



Department of Defense Legacy Resource Management Program

Project No. 06-86

National Public Lands Day

Claudia Kessel

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE LEGACY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM 2006 (6-86)

National Public Lands Day 2006

The Department of Defense provides funds to the National Environmental Education & Training Foundation (NEETF) 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 \$756,621.29 through the Legacy Resource Management Program. In 2006, National Public Lands Day received \$110,000.00 through the Legacy Program, of which \$100,000.00 was allocated 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 remove trash and invasive plants, construct and restore wildlife habitat, build needed structures, plant trees and other native vegetation, collect seeds, among others. National Public Lands Day events often include an environmental or natural resource education component to educate volunteers about land stewardship.

In 2006 we received 41 applications for Legacy awards of up to \$6,000 each for **National Public Lands Day**, as follows: 21 US Army; 3 Army National Guard ; 7 US Air Force; 1 US Marine Corps; and 9 US Navy. In June we notified the 28 sites that were selected to receive Legacy awards and then began the process of sending funds to those sites. These included 13 US Army, 2 Army National Guard, 4 US Air Force, 1 US Marine Corps, and 8 US Navy sites. In July, one US Army site- Fort Belvoir in Virginia- dropped out of the Legacy program due to staffing shortages. This site's funding award of \$3,670.00 was subsequently redistributed among other four other Legacy sites.

On National Public Lands Day 2006, approximately 1,100 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 hundreds of trees and other plants; restoring native vegetation and collecting native seeds; removing invasive plant species; enhancing wildlife habitat by constructing and installing bird boxes and establishing a wild bird feeding area; repairing hiking trails; building structures such as a footbridge, a boardwalk, a wildlife viewing platform, a fishing dock, and two model Indian lodges; collecting underwater biological data; and educating the public about environmental and natural resource issues.

In 2006, National Public Lands Day celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the Antiquities Act and the 40th Anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act. Several National Public Lands Day events at DoD installations commemorated these anniversaries through cultural resource restoration activities performed by volunteers such as cleaning historic cemetery gravestones at multiple sites; restoring historic military structures such as Historic Fort Coso at China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station in California, the historic South Carolina Forest Commission Fire Tower and House on Poinsett Electric Range at Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina, the historic Rolling Heath Schoolhouse at Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri, and an historic World War II POW camp at Camp Navajo in Arizona; and enhancing and improving historically important areas such as LeRaysville archeological district at Fort Drum, New York and the landing area of the first English colonists in America at Fort Story, Virginia.

LEGACY SITES IN 2006

<u>Site</u>	<u>Amount Awarded</u>
<u>Army</u>	
Fort Stewart, Georgia	\$ 6,000.00
Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland	4,100.00
Fort Custer Training Center, Michigan	1,743.00
Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri	2,847.41
Laurel Pond, Fort Dix, New Jersey	4,300.00
Fort Drum Military Reservation, New York	3,900.00
West Point Military Academy, New York	1,952.00
Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania	4,102.00
Lima Army Tank Plant, Ohio	4,000.00
Fort Story, Virginia	2,541.20
Fort Lewis, Washington	3,866.00
Yakima Training Center, Washington	3,000.00
<u>Army National Guard</u>	
Camp Navajo, Arizona	1,720.00
Arden Hills Army Training Site, Minnesota	3,500.00
<u>Air Force</u>	
Beale Air Force Base, California	5,985.00
Grand Forks Air Force Base, North Dakota	5,000.00
Poinsett Electronic Combat Range, Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina	6,000.00
Randolph Air Force Base, Canyon Lake Recreation Park, Texas	5,640.00
<u>Navy</u>	
China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station, California	1,320.00
Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge, Naval Weapons Station, California	5,000.00
Truman Annex, Patio Beach Naval Air Station, Florida	5,610.00
U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland	4,496.00
Charleston Naval Weapons Station, Marrington Outdoor Recreation Area, South Carolina	3,171.00
Little Creek Amphibious Base, Virginia	6,000.00
Naval Support Activity, Northwest Annex, Virginia	4,000.00
Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC), Sugar Grove, West Virginia	4,840.00
<u>Marine Corps</u>	
Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina	3,945.40
Total	\$108,579.01¹

¹ Note that the \$8,579.01 was carried over from the previous year. Also, military installations did not spend the entire amount designated for Legacy Awards 2006. We will carry over some funding for NPLD Legacy Award 2007.

2006 National Public Lands Day Legacy Sites: Goals and Accomplishments

United States Army



Fort Stewart, Georgia - Natural Resources Project

The native forests of longleaf pine and wiregrass were once dominant in the Atlantic and Gulf Plains, but have now declined to less than 3 percent of their original acreage, making the longleaf pine forest one of the most endangered ecosystems on earth. This native ecosystem still remains on the Fort Stewart installation property, but periodic restoration activities are needed to maintain the longleaf pines.

On National Public Lands Day, site managers planned for volunteers to restore historic longleaf pine and other vegetation on the installation through various activities. These ecosystem restoration activities were also intended to benefit the six known wildlife species that are protected by the Endangered Species Act which inhabit Fort Stewart. These ecosystem restoration projects help protect federal and state listed endangered species including the bald eagle, red-cockaded woodpecker, eastern indigo snake, flatwoods salamander, wood stork and the short-nose sturgeon.

