

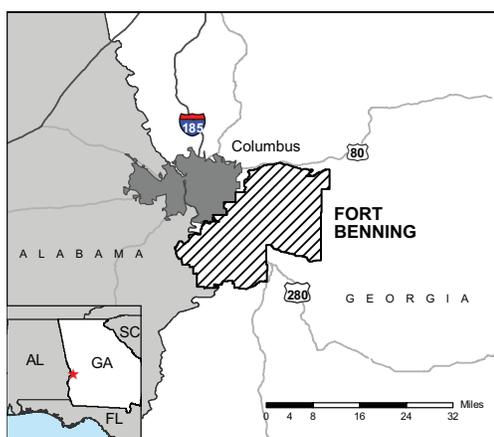


U.S. ARMY :
FORT BENNING : GEORGIA



Fort Benning is the home of the Maneuver School of Excellence, which combines the Army’s premier Infantry Training Center and the Armor School in one location. With five types of infantry—mechanized, light, airborne, air assault, and ranger—the post is one of the country’s most important installations. However, the growth of nearby towns and the increasing population size of the post have led to incompatible development and loss of critical wildlife habitat.

Training exercises on Fort Benning’s ranges and maneuver corridors face



numerous obstacles, as threatened, endangered, and other rare species (red-cockaded woodpecker and gopher tortoise) habitat, streams, and wetland sites restrict construction and training flexibility. However, the post is working with a variety of partners, who are acquiring titles to parcels that will prevent incompatible development and protect contiguous stretches

of longleaf pine benefiting the red-cockaded woodpecker, gopher tortoise, and the ecosystems that support them.

Fort Benning’s partners will be restoring habitat while simultaneously marketed to conservation buyers who may be interested in purchasing the land for recreational uses. This project also helps anchor the north end of a broad regional longleaf pine habitat corridor spanning Georgia, Florida, and Alabama.



Longleaf pine at Fort Benning provides habitat for threatened and endangered species (top). Soldiers undergoing basic training (bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- The Nature Conservancy
- Chattahoochee Valley Land Trust
- Georgia Land Trust
- Alabama Land Trust
- Alabama Forest Resource Center
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- The Trust for Public Land
- The Conservation Fund
- State of Georgia
- State of Alabama

FAST FACTS AS OF 30 SEP 12

- » Acres preserved:
18,511
- » Transactions conducted:
27
- » Partner cost share:
5%
- » Project status:
In Progress

CONTACT

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(604) 545-4585

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Preserves working lands
- Supports regional planning objectives, including a Joint Land Use Study
- Protects habitat for threatened and endangered species
- Provides recreational opportunities
- Protects water supply

MILITARY

- Preserves live-fire, maneuver, helicopter, and night flying training that produces significant noise or requires minimal light pollution
- Prevents workarounds that would reduce training realism
- Allows for future mission growth and multi-Service missions