



# MISSION SUSTAINMENT MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

*News You Can Use from the DoD Range Sustainment Initiative*  
**February 2008**

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The Department of Defense Sustainable Ranges Initiative (SRI) ensures the long-term viability and continuity of military training and testing areas while providing good stewardship for the land. Through a framework of continuing cooperative and coordinated efforts within government, and partnerships with groups beyond installation boundaries, DoD's Sustainable Ranges Initiative is helping to safeguard America and sustain our lands and resources for years to come.

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All presentations from the 2007 Sustaining Military Readiness Conference are available on <http://www.sustainingmilitaryreadiness2007.com/Agenda/index.cfm>

## FEATURE ARTICLES

### DoD Receives Award for Pre-Deployment Troop Training Project

November 7, 2007  
Washington, D.C.

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) met for its fall business meeting on November 7<sup>th</sup> at the Old Post Office Pavilion in Washington, D.C. and bestowed a preservation award on the Department of Defense (DoD).

The *In Theater Heritage Training for Deploying Personnel Program*, created by the Cultural Resources Program, Fort Drum, U.S. Department of the Army using DoD Legacy Resource Management funds, received the Chairman's Award for Federal Achievement in Historic Preservation.

The program provides realistic training and educational tools for military personnel deploying to combat areas. Its creation brought together academic and military archaeological communities to provide the appropriate information and make it accessible to soldiers. The current version of the project has created four principal products:

- Playing cards with information about antiquities, cultural property, and proper behavior when discovering or occupying an archaeological site

- Soldier information cards providing critical additional information about this subject;
- Cultural preservation training modules containing slides and scripts that can be presented by anyone at any time
- Construction of mock cultural resource assets to be included in realistic in-theater training scenarios

For more information on the Legacy project, contact Ms. Hillori Schenker, Legacy Cultural Resources Program Manager, at [hillori.schenker.ctr@osd.mil](mailto:hillori.schenker.ctr@osd.mil).

For more information on the materials produced under the project, contact Dr. Laurie Rush at [laurie.rush@us.army.mil](mailto:laurie.rush@us.army.mil).



L-R: Mr. John L. Nau III, Chairman of the ACHP; Dr. Laurie Rush, Fort Drum Cultural Resources Manager and project lead; Mr. Philip W. Grone, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Installations and Environment and the Secretary of Defense's designee to the ACHP; Mr. James Corriveau, Director of Public Works, Fort Drum; Mr. Addison Davis IV, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health; and Dr. Jim Zeidler, Associate Director for Cultural Resources, Colorado State University Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands.

## Information Assurance at Training Ranges

By The United States Navy Fleet Forces Range Team

Ensuring the continued sustainability of our training capabilities is a never ending task with a seemingly endless demand for reports and qualifications. One of the many tasks that range operators must accomplish for training to continue is protecting ranges against the exploitation of data records that are generated, transmitted and captured while training audiences prepare for combat.

Potential adversaries expend enormous effort on attempts to glean information by intruding on our computer networks and systems, and also try to impair our readiness by degrading our systems with malicious code. Our work to prevent this is called Information Assurance (IA), and the sophistication of the threat requires continual vigilance on our part.

Previously, installation commanding officers signed the Authority to Operate (ATO) using the Defense Information Technology Security Certification and Accreditation Process (DITSCAP). This plethora of diverse certifying officers led to significant variation in standards and waivers, and as the severity of the threat increased DoD was forced to implement more overarching controls. Under the new Defense

Information Assurance Certification and Accreditation Process (DIACAP) the Naval Network Warfare Command (NETWARCOM) is now the Navy Designated Approving Authority (DAA) as well as the Operational Designated Approving Authority (ODAA).

Systems that have to cross classification boundaries must also use cross domain solutions that require approval from DoD, significantly adding to the complexity and difficulty of potential solutions. Establishing an initial ATO can require up to two years and documentation that exceeds 1,000 pages. To date, Fleet Area Control and Surveillance Facility, Virginia Capes and the Large Area Tracking Range (LATR) have completed the certification process. Other ranges have submitted their certification packages or are developing their cross domain solutions to meet current requirements.

