



Department of Defense Legacy Resource Management Program

Project No. 07-86

National Public Lands Day

Claudia Kessel

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE LEGACY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM 2007 (7- 86)

National Public Lands Day 2007

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 \$898,965.29 through the Legacy Resource Management Program. In 2007, National Public Lands Day received \$142,334.00 through the Legacy Program. This year a total of \$136,588.33, which includes \$7,517.64 of carryover funding from 2006, 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.

In 2007, The National Environmental Education Foundation received 49 applications for Legacy awards of up to \$6,500 each for National Public Lands Day projects, as follows: 14 US Army; 10 Army or Air National Guard; 13 US Air Force; 5 US Marine Corps; and 7 US Navy. In June we notified the 36 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 11 US Army, 7 Army and Air National Guard, 9 US Air Force, 4 US Marine Corps, and 5 US Navy sites.

On National Public Lands Day 2007, approximately 1,300 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 an historic homestead at Camp Bowie, Texas; 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; an historic World War II POW camp at Camp Navajo in Arizona; and the surroundings of the monument marking the site of the second Prince William County Courthouse at Quantico Marine Corps Base in Virginia.

In September and October, two Legacy site managers informed us that they had cancelled their NPLD projects due to a variety of reasons.¹ The funding for these two sites will be held by the National Environmental Education Foundation and carried over into 2008, if National Public Lands Day's 2008 Legacy application is accepted.

¹ Joint Systems Manufacturing Center, Lima Army Tank Plant in Ohio and Biak Training Center in Oregon

LEGACY SITES IN 2007

<u>Site</u>	<u>Amount Awarded</u>
<u>Army</u>	
Fort Lewis, Washington	\$ 6,491.30
Joint Systems Manufacturing Center Lima Army Tank Plant, Ohio ²	4,000.00
Fort Drum Military Reservation, New York	4,350.00
Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania	5,045.00
Yakima Training Center, Washington	4,500.00
West Point Military Academy, New York	1,780.00
Fort McCoy, WI, Pine View Recreation Area	3,250.00
Fort Story, First Landing Foundation Historic Interpretive Area, Virginia	2,250.00
Fort Carson, Colorado	5,262.15
Fort Dix, New Jersey	5,700.00
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas	5,000.00
<u>Army/Air National Guard</u>	
Fort Pickett, Twin Lakes Recreation Area, Virginia	1,200.00
Fort Custer Training Center, Michigan	5,500.00
Camp Bowie, Texas	1,332.70
Camp Navajo, Arizona	2,350.00
Biak Training Center, Oregon ³	1,100.00
Forbes Field ANG, Topeka, Kansas	5,500.00
Florida Air National Guard, Florida	3,235.56
<u>Air Force</u>	
Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi	4,650.00
Beale Air Force Base, California	2,785.00
Randolph Air Force Base, Texas	4,600.00
Langley Air Force Base, Virginia	2,632.00
Shaw Air Force Base, Poinsett Electronic Combat Range, South Carolina	5,947.04
Vandenberg Air Force Base, California	3,800.00
Fourth Cliff Recreation Area, Massachusetts	170.00
Gila Bend Air Force Auxiliary Field, Arizona	2,000.00
Hickam Air Force Base, Fort Kamehameha, Hawaii	4,900.00
<u>Navy</u>	
Truman Annex, Patio Beach Naval Air Station, Florida	5,500.00
Dam Neck Annex, Virginia Beach, Virginia	6,400.00
China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station, California	3,950.00
Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, California	5,500.00
NIOC Sugar Grove, West Virginia	3,831.90
<u>Marine Corps</u>	
Marine Corps Logistics Base, California	1,909.00
Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina	3,625.00
Quantico Marine Corps Base, Virginia	3,516.00
Marine Corps Air Station New River, North Carolina	2,285.00
Total	\$136,583.33⁴

² NPLD project was cancelled.

³ NPLD project was cancelled.

⁴ Note that the \$7,517.64 was carried over from the previous year (2006). Also, military installations did not spend the entire amount designated for Legacy Awards 2007. We will carry over some funding for NPLD Legacy Award 2008.

