2016 Secretary of Defense ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS









Foreword



Each year, the Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards recognize the incredible work our men and women across the Department of Defense do each day to protect the environment, human health, and our Nation's natural and cultural resources. For more than 50 years, the Department has honored individuals, teams, and installations for their exceptional environmental achievements and innovative, cost-effective environmental practices. The 2016 Awards recognize exemplary accomplishments from October 1, 2013, to September 30, 2015, in the categories of natural resources conservation, environmental quality, sustainability, environmental restoration, cultural resources management, and environmental excellence in weapon system acquisition.

As I reflect on my tenure since 2010, first as Principal Deputy and then Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, I am impressed by the Department's environmental successes. In 2010, we

published the Department's first Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan. In the plan, we established sustainability goals that both enhance our mission and protect the air, land, water, and man-made resources that support it. Continuing this effort, in 2012 we published the Climate Change Adaptation Roadmap (with significant revision in 2014) to demonstrate our commitment to pursuing climate change resilience for our lands and mission needs. In 2016, the Department issued the Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Directive to set out climate change resilience policy goals, roles, and responsibilities.

We have also made substantial progress in increasing our reliance on renewable energy in providing our installations with cost effective and clean energy. I am proud to say that as of Fiscal Year 2015, the Department produced or procured 12.4 percent of total facility electricity consumption from renewable energy, which exceeds our intermediary goal of 12 percent. The Department realizes economic benefits from cost avoidance by purchasing renewable energy below the cost of conventional power. We have also reduced petroleum fuel consumption in non-tactical vehicles by nearly 34 percent since 2005. I also commend continued efforts across the Department to reduce the production of greenhouse gasses. During my tenure, we lowered our greenhouse gas emissions by nearly 12 percent.

Additionally, we have continued to make progress in completing cleanup at our installations. Between Fiscal Years 2010 and 2015, the Department completed cleanup for 14 percent of installation restoration program (IRP) and munitions response sites at Active and Base Realignment and Closure installations and IRP sites on Formerly Used Defense Sites, bringing the total cleanup completed to 84 percent of our entire portfolio of sites for which we have a cleanup obligation.

We also continue to advance and apply new technologies to improve our efficiencies and effectiveness in environmental cleanup. In particular, the Department is proud of its development of advanced geophysical classification technology, an important innovation that supports our cleanup process. This technology enables our personnel to address the potential explosives safety hazards at our munitions response sites by identifying buried metal objects and determining whether they are military munitions or harmless debris. The use of advanced geophysical classification will allow the Department to reduce cleanup time and costs.

Foreword

The Department has also made improvements in our policies concerning environmental management and acquisition. In 2016, we published the first environmental management policy for contingency locations, eliminating previous policy gaps and providing consistent, standardized guidance to the Combatant Commands. In 2012, we published Military Standard 882E, Department of Defense Standard Practice for Systems Safety, which helps our acquisition community design safety and environmental protection into the weapon systems used by our personnel. All of these accomplishments demonstrate the value we place on excellent service to the defense mission, Service members, staff, and the environment.

I am proud to recognize this year's nominees—they represent excellence and a tremendous dedication to the Nation and its resources.

Congratulations to the winners of the 2016 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards. Thank you for continuing our legacy of environmental excellence within the Department and for representing the bright future of our Nation's environmental leaders.

^{*}Frank Kendall Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics

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About the Awards

Natural Resources Conservation

The Department promotes the conservation of natural resources, including the identification, protection, and restoration of biological resources and habitats; the sound management and use of the land and its resources; and the promotion of the conservation ethic. Protecting endangered plant and animal species on our installations and other lands we hold in the public trust not only preserves these valuable environmental assets for current and future generations, but also assures the availability of these resources to sustain military readiness.

Environmental Quality

The Department seeks to protect air and water quality, manage waste properly, conduct appropriate environmental planning actions, and implement environmental management systems that promote sound environmental practices while continuously improving performance. Meeting or exceeding all environmental requirements not only enhances the protection of our environmental assets, but also sustains our ability to effectively train and maintain readiness.

Sustainability

The Department seeks to extend the longevity of its resources by preventing or eliminating pollution at the source. To achieve this, the Department practices efficiency and sustainability in the use of raw materials, energy, waste, or other resources. Sustainable practices ensure the Department protects the valuable resources that are critical to mission success.

Environmental Restoration

The Department restores land impacted by past defense practices. Through the Defense Environmental Restoration Program, the Department works to restore property at nearly 39,000 sites at active and closed military installations, as well as formerly used defense sites across the United States. Restoring these properties protects military personnel and the public from potential environmental health and safety hazards.

Cultural Resources Management

The Department promotes the protection of our Nation's rich heritage and cultural resources, such as historic properties and districts; archaeological sites, artifacts, and records; and sacred sites and traditional cultural properties of significance to our indigenous communities. Through cultural resources management programs, the Department identifies areas likely to contain cultural resources and works to protect these assets for future generations by partnering with historic preservation stakeholders, including American Indian/Alaska Native Tribes and Native Hawaiian Organizations.

Environmental Excellence in Weapon System Acquisition

The Department makes a concerted effort to incorporate environmental, safety, and occupational health requirements into the weapon systems acquisition program's decisionmaking process. Adhering to these principles enhances the Department's acquisition process by ensuring that weapon systems keep the safety of personnel and protection of the environment as a top priority.



