



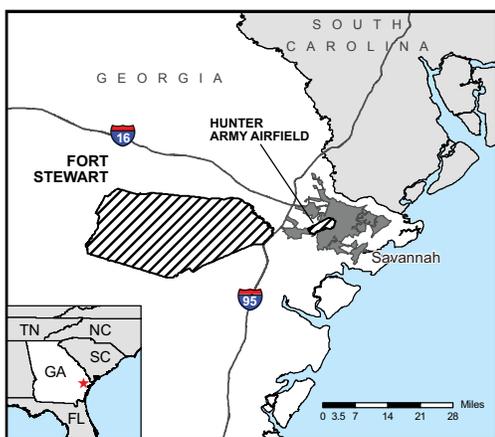
U.S. ARMY :

# FORT STEWART : GEORGIA



**T**he largest Department of Defense installation east of the Mississippi, Fort Stewart’s 279,000 acres are home to the 3rd Infantry Division. Able to train up to 50,000 soldiers annually, the installation’s live-fire facilities support the full range of Army weaponry. Together with local and national non-profit partners, as well as the state of Georgia, Fort Stewart is working on an ambitious project to protect large swaths of rural land near the installation.

Preventing incompatible development around Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield is safeguarding the



Hunter Army Airfield is safeguarding the continued use of the installation’s controlled airspace—important for unmanned aerial vehicle operations and integrating close air support—as well as drop zones for paratrooper training.

The open space buffer is also allowing the installation to conduct activities that produce noise, dust, and smoke, such as live-fire

training, maneuver training, and controlled forest burns. Controlled burns prevent live ammunition from causing unplanned fires while also allowing native longleaf pine forests to thrive by restoring the natural balance of underbrush growth and suppressing undesirable hardwoods. Fort Stewart’s longleaf pine forests support red-cockaded woodpeckers, flatwoods salamanders, and other rare species. These REPI efforts will help ease on-post management duties by permanently protecting surrounding off-post forests, as well as agricultural and water resources.



Maneuver training at Fort Stewart (top). Habitat and water supplies protected by Fort Stewart REPI projects (bottom).

## KEY PARTNERS

- Georgia Land Trust
- The Trust for Public Land
- The Nature Conservancy
- Georgia Department of Natural Resources
- The Conservation Fund
- Georgia Forestry Commission
- Chatham County
- City of Savannah

## FAST FACTS AS OF 30 SEP 13

- » Acres preserved: **24,575**
- » Transactions conducted: **34**
- » Partner cost share: **28%**
- » Project status: **In Progress**

## BENEFIT SUMMARY

### COMMUNITY

- Preserves working lands that benefit the local economy
- Supports regional planning objectives
- Alleviates safety concerns
- Protects habitat for wildlife
- Maintains local character

### MILITARY

- Preserves live-fire, operational airspace, and maneuver training capacity that generates noise, vibration and dust
- Prevents workarounds that would reduce training realism or effectiveness

## CONTACT

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