On September 30th, eighteen volunteers worked for 3 hours to restore historic longleaf pine and other vegetation on the Fort Stewart installation. Specifically, volunteers planted 10 trees; planted 60 other plants, such as native wiregrass; removed invasive plant species from ¼ acre of land; and picked up trash. The volunteers, including Chapter 410 of the Boy Scouts of America, also worked on the environmental garden plot at the museum.



Photo by Dena Thompson

In addition to organizing work projects, the Army staff educated community members about ecosystem management activities at the fort and about native wildlife species. Volunteers learned how native plants and animals depend on certain conditions such as sandy soil, wiregrass growth, and open pine woodlands managed with controlled fires or prescribed burns. Participants learned that certain invasive plants and dense woodlands hinders habitat because it prevents the native fauna from flourishing and is not conducive to wildlife.

The event also included a tour of the museum's outdoor classroom, an explanation of the local ecosystems, as well as the restoration projects.

Fort Stewart was awarded \$6,000.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Dena Thompson, (912) 767-1508

Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland – Natural Resources Project

Aberdeen Proving Ground has excellent and extensive wood duck habitat. During the National Public Lands Day event on September 30th, site managers got volunteers to help to construct 100 wood duck boxes and install them on posts at approximately 20-25 locations throughout the grounds. Site managers plan to follow up by monitoring the boxes on a quarterly basis. The boxes and nest results will be incorporated into Maryland's state-wide inventory and surveys.

On September 30th, seventy-two volunteers worked for approximately two hours to construct 86 wood duck boxes; the remaining 14 boxes will be constructed by Aberdeen Proving Ground Installation staff at a later date. Once the temperature has dropped and ice has formed on ponds at the APG, installation staff will install these boxes on posts at 20-25 locations on the grounds. Project Partners included the Maryland Wood Duck Initiative (state of Maryland), Ducks Unlimited, and Harford Glen -an environmental education center for Harford County. Volunteers included high school students from Harford County Public Schools. Environmental education materials were used to teach volunteers about natural resource issues. Total in-kind contributions are estimated at \$292.00.

Aberdeen Proving Ground was awarded \$4,100.00 for this project.

Contact: Jim Bailey, (410) 278-6748

Fort Custer Training Center, Michigan – Natural Resources Project

Fort Custer Training Center hosts multiple school houses where troops come from around the country to learn different trades. Recreational activities, such as hunting and fishing, are popular at the Training Center. FCTC hosts Boy Scout troops, MWR Family Days, and a host of other groups where the public is allowed on the property for recreation. On National Public Lands Day, site managers planned to have volunteers help install a fishing dock on Fort Custer property. Providing dock access to one of the Training Center's small lakes will allow more people to utilize this natural resource for boating and fishing recreation.

On September 30th, sixty-five volunteers worked for 6 hours to construct several structures, including a fishing dock and platforms for handicap hunters. In addition, volunteers planted trees in the cantonment area of the Training Center. Volunteers included local Cub Scout troops and a local college honor society. Fort Custer Training Center was awarded \$1,743.00 in Legacy funds for this project.

Contact: Jonathan Edgerly, (269) 731-6505

Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri – Cultural Resources Project

The Rolling Heath School House was built circa 1912 and is located on the Big Piney River, east of the Fort Leonard Wood cantonment. The National Register of Historic Places in 1993 determined that the School House was eligible for registration. Rehabilitation of the building, funded by the Legacy Resource Management Program, was completed in 1995.

While Rolling Heath School House is a great resource for the community, the grounds, driveway, and yard do not conform to the overall preservation value of the property. As a coordinated effort with the community, site managers intended to build a permanent flowerbed on the steep bank outside the building and plant native flowers and bushes



reminiscent of the early 1900s to commemorate National Public Lands Day.

On two separate workdays including September 30th, fifteen Marine Corps² member volunteers worked for a total of 15 hours to enhance the landscaping of Rolling Heath School House. These volunteers constructed a flowerbed and planted

approximately 300 native flowering plants and bushes. Fort Leonard Wood was awarded \$2,847.42 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Thomas Glueck, (573) 596-2814

Laurel Pond, Fort Dix, New Jersey – Natural Resources Project

Laurel Pond is the primary site on Fort Dix for residents to enjoy the outdoors while learning about the environment. Many educational opportunities are available and increasing the accessibility to these sites is important. During the National Public Lands Day event, site personnel planned that volunteers would repair erosion control planting along the shoreline; cleanup and repair educational nature trails; repair a handicap access fishing dock; and install a handicap access pathway to a newly-installed playground.

On September 30th, 150 volunteers worked for 4 hours to cleanup, repair and mulch 1.5 miles of trails; plant 64 trees; repair a handicap access fishing dock; plant and mulch approximately 400 plants along the shoreline for erosion control; collect 20 pounds of trash; remove 40 pounds of invasive plants; install fishing line recycle boxes; repair fences; and install a handicap walkway to a playground.

² Fort Leonard Wood has an ITRO component for all branches of the service for Engineers and MPs. The engineers train Army, Navy, Marine, and Air Force components on heavy equipment operations and truck convoy operations. The Army MP school has a component that trains MPs from the Marines. The marines volunteering on National Public Lands Day are from the USMC Military Police/ Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Instruction Company, Marine Corps Detachment.

Three local Boy Scouts of America troops volunteered at the event, including Scout Pack 112 from Jacobstown, New Jersey; Scout Pack 9 from New Egypt, New Jersey; and Scout Pack 34 from Fort Dix, New Jersey. Environmental education and DoD Legacy materials were distributed and an educational puppet show was given for the children. Fort Dix received \$4,300.00 of Legacy funds for this project.

