



Department of Defense Legacy Resource Management Program

Project No. 08-086

National Public Lands Day

Claudia Kessel

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**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE LEGACY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
PROGRAM 2008 (08- 086)**

National Public Lands Day 2008

The Department of Defense provides funds to the National Environmental Education Foundation for National Public Lands Day (NPLD) projects on those portions of military lands open to the public for recreation. Since 1999, National Public Lands Day has received \$1,039,695.50 through the Legacy Resource Management Program. In 2008, National Public Lands Day received a total of \$139,213.00 through the Legacy Program. This year a total of \$140,732.49, which includes carryover funding from 2007, was allocated to sites for materials and supplies.

The Legacy funds are used to improve Department of Defense lands through various natural and cultural resource improvement activities. On National Public Lands Day, volunteers removed trash and invasive plants, restored wildlife habitat, built needed structures, and planted trees among other activities. National Public Lands Day events often include an environmental or natural resource education component to teach volunteers about land stewardship.

To commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), National Public Lands Day spearheaded a one million tree planting initiative in 2008. Between April 25th, 2008 and September 27, 2008, National Public Lands Day encouraged public land managers and volunteers to plant trees in honor of the CCC. In all, National Public Lands Day participants and partners planted more than 1.6 million trees this year.

In 2008, the National Environmental Education Foundation received 52 applications for Legacy awards of up to \$6,500 each for National Public Lands Day projects, as follows: 17 US Army; 7 Army or Air National Guard; 11 US Air Force; 1 US Marine Corps; and 16 US Navy. In July we notified the 37 sites that were selected to receive Legacy awards and then began the process of sending funding to those sites in the form of checks or gift cards. The sites awarded with Legacy funding awards included 13 US Army, 5 US Army and US Air National Guard, 9 US Air Force, 1 US Marine Corps, and 9 US Navy sites.

On National Public Lands Day 2008, approximately 1,500 volunteers took part in various natural and cultural resource improvement activities at DoD Legacy sites. Natural resource activities performed by volunteers included removing thousands of pounds of trash; planting native trees, shrubs, wildflowers and other vegetation; enhancing wildlife habitat by constructing and installing bird and bat boxes; removing invasive plants; installing interpretive and educational signage; restoring wetland, dune and coastal habitats; constructing and repairing hiking trails, fences and bridges; and educating the public about environmental and natural resource issues.

Cultural resource activities performed by volunteers included the restoration of important historic and culturally significant structures such as the historic Rosemary House at Poinsett Electric Range on Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina; an historic World War II POW camp at Camp Navajo in Arizona; and historic military cemeteries at Fort Stewart in Georgia, among others.

LEGACY SITES IN 2008

<u>Site</u>	<u>Amount Awarded</u>
<u>Army</u>	
Camp Mabry, Texas Military Forces, Texas	\$ 4,678.00
Camp McCain Training Center, Mississippi	5,415.00
Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia	3,250.00
Fort Carson, Colorado	5,364.15
Fort Dix, New Jersey	5,000.00
Fort Drum Military Installation, New York	3,700.00
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas	4,800.00
Fort Lee, Virginia	5,500.00
Fort Lewis, Washington	4,792.00
Fort Stewart, Georgia	1,795.00
Kahanahaiki, Makua Military Reservation, Island of Oahu, Hawaii	3,070.00
Redstone Arsenal, Alabama	1998.57
Yakima Training Center, Washington	5,500.00
<u>Army/Air National Guard</u>	
Camp Blanding Joint Training Center, Florida	850.00
Camp Navajo, Arizona	3,950.00
Camp Ripley, Minnesota	1,500.00
Fort Custer Training Center, Michigan	5,200.00
Tennessee Army National Guard, Volunteer Training Site, TN	1,200.00
<u>Air Force</u>	
Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland	1,200.00
Beale Air Force Base, California	4,790.00
Eglin Air Force Base, Florida	1,404.00
Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington	5,035.00
Hanscom AFB, Fourth Cliff Recreation Area, Massachusetts	180.00
Patrick Air Force Base, Florida	1,500.00
Randolph Air Force Base, Texas	5,450.00
Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina	5,450.00
Vandenberg AFB, Pillar Point Air Force Station, California	5,400.00
<u>Navy</u>	
Charleston Naval Weapons Station, South Carolina	5,374.00
Naval Air Station Oceana Dam Neck Annex, Virginia	5,420.00
Naval Submarine Base New London, Groton, Connecticut	875.00
Naval Support Unit Saratoga Springs, New York	4,250.00
Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, California	6,000.00
NIOC Sugar Grove, Sugar Grove, West Virginia	4,840.00
Truman Annex, Patio Beach, Naval Air Station, Key West, Florida	5,850.00
USNA, Annapolis, Greenbury Point North Severn, PWD, Maryland	4,100.00
Washington Navy Yard, Washington DC	2049.49
<u>Marine Corps</u>	
Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany, Georgia	4,000.00
Total	\$140,730.21¹

¹ Note that this amount includes some funds carried over from the previous year (2007). Also, military installations did not spend the entire amount designated for Legacy Awards 2008. We will carry over some funding for NPLD Legacy Award 2009.

