

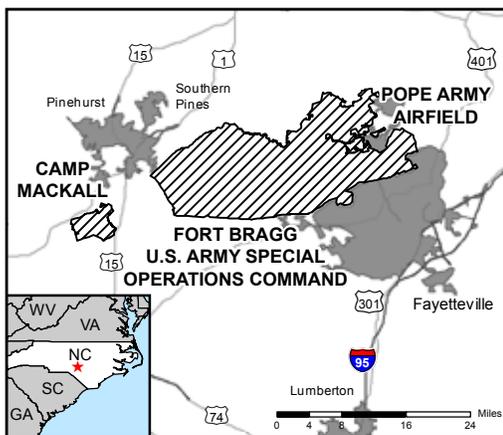


U.S. ARMY :

# FORT BRAGG USASOC : NORTH CAROLINA



**A**s the home of the Joint and U.S. Army Special Operations Commands (USASOC), Fort Bragg supports essential training for some of the nation’s most elite warfighters. Fort Bragg, Pope Army Airfield, and Camp Mackall, located 25 miles southwest of Fort Bragg, and their surrounding environs, provide rural terrain where Special Forces can train for their highly classified tactics and activities. It is here that soldiers conduct Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape (SERE) training.



Any development of the area surrounding Fort Bragg and Camp Mackall would threaten SERE field training exercises, which require students to forage on the land and evade the general public. The Army performs its exercises on these lands under agreement with landowners. To protect the required isolation and vegetative cover, the Army is working with the Sandhills

Area Land Trust to keep agricultural and forested lands undeveloped throughout the training area.

In addition to enabling Special Forces to learn and train in survival field craft, evasion techniques, resistance to interrogation, and escape, this REPI project is a priority for local and state conservationists. The area includes riparian buffers and mature basic mesic forest, a rare forest type and habitat for a rare species and recreational opportunities. Keeping this historically rural area in agricultural production also contributes to the area’s economy, providing jobs and food for the region, including soldiers and personnel at Fort Bragg and Camp Mackall.

## BENEFIT SUMMARY

### COMMUNITY

- Protects working lands and local character that benefit the economy
- Preserves habitat for rare and notable species
- Provides recreational opportunities

### MILITARY

- Protects the ability to perform sensitive special operations training
- Protects operational security



A soldier covers a helicopter’s landing during a training exercise (top). Fort Bragg USASOC holds an annual sniper competition where soldiers are tested in realistic combat environments (bottom).

## KEY PARTNERS

- Sandhills Area Land Trust
- North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund
- North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation
- North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

## FAST FACTS AS OF 30 SEP 13

- » Acres preserved: **2,564**
- » Transactions conducted: **11**
- » Partner cost share: **10%**
- » Project status: **In Progress**

## CONTACT

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