



2017 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards Cultural Resources Management, Small Installation Award

Each year since 1962, the Department of Defense (DoD) has honored installations, teams, and individuals for outstanding conservation achievements, innovative environmental practices, and partnerships that improve quality of life, and promote efficiencies without compromising mission success. The 2017 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards cycle encompasses an achievement period from October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2016 (Fiscal Years (FY) 2015-2016). A diverse panel of 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 that cover six subject areas: natural resources conservation; environmental quality; sustainability; environmental restoration; cultural resources management; and environmental excellence in weapon system acquisition.

About the Cultural Resources Management, Small Installation Award

The Cultural Resources Management, Small Installation award recognizes efforts to promote cultural resources stewardship in DoD through effective examples of Cultural Resources Management. Awards are designed to showcase DoD's stewardship of its extensive cultural resources, including archaeological sites, the historic built environment, and cultural landscapes. Through dynamic cultural resources management programs, DoD identifies areas likely to contain cultural resources and works to protect them for future generations in partnership with American Indian and Alaska Native tribes, Native Hawaiian Organizations, and other historic preservation stakeholders. The 2017 winner of the Cultural Resources Management, Small Installation award is *Commander, Fleet Activities, Yokosuka*.

About Commander, Fleet Activities, Yokosuka

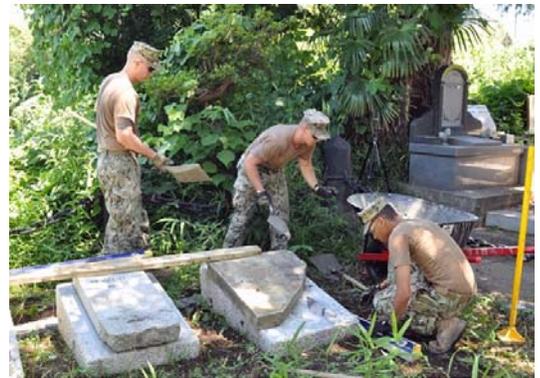
Commander, Fleet Activities, Yokosuka (COMFLEACT) includes some of DoD's most diverse and impressive historic assets. COMFLEACT is a forward-deployed naval base located just inside Tokyo Bay on the Pacific Ocean side of Honshu, one of the five major islands of Japan. The naval complex is approximately 43 miles south of Tokyo, and 18 miles south of Yokohama. COMFLEACT hosts 83 tenants with a population of over 24,000 military and civilian personnel. Cultural resources at COMFLEACT include 35 archeological sites registered by the Kanagawa Prefecture; 260 historic buildings and architectural structures; 22 monuments memorializing historical events, religions, people, and animals; complex World War II (WWII) tunnel networks used for air raid protection and ordnance storage; and dry docks constructed in the late 1800s of stone blocks with stepped sides. The installation's primary mission is to maintain and operate base facilities for the logistic, recreational, and administrative support in service of the U.S. Naval Forces Japan, U.S. Seventh Fleet, and other operating forces assigned within the Western Pacific.



Cultural Resources Program Manager Ryouko Araki leads a tour of the historic Yokosuka Dry Dock 1 for U.S. Force Japan Environmental Subcommittee members. Dry Dock 1 was completed in 1871, serving as the oldest stone dry dock in Japan.

Major Accomplishments in FY 2015-2016

- COMFLEACT's Cultural Resources Management (CRM) program played an integral role in the Japan Heritage program, established by Japan's Agency for Cultural Affairs (ACA), to recognize and preserve the narratives that bind Japan's regional cultural properties. The CRM program was instrumental in the Japan Heritage designation of Yokosuka City by the ACA on April 25, 2016.
- In 2015, the COMFLEACT Environmental Division coordinated with the Yokosuka Board of Education (BOE) and Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific (NAVFAC PAC) to complete a Historic Context and Inventory Report for Pre-WWII buildings, structures, and seawalls. This collaboration saved DoD \$20,000 in final project costs because the BOE assisted in conducting the field survey and CRM program staff provided translation between the contractors and BOE throughout the collaboration.
- The updated Historic Context and Inventory Report also implemented a new preservation rating system that was added to the 2015 Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) using color coded maps for historic architectural districts. This rating system was also introduced to other naval bases and is now used for most U.S. military bases in Japan.
- In 2015, COMFLEACT updated the Yokosuka ICRMP, including the Historic Context and Inventory Report. This revision updated compliance to the most current standards, included expanded metrics, and addressed planned construction project information.
- COMFLEACT Yokosuka developed cultural resources profile sheets for each facility and site to aid quick reference to the 101 archaeological sites and 260 historic buildings and structures. These management techniques help to more easily identify cultural assets in the real property inventory, allowing for more productive use of resources to support mission needs.
- Installation personnel coordinated with the Yokosuka BOE to deploy alternative survey methods to recover data on historic sites blocked by landslides. The CRM program staff used a laser rangefinder to complete an archaeological survey of the building foundation of an Imperial Japanese Navy Marine Quarters that was previously undocumented.
- The base participated in celebratory events for the 150th Anniversary of Yokosuka Arsenal on November 15, 2015. Facilitated by the CRM program, COMFLEACT Yokosuka hosted a member of the Japanese Royal family, the Mayor of Yokosuka, and other distinguished guests for a special ceremony commemorating the anniversary, which helps to maintain productive community relationships. Events highlighting Yokosuka City and the anniversary included photo exhibitions, Yokosuka historic sites tours, and distribution of an educational outreach brochure developed by COMFLEACT, "A Rise to Maritime Power, Discovering Japan's Historic Naval Architecture."



Seabees restore old grave markers at the Yokohama Foreign General Cemetery. In 2009, U.S. Naval Hospital personnel found the grave markers without burial records. The Environmental Division recovered the sailors' names and information for a proper reinterment ceremony.



LT William Lindahl, Steven Marksberry, Charles Sayon, and Brad Stevenson participate in a site visit to discuss the relocation of historic anchors and anchors from the Imperial Japanese Navy era.