



# The Army Environmental Stewardship 2000 Progress Report



The Army:  
Preserving the Past, Protecting the Future...  
Persuasive in Peace, Invincible in War

## Transforming and Sustaining

### Transforming the Army, Sustaining the Environment

The Army's mission is to fight and win the nation's wars. Each day, as we train soldiers and grow leaders, we ensure that the finest army in the world will be ready to quickly and decisively respond to any threat to our national security. Our military forces are the most esteemed institutions in the land, the most respected military formations in the world, and the forces most feared by our adversaries.

As we move into the 21st century, we are beginning an historic "transformation" into a more responsive, deployable, agile, versatile, lethal, survivable, and sustainable force—one that is capable of dominating at every point on the spectrum of operations. More than ever before, our installations must support tough, demanding training to serve as a solid foundation for the high degree of readiness that the continuing Army mission and transformation objectives demand. They must also serve as a platform for protecting our entrusted lands, for by doing so they enhance the well-being of the soldiers, their families, and civilian employees who work, train, and live there. Sound, professional stewardship of the natural and cultural resources on those lands is crucial to the success of our mission as we meet the challenges of the future.

Recognized as one of the most esteemed institutions in the nation, the Army is committed to a world-class environmental program.

Environmental protection reflects our long heritage of responsible stewardship and ensures continuing access to the lands that support realistic training. As we make the transformation, we will ensure that environmental stewardship remains an integral component of all our operations and activities.

### Implementing the Army Environmental Campaign Plan

Transformation can affect the environment because installations and training areas may need to be changed to support new equipment and training requirements. The Army Senior Environmental Leadership Conference (SELC) held in March 2000 included active participation from 24 general officers and 14 Senior Executive Service leaders representing the full spec-

trum of Army organizations with key environmental stewardship roles. The products of the SELC were an Army Environmental Campaign Plan and an Operational Directive to implement the plan.

The Army Environmental Campaign Plan integrates environmental stewardship with the Army's transformation strategy. This plan also builds on the *U.S. Army Environmental Strategy into the 21st Century*, published in 1992, by responding to new challenges inherent in the Army's transformation to a more responsive, deployable, agile, versatile, lethal, survivable, and sustainable instrument of national power. The plan identifies four focus areas dealing with the materiel and weapons systems we buy, the facilities we manage, the operations and activities we undertake, and the training we provide to our personnel.

### Promoting the Well-Being of Our Communities and Neighbors

Transformation will change the face of our installations and the communities that surround and support them. Our installation lands, buildings, and infrastructure support our soldiers and their families, sustain our mission, and showcase our values and heritage. We will promote the well-being of our communities and neighbors by fostering open communication and coordination on environmental issues, sharing information and success stories, increasing involvement and commitment among all parties, and working together to make our shared community a better place.

### Sustaining Our Installations

Army lands are America's lands, and our commitment to national defense extends to sustaining the precious resources that have been entrusted to our care. A key concept inherent in this philosophy is that our installations must be "environmentally sustainable." The rule of law is a democratic imperative. The Army will move beyond a merely compliance-based approach toward long-term sustainability. We will achieve long-term sustainability by considering current and future impacts of our activities on the environment, energy usage, and the well-being of our people. We believe operation of our facilities and realistic training are compatible with clean water, clean air, and the preservation of our land and natural



**Honorable Louis Caldera**  
**Secretary of the Army**

## Protecting and Enhancing Our Environment

resources. This means that we must reduce the environmental “footprint” that our operations and activities have on installation and community resources so that we do not compromise their environmental integrity.

### Conserving Our Natural and Cultural Resources

Conservation of natural and cultural resources permits continued use of our nearly 14 million acres for readiness activities. The Army is committed to an ecosystem-based approach to environmental management. Conservation enables a realistic training environment, reduces land-use limitations associated with sensitive resources such as wetlands and endangered species, and contributes to the quality of life on our installations. Our forests are often the last refuge for some threatened and endangered species.

### Preventing Pollution at the Source

Pollution prevention is key to reducing our long-term operating costs and liabilities in environmental compliance and cleanup, while enabling our training and other readiness activities. Pollution prevention shifts our environmental focus from traditional control/treatment compliance and restoration solutions to the reduction or elimination of pollution at the source. Pollution prevention also helps minimize our reliance on products and processes that degrade the environment and provides a high return on our investment through cost avoidance.

One of our best opportunities for pollution prevention is looking at our energy systems. We are committed to investing in innovative solutions for delivering energy for facilities and transport.