Once a range is given an ATO the sustainment challenge isn't over. Any significant change to a network requires recertification. Such changes should be made in conjunction with required periodic ATO recertification when practical. Although this is not always possible, whenever changes are made to networks or range security posture the impact on range capability has to be considered. Ultimately ATO is just one of many, but essential, tasks necessary to keep the range open

and operating – the alternative is a range that cannot operate. ATO is clearly a fundamental task in the operational range sustainment effort.

For more information, please contact Mr. David Norris, USFF at david.norris@navy.mil

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## **Ecological Soil Screening Levels for Invertebrates and Plants Exposed to Munitions Constituents**

By Amy Hawkins  
Naval Facilities Engineering  
Service Center

Department of Defense (DoD) facilities often include extensive terrestrial areas that contain a variety of contaminants of potential concern. This includes those areas contaminated by munitions and explosive compounds where there may be potential for off-site migration of contaminants. During environmental assessments at DoD facilities, agencies or contractors typically select one or more soil screening benchmark for comparison to on-site contaminant concentrations, or use existing literature to establish a separate set of screening values. Such a process is costly, unnecessarily redundant, and does not allow for consistency among sites.

To address the lack of uniformity in the availability of Ecological Soil Screening Levels (Eco-SSLs), the

USEPA organized a work group to review literature and publish an interim Eco-SSL guidance document which is available at

<http://www.epa.gov/ecotox/ecossl>.

The work group was led by USEPA Office of Emergency and Remedial Response and included participants from federal, state, industry, consulting and academic groups.

This guidance document was released in 2004 and includes Standard Operating Procedures for developing Eco-SSLs for plants, soil invertebrates, birds and mammals.

This Eco-SSL website also contains links to the Eco-SSLs that have been completed. The USEPA Work Group Eco-SSLs were derived in order to conserve resources by eliminating the need for USEPA, state, contractor, and other federal risk assessors to perform repetitious toxicity-data literature searches and toxicity data evaluations for the same contaminants at every site. Eco-SSLs were designed to be protective of receptors that may regularly contact soil or consume organisms that live in or on soil. They are conservative values to be used during the risk screening process to determine what chemicals pose no ecological risk and can be eliminated from further analysis. Due to their conservative nature, they are not designed to be used as cleanup values. They are designed to avoid underestimating risk.

The Eco-SSLs that have already been developed are regularly being used

in ecological risk assessments and site assessments to determine which contaminants may pose unacceptable risk and require additional study. Unfortunately, there are many chemicals for which Eco-SSLs are not yet available. Many of the chemicals for which data gaps still occur are munitions and explosive compounds. As part of the Eco-SSL Work Group effort, data gaps have been identified and are being filled in order to provide Eco-SSLs for a number of organic and inorganic compounds, which are needed to support range-related investigations. Several groups are working on various data gaps in order to fill them and provide the tools managers require to make site decisions. These groups include the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program (SERDP), the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) and the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC).

Eco-SSLs have been developed by NAVFAC for selected munitions and explosive constituents that may be found on DoD ranges and ordnance contaminated sites. Under this project, data gaps identified by the Eco-SSL Work Group for specific chemicals are being filled to produce soil screening levels for invertebrates and plants (Table 1). The following study metals are used in bullets, signaling flares, igniters, tracers, explosives, primers, boosters, detonators, and casings, and are data gaps for plants and/or invertebrates: antimony, silver, barium, chromium

(VI), and nickel. Besides these metals, this project also fills data gaps for perchlorate and HMX using plant and invertebrate studies. In all cases the most bioavailable form (e.g., soluble forms of metals) of the selected analytes were used. This approach is appropriate for the development of Eco-SSLs.