Camp Dawson Army Training Site, West Virginia Army National Guard, West Virginia Natural Resources Conservation, Small Installation

The West Virginia Army National Guard's (WVARNG) Camp Dawson had a modest beginning as a tent facility used only in the summer. Since the 1980s, the Army transformed the campsite by acquiring land, building new ranges and training capacities, and constructing significant infrastructure. Today, Camp Dawson encompasses approximately 5,000 acres. Camp Dawson has established an exemplary Natural Resources Conservation (NRC) program to manage this busy installation. In addition to its training lands, Camp Dawson's live fire ranges include a modified record firing range, demolition range, and a live fire shoot house, many of which are new or have been recently updated. It is also the site of the second largest conference center in West Virginia and includes a state-of-the-art fitness compound, including a \$10 million gym facility and Olympic pool. With the expansion of Camp Dawson's training capacities, its troop throughput has increased from an average of 110,000 per year to 130,000 soldiers in FY 2015 with expected increases of 20-30 percent over the next five years.

- In FY 2014, the NRC staff completed a five-year project to construct an interpretive wetland boardwalk with volunteer assistance using National Public Lands Day grants. The new recreation site includes a boardwalk and picnic area with educational exhibits on natural resources and ecology.
- Camp Dawson staff improved upon an old field/strip mine rehabilitation project encompassing nearly 100 acres. The project restores native grasslands that support wildlife and creates new drop zones and bivouac areas for training. The NRC staff also restructured their progressive invasive species program to better facilitate other installation mission needs.
- The NRC staff successfully secured grant funding and created volunteer opportunities to support the new recreation and education area on post. Specifically, the Army created the new recreation and education area entirely with volunteer labor and approximately \$30,000 in National Public Lands Day funds over a five-year period.
- The NRC staff completed a pond construction project adjacent to a new modified record firing range this year. This effort tied together habitat enhancement with the training mission and partnered the NRC staff with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, project managers, and trainers. Excess clay excavated from the construction of the pond also benefited WVARNG's river bank stabilization project and implementation was incorporated into training exercises.



Camp Dawson's NRC Manager, Ryan Snyder, holds an at-risk banded Golden-winged warbler prior to release. NRC staff conducts yearly monitoring of the warblers using protocol outlined by Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the Golden-winged Warbler Conservation Initiative.



NRC staff assists with trout stockings of the cantonment area pond that provides recreational fishing opportunities for soldiers, their families, and other Camp Dawson guests.



Fort McCoy Natural Resources Branch, Wisconsin Natural Resources Conservation, Individual/Team

Fort McCoy is a 60,000-acre Installation Management Command Total Force Training Center that includes 7,538 acres of impact area, 47,000 acres of forest, 3,475 acres of grassland, 4,400 acres of wetlands, 71 miles of streams, 10 lakes and 60,000 acres of leased land for military training. The purpose of Fort McCoy is to support the Army as a training center and a support site for power projection missions.

The Fort McCoy Natural Resources Branch (NRB) Team consists of six federal professionals including an endangered species biologist, forester, forestry technician, fisheries biologist, wildlife biologist, and Branch Chief. The NRB Team's mission statement is to foster the wise stewardship of natural and cultural resources to support and sustain a realistic military training environment, biological diversity, the integrity of sensitive or unique sites, and commercial and recreational opportunities.

- The Fort McCoy NRB team partnered with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) to successfully remove the aged Alderwood Lake Dam. This project involved re-routing a road which was located within an active range's surface danger zone, adding a low water crossing, and mitigating of 6.5 acres of wetlands. The team improved Fort McCoy's military readiness by eliminating active range surface danger zone concerns and improving traffic.
- The NRB Team collaborated with the Army's Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security to analyze internal mission encroachment and increase the amount of usable acreage. The analysis resulted in reduced environmental and safety restrictions on 34,562 acres without adding additional risk to the environment, personnel, property or training, while maintaining compliance with state and federal laws.
- In collaboration with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) and the WDNR, the Fort McCoy NRB Team completed the 2013 2014 annual reviews of the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP). Fort McCoy had no net loss of training capability while executing and implementing 241 out of the 247 high priority INRMP projects.
- The NRB Team developed an Inter-Agency Agreement (IAA) to mitigate incidental take of the federally endangered Karner blue butterfly. The agreement transfers funds to FWS, who partners with the WDNR to create or enhance habitat on WDNR property.
- The Fort McCoy NRB Team used the IAA between the Army, FWS, and WDNR to complete stream habitat improvement along Stillwell Creek, which flows through the installation. Stillwell Creek is listed as impaired water according to Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act due to sediment buildup and degraded habitat. Together, the partners improved nearly 2,000 feet of stream habitat in 2014 and made progress towards removing the creek from the impaired waters list.



This endangered male Karner blue butterfly is perched on a flower within a South Post goat prairie in Fort McCoy, WI.



The Wisconsin Air National Guard - 147th Aviation Regiment completed flight training during a prescribed burn. UH60 Blackhawk helicopter pilots extinguished active fires, dropping about 22,000 gallons of lake water.



Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, California Environmental Quality, Non-Industrial Installation

Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC) is home to the Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command, whose primary mission is to train military personnel under live-fire conditions in a manner that enables commanders and Marines to practice essential skills for combat brigade and battalion exercises. The Command trains over 45,000 Marines annually, and relies on a civilian/military population of over 21,000 individuals and infrastructure assets of over 1,000 buildings and structures. The Command has a robust environmental management program (EMP) in place to successfully meet its training mission.