### Attaining Full and Sustained Compliance

We are committed to fully complying with all federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations, as well as Executive orders and overseas Final Governing Standards. We have not achieved full compliance, but we are designing systems and institutions to reach that goal. We view EPA, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and other regulatory agencies at all levels as partners toward achieving compliance, not adversaries. The Environmental Compliance Assessment System (ECAS) is a key component of our environmental compliance

program. These external assessments are conducted at Active Army installations, National Guard facilities, and Army Reserve centers. In addition, the Installation Status Report (ISR)–Environment, an internal assessment system, is used at all Active and Reserve installations both at home and abroad. This annual report assesses the status of our installations’ environmental programs, highlighting areas of excellence and pinpointing areas for improvement.

### Cleaning Up the Environment

The Army has begun a new generation of cleanup that is oriented toward public/private partnerships, community-based cleanups, and other nontraditional methods of rapid restoration and land transfer. Through the Defense Environmental Restoration Program, we have taken aggressive action to remediate contaminated ground water, surface water, sediment, and soil. Our objective is to reduce risk to human health and the environment by meeting our obligations under environmental laws, regulations, agreements, and orders. At closing installations, our remediation efforts support and facilitate transfer of the property to the community. By incorporating efficiencies into the program, the Army has made steady progress toward meeting cleanup goals, while maintaining a constant level of investment.

### Responding to the American Public

The Army is committed to honoring our social contract with the American people as one of the nation’s most esteemed institutions. We recognize that the public has a collaborative stake in our decisions. We value the public’s support as partners in environmental stewardship. The Army plays a key role in American society, and our engagement with the American people will always seek to maintain that sacred trust and societal value.

### Looking Ahead

Over the last 30 years, we have become more attentive to sustaining the nation’s environment. As we move toward the future, we will continue our joint commitment to a strong national defense and a safe and secure environment. We will join together and focus on “Preserving the Past, Protecting the Future.”



**General Eric K. Shinseki**  
Chief of Staff, U.S. Army

# Leading in Stewardship

The Army is proud of its environmental program and its accomplishments in managing some of the nation's most valuable environmental resources. Integrating environmental values into our mission has also

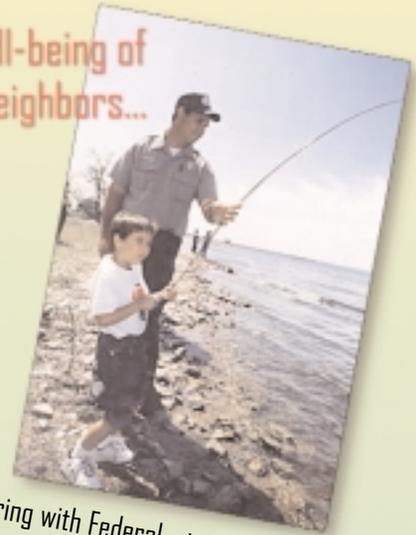
helped us sustain readiness, improve the well-being of our soldiers and civilians, and strengthen community relationships. To continue this standard of excellence in environmental stewardship, we will...

*...minimize environmental impacts while transforming the Army...*



*Assessing the impacts of the Transformation through environmental impact statements*

*...promote the well-being of our friends and neighbors...*



*Partnering with Federal, state, and local agencies and communities to preserve the Chesapeake Bay*

*...preserve our natural and cultural resources for future generations...*



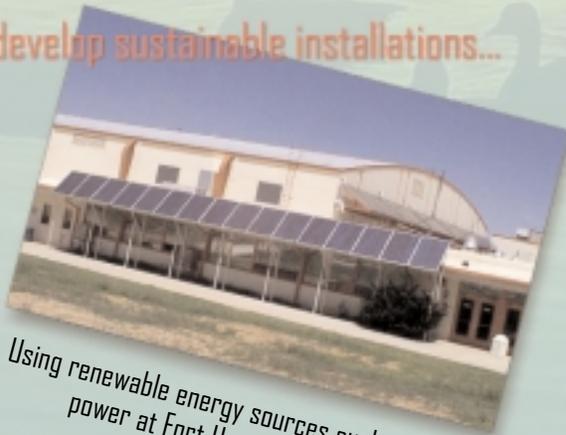
*Protecting the bald eagle at Fort Lewis, Washington*