Contact: Roger Smith, (609) 562-2040

Fort Drum Military Reservation, New York – Cultural Resources Project

The Village of LeRaysville was disbanded in 1941 when the U.S. Army purchased 75,000 acres in order to secure lands for military training in preparation for World War II. LeRaysville is in the cantonment area of the Fort Drum Military Reservation. A park for soldiers, their families, and the local community has been built around the archeological structural remains of the village of LeRaysville and a small pond. While this area is heavily used for recreational purposes, the historic nature of LeRaysville is not currently a focal point since historic structures no longer exist.

The Cultural Resource Management program on Fort Drum intends to emphasize the historic nature of this area. A point of emphasis would be the new sugar maple trees, since the old sugar maple trees are either dead, dying or have been removed from the landscape. These trees are important when gathering oral histories and taking the public through walking tours. While it is not possible to rebuild historic homes and structures, it would be beneficial to revitalize the landscape of this once-thriving crossroads community.

During National Public Lands Day 2006, site managers planned that volunteers would clean up and enhance the National Register Historic LeRaysville archaeological district walking tour area as well as the Quaker and Sheepfold cemeteries associated with historic LeRaysville.

On September 25th and 30th, a total of forty-five volunteers worked for an average of 3.5 hours to plant trees and perform landscape restoration activities and clean multiple gravestones in the historic cemeteries. Seven of the trees planted replaced the dead, dying, or removed historic sugar maple trees. Volunteers included students from Loyola High School in Montreal and a local Boy Scouts of America (Wolf Pack) troop from Evansville, New York. Fort Drum received \$3,900.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Laurie Rush and Heather Wagner, (315) 772-4165

West Point Military Academy, New York – Natural Resources Project

Round Pond, located on West Point Military Academy land, has for years been the center of summer entertainment and enjoyment for the military and local community. Site managers intended for volunteers to help maintain, improve, and enhance the existing nature trail that surrounds Round Pond on National Public Lands Day 2006.

Photo by John Dopler



On September 30th, 2006, thirty-five volunteers worked for 5.5 hours to expand the existing nature trail for 2.5 miles; rake and mulch the existing trail; install two benches at break areas along the trail; install new trail markers with descriptions of native foliage and trees; plant 6 trees and 25 flowering plants and shrubs at the trail entrance; repair a footbridge on the nature trail; build two new bridges; remove 60 pounds of trash and debris along the nature trail; and re-stain the existing footbridge

and gazebo.

Site managers distributed environmental and outdoor education materials to volunteers. The work projects and environmental education materials were intended to attract and teach the community about the beauty of nature and the importance of protecting it. Volunteers included Cub Scout Pack 177 from Warwick, New York; West Point Recycle Program members; USMA Cadets, and local families. West Point Military Academy received \$1,952.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: John Dopler, (845) 938-4281

Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania – Natural Resources Project

Carlisle Barracks' Army Heritage Education Center is in the process of developing a historical trail which tracks Army battles throughout history. This endeavor is being accomplished by building exact copies of buildings and battlements from different time periods such as Civil War cabins and French and Indian War housing. On National Public Lands Day, site personnel planned that volunteers would provide maintenance to approximately five acres of the site by planting vegetation and by maintaining and expanding existing trails.

On September 30th, forty-five volunteers worked for 4 hours to develop ¾-mile of new trails; plant 14 trees and 738 native plants such as flowers and butterfly bushes, which provide new habitat for wildlife; and install six new blue bird houses along the nature trail. Volunteers included troops of Boy Scouts of America and Girl Scouts of America and Carlisle and Mechanicsburg community members. Sponsors included Penn State University Cooperative Extension and American Corporate Counsel. Carlisle Barracks site managers also received an estimated \$5400.00 in in-kind contributions for this event. Environmental, cultural, and military heritage education materials were distributed to volunteers. Carlisle Barracks was awarded \$4,102.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Keith Bailey, (717) 245-3612

Lima Army Tank Plant, Ohio – Natural Resources Project

On National Public Lands Day, the Lima Army Tank Plant site manager Mark Lane intended to promote, improve, and expand outdoor recreation opportunities on the installment, while protecting and enhancing natural resources on the site. He planned for volunteers to construct a wild bird plot feeding area and nesting boxes and to enhance aquatic systems and fish populations by adding more windmill-driven pond aerators, adding to those installed on National Public Lands Day 2005.

On September 30th, eleven volunteers spent 4 hours working to construct a wild bird plot feeding area; build and install bird nesting boxes for future bird habitat; remove weeds on the site, and spread rocks in specific areas. In addition to adding wildflowers for the birds, there will be native grasses to add to the food supply for the birds. Along with the increased food, a meadow will provide nesting sites and cover. Unfortunately the intended project- namely enhancing the aquatic systems by adding aerators- was not fully completed on one day.

Lima Army Tank Plant received \$4,000.00 of Legacy funding for these projects.

Contact: Mark Lane, (419) 221-9611

Fort Story, Virginia – Cultural Resources Project

During the National Public Lands Day event, site managers planned that volunteers would create a nature trail, pick up litter in the woodland area, pull invasive plant species which threaten native vegetation, and place plant labels in designated sites as part of the native vegetation interpretation throughout the trail area.