Chemical	Plants	Invertebrates
Antimony	x	
Barium	x	
Chromium (VI)	x	x
HMX	x	x
Nickel	x	x
Perchlorate	x	x
Silver	x	x

Table 1. Chemicals and Endpoints Assessed

The development of Eco-SSLs is done in two primary phases. The first is a review of existing scientific literature and scoring of any applicable studies. If there is data available with a sufficient score, Eco-SSLs can be developed at this point. If not, additional laboratory studies are undertaken as a second phase of development. These laboratory studies are done according to protocols that will maximize the ability to achieve acceptable scores. As part of the Eco-SSL guidance, nine scoring criteria are provided that evaluate test parameters such as bioavailability, completeness of reporting, test sensitivity, and the ability to establish a dose-response relationship. Each of the nine criteria is given a score of 0 to 2, so

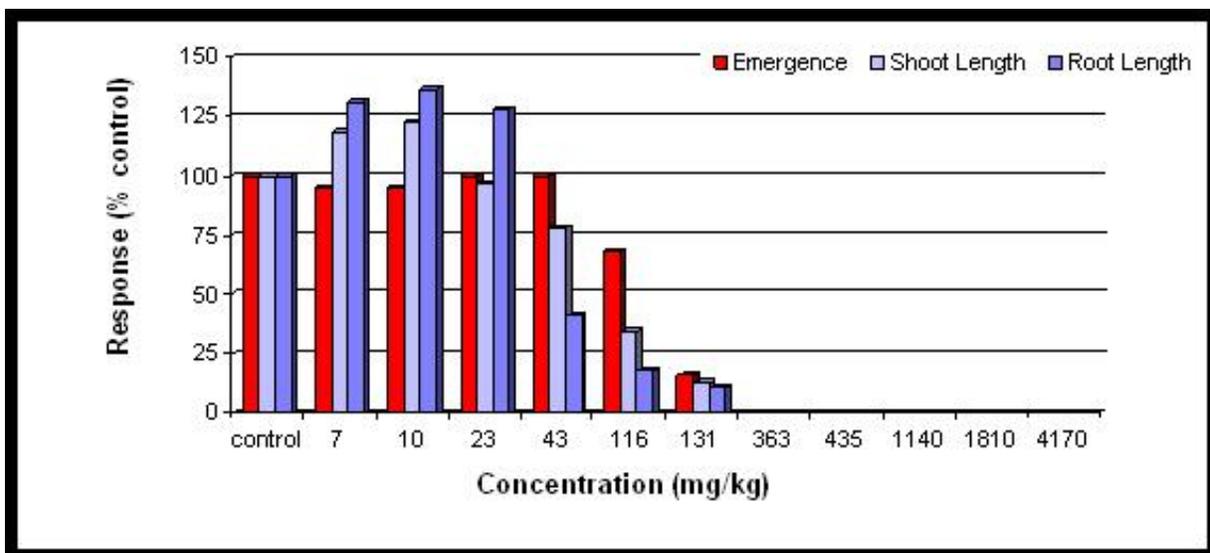


Figure 1. Dose Response Curve for Barley Exposed to Nickel

that the maximum score is 18. To qualify as an Eco-SSL a score of at least 10 must be achieved. The testing protocols used in this project are derived from those previously identified or developed for similar projects by the EPA Eco-SSL Work Group. These testing protocols have proven successful in previous projects and have demonstrated strong dose-response relationships (Figure 1). (EP and T, 2000, Kupperman et al., 2002; Phillips et al., 2002; Simini et al., 2002) All tests conducted as part of this effort received a score of 17 out of 18. The one point was lost because artificial soil was used rather than a natural soil. (Hydroqual, 2007)

There were five plant species and three invertebrate species used to develop Eco-SSLs. The same endpoints were derived for all plant species and included emergence, root and shoot lengths and dry

biomass. The endpoints for the two worm tests included survival, reproduction and growth of juveniles. The endpoints for the springtail test included survival and reproduction. (Hydroqual, 2007) The draft plant and invertebrate Eco-SSLs are provided in Table 2. These draft Eco-SSLs have been submitted to USEPA for review and upon acceptance will become part of the greater Eco-SSL database.

Chemical	Plants	Invertebrates
Antimony	56	Not Done
Barium	384	Not Done
Chromium (VI)	75	.23
HMX	12,686	9,885
Nickel	29	213
Perchlorate	1.1	1.06
Silver	2.1	6.5

Table 2. Draft Plant and Invertebrate Eco-SSLs (mg chemical/kg dry soil)

The availability of these and other Eco-SSLs allow DoD managers to compare site chemical concentrations to established benchmarks without the time and expense of determining appropriate benchmarks and gaining regulatory acceptance of those benchmarks on a site-specific basis. Both the development of benchmarks and the regulatory acceptance have already been completed for sites around the country.