MCAGCC's EMP is a collaborative effort between the Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs (NREA) Division, installation directorates, units, tenant commands, base residents, and the adjacent Twentynine Palms community. This program oversees base usage of its finite desert resources as training environments, while enabling the Marine Corps units and tenant commands to achieve and maintain environmental compliance and protection as well as sustain resources essential to combat readiness.

- MCAGCC achieved a 54 percent reduction in water intensity by:
 - o Establishing a Water Conservation Task Force;
 - Converting green space to desert landscaping and installing synthetic turf;
 - o Replacing water with commercially available agents for control;
 - o Re-using recycled and/or non-potable water supplies;
 - o Researching opportunities to use storm water runoff to supplement irrigation; and
 - o Studying the water distribution system for deficiencies and improved metering.
- MCAGCC collected, inspected, and demilitarized over 5.6 million pounds of range residue and ordnance debris, recycling 5.5 million pounds and generating \$1.2 million in revenue.
- MCAGCC used an organic refuse conversion alternative system to process food waste through a microbial process. This allows the waste to be directed to the wastewater treatment facility. The alternative food waste management system resulted in a positive FY 2014 Environmental Compliance Evaluation by Headquarters Marine Corps, and is an exemplary way to address environmental requirements. Headquarters Marine Corps is able to use positive findings like this as best management practices for other Marine Corps installations.
- MCAGCC continued supporting community outreach to celebrate Earth Day. During these events, installation staff promote conservation and environmental quality goals for the health and welfare of Marines, families, and civilians.



Lt. Col. Timothy Pochop, Director, NREA, recognizes Mitchell Klich, Condor Elementary, for being a finalist during the Earth Day Poster Contest on May 1, 2015.



The Range Sustainment Branch (RSB) collected range residue and ordnance debris, such as practice munitions, scrap, and other munitions components generated during live fire exercises on the installation. The RSB sold processed materials from metal casings, cans, and wooden pallets through the installation's Qualified Recycling Program.



Eglin Air Force Base Environmental Quality Team, Florida Environmental Quality, Individual/Team

Situated along the Emerald Coast and extending into the heart of Florida's panhandle, Eglin Air Force Base (AFB) is home to the 96th Test Wing. Encompassing 464,000 acres of land and 120,000 square miles of water ranges, the installation is responsible for the development, acquisition, testing, deployment, and sustainment of all air-delivered conventional weaponry.

The Eglin AFB Environmental Quality (EQ) Team consists of 43 professional engineers, physical scientists, biologists, archeologists, foresters, forestry technicians, environmental protection specialists, fire management specialists, and fire ecologists. The EQ Team implements a holistic management approach to reduce risks, maintain compliance, and continuously improve processes and programs.

Eglin AFB Environmental Quality Team's major accomplishments include:

- Implemented an Environmental Management System (EMS) which fully conforms to Air Force and international standards. The EMS is a one-stop-shop for all aspects of the environmental program and satisfies documentation requirements online, saving program time and resources while minimizing impacts to the mission.
- Furthered the national goal of pursuing alternative energy sources by facilitating and completing an environmental assessment for a 30 megawatt solar photovoltaic array project on 245 acres. This effort made the \$200 million project viable and raised Eglin's percentage of renewable energy sources to 19 percent.
- Partnered with five federally recognized tribes and the state to develop a programmatic agreement to support the Gulf Regional Air Space Strategic Initiative for the use of state forests for military training. Through this agreement, careful analysis, and consultation, the Air Force was able to evaluate and resolve anticipated concerns regarding cultural resources without having to conduct expensive and time consuming field work.
- Personnel adopted state-sponsored practices and procedures for the marina, including emphasis on preventing the release of pollutants into waters, and strengthened Eglin's ability to withstand natural and manmade disasters. As a result of these efforts, the state of Florida designated Eglin's marina as "Clean and Resilient" – one of just 10 such designations in Florida.
- Became an active participant in a national effort to promote science, technology, engineering and math in schools. The EQ Team developed a science curriculum that teaches students how to develop hypotheses about local wildlife, test them with camera trap data, and understand the concepts of habitat and ecosystems.



Russell Brown, a member of the EQ Team, checks a culvert for storm water compliance. Due to the Team's efforts, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection granted Eglin a waiver for reduced sampling protocol, saving more than \$13k per sampling cycle.



Team Eglin's Fire Rescue assists the EQ Team members in rescuing a disoriented loggerhead sea turtle. Eglin volunteers contribute over 2,000 hours to sea turtle monitoring annually.



Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island, Florida Sustainability, Industrial Installation

Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island (MCSF-BI) is a 1,237-acre maritime development located in Jacksonville, Florida. As the primary tenant, MCSF-BI plans, coordinates, and executes the facility's logistics efforts in support of the Maritime Prepositioning Ships Program and the Marine Corps Prepositioning Program, Norway. MCSF-BI implements and manages the installation's environmental programs through objectives derived from Executive Orders 13514, 13693, and the draft 2011 U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) Sustainability Plan. Through its Environmental Management System (EMS), MCSF-BI has made great progress towards DoD's and USMC's environmental quality goals and metrics.