The development of the nature trail is part of an endeavor to create an historic interpretive area in celebration of the first landing of English colonists to the shores of Virginia in 1607. The site designated for this interpretive area is the original first landing site in Fort Story, Virginia. The involvement of citizen volunteers in the creation of the nature trail for this interpretive area on National Public Lands Day is intended to provide an ideal opportunity to educate the public about the interdependence of the cultural and natural resources inherent in the nation's public lands. Through the removal of invasive plants, delineation of indicator species for ecosystem identification, development of trail systems which lessen the forces of erosion, and cultural resource documentation, the volunteers would gain an understanding of the importance of cultural and natural resource preservation.



Photo by Jeanne Evans

On September 30th, fifty volunteers worked for 4 to 8 hours to construct two Yeehawken Indian lodges- one chief's lodge and one sweat lodge. This involved volunteers debarking hardwood saplings, placing support structures, and hand-tying reed mats to the exterior surfaces of the structures. Volunteers also created a ¼-mile nature trail by trimming shrubs and vegetation to define the trail, mulching the trail path to define the trail and

prevent erosion, and laying landscape timbers to define the trail, while securing them in place with two-foot rebar stakes. In addition to this, volunteers labeled 25 native plants along the nature trail; collected twenty pounds of trash from the site; and removed Japanese Honeysuckle Vine, *Lonicera japonica*, an invasive non-native plant species,

from a wooded area.

Local environmental experts educated the volunteers about the ecological aspects of the site including native plants and their ethno-botanical importance, the designation and significance of rare plants in the state, and local fauna which inhabit the site. Volunteers also received hands-on experience in the manual removal of the invasive Japanese Honeysuckle vine, *Lonicera japonica*, and the construction of historically accurate Indian lodgings.

Volunteers included two local Boy Scouts of America troops; students from Ocean Lakes High School; students from Great Neck Middle School; military personnel stationed at Fort Story; First Lands Foundation members; Fort Story Cultural Resources staff; and Sustainable Ventures, LLC staff.

Fort Story received \$2,541.20 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Jeanne Evans (757) 468-7755

Fort Lewis, Washington –Natural Resources Project

During National Public Lands Day 2006, site managers planned for volunteers to remove invading Scotch Broom and Douglas Fir trees from prairie habitat on the installation. Restoration of a native prairie on Fort Lewis property promotes the recovery of several endangered and threatened Pacific Northwest species which inhabit the site, such as the Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly, the Streaked-horned Lark, the Mazama Pocket Gopher, and others.

On September 30th 2006, fifteen volunteers worked for 8 hours to remove approximately 4,200 plants- mostly Scotch Broom- over portions of the site. Volunteers also removed this and other tree species that were invading the prairie by either cutting or girding: these efforts will provide nesting habitat for native birds. The Nature Conservancy also sponsored this event. Fort Lewis was awarded \$3,866.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: David Clouse, (253) 967-3474

Yakima Training Center, Washington- Natural Resources Project

During the National Public Lands Day event, site managers arranged for volunteers to remove invasive non-native vegetation around the Kiddy Fishing Pond (a public fishing site within the cantonment area); control non-native vegetation along the John Wayne Trail and throughout selected sites on the installation; collect native seeds for future restoration projects; plant and protect riparian shrubs and trees; and remove barbed wire livestock fences that are a hazard to wildlife.

Site managers intended these projects to improve the quality of lands used by the public, particularly the Kiddy Fishing Pond and the John Wayne Trail. These efforts would also be used as an opportunity to educate the public on issues that pertain to natural resource management on the installation. All the proposed projects address natural resource problems and are examples of the installation's stewardship responsibilities found in its Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan. In addition, these projects would provide opportunities for the public interested in completing a conservation project, a requirement of the Advanced Hunter Education (AHE) Program. The opportunities would further the partnership established with Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife in the implementation on the installation.

On September 30th, 28 volunteers worked 10.5 hours to plant 45 Cottonwood trees along Lmuma Creek; remove approximately 5 miles of abandoned livestock fence; and construct and install protective signage (siberstakes) used to identify sensitive resource areas on the installation. In addition to the work activities completed on September 30th, site managers anticipate that there will be approximately 25 pounds of sagebrush seed collected at the end of November and approximately 500 willow cuttings collected this winter and planted this spring. Sponsors and partners included the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife/ Advanced Hunter Education Program and Big R Store in Yakima, Washington.

After receiving the funding for this year and concluding their September 30th work, the Yakima Training Center resource department lost a significant number of staff that were originally planned to help support the follow on work for this National Public Lands Day event.

Yakima Training Center was awarded \$3,000.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Colin Leingang, (509) 577-3860

U.S. Army National Guard

Camp Navajo, Arizona – Cultural Resources Management Program

Camp Navajo played an historic role in the development of Flagstaff and Northern Arizona and in supporting the World War II war effort. The Camp houses an historic district that is eligible for listing under the National Register of Historic Places. The POW and Native American Laborers' Camp sites are important to the cultural integrity of the facility and require periodic maintenance. Few interpretive signs explaining the history of these sites are available to visitors.

During National Public Lands Day 2006, site managers planned that volunteers would help maintain the historic World War II POW Camp and Native American Laborer's Camp (Indian Village) that housed workers who built and operated Camp Navajo in the 1940s. In addition, volunteers would install interpretive signs explaining the significance of these historic sites.

On September 30th, 2006, twelve volunteers worked for 7 hours to build and install interpretive signs marking the former site of the historic World War II POW camp. Volunteers were also educated using Leave No Trace materials.