*...clean up and transfer property as soon as possible...*



*Transferring 2,038 acres from the Joliet Army Ammunition Plant to the State of Illinois (Secretary of the Army, Honorable Louis Caldera, shakes hands with Governor George Ryan)*

*...develop sustainable installations...*



*Using renewable energy sources such as solar power at Fort Huachuca, Arizona*

## The Army Commitment

**As an integral part of our mission, the Army will be a national leader in environmental and natural resource stewardship for present and future generations.** Effective environmental stewardship secures and sustains readiness and power projection platforms, assists the nation in meeting complex environmentally related security challenges, ensures the well-being of Army members and their families, and causes the American public and global community to accept the Army as a strong steward of the environment. We will make consistent, measurable progress in implementing this commitment by doing the following:

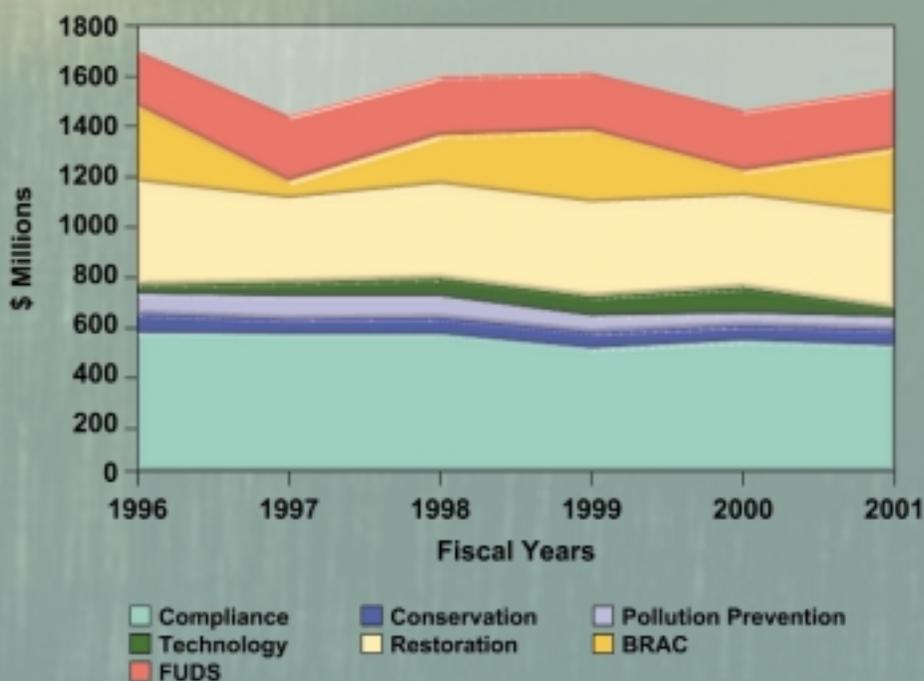
- **Promoting the well-being of Army personnel and our neighbors.** We will adhere to the highest standards for the safe conduct of operations and activities and the protection of our environment, our personnel, and neighboring communities. We will strengthen our stewardship role by focusing on ecosystem management and continuing to make environmental protection and enhancement an integral part of our mission.
- **Achieving the goal of receiving no enforcement actions or fines.** We will strive to receive no new enforcement actions, fines, or penalties in a given year. This will be achieved by strictly complying with applicable laws, continuously monitoring operations and activities, working with EPA and other regulators as partners, and proactively addressing identified deficiencies prior to regulator intervention.
- **Continuing to reduce waste and emissions.** We will work toward eliminating all waste generation at the source. Materials will be reused and recycled to minimize the need for treatment or disposal and to conserve resources. When waste is generated, it will be handled and disposed of safely and responsibly. We will also work toward zero emissions from all of our operations and activities, giving highest priority to those that present the greatest potential risk to human health and the environment.
- **Preserving cultural and natural resources.** We will sustain natural and cultural resources in a manner that optimizes land access, unit readiness, and soldier well-being. We will develop, implement, and periodically update integrated natural and cultural resource management plans at our installations. We will manage our land to preserve and enhance cultural/natural resources and wildlife habitats.
- **Continuously improving our processes and practices.** We will procure environmentally friendly products, services, and weapons systems to the extent practicable. We will review specifications and standards to reduce or eliminate requirements for hazardous substances. We will continuously analyze and improve our operations, activities, processes, and procedures to reduce risk and impact to human health and the environment. We will work with our suppliers to achieve similar product stewardship, and we will provide information and assistance to support their efforts.
- **Conducting open and public discussion with America.** We will continue to promote open discussion with America about the materials we use, the processes we employ, and the impacts of our operations and activities on their safety, health, and environment. We will strengthen partnerships with regulators, governments, policy-makers, businesses, advocacy groups, and citizens to help develop sound policies, procedures, laws, regulations, and practices that enhance safety, health, and the environment to our mutual benefit.
- **Remediating sites.** We will work to reduce risks to human health and the environment from past activities on Army lands. We will effectively manage the enormous challenges posed by unexploded ordnance (UXO) and other munitions constituents on our ranges. We will exploit innovative approaches and technologies to attain efficiencies and expedite cleanup actions. We will seek private partners to pursue rapid restoration and property transfer to communities.
- **Stressing management and employee commitment and accountability.** Compliance with this Army commitment and applicable laws is the responsibility of every member of the work force—military and civilian—and every contractor acting on our behalf. Environmental stewardship is everyone's responsibility, from recycling, to preventing pollution through proper management of hazardous material, to planning training activities that address cultural and natural resource concerns. Managers at all levels are responsible for educating, training, and motivating employees to understand and comply with this commitment and applicable laws. We will use available resources to meet this commitment and will do so in a manner that enhances readiness and quality of life. We will measure and periodically report to the public on our global progress in meeting this commitment.