- MCSF-BI reduced water use 46 percent overall from its FY 2012 baseline. Much of this savings came from installing a new wash rack for large equipment in FY 2014, reducing water use by 733,000 gallons annually. The new wash rack replaces the former chemical process wash rack with a closed-loop, recirculated water system. The new wash rack uses ozone, filtration, and an oil-water separator to treat the wash water resulting in an 85 percent reduction in water use through greater reuse and less waste disposal.
- During FY 2014, MCSF-BI reduced hazardous materials (HAZMAT) from 36,380 products to 29,422 HAZMAT products stored onsite. The installation achieved a similar reduction in FY 2015, bringing the number of HAZMAT products stored onsite to 19,429.
- By the end of FY 2015, MCSF-BI's energy intensity was about 47 percent below the FY 2003 baseline. MCSF-BI was already exceeding energy goals and continued to identify opportunities to reduce energy consumption from FY 2014-2015.
- MCSF-BI constructed a new 46,226 square-foot Corrosion Repair Facility. This facility is a closed-loop dehumidification system that dries with low temperatures, eliminates the need for large ovens, has zero emissions, and greatly reduces operational costs. The Corrosion Repair Facility also uses 41.6 percent less energy than the former paint booth.
- MCSF-BI completed an assessment, which found that 8 of the 15 buildings at MCSF-BI that are larger than 5,000 square feet conform to the High Performance and Sustainable Building guiding principles. The target is 15 percent, which means that MCSF-BI is greatly exceeding the target goal.



Loading equipment onto a Maritime Prepositioning Ship Program vessel at MCSF-BI. These types of ships are laden with equipment for rapid delivery ashore when needed.



The skylights installed in Building 450 offset 240,000 kWh worth of electrical lighting. Measures like this contribute towards the base's energy reduction goals.



Beale Air Force Base, California Environmental Restoration, Installation

Beale Air Force Base (AFB) is a 22,944-acre military installation located in Yuba County, California. The 9th Reconnaissance Wing's mission is to train, deploy, and employ our Airmen and assets to deliver globally integrated intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance. Equipped with the Nation's fleet of U-2 Dragon Lady and RQ-4 Global Hawk reconnaissance aircraft and associated support equipment, the Wing maintains readiness for expeditionary combat support forces to deploy in response to theater contingencies. Over 17,000 acres of Beale AFB are undeveloped and consist of riparian areas and wetlands. Over 6,400 personnel are employed at Beale AFB and the installation contributes approximately \$604 million to California's economy annually. The Beale AFB Installation Restoration Program includes an Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) and a Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP). Under the ERP, military personnel are implementing remedial actions at 38 open ERP sites out of 49 total ERP sites. The MMRP manages 63 munitions response areas that include 122 individual response sites.

Beale AFB's major accomplishments include:

- Achieved site closeout for 70 MMRP sites and identified four sites that are already reporting site closeout. Also reduced the number of active MMRP sites by 81 percent, and returned 8,537 acres to the installation for unrestricted use.
- Achieved site closeout for nine contaminated ERP sites and 19 underground storage tank sites. The installation has reached response complete on three ERP sites, with site closeout to follow in 2016. Results include decreasing active ERP sites by 23 percent.
- Partnered with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on a revised remedial action approach involving the careful removal of lead "hot spots" near sensitive species habitat on a former skeet range. By using this approach, installation environmental staff reduced the excavation area by 45 percent, avoided wetland mitigation, and saved the Air Force approximately \$3 million.
- Worked directly with the Yuba County Water Agency to develop a complex response to the unprecedented drought in California. The response resulted in minimized contamination to groundwater plumes, identified contingency actions to address potential plume migration off-base, and ensured measures are in place ahead of plume migration.
- Implemented innovative, sustainable source area remedies, including five enhanced in situ bioremediation treatment areas, four in situ chemical oxidation treatment areas, a system that uses phytopumping, and a permeable reactive barrier. By implementing these alternative remedies, environmental staff treated 135 source acres to depths of 95 feet below the ground surface.



Ms. Carolyn Rech (California Department of Fish & Wildlife, CDFW) and Mr. Darren Rector (Air Force Civil Engineer Center, Installation Support Team-West) conduct a survey for a Swainson's Hawk nest that was noted prior to the site excavation. The CDFW agreed weekly surveys and reporting could be conducted by Mr. Rector, eliminating additional project costs.



Beale AFB conducts Restoration Advisory Board tours twice a year focused on installation mission and restoration site visits. Participation includes concerned community members, Board members, Beale AFB residents, and civic leaders.



Vieques Environmental Restoration Program Team, Puerto Rico Environmental Restoration, Individual/Team

The former Vieques Naval Installation is a 23,000-acre facility located on Vieques Island, Puerto Rico. From the mid-1940s until 2003, DoD fired more than 300,000 munitions items at this site during military training. In 2005, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) listed Vieques and the surrounding waters on the National Priorities List. The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico considers Vieques to be the highest cleanup priority. The Vieques Environmental Restoration Program Team faces unique challenges, such as unexploded ordnance across thousands of acres of land and sea floor; abundant ecologically and culturally sensitive resources; and the often disparate objectives of numerous stakeholders, including the local community, education and scientific organizations, and advocacy groups. Representatives from Naval Facilities Engineering Command Atlantic, EPA, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Interior, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) work collaboratively as the Vieques Environmental Restoration Program Team that implements environmental restoration activities on the former DoD site.