Camp Navajo received \$1,720.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Thomas Parker, (928) 773-3318

Arden Hills Army Training Site, Minnesota- Natural Resources Project

The Arden Hills Army Training site is one of the largest green spaces in any metropolitan area in the United States. AHATS is a 1,500-acre military training site for the Minnesota National Guard and other military units. It is important in providing the public an opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and the natural environment while also accommodating the training mission.

During National Public Lands Day 2006, site managers arranged for volunteers to help construct and place a rail, wildlife viewing platforms, and a wildlife viewing scope. Volunteers would also improve vegetation of the site by planting trees and cleaning the area. Once completed, the site would be used as a recreation and viewing area. Site managers intended this project to add value to the community and allow more recreational opportunities for soldiers, their families, and other members of the public by providing a place to view wildlife.

On three separate work days, including September 30th, approximately forty-five volunteers performed multiple improvement projects to the installment. Before September 30th, three staff members of the City of Arden Hills laid asphalt to create a handicapped-accessible nature path connected to the wildlife viewing platform area. On September 30th, thirty volunteers worked approximately 3 to 6 hours to install a handicapped rail and wildlife viewing platform; planted 4 oak trees representing four different oak species; planted dozens of wild grape plants; removed invasive trees and weeds such as buckthorn, Siberian elm, thistle, spotted knapweed, ragweed, cow vetch and smooth brome grass; collected 3 pounds of native grass such as big bluestem, Indian grass, switch grass and side oats grama; planted several ounces of wildflower seeds by spreading the native seeds on areas cleared of invasive species; picked up 60 pounds of trash; and cleaned the wildlife viewing platform and an existing bridge. On Saturday, October 7th, twelve volunteers and three supervising staff members worked to improve the handicapped-accessible asphalt path by hand digging the edges and placing new asphalt where the path connect to the public viewing platform—in effect, extending the existing nature trail by 300 feet. The wildlife viewing scope will be installed on the bridge/wildlife viewing structure later this fall.

Volunteers included five Boy Scout of America troops; members of the Ramsey County Parks and Trail Committee, the City of Arden Hill staff; one member of Leave No Trace; and staff from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and Department of Agriculture. Some assistance was on-site and some was technical assistance that took place prior to the actual work events. The City of Arden Hills provided several hours of equipment rental such as a dump truck and bobcat. Organizers estimate in-kind contributions to be \$80 - \$332, depending on whether the city donates or is reimbursed for trail repair labor. Site managers also used National Public Lands Day, Leave No Trace, and other environmental education materials provided by the Trails and Waterways Division of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to educate younger volunteers.

Arden Hills Army Training Site was awarded \$3,500.00 of Legacy funds for this project.

Contact: Marty Skoglund, (320) 616-2720 and Dave Hammernick (651) 775-5017

United States Air Force



Beale Air Force Base, California – Natural Resources Project

During National Public Lands Day 2006, site managers originally planned four different projects to improve the natural environment and recreational opportunities at the Beale Air Force Base. First, volunteers would help replace footbridges on the Nature Trail. Secondly, volunteers would set up a greenhouse for the Oak Woodland Regeneration Program. The Oak Woodland Regeneration Program intends to restore the Base's oak woodlands and forests, which have not been regenerating sufficiently, by harvesting local acorns and growing them in a greenhouse for restoration efforts. Thirdly, volunteers would replace signage and refurbish a visitors' area at the historic Prisoner of War cell block, which has deteriorated over the years. Volunteers would remove invasive weeds that have degraded the appearance of the site and perform other activities that would restore this cultural site to its appropriate condition. Lastly, volunteers would help control invasive weeds while establishing native plants at the Native American Cultural Site on Best Slough. This site includes numerous bedrock mortars where Native Americans ground acorns for food.

On September 30th, 10 volunteers worked for 6 hours on numerous projects, although some of the projects originally planned were not completed and some new improvement projects were undertaken. Volunteers built one footbridge on the Nature Trail that was destroyed during the floods in December 2005. The replacement of the bridge helps to protect the safety of hikers on the trail. Volunteers also planted approximately 80 different plants – including native tree, shrub, and grass species along the Nature Trail on the Base. Volunteers marked storm drains in the housing area to discourage people from contaminating the runoff. Six volunteers worked for approximately 3 hours on this effort. Volunteers also laid some of the foundation for the Oak Regeneration Project greenhouse on September 30th. However, this is a long-term project and the site managers are still in the process of developing the oak restoration project; therefore, volunteers and staff are continuing the efforts of National Public Lands Day beyond September 30th.

Due to recent vandalism of the Native American Cultural Site on Best Slough, the two other projects- replacing signage and control of invasive species around the historic buildings- were dropped.

The Beale Air Force Base was awarded \$5,985.00 of Legacy funds for this project.

Contact: Chuck Carroll, (530) 634-2738

Grand Forks Air Force Base, North Dakota – Natural Resources Project

The multi-use trail on Grand Forks Air Force Base is an important and often-used resource. GFAF Base personnel believe it would be beneficial for wildlife and natural resource awareness to improve wildlife habitat with shrubs, trees, and herbaceous perennials in an area where residents are likely to appreciate it. Many bird species have been identified along more naturalized sections of the trail, and this project would extend those habitat corridors. During National Public Lands Day 2006, site managers planned for volunteers to plant shrubs and trees along multi-use trails, pick up trash, and pull weeds.



On September 29, 2006, thirty volunteers worked for 8 hours to improve the multi-use trail on the Air Force Base. Volunteers also performed landscaping along one-eighth of the trail: 500 square yards of landscaping fabric was placed along the trail and 10 cubic yards of the trail was mulched. Sixteen trees, 56 shrubs, and 65 perennials were planted along the trail. The total area landscaped was about 5100 square feet. Environmental and outdoor educational materials were distributed to the volunteers.

