

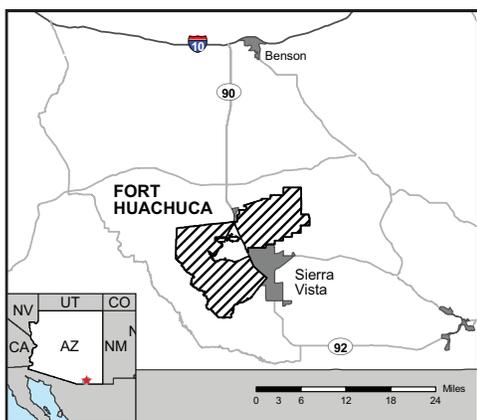


U.S. ARMY :

# FORT HUACHUCA : ARIZONA



**L**ocated in a perfect area for its testing mission of “Command, Control, Communications, Computer, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance,” Fort Huachuca is surrounded largely by the Sonoran Desert in southeastern Arizona. This mission includes Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) training in heavily used, low-altitude airspace immediately north and west of the installation, an area that also happens to be mostly privately-owned open rangeland. Additionally, this area is used by aircraft from nearby Air Force bases.



Working in a first-of-its-kind partnership with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to protect training and preserve land, Fort Huachuca’s partners have purchased easements near the desert for water conservation purposes. The buffers are important for the installation’s UAS training and also reduces electromagnetic interference with electronic testing of sensitive equipment.

Already a leader in water conservation, Fort Huachuca’s partnership with BLM protects groundwater supplies within the watershed of the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area. By reducing groundwater pumping, the project protects the future of the San Pedro and Babocomari Rivers. The partnership also reduces development potential in one of the fastest growing states, keeping the land in the hands of local ranchers, while preserving key native grasslands that contain critical habitat for endangered species.

## BENEFIT SUMMARY

### COMMUNITY

- Preserves working lands and local character
- Supports regional planning objectives
- Provides habitat for endangered species
- Protects water supply

### MILITARY

- Preserves on-installation maneuver, helicopter, and night flying training capability that generates noise or requires minimal light pollution
- Reduces electromagnetic interference
- Improves operational safety
- Provides for mission growth



Soldiers training at the Joint Center of Excellence for Human Intelligence Training at Fort Huachuca (top). Test vehicles for the Warfighter Information Network-Tactical (bottom).

## KEY PARTNERS

- Arizona Land and Water Trust
- Arizona Military Installation Fund
- Bonneville Environmental Foundation
- Bureau of Land Management
- Cochise County
- Ecosystem Services, LLC
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- National Park Service Land and Water Conservation Fund
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Walton Family Foundation

## FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2017

- » Acres preserved: **13,291**
- » Transactions conducted: **14**
- » Total funds expended: **\$30.3 million**
- » Project status: **In Progress**

## CONTACT

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