2008 National Public Lands Day Legacy Sites Goals and Accomplishments

United States Army



Camp Mabry, Texas Military Forces, Texas - Natural and Cultural Resource Project



Volunteers
plant vegetation
at Camp Mabry

On National Public Lands Day 2008, 74 volunteers gathered for 4 hours to accomplish several projects at Camp Mabry, including landscaping around a newly-rehabilitated and restored historic building; installing a shade demonstration garden in front of the building; planting container gardens; and placing signage to inform visitors and provide educational outreach.

Volunteers added 15 trees and 217 other plants added to landscape the grounds around the historical building. Native tree and plant varieties were selected to compliment the architecture. They incorporated soil and mulch in the plant areas and they created a shade demonstration garden near the Billets where vegetation was planted. Vegetation for this area was selected to attract wildlife, birds, bees, and butterflies. Workers placed 2 benches to encourage public use for viewing the wildlife while appreciating the beauty of the shaded garden. Workers mulched the plant areas and pebbles around the benches. All thirty barrier containers protecting the entrance to two buildings were successfully transformed into garden containers by the volunteers. An assortment of native vegetation was selected for each container with appropriate sun or shade growing preference. Soil and mulch were needed in all containers. NPLD participants placed signage of plant varieties in the containers to inform and provide educational outreach. As part of the shade demonstration garden project, these pocket gardens will act as microhabitats.

These projects that created these habitat gardens will certify the Camp Mabry site as a Certified Wildlife Habitat from the National Wildlife Federation. Additionally, this supports the City of Austin's plan to be recognized as a Community Wildlife Habitat.

Camp Mabry partnered with the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department, Travis Audubon Society, the National Wildlife Federation, Wildlife Austin, Girl Scouts of Central Texas and several Boy Scout troops for this project. Volunteers and partners were invited to an orientation meeting where Major Anthony Bryant, Environmental Manager

and Ms. Jane Tillman from Travis Audubon Society explained the variety and attraction of the plants and projects.

Contact: Dawn Johnson at 512-782-6035.

Camp McCain Training Center, Mississippi - Natural Resource Project

Project Date: February 2009

In February 2009, site managers at Camp McCain will involve volunteers to plant native trees and shrubs in and around the 200-acre cantonment area, a location where few trees are currently found. Volunteers, including local Boy Scout troops, will also maintain blue bird boxes located around the training lands, clean up several on-base cemeteries, and pick up trash and debris throughout the camp. The event will take place on this later date because this is the preferable season for tree planting.

Contact: Will Clark or Ron Ford at 662-294-0305.

Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia - Cultural and Natural Resource Project

Project Dates: September 27 and November 2008

On September 27th, Fort A.P. Hill conducted a clean-up and restoration project at a publicly-accessible fishing area on Mill Creek, with the goal of restoring part of the area to conditions similar to those John Smith would have encountered during his second voyage of exploration in 1608. Eight volunteers gathered for 4 to 8 hours on National Public Lands Day to remove trash, debris, and non-native invasive plants from the site; establish areas for native plant species and then install those plants; and stabilize portions of a stream bank and an existing trail. This project provided an opportunity to clean and restore an important local fishing area and to acknowledge the historical role of American Indians along the Rappahannock River. Additionally, the stabilization of portions of stream bank and trail helped in the conservation of a Woodland Period archaeological site first recorded in 1937 as a result of a Smithsonian Institution survey of "Indian Sites Below the Falls of the Rappahannock."

The last remaining project—namely the installation of educational signage—is scheduled for late November. For the cultural resource sign, specific language focusing on the history of American Indians in the area was drafted in consultation with the Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer, the Virginia Council on Indians, and the Rappahannock Tribe. The natural resources sign addresses conservation issues relative to streams, documents plants and animals found in the area, and was drafted in consultation with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Friends of the Rappahannock River. Currently, the site manager is waiting for final approval of the signs from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and the Garrison Command. Once this has been obtained, the signs will be professionally made and then installed by volunteers.

Contact: John Mullin or Terry Banks 804-633-8255.

Fort Carson, Colorado- Natural Resource Project

The Turkey Creek Recreation Area on Fort Carson is an area frequently used by military and civilian recreationists. Recent wildfire activity has burned 9,600 acres of land and thousands of trees at Fort Carson. As a result, 244 of the trees had to be removed due to public safety concerns. Trees in this area are an important part of the historic Penrose House district, providing shade for recreationists and habitat for wildlife species such as the Lewis's Woodpecker (a Colorado species of concern).

During National Public Lands Day 2008, 17 volunteers and cultural resources replaced 30 trees that were burned in a recent wildfire on Fort Carson. These newly planted trees are varieties known to have less maintenance requirements and lower risk of forming future hazards. Staff prepared the site by digging holes, while volunteers mixed amendments into the soil which was used as mulch for the trees. Volunteers, including local Boy Scout troops, worked for 5 hours to complete this project.

Contact: Roger Peyton at (719) 526-1667.

Fort Dix, New Jersey - Natural Resource Project

Site managers conducted a major cleanup and restoration of three lakes on Fort Dix. Eighty volunteers worked for almost 6 hours to remove 2,500 pounds of trash, plant 20 trees and 1,633 other plants, remove 500 invasive plants, put up bird nesting boxes, and installed erosion fabric and performed other erosion control measures along the lake shorelines. Other sponsors and partners included Boy Scout Troop 112 from Jacobstown, New Jersey and the Fort Dix Outdoor Recreation Club.