## Benefits of the Nation's Investment in the Army Environmental Program

The Army environmental program receives approximately \$1.5 billion in annual funding. To ensure that both the Army and the nation receive the greatest possible return on that investment, the Army is doing the following:

- **Taking an approach to resource allocation that is carefully balanced with overall Army priorities.** Army investments in environmental programs directly sustain readiness by supporting and enhancing our ability to train; by safeguarding the health of our soldiers, families, and communities; and by ensuring that the Army complies with all domestic environmental laws and international agreements.
  - **Cooperating with surrounding communities to revitalize and enhance Army lands** to ensure they meet the training needs of tactical commanders. The Army is protecting the lands, and the endangered species living on them, from harm, and it is preserving historical and Native American interests (including \$65 million for conservation programs and \$30 million for integrated training area management).
  - **Improving compliance with ever more stringent environmental requirements.** In the last 7 years, the Army has reduced
- new enforcement actions by 59 percent and has embarked on a systematic program to build new facilities and adopt new procedures that pollute less (including \$500 million for compliance programs and \$50 million for pollution prevention).
  - **Investing in, and developing, new technologies** to further reduce overall pollution and to specifically identify effective technologies for finding and cleaning up spent munitions, as well as developing less polluting ammunition and range training facilities (including \$25 million for environmental technology programs, of which approximately \$10 million will be allocated to develop UXO detection and discrimination technologies during FY01).
  - **Continuing the Army's commitment to remediation** on active and closing (base realignment and closure, or BRAC) Army installations. We are on track to meet the Department of Defense goal of having all cleanup actions in place by 2014. As the DoD executive agent, the Army is also expediting the remediation of all Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) (including \$390 million for the active sites restoration program, \$260 million for BRAC, and \$230 million for the FUDS program).

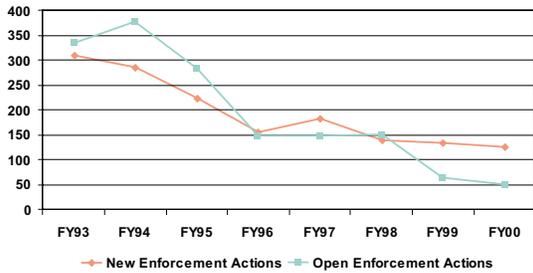
### Environmental Program Historical Funding Trends



# Army Environmental Program Accomplishments

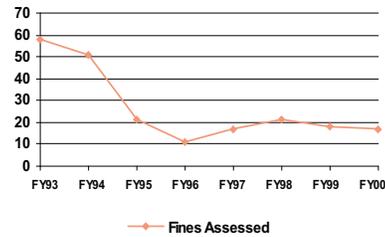
## Measuring our progress in reducing the Army environmental footprint...

### New and Open Enforcement Actions



The Army has reduced new and open ENFs by 59% and 85%, respectively, since Fiscal Year 1993.

### New Regulatory Fines



The Army has reduced the number of regulatory fines assessed by 71% since Fiscal Year 1993.