2007 National Public Lands Day Legacy Sites Goals and Accomplishments

United States Army



Fort Lewis, Washington - Natural Resource Project



Photo by David Clouse

The Chamber's Lake and Nixon Spring areas, which are heavily used by outdoor enthusiasts, have been severely impacted by invasive Reed Canary Grass and Himalayan Blackberry. Reed Canary Grass is a habitat altering species which poses a significant threat to wetlands in the region. The degradation of wetland

habitat impacts nesting birds, salmonids, and rare species such as the federally-endangered aquatic plant Water Howellia (*Howellia aquatilis*).

During National Public Lands Day 2007, the goal of the NPLD project was to reduce non-native cover through brush-cutting and to prepare the site for planting. By controlling these invasive species, both recreational and environmental objectives can be achieved, and by providing more nesting opportunities for bird species, populations of these target species can be greatly enhanced, helping to recover declining populations.

On September 29th, 25 volunteers removed these invasive plants and planted native woody vegetation in the Chamber's Lake and Nixon Spring areas. Mulch was provided by a source on Fort Lewis, and volunteers mulched these plantings to ensure their survival. Volunteers also constructed bird boxes for the western bluebird, northern saw-whet owl, purple martin, American kestrel, and wood duck. They then installed the bird boxes within the enhanced wetland and upland areas, providing increased function, wildlife viewing opportunities, and habitat value throughout the areas. This activity helped in recovery efforts aimed at increasing the populations of these bird species.

Fort Lewis was awarded \$6,491.30 of Legacy funding for this project.

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

**Fort Drum Military Reservation, New York
– Natural and Cultural Resource Project**

Fort Drum's Fish and Wildlife Management Program and the Cultural Resources Management Program worked together to pro-actively protect and increase public appreciation for the installation's most valued historic resource and for a federally and state recognized endangered species during National Public Lands Day 2007.

This NPLD project involved cutting, assembling and painting bat and owl boxes. Volunteers cleared brush and downed timber, mulched a new connector nature trail, and created a small seating area adjacent to a historic reflecting pool along the new trail connector. The Fort Drum Environmental Division provided for signage that was installed along these trails, calling attention to the local floral, faunal and historic nature of the area. Participating volunteer groups included local Boy Scout troops, the BOSS (Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers) program, and the Officers' Spouses' Club.

This project brought attention to two important environmental conservation efforts at Fort Drum. One is working to improve habitat for the Indiana bats, a federal and state endangered species. Building and installing bat boxes helped to educate soldiers and their families about the importance of bats to the ecosystem.

This project also called attention to the LeRay Mansion historic district, increasing visibility of an important cultural and architectural site in northern New York. Before the NPLD project, the two nature trails in the historic district met dead ends, and this grant allowed for the construction of a connector trail. This connector trail now calls attention to important historic landscape features of the Mansion district like the small burial plot for LeRay's granddaughter, the formal reflecting pools and the original entrance way for the mansion.

Fort Drum was awarded \$4,350.00 in Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Heather Wagner or Dr. Laurie Rush at (315) 772-4165

Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania – Natural and Cultural Resource Project

All work on National Public Lands Day was accomplished at the Army Heritage Education Center Historic Walking Trail. The trail is a trip through the history of the United States and its military. Along the trail can be found replicas of buildings or battlements from the 18th century (French & Indian wars), 19th century (Civil War), and the 20th century (WWI, WWII) and many others. This area hosts hundreds of visitors on a weekly basis.

Forty volunteers worked four hours on September 29th, 2007 to help maintain approximately 5 acres that have been set aside for NPLD programs, school, and community educational training areas. Volunteers planted 96 trees to provide a barrier between the interstate highway and the NPLD area. The one-quarter mile of walking trail that volunteers developed in past NPLD programs was restored to its pristine condition. Volunteers planted 846 plants and flowers in specific locations along the one-mile Historic Walking Trail as well as collected 40 pounds of trash.

Volunteers included a local Girl Scout troop, the American Corporate Counsel Association, Carlisle Barracks community members, and Tree Board members. Leave No Trace educational materials were distributed to all volunteers during the event. Many volunteers mentioned how they wanted to come back next spring to see the results of their work.

Carlisle Barracks was awarded \$5,045.00 for this project.

Contact: Keith Bailey at (717) 245-3612.