**References:**

EP and T. 2000. Plant Toxicity Testing to Support Development of Ecological Soil Screening Levels. Prepared for TN & Associates at request of National Center for Environmental Assessment, Washington DC.

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Simini, M., Kuperman, R.G, Checkai, R.T., Phillips, C.T., Speicher, J.A., Barclift, D.J. Toxicity Assessments of Antimony, Barium, Beryllium, and Manganese for Development of Ecological Soil Screening Levels (Eco-SSL) Using Earthworm (Eisenia Fetida) Benchmark Values. Army Research and Development Directorate. APG, MD. ECBC-TR-325. November 2002.

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## **Southwest Defense Alliance 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Creech Air Force Base, Nevada  
November 2007

Participants in the Southwest Defense Alliance came from all over the nation in November to celebrate the organization's 10th anniversary by doing what the Alliance does best: educate and advocate.

Gathering at the newly-established Creech Air Force Base, just north of Las Vegas, Nevada, SWDA sponsors, associates and volunteers got a first-hand, real-time lesson in the training and mission execution of the USAF's unmanned air systems at their home in the Nevada desert.

Now these SWDA participants can return to their respective homes, businesses and communities and inform the national discourse about the value of the labs, bases and ranges in the southwestern United States.

The Southwest Defense Alliance is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, public benefit corporation engaged in efforts to educate and advocate on behalf of the critical defense test and training missions and assets in the American Southwest. Participants include cities, counties, elected and appointed officials, civic and business leaders, defense and military experts, gubernatorial appointees, trade and economic associations, citizens and volunteers. Learn more and contact the SWDA at [www.swda.us](http://www.swda.us).

The next meeting of the Southwest Defense Alliance is February 28-29 at the Radisson Airport Hotel in El Paso, Texas.

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## **2007 SUSTAINING MILITARY READINESS CONFERENCE REPORT**

*Results and summaries of the conference will be highlighted over the next several months in the Mission Sustainment Newsletter.*

*All presentations from the 2007 Sustaining Military Readiness Conference are available on*

*<http://www.sustainingmilitaryreadiness2007.com/Agenda/index.cfm>*

## **Compatible Land Use and Encroachment Mitigation: Special Initiatives for Sustainability**

August 1, 2007

### **PROJECT SECCURE**

Paul Friday, *Community Plans and Liason Coordinator, U.S. Marine Corps Installations East*

Project SECCURE is a collaborative, regional planning effort integrating the goals of conservation, economic development and quality of life while maintaining military readiness. Originating in large part out of the Southeast Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPPAS), SECCURE works with numerous stakeholders to take project concepts that have succeeded on the regional level and apply them

to individual states and local areas. SERPPAS was formed with the mission to bring states' leadership together to work with the military and other federal agencies, and find mutually beneficial land use.

Mr. Friday emphasized that, through SERPPAS, we have created effective GIS maps of the area that are crucial for finding common ground on land use.

SECCURE also has roots in the Sustainable Sandhills project around Ft. Bragg in North Carolina, which takes a multi-county approach to sustainability. The 11 counties involved in Sustainable Sandhills employ six models to project their future land use – industrial; commercial; residential; natural resource; farmland; and, forest.

The first SECCURE project is a Strategic Lands inventory in 13 Eastern North Carolina counties. Supported by the North Carolina Military Support Act, it is fully funded to do community work and survey work with focus groups. The initial discovery phase will kick off in September 2007, followed by an assessment of where stakeholder groups would like to be in terms of land use. The final step is gap analysis, trying to bridge the difference between the current reality and trends, and stakeholder's ultimate objectives.

Mr. Friday alluded to several ongoing activities related to SECCURE. The Sustainable

Communities Tools Workshop will take place in March 2008 in North Carolina, with 40 plus tools for land use planning. The military is also accounting for the growth that will occur when resources and personnel return home from overseas. In closing, Mr. Friday stressed that time is of the essence. At the outset of this project, five years was thought to make a huge difference, and we should continue to keep our eyes on that aggressive timetable.