Contact: Roger Smith at 609-562-2040.

Fort Drum Military Installation, New York - Natural Resource Project

This year, site managers and volunteers at Fort Drum focused on improving the Yellow Walking Trail, which is part of the Remington Pond Walking Trail System. On National Public Lands Day, volunteers worked for 4 hours to create 5 "interactive stops" or "interest points" along the Yellow Trail that extends from the Visitors Welcome Center off Mt. Belvedere Boulevard to the intersection of Po Valley Road and Conway Road. These "interest points" included special plantings, educational signage, and other small structures (like bat houses). Volunteers cleared brush from the trail; mowed grass adjacent to the trail; planted flowers and trees, bulbs and shrubs; created an interactive children's outdoor space; laid landscape fabric; built and installed bird houses and bat houses; installed interpretive signage; and extended trail loops. The signage included labeling of at least ten tree species and also signs describing the wetlands and historic farmsteads. Volunteer included members from the Fort Drum Environmental Division and their families. Other groups included Evans Mills School, NY Webelos, and Tiger Cubs volunteer. There were also 9 Boy and Girl Scouts plus at least half a dozen parent volunteers.

Contact: Dr. Laurie Rush at 315-772-4165.

Fort Leavenworth, Kansas - Natural Resource Project

On this year's National Public Lands Day, site manager Matt Nowak launched the beginning of a long-term project to rehabilitate the 30 miles of hiking and biking trails at Fort Leavenworth and create a sustainable trail system based on International Mountain Bicycling Association and Corps of Engineers standards. On October 11th, over 20 volunteers gathered to construct and maintain about 3 miles of trails. More specifically, volunteers cut obstructions from the trails that were previously marked, removed brush and vegetation, and placed painted markers along the trail. In the afternoon, about 60 local Boy Scouts hiked the newly-refurbished trails. Over the course of several days, small numbers of volunteers have continued to perform work on the trails: in all, over 100 volunteers have spent time maintaining existing trails or creating new trail miles.

Some Legacy funding for this project went to purchase bicycles for initially for building and maintenance crews and military and civilian personnel and families to use for recreation on the trails afterwards. Matt Nowak is coordinating with Fort Leavenworth's Outdoor Recreation Department to create a permanent bicycle rental program, a "package" for sustainable trail maintenance, and a plan to rehabilitate the remaining miles of trails on Fort Leavenworth.

On November 20th, the Garrison Commander will preside over a dedication ceremony for the newly-purchased bicycles. On November 21st and 22nd, site managers will organize a second work project to continue to maintain the trails.

Contact: Matthew Nowak at 913-684-8979

Kahanahaiki, Makua Military Reservation, Island of O'ahu, Hawaii - Natural Resource Project

Project Dates: September 27 and November 22, 2008

The Kahanahaiki Management Unit, found within a prominent valley called Makua, is a pocket of one of the last remnants of native mesic forest on the island of Oahu. Mesic



Volunteer removes invasive plants at Makua Military Reservation in Hawaii

forests are one of the most imperiled forest community types in the Hawaiian Islands, due in large part to deforestation, degradation from introduced feral ungulates, and proliferation of invasive weed species.

September 27, 2008 was Phase One of a two-part project that site managers are working towards completing. On Sept. 27th, a total of 16 volunteers and five staff from the O'ahu Army Natural Resources Program hiked to the project site in Kahanahaiki, the northwestern gulch of Makua Valley. Volunteers assisted staff in restoring a portion of the native Hawaiian mesic forest of Kahanahaiki by removing invasive weeds (*Psidium cattleianum* and *Clidemia hirta*) and re-introducing native

palapalai fern (*Microlepia strigosa*), an important understory component of the native forest.

Staff first spent some time familiarizing volunteers with the area and the scope of work. Staff pointed out native and non-native plants, enabling volunteers to identify the invasive weeds that they would be removing from the area. Staff demonstrated how to properly cut the invasive strawberry guava trees. After the short orientation, the whole group went to work. Volunteers managed to clear huge areas of the strawberry guava, approximately 600 square meters, creating giant piles of weeds along the perimeter of our work area. With the guava removed, a number of native plants now have access to the sunlight and nutrients necessary to thrive and reclaim the forest.

During the hike to and from the restoration site, knowledgeable staff of the Oahu Army Natural Resources Program provided natural and cultural interpretation of the area, including highlighting the endangered plants and animals found in this mesic forest. Along with volunteers from the general public, the event attracted a few volunteers from local conservation organizations, including the Division of Forestry and Wildlife, Hawaii Trail and Mountain Club, and Kualoa Ranch.

Site managers will be conducting phase two of the project, the native fern planting day, on November 22, 2008.

Contact: Kim Welch at (808) 656-7641.

Fort Lee, Virginia- Natural Resource Project

Sixty-six volunteers worked for 1.5 hours to stabilize red cedar trees planted along a major route on the installation on September 27th. These trees are located at the apex of a swale leading to a drainage ditch and are continually threatened by erosion due to run-off. The project utilized erosion control techniques (biologs) to slow or stop the erosion followed by a layer of topsoil to replace eroded soil. This was followed by



Young volunteer helps protect red cedar trees at Fort Lee

volunteers planting an extensive layer of grass seed which they then covered with seed mat to help establish the seed.