Grand Forks Air Force Base was awarded \$5,000.00 in Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Kristen Rundquist, (701) 747-4774

Poinsett Electronic Combat Range, Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina- Cultural Resources Project

The goal of National Public Lands Day 2006 at Shaw Air Force Base was to restore the original South Carolina Forest Commission Fire Tower and House on Poinsett Electronic Range (PECR). The Tower and House have been declared eligible for listing as Historic by the State Historic Preservation Office of South Carolina (SHPO). The Tower has been already benefited from some restoration activities and is currently used to support flight training missions at the Combat Range by transmitting electronic signals to aircraft, crew and Air Traffic Control.

Twenty-eight volunteers worked on two separate occasions, including on September 30th, 2006 for an average of 8 hours to restore the historic and culturally-significant Fire Tower and Ranger House on Poinsett Electronic Combat Range. Volunteers assisted in replacing the roof of the Tower, digging a well and painting the tower. Sponsors included the South Carolina Forestry Commission, which donated artifacts for display in the house. The South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office provided guidance on architecture restoration. In-kind contributions amounted to an estimated \$500.00 to \$1,000.00.

All work on the Tower so far- such as placement of a new roof, landscaping and painting- has been volunteer work and in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office of South Carolina, which has visited the house and made many recommendations on paint, woodwork, concrete repair, windows, flooring, and electric.

Shaw Air Force Base received \$6,000.00 in Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: David Davis, ((803) 895-5325

**Randolph Air Force Base, Canyon Lake Recreation Park, Texas-
Natural Resources Project**

During the National Public Lands Day event, site personnel arranged that volunteers would continue the annual planting of native wildflower seeds at Canyon Lake Recreational Center to conserve the aesthetic, historical, and ecological value of the area. Native wildflowers promote beneficial insect pollinators and provide food for various herbivores indigenous to the area. Plants also help stabilize the soil and reduce soil erosion.

More specifically, managers chose a 115-acre site to allow for the continuation of native wildflower seed planting. Volunteers would also mow, rake, and remove existing vegetation to eliminate competition with the newly planted seeds. Volunteers would prepare the planting site by raking and tilling the soil and incorporating one inch thick depressions throughout. They would also mix masonry sand with wildflower seed to increase volume and provide even distribution of seed materials over the site, broadcast seeds uniformly over the entire site, and roll the area to press seed materials into the soil.

On September 23rd, forty-two volunteers worked for 8 hours to plant native wildflower seeds at Canyon Lake Recreation Area. Volunteers dispersed and planted over 600 pounds of indigenous Texas wildflower seeds to enhance site aesthetics, attract wildlife such as birds and butterflies, and reduce soil erosion. Various flowering plant species, such as Texas Bluebonnets, Black-eyed Susans, Indian Blankets, Lemon Mints, Showy Primroses, Tickseeds, Mexican Hats, Plains Coreopsis, Claspig Coneflowers and Tall Poppy Mallows were planted and dispersed. These specific flower species were chosen because of their ability to help prevent soil erosion as well as their color and natural beauty. Volunteers included natural resources staff at Randolph Air Force Base and two local (San Antonio-area) Boy Scouts of America troops. Site personnel distributed environmental education materials to volunteers, as well.

Randolph Air Force Base received \$5,640.00 in Legacy funding for the project.

Contact: Matt Kramm, (210) 652-4668

United States Navy



China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station, California- Cultural Resources Project

Old Coso Fort is one of the oldest buildings in Inyo County and in eastern California, and it is beginning to deteriorate. The old army barracks was built between 1862 and 1867 as an outpost for Fort Independence during the Owens Valley Indian Wars. It was overgrown by weeds and the two chimneys and walls were beginning to tumble, causing a safety hazard and a historic preservation issue. On National Public Lands Day, site managers planned that volunteers would complete multiple improvement projects on the Old Coso Fort.

On September 30th and October 1st 2006 and the week prior to the event, 33 volunteers worked to restore the Old Coso Fort by stabilizing both chimneys and one wall by building and placing support bracing against the wall, using 2x4, 2x6 and 2x12 plywood pieces. Volunteers removed all intrusive vegetation that is impacting the walls of the Fort. Weeds such as ragweed were pulled, chopped, sawed, and removed, which helped to stabilize the walls from the adverse root action. Volunteers reduced additional negative impacts to the Fort's walls by removing overburden of eroded soils in the three rooms, screening the soil through mesh screens, and cataloguing any artifacts. Lastly, participants removed approximately 4,000 pounds of trash from the site. The event was prepared for during the week previous to the event. Final touches were made, materials



Photo by Russell Kaldenberg

were cleaned up and debris was hauled away during these days, as well.

The project helped to educate the public about the history of Fort Coso. Additional sponsors of the project include Fort Independence Paiute Indian Reservation, Friends of China Lake Archaeology, National Park Service, Death Valley and Manzanar, Eastern California

Museum, Maturango Museum and China Lake, NAWS. Partners and volunteers included Far West Anthropological Group, Searles Valley Historical Society, Epsilon Systems Solutions, and the Friends and China Lake Archaeology. Cash contributions from community partners totaled to \$800.00 and in-kind contributions were estimated to be \$2,475.00.

