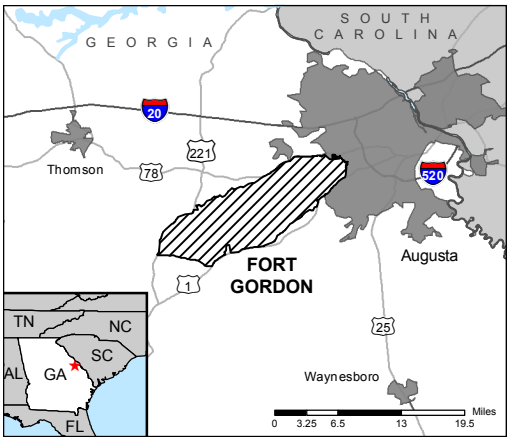
U.S. ARMY :

FORT GORDON : GEORGIA

Fort Gordon, located in Augusta, Georgia, is the largest communications training facility in the Armed Forces and is the focal point for the development of tactical communications and information systems with the Signal Corps and Signals Intelligence. The post also has a new National Security Agency facility, which recently added new jobs—bringing with it development pressures to house a growing population. Additionally, Fort Gordon supports various light to heavy maneuver and live-fire training activities on its training ranges.



Meanwhile, Fort Gordon is surrounded by highways inviting sprawl emanating from Augusta to continue closing in around the post. This leads to complaints about noise and vibrations from artillery and other live firing, as well as air quality issues from the smoke of training obscurants and prescribed burning of longleaf pine habitat and underbrush. So Fort Gordon is working with its partners to protect the remaining large parcels of undeveloped forest land near its ranges in hopes of alleviating the risk of encroachment further impacting training capabilities.

An important aspect of this project is the opportunity to preserve and restore the longleaf pine ecosystem that supports species like the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker and the candidate species gopher tortoise. Preventing the gopher tortoise and others from becoming listed species will protect Fort Gordon's training mission from new restrictions. Another benefit is the protection of high priority water areas, helping to sustain aquatic biodiversity.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Supports regional planning efforts, including implementation of a Joint Land Use Study
- Preserves habitat for threatened, endangered, and at-risk species
- Protects water supply
- Protects working lands

MILITARY

- Preserves live-fire, maneuver, and aviation training that produces significant noise
- Prevents workarounds that would reduce training realism
- Allows for mission growth

For more information about REPI, please see <http://www.repi.mil>.

Medical personnel practice loading simulated casualties onto a HH-60M Blackhawk helicopter (top). Some training occurs near the longleaf pine ecosystem near Fort Gordon (bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- Central Savannah River Land Trust
- The Nature Conservancy
- Georgia Department of Natural Resources

FAST FACTS AS OF 30 SEP 12

» Acres preserved:
0

» Transactions conducted:
0

» Partner cost share:
0%

» Project status:
In Progress

CONTACT

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