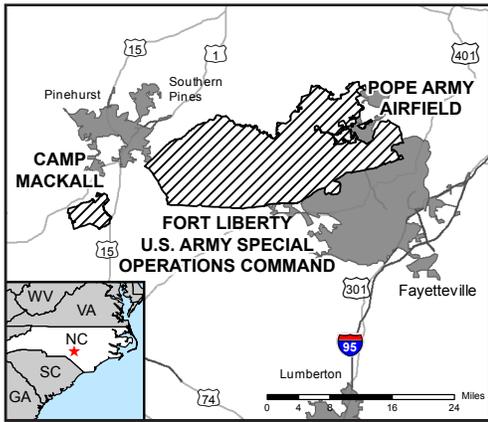




**FORT LIBERTY U.S. ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMANDS**

**As the home of the Joint and U.S. Army Special Operations Commands (USASOC), Fort Liberty supports essential training for some of the nation’s most elite warfighters.**

Fort Liberty, Pope Army Airfield, and Camp Mackall, located 25 miles southwest of Fort Liberty, and their surrounding environs, provide rural terrain where Special Forces can train for their highly classified tactics and activities. It is here



that soldiers conduct Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape (SERE) training.

Any development of the area surrounding Fort Liberty and Camp Mackall would threaten SERE field training exercises, which require students to forage on the land and evade the general public.

The Army performs its exercises on these lands under agreement with landowners. To protect the

required isolation and vegetative cover, the Army is working with the Sandhills Area Land Trust to keep agricultural and forested lands undeveloped throughout the training area.

In addition to enabling Special Forces to learn and train in survival field craft, evasion techniques, resistance to interrogation, and escape, this REPI project is a priority for local and state conservationists. The area includes riparian buffers and mature basic mesic forest, a rare forest type and habitat for a rare species and recreational opportunities. Keeping this historically rural area in agricultural production also contributes to the area’s economy, providing jobs and food for the region, including soldiers and personnel at Fort Liberty and Camp Mackall.



*A soldier covers a helicopter’s landing during a training exercise (top). Fort Liberty USASOC holds an annual sniper competition where soldiers are tested in realistic combat environments (bottom).*

**KEY PARTNERS**

- North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund
- North Carolina Department of Agriculture
- North Carolina Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust
- North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation
- North Carolina Sandhills Conservation Partnership
- Sandhills Area Land Trust
- The Conservation Fund
- The Nature Conservancy
- Three Rivers Land Trust (TRLT)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service

**BENEFIT SUMMARY**

**COMMUNITY**

- Protects working lands and local character that benefit the economy
- Preserves habitat for rare and notable species
- Provides recreational opportunities

**MILITARY**

- Protects the ability to perform sensitive special operations training
- Protects operational security

**FAST FACTS** THROUGH 30 SEP 2022

- ACRES PRESERVED:  
3,152
- TRANSACTIONS CONDUCTED:  
15
- TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED:  
\$13.4 million
- PROJECT STATUS:  
In Progress

**CONTACT**

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