In total, volunteers spread 100 pounds of grass seed, and placed 72 cubic yards of topsoil, 560 feet of biologs, and 900 feet of seed mats. As part of a service project, Girl Scouts planted 65 spring bulbs around the trees to

assist with erosion control around the trees and to beautify the area. The project was conducted in coordination with volunteers from the Colonial Heights Youth and Human Services program, the Army Community Services, Fort Lee Warrant Officers Association, Fort Lee Environmental Management Office, and the US Marine Corps. Initially, the project was scheduled to be accomplished in one day; however, due to the weather the projects were finally completed in several stages.

Contact: Amy Wood at 804-734-4434.

Fort Lewis, Washington - Natural Resource Project

On National Public Lands Day, 14 volunteers constructed 6 cedar boxes for bats, 8 bird boxes for purple martins, and 4 boxes for western bluebirds, and placed them around Muck Creek in suitable habitat adjacent to riparian corridors. Volunteers also cut one acre of invasive Scotch Broom and Reed Canarygrass and that will be planted with shade vegetation within these treated riparian areas to enhance salmon habitat. Volunteers were unable to plant these plants during the event itself due to permitting issues, but site managers organized a subsequent planting on a later date to complete the project. Fort Lewis riparian areas are used by two federally threatened salmon species as well as and two species of bats that are listed as state candidates by the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Volunteers worked for 6 hours on September 27th and partnered with The Nature Conservancy for the project. Some of the young volunteers were very interested in the biology of these local species of birds and bats, and Fort Lewis staff spent a good deal of time educating them.

Contact: Jim Lynch and David Clouse at (253) 967-3474.

Fort Stewart, Georgia - Cultural Resource Project

Taylor's Creek and Pleasant Grove cemeteries are both eligible for the National Register as Traditional Cultural Properties, and they remain important to former residents still living in areas outside Fort Stewart, as well as their descendants. Many of these markers are covered in lichen, moss, or accumulated years of grime. On National Public Lands Day 2008, 55 volunteers and Fort Stewart staff spent 3 hours cleaning and restoring approximately 450 gravestones in these cemeteries and installing educational signage. Volunteers also cleared debris in the cemeteries and cut back invasive vegetation encroaching on cemetery grounds.



Community gathers to dedicate interpretive sign for historic cemetery

The climax of the event was the installation and dedication of an historical interpretive sign at Pleasant Grove by volunteers. The NPLD workers integrated this ceremony into the Pleasant Grove AME Church biennial celebration ceremony at the site. Approximately 15 additional congregants from Pleasant Grove church arrived for this ceremony. The cleaning effort contributed to preservation of the headstones, and a much-

improved appearance of the cemetery. The event provided volunteers a closer sense of connection to the installation's past, as well as an opportunity to see the emphasis the military places on its stewardship of the cemeteries and other historic and natural resources.

Volunteers and partners included Boy Scout Troops 454 and 461 (Fort Stewart and Flemington), Girl Scout Troop 30030, Trinity Baptist Church, Pleasant Grove AME Church in Hinesville, and the Taylors Creek Cemetery Association.

Contact: George Harris or Joseph Paul Maggioni at (912) 315-6027 or (912) 767-0992.

Redstone Arsenal, Alabama - Natural and Cultural Resource Project

On September 25th, 16 volunteers worked for 8 hours to help restore Redstone Arsenal's *Path to Nature*-- an outdoor classroom facility and an approximately 3,800 foot ecological interpretative trail with 30 educational signs and two wetland boardwalks; and completed construction of an historical Native American farmhouse.

In the morning, volunteers performed several work projects to enhance the landscape around the Outdoor Classroom facility. They cultivated the garden beds, weeded, composted, watered and planted about 30 native plants and pollinator-friendly shrubs. The *Path to Nature* is located on top of a significant prehistoric archaeological site, so all of the soil that was removed for planting the shrubs was carefully excavated and screened for artifacts under the supervision of the EMD staff archaeologist. Findings consisted mainly of lithic debitage, more generally known as waste flakes/chips produced during the manufacturing and maintenance of flint and stone tools. Volunteers also picked up about 20 pounds of trash.

Following a lunch break, volunteers strove to complete the construction of the Late Mississippian Period farm house. Some individuals worked inside the structure, excavating a food storage pit over which a wooden sleeping platform would be placed. Others daubed the exterior of the house, with a mixture of red dirt and water. Additionally, the roof thatching was completed. This house represents the typical living structure of many Southeastern tribes of Native Americans and its construction has been underway for nearly 3 years. The volunteer effort to wrap up its construction and prepare for the next phase of the farm replication is immensely appreciated by EMD. It will be an exceptional addition to the Path to Nature's Outdoor Learning Center for Indian Education at Redstone Arsenal and the surrounding communities.

There were several deviations from the original proposed plan due to a defect in the new tiller: volunteers were not able to prepare the flower beds for our pollinator-friendly gardens or the garden field at the Late Mississippian Period farm. The issue with the tiller has been resolved and the Environmental Management Division plans to complete these projects in the upcoming weeks.

Contact: Daniel Dunn at 256-876-4572.