Vieques Environmental Restoration Program Team's major accomplishments include:

- Implemented an innovative, non-time-critical removal action (NTCRA) to clean up munitions on a 535-acre munitions site surrounding a 19th century Spanish lighthouse. This approach restored public access to this historic resource seven years ahead of schedule.
- Used an un-manned, remotely-operated, long-reach excavator to demonstrate the ability to safely remove highly dangerous munitions within heavily vegetated areas and from roads and beaches at a cost savings up to 60 percent below manual methods. This effort achieved over \$1 million in savings in FY 2015; a full-scale operation is scheduled for 2016 and anticipated to save over \$10 million.
- Implemented several groundbreaking technologies that reduced cleanup costs and significantly reduced explosive risk. The team used a Time-Domain Electromagnetic Multi-Sensor Towed Array Detection System to demonstrate the ability to distinguish subsurface munitions items from debris, which reduces the number of anomalies and associated costs by as much as 50 percent. The team also used an underwater remotely operated vehicle for such tasks as munitions tracking and endangered species surveys, replacing diver use and cost by over 50 percent. Similarly, an unmanned aerial vehicle was shown to effectively ensure workers and the public are at safe distances prior to controlled detonations.
- Implemented an NTCRA at a former open burn/open detonation (OB/OD) area and completed the interim actions necessary to allow public access years ahead of schedule. Concurrently, munitions response divers recovered munitions across 200 acres of seafloor adjacent to the site, while ensuring that threatened and endangered corals and other sensitive species' habitats were protected.



Magnetic attachment on excavator removing bombs from the roadbed. In areas where it is too dangerous or costly to remove munitions by traditional methods, remotely operated equipment has significantly reduced explosive hazards to workers and cut costs by more than half.



Munitions response divers search the ocean floor for munitions to accelerate opening a public recreational area at the adjacent former OB/OD site at the request of FWS.



White Sands Missile Range (WSMR) was established in 1945 and is the birthplace of America's missile program. WSMR encompasses over 3,200 square miles, making it the largest overland test facility in the United States. The installation supports the U.S. Army's Test and Evaluation Command in addition to the Navy, Air Force, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the Defense Threat Reduction Agency. WSMR houses two national historic landmarks (NHL). One of these NHLs is Trinity Site - the location of the first atomic explosion. Another NHL is the V-2 Launch Complex, which is the site of the first generation of rocket testing in the U.S. WSMR also encompasses 8,300 other cultural resources, including prehistoric archaeological sites dating from the Paleo-Indian period, historic archaeological sites, historic military landscapes, historic ranches, mines, and several Cold War-era sites.

- WSMR completed survey and site evaluations of 92,000 acres, which supported the Network Integration Evaluation test events. These events involve more than 5,000 troops and rely on access to large areas for maneuver and operational testing.
- The Cultural Resources Management (CRM) Team digitized 40 years (1950-1990) of the historic Wind and Sand base newspaper. The project created a public website where issues are available both for download and as a realistic "flip view" newspaper. All issues are searchable by publication date/keyword.
- The Team coordinated the first WSMR archaeological field school in FY 2014. The field school was coordinated through New Mexico State University and performed at the Cottonwood Spring Pueblo site. The field school produced a wealth of data that can be used to address questions about climate and environmental changes and demonstrates how these changes may affect the Pueblo community.
- The CRM Team provided facilities reduction support by developing a memorandum of agreement with the city of Green River to mitigate the potential adverse effects of demolishing the Green River Test Site. The site was once an active WSMR annex in Utah and was evaluated and determined to be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places as a military landscape. This Cold War facility is slated for demolition in FY 2016. Mitigation measures include an interactive e-book for educational use, restoration of a scale model Athena missile in a local park, and development of interpretive signage to accompany the model Athena missile.
- Partnering with the Mescalero Apache tribe, the Team executed a project to teach Mescalero youth about traditional use of plants at WSMR in Apache culture. The project resulted in the publication of an informational field brochure about traditional plant use.



Trinity NHL is the site of the first atomic explosion. The obelisk is the official marker of the site. The roofed structure covers a portion of preserved trinitite, a green solidified sand.



Mescalero Apache tribal members removing an agave plant. The CRM program partnered with the Mescalero to identify and gather plants of traditional importance to the tribe at WSMR.



KC-46 Program Environment, Safety, and Occupational Health Team, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio *Excellence in Weapon System Acquisition, Large Program*

The KC-46A aircraft, which achieved first flight on September 25, 2015, will replace the U.S. Air Force's aging tanker fleet. This Acquisition Category I program is converting the commercial Boeing 767-200 Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)-certified passenger/freighter aircraft to an aerial refueling aircraft with passenger, cargo, and aeromedical evacuation capabilities. The KC-46A program environment, safety, and occupational health (ESOH) team, a cross-functional, government-contractor team, is responsible for the program's ESOH integration efforts. The KC-46A program implemented an integrated ESOH effort into its system design activities, beginning with early planning and engineering, extending to the setting of user requirements and contract specifications, and continuing through the system's developmental engineering efforts. This resulted in a program that exceeds the expectations set by DoD Acquisition and ESOH policy and guidance.