China lake was awarded \$1,320.00 in Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Russell Kaldenberg, (760) 939-1350

Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge, Naval Weapons Station, California- Natural Resources Project

During National Public Lands Day 2006, site managers planned that volunteers would continue native vegetation restoration activities from previous years NPLD events on several acres of upper salt marsh habitat on the Refuge. Event organizers arranged for volunteers to remove invasive plants, prepare the land for restoration, and plant native plants. Restoration of native wetland vegetation such as salt grass, native sage, and isocoma would help provided needed protection for endangered birds, such as the state endangered Belding Savanna Sparrow, at the Refuge.

On September 30th, approximately two hundred volunteers worked for 4 hours to restore native plant vegetation and clean up portions of the wetlands. Volunteers plant at least 10 trees and more than 500 native shrubs and other vegetation; collected 4,000 pounds of trash; and removed numerous invasive plants.

The Navy and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service relied on the Friends of the Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge to coordinate, plan, and execute and supervise the implementation of the project. The Navy was responsible for the removal of these

invasive plants, clearing the way for soil preparation work by the Friends group.



Participating volunteers included troops from the Girl Scouts of America and Boy Scouts of America; U.S. Navy staff; members of the Friends of Seal Beach Wildlife

Refuge; and staff from the California Fish and Game Department. Sponsors of the event included Toyota Motor Sales, Inc. Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge, Naval Weapons Station was awarded \$5,000.00 in Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Bob Schallmann, (562) 626-7290

Truman Annex, Patio Beach Naval Air Station, Florida- Natural Resources Project

Lack of vegetation on Truman Beach on the Patio Beach Naval Air Station installment causes an unstable substrate and leads to severe erosion during the storm season. This beach is used for recreational purposes by Department of Defense families and friends and is an important nesting area for sea turtles. Adjacent to a state park, the restoration of Truman beach provides visual support for the state park and their battle against exotic vegetation. During National Public Lands Day 2006, site personnel arranged for volunteers to help restore coastal habitat on Patio Beach through various activities.

On September 30th 2006, twenty volunteers spent 4 hours restoring 400 feet of coastal habitat by planting 15 trees and 300 other plants including Australian Pine seedlings, which are native to the Florida Keys and appropriate for restoring coastal habitat. Sponsors included The Nature Conservancy. Site managers also distributed

environmental education materials, provided by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, to volunteers. Truman Annex, Patio Beach Naval Air Station received \$5,610.00 in Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Ed Barham, (305) 293-2911

U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland – Cultural Resources Project

The Public Works Department of the United States Naval Academy, in partnership with the Memorial Affairs Office, has strived to treat the historic Naval Academy Cemetery as a cultural resource worthy of the best standards of care.

The Academy gravestones had never been treated for bio-growth. A recent survey of stones suggested that it would improve the appearance and the longevity of the stones to be cleaned of such growth. Under certain conditions of type of growth and type of stone, the organic components and tentacles of biological materials can adhere to historic stones and cause various types of damage including staining, and/or migrating into crevices and causing micro-fractures that allow water infiltration which is more damaging. It has been determined that periodic removal of such growth is beneficial to tombstones.

During National Public Lands Day 2006, site manager Lou Ann Broad planned that volunteers would clean cemetery headstones of bio-growth after attending a 2-hour training session on headstone preservation and treatment.

On September 30th 2006, approximately 200 volunteers spent about 5 hours cleaning dozens of the historic Naval Academy cemetery headstones by removing bio-growth. Almost all headstones that required cleaning were treated. ABC Channel 2 news out of Baltimore covered the event, which was broadcast that evening at 11:00 pm.



Photo by Naomi Sullivan

The U.S. Naval Academy received \$4,496.00 in Legacy funding for these projects.

Contact: Lou Ann Broad, (410) 293-1285

Charleston Naval Weapons Station

Marrington Outdoor Recreation Area, South Carolina – Natural Resources Project

The Marrington Outdoor Recreation Area is a multi-use property supporting a wide variety of natural resource dependent outdoor recreation activities including hiking, mountain biking, jogging, horseback riding, hunting, fishing, kayaking, bird watching, nature photography, orienteering and nature appreciation. As an island of green in what is an increasingly developed urban landscape, Marrington provides a refuge for both military and civilian users as well as an area for military training. Trails and open spaces require at least annual maintenance and refurbishment.

During National Public Lands Day 2006, site organizers arranged for volunteers to repair trails, wetland boardwalks and bridges, and plant, prune, and mulch trees and other vegetation.

On September 30th, twenty-two volunteers worked for 4 hours to repair 2.2 miles of hiking/biking/riding trails; plant 14 new trees; repair two bridges; repair and replace eight interpretive posts on the nature trail; collect 700 pounds of trash; and prune and mulch 35 previous-planted trees. Volunteers included members of the Naval Nuclear Power Training Command (NNPTC); the NNPTC Department of Transitional Personnel; and Naval Weapons Station Volunteer Game Wardens.

Charleston Naval Weapons Station received \$3,171.00 in Legacy funding for these projects.

Contact: Terrence Larimer, (843) 764-7951

Little Creek Amphibious Base, Virginia – Natural Resources Project

During National Public Lands Day 2006, site managers planned that volunteer divers would assist Baltimore's National Aquarium conservation staff; the Navy Regional Natural Resource staff; and staff from the Virginia Aquarium in the collection of biological data from underwater grass beds at Little Creek Cove. This part of the project would involve hands-on seine net sampling within the limits of the grass beds and has been performed in past NPLD events. Managers also planned for the project to include a beach cleanup along the shoreline of Little Creek Cove and seeding or planting lab-produced eelgrass plants in areas of lower plant density.

