system coordinates, and track range debris from collection to sorting, processing, and disposal, including online transfer forms. At the end of each day, the Team electronically transfers their data from the tablets into operational range clearance (ORC) databases for storage, analysis, and reporting. The tablets replace clipboards and paper transfer forms, facilitating more expeditious and effective range clearance, analysis, and reporting.
- The Team launched the Protective Measures Assessment Protocol (PMAP) in 2004 to provide Fleet units training at-sea with general protective measures to mitigate risk to marine resources in training areas. The EIMS Team prepared six new versions of PMAP in FY 2018 and FY 2019 to incorporate permit revisions from training and testing environmental impact statements, including the geospatial data and associated protective measures covering vast new marine expanses. PMAP enables Navy ships, submarines, and aircraft to train and test at-sea in compliance with its permits, reducing the risk of regulatory enjoinder and litigative injunction.
- While most EIMS capabilities focus on at-sea compliance and range sustainment, the EIMS Team developed webpages to help sailors on ships, submarines, and aircraft squadrons to comply with environmental laws, policies, and regulations that most directly impact them. These webpages include at-sea compliance information and operational energy information.



*A screenshot highlights the area of the globe subject to detailed marine resources protective measures within the U.S. 6th and 7th Fleet areas of operations. Prior to FY 2019, detailed PMAP coverage was limited to traditional fleet training areas in the coastal U.S., Hawaii, Guam, and Japan. U.S. Navy photo illustration by Blue Land Media.*



*Mr. Joshua Lapp, the EIMS lead developer, middle, demonstrates the functions of a ORC field data collection tablet to Daniel Sierra, the EIMS Project Lead, left, and Tom Young, Senior Unexploded Ordnance Supervisor, right, during the beta testing at Rodman Bombing Range. The tables model and automate ORC processes, replacing paper data collection, and leading to significant increases in process efficiency and data accuracy. U.S. Navy photo courtesy of Sara Campbell.*