Yakima Training Center, Washington - Natural Resource Project

On National Public Lands Day, 26 volunteers removed one-half acre of invasive weeds, picked up trash, repaired wildlife guzzlers, and planted 840 trees around the Kiddy Fishing Pond and the John Wayne Trail (both public recreational facilities on the installation), and various spring sites throughout the installation. Also, approximately 64 hours were spent by two volunteers to dismantle barbed wire fencing that posed a threat to native wildlife.

All projects were offered to volunteers as partial fulfillment of requirements needed to acquire Advance Hunter status for those public who have an interest in the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Advance Hunter Education program.

Contact: Colin Leingang at 509-577-3860.

U.S. Army and Air National Guard



Camp Blanding Joint Training Center, Florida - Natural Resource Project

On October 25th, 18 volunteers performed several work projects at Camp Blanding. Volunteers removed several mimosa trees, an invasive species in the State of Florida. They then replaced them with 25 new trees and other plants around an area with military displays and memorials. This area is an officially recognized site set aside by the state of Florida to honor the nation's war veterans. Volunteers included a group from the Florida Youth Challenge Academy.

Contact: Maj. Greg Parsons at 904-682-3196.

Camp Navajo, Arizona- Cultural Resource Project

Camp Navajo played a historic role in supporting the war efforts during WWII, and was instrumental in the development of Flagstaff and Northern Arizona. Originally named Navajo Ordnance Depot, Camp Navajo also honors the Native Americans who lived and worked on the installation, and whose support was vital during WWII. Indian Village includes sites critically important to the cultural significance of the facility and represents the enormous contributions made by Native Americans on the home front, from the original Navajo Village and Hopi Village during WWII (Old Indian Village), and the later New Indian Village of Korean and Vietnam eras.

For National Public Lands Day 2008, volunteers continued the preservation efforts begun at last year's NPLD on Camp Navajo. They assisted in the preservation of heritage resources on the Army National Guard training camp. Volunteers assembled

and installed the second interpretive kiosk and place interpretive signs at significant historic sites to promote awareness and appreciation of the role of the former depot in WWII and the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Volunteers also created a heritage walk through an historic site known as Indian Village, the military housing for Navajo and Hopi workers at the former depot. Signage installed identifies specific features and foundations and provides a history of their function and use.



In addition, volunteers cleared new growth trees to protect the historic structures from wildfire and natural site disturbance. Volunteers included former Navajo and Hopi residents.

Contact: Brian Kenney (replacing David Larsen) at 602-697-5754.

Camp Ripley, Minnesota - Natural Resource Project

Fifteen volunteers worked for 2 hours to assemble 75 bluebird houses, which they then installed on Camp Ripley for the National Public Lands Day 2008 project on October 4th. Site managers strategically identified sites where the bluebird houses were installed to maximize nesting success of the houses. Volunteers inserted rebar into the ground at the selected sites to anchor each bird house. Girl Scouts, soldiers and civilian volunteers participated in the project. This project fit into

the larger goal of enhancing the bluebird population on Camp Ripley and subsequently the State of Minnesota. Furthermore, the project served as an educational opportunity for volunteers to not only learn about bluebirds but also about the Minnesota National Guard's environmental stewardship program.

Contact: Marty Skoglund at 320-616-2722.

Fort Custer Training Center, Michigan - Natural Resource Project

On September 27th, 25 volunteers worked for 5 hours to plant 20 trees around military housing areas. Volunteers, including local Boy Scout Troop 469 from Coldwater, Michigan, also planted native perennial seeds near the cantonment area in order to improve habitat for native pollinator species.

Contact: Jonathan Edgerly at 269-731-6570.



Boy Scout volunteer cleans up trash at Tennessee ANG

Tennessee Army National Guard, Volunteer Training Site, Tennessee - Natural Resource Project

The purpose of the National Public Lands Day event was to pick up trash along the shoreline of the Tennessee Army National Guard (TNARNG) training installation, which

borders Stewart Creek and J. Percy Priest Lake, a very heavily used recreational impoundment.

Site managers split approximately 4 miles of the western shoreline into 7 sections, each to be covered by a group of volunteers. As the Boy Scouts were to be using canoes to shuttle trash from the shores to the centralized staging areas, site managers assigned them to stretches of shore areas that had less than perfect road access. In addition to the canoes, lake rangers with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers manned a flat-bottomed boat, performing the same function as the scouts, but able to venture into some of the shallower portions of the embayment.

In all, 83 volunteers worked for 4 hours to pick up more than 3,700 pounds of trash. This included 2,500 pounds of bagged trash; 125 bags of trash and recyclables; 26 tires; 3 vehicle gas tanks; 2 propane tanks; one refrigerator; one kitchen stove; a set of box springs; and a wide variety of other loose odds and ends. Metal recycled totaled 1200 lbs. Promotional items from the Tennessee "Stop Litter" campaign, such as brochures, t-shirts, and other items, were on display and offered to volunteers.

Contact: Janie Becker at 615-313-0603.

United States Air Force



Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland- Natural Resource Project

Approximately 53 volunteers, both civilian and military, volunteered on September 25th to spruce up the Yuma Park Nature Trail on Andrews Air Force Base. These volunteers planted approximately 400 flowering bulbs with fertilizer, installed trail markers and a pet waste disposal system. Workers utilized as much recycled material as possible, such as mulch from fallen trees and debris at the park and other areas around base, including



Volunteer removes debris from Yuma Park at Andrews AFB

recent trimmings for trees that were considered airfield obstructions. Volunteers removed the plant debris, ran it through the wood chipper and created mulch that was spread out along the path. Old logs were stripped of branches and placed along the edges of the trail to create a more pronounced boundary between the trees and the path. In addition, near the beginning of the trail, volunteers used tree stumps to create a circular seating area for visitors. In all, volunteers made improvements along a ¼ mile section of trail and removed 100 pounds of trash and invasive plants. A total of 53 volunteers worked 3 hours.