- The KC-46A will be the first commercial transport-based aircraft with an FAA-certified non-halon fire suppression system. This innovation eliminates KC-46A's use of halon fire suppression systems, which are known to deplete ozone, and reduces sustainment risks from out-ofproduction halon. The FAA and industry will also benefit from valuable testing data and lessons learned to support the future transition to non-halon systems on commercial aircraft worldwide.
- The KC-46A incorporates hexavalent chromium reduction as a top priority for the system from contract requirements through engineering development and sustainment planning. The Air Force requires a non-hexavalent chromium paint system for the external surfaces of the aircraft – the primary source for chromate generation during sustainment. This reduces ESOH risks and costs throughout the life cycle.
- The KC-46A ESOH team implemented Advanced Performance Coating topcoat, which doubles the time between aircraft repaint cycles - further reducing cost and risk. In addition to reducing volatile organic compounds, this initiative will save at least \$44 million over the life cycle of the initial fleet of aircraft.
- The KC-46A ESOH team ensured that the aircraft meets FAA Stage 4 Far Field Noise Limits. Stage 4 is currently the most restrictive noise level for commercial aircraft noise and reduces impacts on U.S. Air Force personnel and neighboring communities.
- The KC-46A ESOH team implemented a comprehensive hazardous materials (HAZMAT) management program that identifies the HAZMAT embedded in the system and used in operations and maintenance. The team is eliminating the use of HAZMAT wherever possible during system development and is also implementing Boeing's Design for Environment program to evaluate replacements for consumables used in both manufacturing and maintenance across the life cycle.



Outdoor exposure test coupons for seven hexavalent chromiumfree surface paint systems are set up for long exposure tests. Tests are conducted under high humidity, rainfall, and salt conditions in Daytona, Florida.



The KC-46A will be the first airliner/transport-type airframe in the world delivered with an FAA-certified non-halon engine and auxiliary power unit fire suppression system.

Honorable Mentions

Natural Resources Conservation, Small Installation

Pacific Missile Range Facility, Hawaii

Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana

Natural Resources Conservation, Individual/Team

Dr. Brian T. Henen, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, California

Mr. Ian Trefry, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Maine

East Region Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan Team, Langley Air Force Base, Virginia

Environmental Quality, Non-Industrial Installation

Fort Hood, Texas

Naval Support Activity Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas

Environmental Quality, Individual/Team

U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys Environmental Division, South Korea

Mr. Chris Elliot, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, California

Naval Station Norfolk Environmental Compliance Team, Virginia

Sustainability, Industrial Installation

Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pennsylvania Fleet Readiness Center Southeast, Florida

Environmental Restoration, Individual/Team

Joint Base Lewis-McChord Installation Restoration Program, Washington

Mrs. Lori Burnam, Moody Air Force Base, Georgia

Environmental Restoration, Installation

Camp Blanding Joint Training Center, Florida Army National Guard, Florida

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Maine

Cultural Resources Management, Large Installation

Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, California

Naval Air Station Fallon, Nevada

Environmental Excellence in Weapon System Acquisition, Large Program

Joint Light Tactical Vehicle Environmental, Safety, and Occupational Health Working Group, Michigan

P-8A Environment, Safety, and Occupational Health Team, NAVAIR Research and Engineering Group, Maryland

Judges

Volunteers from private industries, state and federal agencies, academia, and non-governmental organizations served as judges for the 2016 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards.

Susan P. Adams Director, Safety, Fire, & Environmental Programs, Architect of the Capitol

Annie Bevan, ISSP-SA Certification & Operations Manager, GreenCircle Certified, LLC

Kathleen Callister Manager, Environmental Resources Division, Bureau of Reclamation, Upper Colorado Region

S. Terry Childs Manager, Department of the Interior Museum Program, U.S. Department of the Interior

Christopher Cole Rear Admiral USN (Retired), Navy Safe Harbor Foundation

Shannon Cunniff Deputy Director, Water Programs, Environmental Defense Fund

Joel Darmstadter Senior Fellow, Resources for the Future

Bernard F. Denno, Jr. Safety Engineer/Dep. Director, Safety, Fire & Environmental Programs, Architect of the Capitol

Michael Dunn Lead Region Coordinator - Office of Research & Development, Regional Science & Technology, Environmental Assessment & Innovation Division

Jeffrey L. Durbin Section 106 Compliance Officer, NPS WASO, Cultural Resources, Stewardship, & Science

Jerome Edward Ford Assistant Director, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Joe Francis Associate Director, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality

Sally Gestautas Global Substances Program Manager, Raytheon Company

Michael Goldstein Global Remediation Manager, Ingersoll Rand Company

Philip Wayne Grone Principal, Findlay & Western Strategies, LLC **Terry Guen, FASLA** Member of the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation, Terry Guen Design Associates, Inc., Chicago

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Douglas Pulak Deputy Federal Preservation Officer, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Construction & Facilities Management

Russell V. Randle Partner, Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP

James K. Reap Professor, University of Georgia, College of Environment & Design

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Patricia C. Reyes Director, The Interstate Technology Regulatory Council

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Noeleen Tillman Executive Director, Institute for Sustainable Seaports

Peter Trick Executive Vice President, Cadmus Group

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Calvin F. Williams Assistant Administrator for Strategic Infrastructure, NASA

Peter Wixted Environmental Program Manager, Department of Homeland Security, Office of Sustainability & Environmental Programs

Ken Zarker Manager, P2 & Regulatory Assistance Section, WA State Department of Ecology

