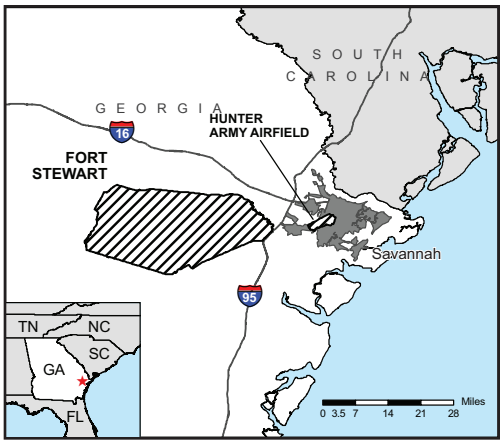
U.S. ARMY :

FORT STEWART : GEORGIA

The 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 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.

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

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

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

KEY PARTNERS

- Chatham County
- City of Savannah
- The Conservation Fund
- Georgia Department of Natural Resources
- Georgia Forestry Commission
- Georgia Land Trust
- The Longleaf Alliance
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Trust for Public Land
- U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service

FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2015

» Acres preserved:
29,634

» Transactions conducted:
48

» Total funds expended:
$69.2 million

» Project status:
In Progress

CONTACT

Public Affairs Office
(912) 435-9950