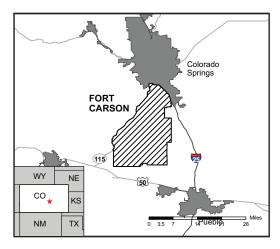
# **FORT CARSON**

Fort Carson is home to the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division that builds combat ready expeditionary forces necessary to fight and win in complex environments as members of a Joint, Interagency, Intergovernmental, and Multinational team or as a Mission Command Element.

The installation's 137,000 acres are suited to training soldiers with large-caliber weapons on landscape and terrain comparable to current conflict areas. These



training lands allow units to simultaneously prepare for the full spectrum of land-based operations, combining offense, defense, stability, and civil support operations. The installation's ability to support this range of training will become even more important with the stationing of new troops.

To protect Fort Carson's mission, a large buffer is being completed to guard against extreme residential growth pressures from Colorado Springs to the north and Pueblo

County to the southeast. The installation's close relationship with local ranchers and The Nature Conservancy has enabled it to save valuable working ranch lands. Of note already, a single, large-scale rancher has been willing and eager to protect his land to help aid Fort Carson in meeting its training land protection goals.

This partnership effort is providing multiple valuable benefits to Fort Carson and a variety of stakeholders. Conservation easements have eliminated potential encroachment conflicts from development that would impact the installation's southern and eastern training ranges and impact areas. Meanwhile, the buffer zone protects critical wildlife and plant species, and it allows local ranchers to continue their traditional way of life.

#### **BENEFIT SUMMARY**

### **COMMUNITY**

- Preserves working ranch lands
- Supports existing regional planning objectives

### MILITARY

- Preserves live-fire, helicopter, and maneuver on-installation training capacity through the buffering of high-noise areas
- Improves operational safety





Ranch lands near Fort Carson protect training by shielding noise from the CH-47 heavy-lift helicopter (top) and M1 Abrams tank (bottom).

# **KEY PARTNERS**

- Colorado Department of Transportation
- Colorado Division of Wildlife
- El Paso County
- Great Outdoors Colorado
- The Nature Conservancy
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

# **CONTACT**

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE:** (719) 526-1269

FAST FACTS FROM FY 2003 THROUGH FY 2024 | Project Status: Completed

Authority	Transactions	Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
10 U.S.C. § 2684a	18	25,661	\$41.5 million

Subtotals may not sum to combined totals due to rounding