Past Winners

Natural Resources Conservation

- 2015 Camp Blanding Joint Training Center, Florida Army National Guard, Florida
- 2014 Marine Corps Base Hawaii
- 2014 Eglin Air Force Base, Natural Resources Team, Florida
- 2013 Naval Base Coronado, California
- 2012 U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii, Oahu Army Natural Resource Program Team
- 2012 Marine Corps Base Hawaii
- 2011 Eglin Air Force Base, Florida
- 2010 Fort Custer Training Center, Michigan Army National Guard
- 2010 Mr. Stephen M. Seiber, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida
- 2009 Camp Ripley Maneuver and Training Center, Minnesota
- 2008 Naval Weapons Station, Seal Beach, California
- 2008 Fort Indiantown Gap Training Center, Pennsylvania Army National Guard
- 2007 Arnold Air Force Base, Tennessee
- 2006 Minnesota Army National Guard Natural Resources Conservation Team, Camp Ripley
- 2006 Marine Corps Base Hawaii
- 2005 Fort Drum, New York
- 2004 Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi
- 2003 U.S. Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca, Arizona
- 2002 U.S. Army Transportation Center, Fort Eustis & Fort Story, Virginia
- 2001 Naval Weapons Station Charleston, South Carolina
- 2000 U.S. Army Training Center & Fort Jackson, South Carolina
- 2000 Hawaii Army National Guard
- 1999 Camp Ripley, Army National Guard, Minnesota
- 1999 U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Belvoir, Virginia
- 1998 Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia
- 1998 Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Georgia
- 1997 Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California
- 1997 Naval Surface Warfare Center, Indian Head, Maryland
- 1996 Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida
- 1996 Marine Corps Base Hawaii
- 1995 Naval Air Ŵarfare Center, Patuxent River, Maryland
- 1994 Eglin Air Force Base, Florida
- 1993 Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant, Minnesota
- 1992 Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina
- 1991 Fort Belvoir, Virginia
- 1990 Fort Sill, Oklahoma
- 1989 F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming
- 1988 Goldwater Air Force Range, Arizona
- 1987 New Boston Air Force Station, New York
- 1986 Beale Air Force Base, California
- 1985 Robins Air Force Base, Georgia
- 1984 Fort Huachuca, Arizona
- 1983 Indian Island Annex, Keyport, Naval Engineering Station, Washington
- 1982 Fort McCoy, Wisconsin
- 1981 Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pennsylvania
- 1980 Fort Huachuca, Arizona
- 1979 Naval Air Station Chase Field, Texas
- 1978 Fort Sill, Oklahoma
- 1977 Griffiss Air Force Base, New York
- 1976 Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina
- 1975 Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana
- 1974 Fort Campbell, Kentucky
- 1973 Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina
- 1972 Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California
- 1971 Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida
- 1970 Camp Pickett, Virginia
- 1969 Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina
- 1968 Red River Army Depot, Texas
- 1967 Fort Rucker, Alabama
- 1966 Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, Virginia
- 1965 Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida
- 1964 Eglin Air Force Base, Florida
- 1963 Fort Knox, Kentucky

Environmental Quality

- 2015 Robins Air Force Base, Georgia
- 2015 Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, Japan
- 2014 Fort Hood, Texas
- 2014 Environmental Quality Team, Minnesota Army National Guard
- 2013 78th Civil Engineer Group, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia
- 2013 Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, Japan
- 2012 Fort Hood, Texas
- 2012 Fort Hood Recycle Team, Texas, and Naval Supply Fleet Logistics Center, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii (tie)
- 2011 U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr, Germany
- 2011 Defense Supply Center, Richmond, Virginia
- 2010 Marine Corps Base Hawaii
- 2010 Mr. Awni M. Almasri, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Europe Africa Southwest Asia
- 2009 Environmental Management Division, Hill Air Force Base. Utah
- 2009 United States Army Garrison Bamberg, Germany
- 2008 Naval Air Engineering Station Lakehurst, New Jersey
- 2008 Hill Air Force Base, Utah
- 2007 Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma
- 2007 Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, Japan
- 2006 Team Dyess, Dyess Air Force Base, Texas
- 2006 Fort Campbell, Kentucky
- 2005 Naval Air Depot Cherry Point, North Carolina
- 2005 Misawa Air Base, Japan
- 2004 U.S. Naval Support Activity Bahrain
- 2003 Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma
- 2003 Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, Okinawa, Japan
- 2002 Air Armament Center, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida
- 2001 Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility, Hawaii
- 2001 Marine Corps Base Camp Butler, Okinawa, Japan
- 2000 Patrick Air Force Base, Florida
- 2000 Marine Corps Base Hawaii
- 1999 Indian Head Division, Naval Surface Warfare Center, Maryland
- 1999 Luke Air Force Base, Arizona
- 1998 Naval Aviation Depot North Island, California

Luke Air Force Base, Arizona

Eglin Air Force Base, Florida

USAF Hurlburt Field, Florida

Fort Campbell, Kentucky

Hill Air Force Base, Utah

Tooele Army Depot, Utah

Fort Lewis, Washington

Fort McClellan, Alabama

Hill Air Force Base, Utah

Fort Sill, Oklahoma

Fort Sill, Oklahoma

Pine Bluff Arsenal, Arkansas

Luke Air Force Base, Arizona

Eglin Air Force Base, Florida

Robins Air Force Base, Georgia

Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma

McChord Air Force Base, Washington

Vandenberg Air Force Base, California

McClellan Air Force Base, California

Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii

Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina

Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California

Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii

Naval Air Training Center Patuxent River, Maryland

Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland

1998 Fort Sill, Oklahoma1997 Naval Surface Warfare Center, Indian Head, Maryland

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Past Winners

Sustainability (formerly Pollution Prevention)