Yakima Training Center, Washington - Natural Resource Project

Yakima Training Center organized various projects on National Public Lands Day and other work days throughout the season during which 35 volunteers donated an average of 11 hours of labor per person. These projects included removing invasive non-native vegetation around the Kiddy Fishing Pond (a public fishing site within the cantonment area), control of non-native vegetation along the John Wayne Trail and throughout selected sites on the installation, stocking water tank placement along the John Wayne trail to enhance water availability to public utilizing the trail for horseback rides, planting of riparian shrubs and trees, and repair of wildlife guzzlers.

Approximately 565 trees and shrubs were planted by volunteers throughout riparian areas at two springs on the Yakima Training Center during National Public Lands Day. A total of 19 volunteers participated in the planting effort on September 29th, donating 142.5 hours of labor. Twelve volunteers removed seven miles of abandoned livestock fence, which posed a hazard for wildlife, from the installation, supported by equipment purchased by the DoD Legacy/NPLD grant. Three volunteers prepared the planting site and performed noxious weed control was accomplished on seven wetland areas. In addition, native seed (i.e., sagebrush seed) collection is scheduled at the end of November when the seed is ripe. A willow cutting collection/planting project is scheduled for December once the trees are dormant. It is also anticipated that 1-3 guzzlers will be repaired.

All of these projects are part of the proposal and expand opportunities for public participation over several months.

Yakima Training Center was awarded \$4,500.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Colin Leingang at (509) 577-3860

West Point Military Academy, New York - Natural Resource Project

At the Round Pond Recreation Area at West Point, 30 volunteers spent four hours to complete multiple site improvement projects that helped to revitalize the Round Pond shoreline on September 22, 2007. Volunteers cleared the nature trail of 20 pounds of trash, posted hiking trail signs, and planted 4 trees and 35 scrubs, plants and flowers around the entrance of the trail. This nature trail was established in the past years with NPLD support and leads to the pond site. The volunteers also cleared areas around the pond of 200 pounds of invasive weeds and unwanted debris. They erected an arbor leading into the pond area, trimmed bushes and trees, laid mulch, and re-conditioned a gazebo at the lookout.

The Round Pond area is frequented by many throughout the year. This project has enhanced its appeal for nature lovers, girl and boy scout activities, and the public. The NPLD project has become an annual event at West Point and has also helped the installation support its public education program.

West Point Military Academy was awarded \$1,780.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: John Dopler at (845) 938-4281

Fort McCoy, Pine View Recreation Area, Wisconsin - Natural Resource Project

Site managers at Fort McCoy are planning a National Public Lands Day project for spring 2008 that will accomplish a variety of needed tasks. Volunteers will lay woodchips along a trail, clear brush, pick-up trash, set-up signage, and clear invasive garlic mustard. The date of this event has been delayed due to the importance of removing garlic mustard in the spring rather than the fall. Volunteers will install signage along the trail that gives information about invasive species, native species, endangered species, poisonous species, and edible species and that provides a map. The Directorate of Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (DMWR) and Environmental Services feel that by making Pine View's trails more accessible and more informational, users will understand better the need for maintaining cultural and natural resources on Fort McCoy.

Fort McCoy was awarded \$3,250.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Tony King at (608) 388-3517

Fort Story, First Landing Foundation Historic Interpretive Area, Virginia – Natural Resource Project

Through a partnership with the US Army, the First Landing Foundation has created a historic interpretive area on Fort Story, Virginia. This site, created to commemorate the first landing of English colonists to the shores of Virginia in 1607, includes a nature trail with both ecosystem and ethno-botanical information represented through interpretive signage, 9 authentically reproduced Indian lodges, a colonial outpost, a maritime museum and the presentation of an original play, depicting the first landing event. The emphasis of this site's operation is to educate the public about the importance of preserving both the cultural and natural environments contained within the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The First Landing Foundation received funding toward a native planting effort for National Public Lands Day 2007. Initially the site managers had planned to replant a dune area with native species following the removal of an invasive plant, Japanese Honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*), which has engulfed a large portion of this dune and threatens biodiversity of the site.

