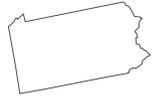


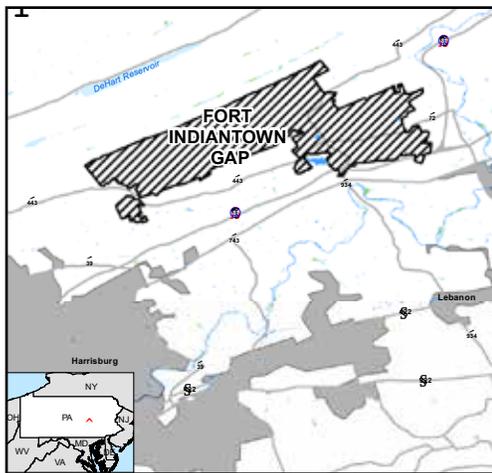


U.S. ARMY :

# FORT INDIANTOWN GAP : PENNSYLVANIA



**F**ort Indiantown Gap National Guard Training Center (FTIG) is one of the busiest National Guard training sites in the country with over 100,000 troops training there annually. Its range complex supports essential training tasks for full-spectrum operations – simultaneous offensive, defensive, and civil support operations – to prepare soldiers for any operational environment. FTIG also supports virtual simulations and training with multiple aircraft and unmanned aerial systems. In addition to Army Guard units, FTIG supports training of active duty and reserves units across all the Services.



After spending millions of dollars to upgrade and expand its training ranges, FTIG is now protecting its investments by preserving the rural nature of surrounding lands from the development pressures of the cities of Harrisburg and Lebanon and other nearby townships. Buffer lands will help avoid noise and night-lighting conflicts with activities like aerial gunnery, artillery, land maneuver, and demolition training.

Much of the land buffering FTIG or underneath helicopter training areas is agricultural, forested, or wetlands located within important bird areas of the Kittatinny Ridge ecosystem. Acquisition by The Conservation Fund of some of these lands from The Harrisburg Authority will also help fund repairs and upgrades for Dehart Dam Reservoir, a source of drinking water for Harrisburg. By placing conservation easements on agricultural parcels and acquiring natural areas to add to existing state game lands, FTIG and its partners are benefiting the military, environment, and local communities.

## BENEFIT SUMMARY

### COMMUNITY

- Protects working agricultural lands that benefit the local economy
- Preserves important ecological areas
- Supports recreational activities such as hunting, trapping, and fishing

### MILITARY

- Protects high-noise live-fire training, including small arms and artillery firing
- Protects ground maneuver capabilities
- Supports aviation activities such as aerial gunnery, bombing, and maneuver training



Fort Indiantown Gap engages in prescribed burns to reduce the risk of wildfire and to manage and improve the forested ecosystem (top), which supports a Pennsylvania National Guard joint armored war fighting exercise (bottom).

## KEY PARTNERS

- The Conservation Fund
- Pennsylvania Game Commission
- Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development
- Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- The Manada Conservancy
- Audubon Pennsylvania
- The Appalachian Trail Conservancy
- The Lebanon Valley Conservancy
- The Kittatinny Ridge Coalition

## FAST FACTS AS OF 30 SEP 13

- » Acres preserved: **0**
- » Transactions conducted: **0**
- » Partner cost share: **0%**
- » Project status: **In Progress**

## CONTACT

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