Contact: Anne Kaval at (301) 981-1426.

Beale Air Force Base, California- Natural Resource Project

On National Public Lands Day 2008, volunteers planted native trees and shrubs and ground cover vegetation at areas surrounding the two base chapels; removed existing sod and weeds; installed weed block fabric and wood mulch in areas between plantings; and installed a drip irrigation system for the plants.

Contact: Chuck Carroll at (530) 634-2738.



Volunteers restore pond area by planting native vegetation

Eglin Air Force Base, Florida - Natural Resource Project

On October 13th, 13 volunteers, including local Boy Scout troop 157, worked for 5 hours during the National Public Lands Day 2008 event at Eglin Air Force Base. These volunteers helped restore a former pond area with 110 native trees and 130 aquatic plants along the exposed stream banks. Volunteers also removed 80 pounds of trash and debris from the 2-acre site; planted native shrubs, hardwoods and pine; and

restored approximately 900 feet of stream channel by stabilizing it with aquatic plants. The planted trees and shrubs were mulched and watered according to the University of Florida Institute of Agricultural and Food Sciences guidelines. Additional assistance was provided by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service with transplanting aquatic vegetation from a nearby donor stream. The stream contains the federally-listed, endangered Okaloosa darter and restoration of the stream creates new habitat for this fish.

Contact: Scott Hassell at (850) 883-1126.

Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington - Natural Resource Project

A total of 130 volunteers, including approximately 100 students, worked for 5 hours on September 25th for National Public Lands Day 2008 on Fairchild AFB. To prepare the project area, staff straightened an existing drainage ditch, cleaned up, and scarified the surrounding landscape few days before the main event. Volunteers removed trash and invasive weeds from a one-acre area; planted 643 trees and 493 shrubs within a transition area between a seasonal wetland and upland habitat; and then seeded native grasses within the upland area. Additionally, volunteers constructed a 16-foot pedestrian foot bridge across the drainage. A few days later, volunteers constructed approximately 1,000 feet of trail to connect the bridge to existing paths and roads.



Volunteers construct a pedestrian bridge at Fairchild AFB

This area provides important habitat for wildlife and was being degraded by invasive weeds and trees (Russian olive). Numerous bird species, including various raptors, deer, badgers, and other animals use this habitat. This project began the restoration process, converting the degraded habitat back to a native one. In the long-term, the restoration of this area will offer better habitat for a larger variety of native species, and allow the base population to enjoy our natural

resources that much more.

Contact: Jonathan Wald at 509-247-8207.

Hanscom Air Force Base, Fourth Cliff Recreation Area, Massachusetts - Natural Resource Project

****Project Date: April 2009****

Site managers at Hanscom Air Force Base plan to organize a cleanup event in April for volunteers to dispose of trash that will have washed up on the beach and dune areas of Fourth Cliff Recreation Area. The Atlantic winter storms deposit large amounts of trash and debris on the beach and dune areas of Fourth Cliff, which is located at the confluence of the North and South Rivers and the coastal environment of the Atlantic Ocean. This unique salt marsh ecosystem contains a variety of habitat types and wetland resource areas utilized by numerous birds and other species *including three endangered or threatened species: least tern (Sterna antillarum), peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus anatum) and piping plover (Charandrius melodus).*

Contact: Greg Cravedi at 781 377 7950.

Patrick Air Force Base, Florida- Natural Resource Project



Sixteen members of the Junior ROTC and the Civil Air Patrol volunteered on September 27th to cut down and remove invasive Brazilian pepper plants in the Family Campground area of Patrick Air

Force Base. Volunteers and site managers replaced the plants in this area with approximately 30 hardwood shade trees and bushes. The Patrick AFB Family Camp is a very popular camping destination with active duty and retired military personnel due to its location adjoining the Banana River and with ready access to the pristine ocean beaches on the base.

Contact: Dale Hawkins at 321 853-6578.

Randolph Air Force Base, Texas - Natural Resource Project

A total of 25 volunteers, including Randolph Air Force Base personnel and Boy Scouts, worked for 4 hours to plant 11 Oleander trees and disperse 360 pounds of wildflower seed in areas where vegetation was disturbed at Canyon Lake Recreational Area for National Public Lands Day 2008. Volunteers also picked up 40 pounds of trash.



Planting new flowering trees and wildflowers creates an aesthetically pleasing environment, helps stabilize the soil and reduce soil erosion, promotes beneficial insect pollinators, and provides food and shelter to many herbivores.

Contact: Verna Cyr at 210-652-7417

Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina - Cultural and Natural Resource Projects

On September 26, 2008, 30 volunteers worked for 8 hours on two different projects to help preserve the historic Rosemary House Complex and restore a pond at Shaw Air Force Base.