### Environmental Restoration

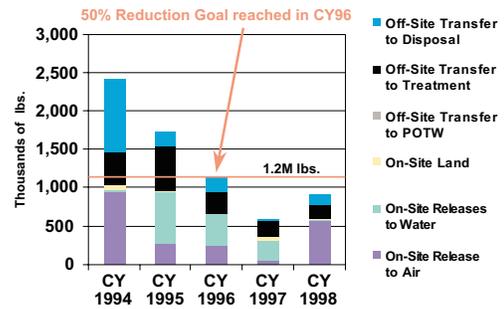
Installation Status	Number of Sites Requiring Cleanup	Remedy in Place or Response Complete	Not Evaluated	Installations with Response Required
Active	10,246	8,227	14	1,081
Base Closure	1,970	1,280	59	51
FUDS <sup>1</sup>	4,372	2,096	699	2,657 <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Formerly Used Defense Sites.  
<sup>2</sup>FUDS installations are called properties.

As of December 1999

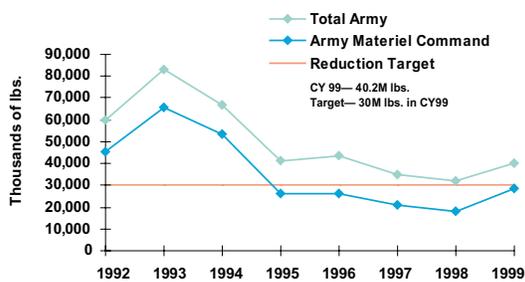
The Army has completed cleanups at 80% of its active and 65% of its closing installation sites, as well as 48% of DoD's formerly used sites.

### Toxic Releases



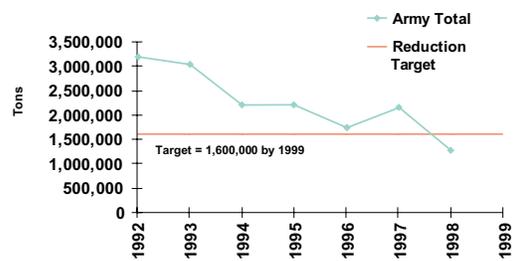
The Army achieved a 50% reduction in toxic releases in Calendar Year 1996 compared to 1994.

### Hazardous Waste Disposal



The Army has reduced hazardous waste disposal by 52% since Calendar Year 1993.

### Solid Waste Disposal



The Army has reduced solid waste disposal by 58% since Calendar Year 1993.

## About the Army

The Army is a strategic instrument of national policy that has served our country well in peace and war for more than two centuries.

Founded in 1775, the Army today has 479,000 Active component military, 357,000 Army National Guard members, 206,000 Army Reserve members, and 224,000 civilian employees. On any given day, 27,000 soldiers are deployed from their home stations to more than 70 countries around the world. Another 114,000 soldiers and their families are stationed in Europe and the Pacific.

The Army environmental program supports readiness and improves the quality of life of our soldiers and their families. It fulfills the public trust by managing Army lands and protecting natural and cultural resources in accordance with federal, state, and local laws. Our focus is on using environmental technology to enhance Army management, integrating pollution prevention practices into all that we do, complying with laws and regulations, and conserving natural and cultural resources, while continuing to clean up active sites and closing bases. By dedicating our efforts to these activities, we will become increasingly successful in identifying efficiencies to support the Army's core business practices; developing creative solutions to environmental stewardship; protecting soldier, civilian, and community health and safety; and helping to fulfill the Army's commitment to support and execute the national military strategy.

Considering the breadth and depth of its operations and activities and the substantial resources (natural, cultural, and monetary) under its direct control, the Army as an institution rivals the largest Fortune 500 companies in sheer purchasing power and demand for products.

In its continuing efforts to reduce its environmental footprint, the Army will become a catalyst for the future development of greener, more environmentally friendly products and services as it fulfills its national defense mission.

## Army Stewardship Responsibility

- Acreage—approximately 13.7 million
- Number of installations—4,162 (includes National Guard Armories and Reserve Facilities)
- Industrial facilities—29 ammunition plants and arsenals
- Historic properties—12,000 buildings
- Endangered species—175 species on 94 installations
- Environmental permits—approximately 2,500
- Archeological sites—approximately 55,000
- Cultural sites—approximately 36,000
- Restoration sites—approximately 12,100 (includes active and closing installations)

## For More Information:

This report and more information on the Army environmental program are available at

<http://www.hqda.army.mil/acsimweb/env/>

Comments on this report should be sent to:

Department of the Army  
Office of the Chief of Public Affairs  
1500 Army Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20310-1500