There is an incredible amount of sea life that inhabits underwater grass beds. All organisms would be classified and noted in the data collection. The National Aquarium (NAIB) conservation staff will share their knowledge of identifying features and characteristics of the fish and other organisms with the participating project volunteers.

This project is important to the Navy and the partners involved in the restoration and protection of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The restoration of underwater grasses is integral to the improvement of water quality of the Chesapeake Bay. The restoration of bay grasses is also one of the goals of the Chesapeake 2000 Agreement. The Navy has a unique site that supports the growth of the native eelgrass as well as the training area for mission critical amphibious craft.

On several different work days, including September 30th, 2006, ten volunteer divers and staff members from the Navy, the Baltimore and Virginia Aquariums worked for a total of 20 hours to monitor, map, and inventory fisheries in a two-acre area of underwater habitat. Unfortunately, the Base did not get a required permit for planting or seeding lab-produced eel grass in time, and the lab grown plants were not available even if the permit had been accepted. Site managers were still able to organize the beach cleanup, but the volunteer troops that we were lined up for the event were unexpectedly deployed. The cleanup is expected to take place as soon as additional volunteers are found.

Marine life educational materials were provided to the children at the base Child Development Center. Total in-kind contributions from the event came to \$25,000.00. This year, the project was shadowed by a Navy News videographer who captured the underwater footage for the National Public Lands Day project. The video is to be used for special interest stories throughout the Navy.

Little Creek Amphibious Base received \$6,000.00 in Legacy funding for these projects.

Contact: Patsy Kerr, (757) 462-8564 ext. 391

Naval Support Activity, Northwest Annex, Virginia- Cultural Resources Project

Several Civil War era gravesites on the Northwest Annex Naval Base have fallen into disrepair. Site managers desire to keep the gravesites maintained for historical and civic reasons. During the National Public Lands Day 2006 event, site managers planned that volunteers would participate in preservation and upkeep activities of several Civil War-era gravesites.

During 15 separate work days, including September 30th, 2006, 117 volunteers worked for 3.5 hours on average to perform maintenance activities on historic gravesites. More specifically, volunteers cut and arranged lumber to create crosses for the gravesites while performing general maintenance, such as trimming grass and clearing debris, from at least 17 historic graves. In addition to this, volunteers helped to build a campground for use by local Boy Scouts. Volunteers included several local troops of Boy Scouts of America. The Naval Support Activity, Northwest Annex received \$4,000.00 in Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Nathaniel Cleckley, (757) 421-8803

Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC), Sugar Grove, West Virginia- Natural Resources Project

There are 23 invasive plant species on NIOC Sugar Grove. The most invasive species in terms of abundance and distribution are tartarian honeysuckle and rambler rose. The 2005 National Public Lands Day event at NIOC Sugar Grove was directed at controlling invasive species, primarily the aforementioned species, in the South Fork of the South Branch of the Potomac River riparian buffer area.

Before the 2005 NPLD project, these two species occupied approximately 90% of the South Fork riparian watershed, thereby displacing the native species and radically altering the existing natural area and ecosystem processes. The 2005 work is still progressing and will be continued during the 2006 event to ensure that those species are controlled permanently.



Photo by Steven Niethamer

Prior to National Public Lands Day 2006 event, installation certified personnel controlled the re-sprouting of tartarian honeysuckle, rambler rose, and other invasive species in the riparian buffer area. On September 30th 2006, thirty five volunteers worked for one hour to plant 100 trees to replace areas where invasives were removed, increase diversity, improve wildlife habitat. Volunteers formed teams to plant a variety of shade tolerant

native shrub and tree species such as dogwood, winterberry, Virginia sweetspire, and maple leaf viburnum on approximately 4 acres of South Fork riparian buffer. On the 29th

of September, volunteers also planted native species in the riparian forest buffer area. Additional sponsors of the event included Geo-Marine, Inc. and the West Virginia Department of Agriculture.

NIOC Sugar Grove also partnered with Dr. Joseph Campo, Senior Wildlife Biologist with Geo-Marine Inc. of Plano Texas, and Mr. Dan Kincaid, Assistant State Forester with the West Virginia Division of Forestry. Together, these resource managers educated volunteers about the effects of invasive species on our natural resources and the importance of continued stewardship to eradicate these species and restore the ecology of the natural environment.

NIOC Sugar Grove received \$4,840.00 in Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Steven Niethamer, (304) 249-6341

United States Marine Corps



Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina – Natural Resources Project

During the National Public Lands Day event, site managers planned that volunteers would plant native hardwood trees and shrubs, including live oak, white oak, willow oak, and swamp chestnut oak at a borrow pit in a 13-acre area of the Base. The borrow pit (source of fill dirt for construction activities) has been re-graded to form a shallow pond of approximately 1.5 acres, a moist soil area of approximately 1.5 acres, and associated upland slopes of approximately 10 acres. This work was completed in 2005.

On September 30th 2006, nine volunteers worked for 5 hours to plant 206 trees and mulch the trees using compost produced by the installation recycle center. The addition of hardwoods at the site provides added wildlife value in the form of cover, food and overall diversity to the site. Volunteers will plant additional trees and shrubs during the dormant season. Volunteers included members of the Single Marine Program.



Photo by Martin Korenek

Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, was awarded \$3,945.40 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Martin Korenek, (910) 451-7235