Volunteers completed several cultural restoration projects in and around the historic Rosemary House and Complex, including building 300 feet of split rail fence and maintaining the house. Inside the house, volunteers removed 1,000 pounds of debris, wired one room, get plumbing from the well to the house, removed old insulation, replaced a bathroom floor, made repairs to windows, and made cuts for the outlets, switches and breaker boxes. Due to the heavy rain, volunteers were not able to complete all planned projects, namely landscaping around the house.



Site managers had planned for volunteers to begin to restore a pond located in a rare Carolina Bay ecosystem on the range that was destroyed by fire back 2000. The fire caused toxic acidic levels at the pond and destroyed the habitat, fish and wildlife. Site managers planned to build a small pier that would allow our biologists to have access

onto the pond to conduct scientific studies and establish a point to begin our restoration efforts. Eventually this area would be open to the public for wildlife viewing and possible fishing for the troops. Access to the pond bank is impossible because of the dense vegetation associated with Carolina Bays (Pecosin) and a wooden dock or pier would allow the installation's scientist a point to work from to begin our pond restoration. Due

to the weather, volunteers were unable to build the pier, but were able to remove about 500 feet of invasive Kudzu near the proposed pier area.

Site manager David Davis may organize another work project later in Winter 2008 to finish the planned projects.

Contact: David Davis at 803 895 5325.

Vandenberg Air Force Base, Pillar Point Air Force Station, California- Natural Resource Project

At Vandenberg Air Force base on October 28th, 25 volunteers helped site managers remove 4.5 acres of invasive pampas grass by hand and collect several pounds native seeds that will be propagated by a local nursery and planted on-site to replace the pampas grass. About a one-quarter acre of invasive Monterey pine was also removed from the area. Botanists and biologists were on-site to educate the volunteers on the threats of invasive plants, identify native plants, and talk about the general ecology of area. Volunteers included employees from Clif Bar & Company out of Berkley, California.

Contact: Luanne Lum, Botanist or Liz Bell at 805-606-5299 or 805-605-0748.

United States Navy



Charleston Naval Weapons Station, South Carolina - Natural Resource Project

Project Dates: September 27 and December 2008

The National Public Lands Day volunteer events at Charleston Naval Weapons Station are still ongoing. An initial event was held on September 27th where volunteers cleared encroaching vegetation, dug, planted, staked and watered a variety of trees in an extensive old field area. The area targeted for this tree planting is the abandoned security "clear zone" around former Polaris Missile Facility Atlantic. This clear zone, approximately 28 acres, was taken out of maintenance as part of the START nuclear disarmament treaty and has evolved into a long linear old field-type habitat. Volunteers will plant trees in groups creating a more natural, patchwork-type habitat enhancing the area for a variety of migratory birds and edge species as well as other non-game and game species.

The second tree planting event will take place during the second week of December 2008 to coincide with the local Arbor Day. The National Arbor Day Foundation recommends planting trees in coastal South Carolina during the month of December.

Contact: Terrence Larimer at 843-764-7951.

**Naval Air Station Oceana Dam Neck Annex, Virginia
- Natural Resource Project**

Project Dates: November 7- 8, 2008

On November 7th and 8th, volunteers participated in dune enhancement and stabilization projects, including planting of dune habitat vegetation; repairing and installing of dune fencing; and repairing, replacing, and installing dune management area signage. In all, 36 volunteers planted over 10,000 aquatic plants along one half-mile of beach and dune area during the two days. Volunteers included youth groups, members from the Virginia Aquarium and National Aquarium, as well as civilian and military families.

Improving existing dunes is becoming more important as dune habitat is now diminishing at alarming rates. Dunes provide food, shelter, and water sources to various migratory birds and other birds of special concern. Loggerhead sea turtles nest at NASO Dam Neck Annex, which is part of their most northern nesting territory.

Contact: Michael Wright at 757-433-2883.

**Naval Submarine Base New London, Groton, Connecticut
- Natural Resource Project**

Volunteer
installs bat box
at NSB New
London



Bat populations in the Northeast are under extreme population pressure from "White Nose" fungus disease. Naval Submarine Base New London has suitable bat habitat, with a mix of second growth hardwoods and extensive wetlands. However, available bat roosting and nesting sites are lacking.

With Legacy/ National Public Lands Day funding, site managers organized a volunteer event on September

27th where volunteers installed 15 bat boxes throughout the installation. An additional event will take place in November, depending on the schedule of a local girl scout troop, to install the remaining 3 bat boxes. This project encourages the protection and the increase of the local Little Brown Bat population by providing suitable roosting/nesting boxes, encourage natural insect control, as well as public education and awareness.

Contact: Richard Conant at 860-694-5649.

Naval Support Unit Saratoga Springs, New York- Natural Resource Project

Project dates: September 25th and later date TBD in Winter 2008 or Spring 2009

Site managers had to cancel the main volunteer event and re-schedule it for a date in late November. However, on September 25th, eight enlisted men installation staff helped create a new nature trail for National Public Lands Day 2008. They cleared brush and debris, laid down strips of weed control cloth and stone paving, dug and leveled soil, deposited 130 tons of stone to create 2,800 linear feet of trail (6 feet wide) through old pasture land and woodland. The trail will be used by military personnel and their families, as well as members of the public. Signage will also be installed along the trail later in the winter or spring 2009.

Contact: Michael Belyea or Ray Wheat at (518) 886-0200 Ext. 119.

Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, California - Natural Resource Project

Volunteers celebrate after helping to restore a salt marsh at Seal Beach



For National Public Lands Day 2008, Seal Beach site managers continued the restoration of native vegetation to several acres of upper salt marsh habitat and adjacent upland

habitat begun in previous years. The restoration areas are covered in non-native vegetation such as Fountain Grass, Fennel, and Hottentot Fig, and Navy staff removed some of these invasives before the main event, clearing the way for soil preparation work for volunteers.

On September 27th, 125 volunteers worked for 4 hours to remove invasive plants, prepare the soil, and plant 450 native plants. Volunteer partners included Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Friends of Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge.

The Navy and the Fish and Wildlife Service will rely on the Friends of Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge to coordinate, plan, execute and supervise the implementation of this project. Volunteers were given educational brochures such as "Don't Plant A Pest" and "Biological Pollution", created by the California Invasive Plant Council, to inform them about invasive plants.

Contact: Robert Schallmann at 562-626-7290.

NIOC Sugar Grove, Sugar Grove, West Virginia - Natural Resource Project

Site managers had planned for volunteers to remove invasive plants, mainly Tartarian Honeysuckle and Rambler Rose and plant native plants in their place during National

Public Lands Day. However, due to the rainy weather on September 26, site manager decided to focus solely on the planting rather than the invasive removal projects.



Volunteers plant native vegetation at NIOC Sugar Grove, WV

Sixty-five volunteers planted 140 plants, representing 10 different native species of trees, bushes and shrubs in the South Fork of the South Branch of the Potomac River riparian buffer area. Since there was such a large turnout of volunteers, the work was complete in 2 hours. NIOC Sugar Grove to partnered with Mr. Jack Markham, NAVFAC Forester, and Mr. Dan Kincaid, Assistant

State Forester with the West Virginia Division of Forestry to educate the volunteers about the effects of invasive species on natural resources and the importance of continued stewardship to eradicate these species and restore the ecology of the natural environment.

Contact Steven Niethamer at 304-249-6341.

Truman Annex, Patio Beach Naval Air Station, Key West, Florida - Natural Resource Project

On September 27th, 20 volunteers spent 3 hours restoring about 400 feet of coastal habitat at Patio Beach Naval Air Station in Key West, Florida. The volunteers dug holes for and planted 305 plants and 15 trees, which replaced the 15 species of invasive plants that volunteers had previously removed. Volunteers also collected 20 pounds of trash. All of the plants are native to the Lower Florida Keys and appropriate for restoring a coastal habitat.

The beach that was restored during this project is an important area for nesting sea turtles and is also used as a recreational area by DoD families and friends. Lack of vegetation on the beach causes unstable substrate eventually leading to severe erosion particularly during the storm season. The re-introduction of native trees and plants is important in an area which invasive-exotic trees once took over. With Truman Patio Beach being adjacent to a state park (Fort Zachary Taylor), the restoration of the beach will provide visual support for the state park and their ongoing battle against invasive-exotic vegetation.

Contact: Carrie M. Backlund at 305-293-2192.

USNA, Annapolis, Greenbury Point North Severn, PWD, Maryland- Natural Resource Project

Twenty-four volunteers, including Sierra Club members, Girl Scouts and community residents, came to help out for 3 hours with multiple projects at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis on September 27th. Volunteers made improvements to a one-tenth mile portion of an Eagle Scout hiking trail, planted 2 memorial trees and 88 other native plants along the trail, and removed invasive vines from native trees in a forested area. Volunteers also created a butterfly garden as part of a continued conservation initiative started years ago by Naval Academy conservationists and resource managers.

Contact: Kimberly Hickey at 410-293-1116.

Washington Navy Yard, Washington DC - Cultural Resource Project

On National Public Lands Day 2008, 9 volunteers and Washington Navy Yard staff worked for 4 hours to prepare and paint nine historical iron cannon (dating from c.1800 to 1865) that form part of an historical artifact display along Dahlgren Avenue SE in the Washington Navy Yard. Following professional advice from a conservator and the Naval District Washington Safety Office, site managers devised a conservation and worker safety plan. The work took place both before, on, and after National Public Lands Day. Initially, a volunteer vacuumed loose paint and rust from the cannon. Volunteers then scrubbed them with wire brushes to produce a sound surface for the anti-oxidization prime coat. Finally, volunteers provided the cannon with a top coat of high quality exterior gloss paint. On the 27th, volunteers also collected about 40 pounds of trash around the installation.

The purpose of this project was to reduce the amount lead paint chips entering the Anacostia River and to preserve the historic cannons themselves. This project helps preserve the cannons from the weather so that future generations can view the artillery of the past.

Contact: EDWARD FURGOL or Katherine Peterson at (202) 433- 6901 or 202-685-0527.

United States Marine Corps



Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany, Georgia - Natural Resource Project

Project date: December 12, 2008

Site managers are planning a volunteer event on December 15th to plant native wiregrass in a 40-acre area that was recently restored to longleaf pine. Site managers plan to plant approximately 160 wiregrass plugs per acre. Many years previously, this part of the Marine Corps Logistics Base was a longleaf pine/wiregrass ecosystem, and site managers intend, over the long term, to completely restore that ecosystem.

Contact: Eddie Paramore at 229-639-6261.