### **ARMY STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT**

Elizabeth Jenicek, *Research Engineer/Principle Investigator, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*

The Army's Strategic Sustainability Assessment (SSA) is a program to project the sustainability of Army installations far into the future. It is a forward-looking project intended not only to assess what the future holds but also to offer policy recommendations to improve that outlook.

SSA initially focused on the Fall Line Ecoregion of the Southeast, stretching from Alabama across Georgia and into the Carolinas. This is an area with about one third of the troops in the Southeast, a growing population (especially around army installations) and smaller household sizes, meaning that more land is being used up per person. Using tools to predict what land use around installations will look like 30 years down the road, the SSA asks

these questions about land use: Is this where we want to be? Where are we coming up short? How can we close that gap? And, as with all of the sustainability programs, it is essential to get stakeholder feedback as part of the assessment, and also to link to other related projects.

A critical aspect of the Assessment is its projection of how land use will change over time. Ms. Jenicek discussed the assumptions required to model out how the land use will evolve. For instance, one must consider the interaction of schools and population growth and how they will impact the air, water and natural habitat.

Once we develop scenarios to predict what land will be useable based on current trends, the next step is coming up with mitigation strategies to preserve and sustain lands whose future use is in jeopardy. What do we gain out of these assessments and projections? The biggest benefit is understanding what the future of land use around installations holds. Furthermore, by sharing data and information with other services, conservationists and economic stakeholders, we will strengthen relationships with land use partners.

## **THE DEVELOPER'S PERSPECTIVE ON WORKING WITH THE MILITARY**

Gerard P. Tully, *Senior Project Manager, Psomas*

Gerald Tully, Senior Project Manager, Psomas, and former developer, discussed the issue of sustaining the military's mission – and the accompanying need for compatible land use – from the developer's perspective. His fundamental point was to understand that the developer is coming at land use issues with his or her own interests in mind. That is, the developer is an opportunist, looking to profit from the demands of the market. The developer is not thinking about or often not even aware of the military's problems. On the contrary, open land offers an opportunity for return on investment, so land around military installations is a prime target.

On the flip side, encroachment is a two way street, and military testing and training may interfere with development due to noise or dust, for example, for operators.

Mr. Tully provided a frank discussion of what a developer needs:

- approval for the plan
- land to develop
- a marketplace

Take away one of those three, and you restrict the developer's opportunity. He went on to offer

some strategies for the military to protect its land and its mission:

- Think about military land as an asset manager would – as an investment
- Track its usage and the usage around it
- Hire local experts
- Build partnerships with developers
- Learn the language of developers
- Engage the public with relevant information

At the end of the day, when working with groups whose interests may clash with yours, it is crucial to build solid relationships. It is important that military officials know the other side (in this case, developers), their interests and the processes they rely on to accomplish their goals. Doing so will promote compatible land use.

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## **FROM THE WIRES... MISSION SUSTAINMENT IN THE NATIONAL PRESS**

### **Leading Senator, DoD Seek Deal on Wilderness Areas to Buffer Bases**

*Defense Environment Alert*  
January 22, 2008

WASHINGTON, D.C. –  
DOD is poised to strike a deal with prominent Sen. Dianne Feinstein

(D-CA) to seek congressional approval for the designation of new protected wilderness areas in the Mojave desert, a region that hosts major military facilities for the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps, provided certain allowances are provided in the legislation. At the same time, DOD is calling for Feinstein to hold off on two of the five wilderness areas she proposed, until the military determines expansion needs -- something the senator appears willing to do, according to her staff.

An exchange of letters between Feinstein and top DOD officials reveals DOD is agreeable to some of the proposals Feinstein has been pushing to widen California's existing wilderness areas. Feinstein appealed to DOD to support the designations as a way to buffer major bases from development.

The Californian wilderness areas would, if approved, add to a growing trend for military bases to buffer their boundaries using farmland or protected wildlife habitats. The military services primarily use DOD's Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative - - whose funding has grown since first initiated in 2005 -- as a vehicle to achieve this. It has proved popular with the Army and Marine Corps in particular, and enjoys strong congressional backing.