- 2015 Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, California
- 2015 Minnesota Army National Guard Sustainability Team, Minnesota
- 2014 Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, California
- 2013 673d Air Base Wing, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska
- 2013 Ms. Dorenda Coleman, Arizona Army National Guard
- 2012 Scranton Army Ammunition Plant, Pennsylvania
- 2011 Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington
- 2011 The Exchange Corporate Sustainability Program, Army and Air Force Exchange Service, Texas
- 2010 Fleet Readiness Center Southwest, California
- 2009 Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington
- 2009 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Pollution Prevention Team, Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi
- 2008 Robins Air Force Base, Georgia
- 2007 Marine Corps Base, Hawaii
- 2007 Pollution Prevention Afloat Team Naval Sea Systems Command, Washington, DC
- 2006 Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma
- 2005 Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic, Norfolk, Virginia
- 2004 Robins Air Force Base, Georgia
- 2003 Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington
- 2002 Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia
- 2001 U.S. Army Transportation Center and Fort Eustis, Virginia
- 2000 Radford Army Ammunition Plant, Virginia
- 2000 HQ III Corps and Fort Hood, Texas
- 1999 Robins Air Force Base, Georgia
- 1999 Marine Corps Base Hawaii
- 1998 Robins Air Force Base, Georgia
- 1998 Fort Carson and Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site, Colorado
- 1997 Corpus Christi Army Depot, Texas
- 1997 Fort Lewis, Washington
- 1996 Robins Air Force Base, Georgia
- 1996 Dyess Air Force Base, Texas
- 1995 Kelly Air Force Base, Texas
- 1995 Naval Construction Battalion Center, Port Hueneme, California
- 1994 Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma
- 1993 Navy Aviation Depot, Florida

Environmental Restoration

- 2015 Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina
- 2014 Marine Corps Installation East, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina
- 2014 Naval Air Station Cecil Field Base Realignment and Closure Cleanup Team, Florida
- 2013 U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground, Directorate of Public Works, Maryland
- 2012 Former Mare Island Naval Shipyard, California
- 2012 75th Civil Engineering Group, Hill Air Force Base, Utah
- 2011 Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Florida
- 2010 Hill Air Force Base, Utah
- 2010 Ms. Regina Dixon Butler, Patrick Air Force Base, Florida
- 2009 Defense Depot, Memphis, Tennessee
- 2008 Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, North Carolina
- 2008 Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point Partnering Team, North Carolina
- 2007 Dover Air Force Base, Delaware
- 2006 Fort Lewis, Washington
- 2006 Pyramid Lake Torpedo and Bombing Range Remediation Project, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District
- 2005 Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific, Hawaii, and Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi (tie)
- 2004 Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma
- 2003 Hill Air Force Base, Utah
- 2002 F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming
- 2001 Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska
- 2000 Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska
- 1999 Naval Air Engineering Station Lakehurst, New Jersey

- 1998 Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant, California
- 1997 Naval Air Station North Island, San Diego, California
- 1996 Naval Air Station Cecil Field, Florida
- 1995 Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington

Cultural Resources Management

- 2015 U.S. Army Garrison Picatinny Arsenal, New Jersey
- 2015 Dr. Paul R. Green, U.S. Air Force Civil Engineer Center, Virginia
- 2014 Fort Wainwright, Alaska
- 2013 Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, South Carolina
- 2013 Ms. June Noelani Cleghorn, Marine Corps Base Hawaii
- 2012 30th Space Wing, Vandenberg Air Force Base, California
- 2011 88th Air Base Wing Civil Engineering Directorate, Environmental Branch, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio
- 2011 Cultural Resources Management Team, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida
- 2010 Camp Guernsey, Wyoming Army National Guard
- 2009 Vandenberg Air Force Base, California
- 2009 Fort Drum Cultural Resources Team, Fort Drum, New York
- 2008 Redstone Arsenal, Alabama
- 2007 Mr. Gary M. O'Donnell, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii
- 2007 Fort Drum, New York
- 2006 Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, California
- 2005 Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, South Carolina, and 15th Airlift Wing, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii (tie)
- 2004 Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command, Twentynine Palms, California
- 2003 Texas Army National Guard Cultural Resources Management Office, Texas
- 2002 Commander Navy Region Mid-Atlantic, Hampton Roads, Virginia
- 2001 U.S. Army Air Defense Artillery Center and Fort Bliss, Texas
- 2000 Fort Riley, Kansas
- 1999 Vandenberg Air Force Base, California
- 1998 Fort Hood, Texas
- 1996 Fort Carson and Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site, Colorado

Environmental Excellence in Weapon System Acquisition

- 2015 Halon Extinguisher Replacement Program for Aviation Weapon Systems Integrated Product Team, Redstone Arsenal, Alabama
- 2014 Air Force Life Cycle Management Center F-35 Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health Support Team, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio
- 2013 Counterfeit Refrigerant Impact Team, Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center, Michigan
- 2012 Stryker Brigade Combat Team Warren, Michigan
- 2011 Sustainable Painting Operations for the Total Army, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland
- 2010 Aeronautical Systems Center Environmental and Occupational Health Team, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio
- 2008 Fairchild Air Base, Washington
- 2006 C-17 Pollution Prevention Integrated Product Team, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio

Special Recognition Environmental Management Systems Implementation

2006 Defense Logistics Agency Environmental Management Systems Team



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