In a May 4 letter to Defense Secretary Robert Gates, Feinstein asks for

DOD's input on a possible move to designate five areas of the Mojave desert as protected wilderness under federal law. Feinstein was a prime mover behind the passage of the 1994 California Desert Protection Act, a federal law setting aside protected land in the state, and has been seeking to expand the network of protected areas for several years.

The senator says she delayed asking Congress to designate more areas while the expansion of the Army's Fort Irwin took place, but with its completion, she now wants to nominate areas near the base.

The five areas in question are the Soda Mountains, Kingston Range, Avawatz Mountains, Cady Mountains and an extension to Death Valley National Park. All are owned by the federal Bureau of Land Management and currently have the status of "wilderness study areas" under federal law.

Feinstein states in her letter that: "Based off of past conversations my staff has had with Fort Irwin officials, I understand that wilderness may in fact benefit the Army by creating a buffer zone to prevent both accidental and intentional intrusions within the fort's boundaries."

Navy Rear Admiral Leendert Hering tells Feinstein in a Dec. 7 response that DOD supports immediately designating three of the sites, but asks that a proposal to designate the

Soda Mountains and Cady Mountains be delayed until at least Dec. 1 this year. The Marine Corps has some reservations about restricting the area surrounding its Air Ground Combat Center at 29 Palms and Logistics Base at Barstow, due to a possible need to enlarge these facilities.

"We request that you defer any potential wilderness designation of [these two areas] in order for the Marine Corps to complete their assessment of any potential expansion requirements," the letter says. The Marine Corps and Army are both scheduled to boost their ranks substantially under DOD's "grow the force" initiative and to accommodate troops returning to the continental United States in line with the department's global repositioning of forces. The Army has already outlined its plans to expand testing and training areas to deal with the growth.

DOD's agreement to designating the other three areas is contingent upon inclusion of language similar to that used in the 1994 law, which would allow unrestricted military use of land right up to the borders of protected zones. Also, DOD wants language included to allow unimpeded military flights over protected wilderness zones, and to train on areas previously used for training.

"We firmly believe that both the national security mission and the

conservation of our precious national resources are sustainable and compatible with each other," Hering writes.

A DOD source says the department considered its response for several months, culminating in the letter from Hering, who is DOD's regional environmental coordinator for areas covering the Southwest.

Feinstein is signaling she is willing to hold off on the two areas of concern until DOD completes its study of expansion needs, according to a response from her office to a request for comment. She will "make judgments on how to proceed when the work is completed," she says in a response.

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## **ENCROACHMENT IN THE NEWS: Beach Council tightens rules on building around Oceana**

Deirdre Fernandes  
*The Virginian-Pilot*  
January 9, 2008

VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA — The Virginia Beach City Council voted unanimously this month to restrict new housing development around Oceana Naval Air Station, (NAS) effective immediately.

Virginia Beach relies on Oceana NAS as one of the largest employers, and the Council hopes this move will

prevent Oceana NAS from being relocated by the Navy.

As part of the vote, development will also be restricted along the flight corridor between Oceana NAS and Fentress Naval Auxiliary Landing field, located in Chesapeake.

To read this entire article, please visit <http://hamptonroads.com/2008/01/beach-council-tightens-rules-building-around-oceana>

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## **MILITARY TRAINING IN THE NEWS: Army Looks to South Carolina for Training in Darkness**

Susanne M. Schafer  
*Associated Press*  
December 24, 2007

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA — The Department of Energy may approve a proposed increase in activity and land use at the Savannah River nuclear complex by early 2009. The Army is currently only using 10 percent of the 310-acre parcel, and is proposing to allow night training for the Army, Navy, and Air Force Special Operations Forces.

The land would provide an advantage to battle exercises because it is not located near any major cities and provides plenty of challenging terrain.

The Army has stated it will not use live ammunition, nor would it enter environmentally sensitive areas; however, DOE must conduct an environmental assessment before a decision is made.

To read quotes from Army spokespersons regarding this proposal, please visit [www.aikenstandard.com](http://www.aikenstandard.com)

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## CONTACT

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