Unfortunately, due to weather constraints, the removal of the invasive honeysuckle could not take place prior to September 29th this year. In conjunction with the Natural Resources staff of Fort Eustis/Fort Story, the First Landing Foundation will continue in its efforts to remove this plant and re-vegetate the dune when weather conditions allow. Another dune restoration effort has already been underway on this site and the decision was made to purchase native live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) trees to continue this effort. Once completed, this area will provide extended habitat for all the species that utilize maritime woodlands along the coastal plain of Virginia.

Although extensive advertising was done for the NPLD event on Fort Story, the site was not able to get a lot of volunteer participation due to the simultaneous occurrence of the Neptune Festival in Virginia Beach. Consequently, site managers only purchased the number of trees that could reasonably be planted by the volunteers who had signed up. Ten volunteers worked for 3 hours to plant 20 oak trees and collect 40 pounds of trash in the area on September 29th.

However, the involvement of citizen volunteers in the preservation of this site on National Public Lands Day 2007 provided an ideal opportunity to educate the public about the interdependence of the cultural and natural resources inherent in this nation's public lands. Through the planting of native vegetation, the volunteers gained an understanding of the importance of natural and cultural resource preservation.

Fort Story was awarded \$2,250.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Colette Amici at (757) 277-1745



Photo by Michael J. Pach

Fort Carson, Colorado - Natural Resource Project

The Turkey Creek Recreation Area is a vital component for military and civilian recreationists on Fort Carson. Recent spring storms have caused extensive mortality in 32 over-mature trees in this area. As a result the trees had to be removed for public safety concerns. Trees in this area are an important part of the historic district (The Penrose House). They provide shade for picnicking, playgrounds, and camping. Moreover, important wildlife species such as the Lewis's woodpecker nest in this area.

During National Public Lands Day 2007, 31 volunteers, including a troop of Boy Scouts, planted 35 trees at the Turkey Creek Recreation Area on the installation. Over-mature trees that were removed within the historical district were replaced with trees deemed appropriate by the installation's cultural staff. DECAM prepared the site by digging holes for the trees. On September 29th, volunteers mixed amendments into the soil and fill, planted and then mulched the trees with material provided.

Volunteers then staked and guy-wired trees with materials provided by DECAM.

Fort Carson was awarded \$5,262.15 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Roger Peyton at (719) 526-1667

Fort Dix, New Jersey - Natural Resource Project

On National Public Lands Day, volunteers restored a lake and its surrounding area on the Fort Dix installation. The lake is used by fishermen and other outdoorsmen throughout the year and gets extensive use due to its location adjacent to off-post housing.



Photo by Roger Smith

One hundred and forty six volunteers worked for 4 hours to repair erosion to the lake shoreline, plant 220 native plants, install goose fencing around the plantings, remove 520 invasive plants, repair a 30-foot bridge over wetlands area, install 16 educational signs, remove 7,100 pounds of trash and debris for the wooded area surrounding the lake, and place 8 bird nesting boxes.

Fort Dix was awarded \$5,700.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Roger Smith at (609) 562-2040

Fort Leavenworth, Kansas - Natural Resource Project

For National Public Lands Day 2007, site managers at Fort Leavenworth planned the construction of a multiple-use recreation trail system, since the previous clandestine trail system on the installation was not based on sustainable standards and had erosion problems. In June 2007, site managers created aerial photo maps of the proposed area with contours using GIS and later laid out tentative trails on maps. Throughout June, July and August, volunteers ground-truthed and wire flagged the proposed trails on the ground.

On September 29th, numerous volunteers began the initial trail construction, and site managers and volunteers will continue building the trail system from September through December 2007. The new trail system is being built based on the US Army Corps and International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) standards for sustainability and will support bikers, walkers, trail runners, and horses.

Fort Leavenworth was awarded \$5,000.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Matt Nowak at (913) 684-8979

**Joint Systems Manufacturing Center, Lima Army Tank Plant, Ohio
- Natural Resource Project**

****PROJECT CANCELLED****

At Lima Army Tank Plant, site managers had planned a volunteer work event to demolish two old family housing units and restore the area back to a natural habitat setting. In addition, wildflower and native grass planting was planned. However, in September this project was cancelled due to a change of plans with the two housing units. The \$4,000.00 that had been allocated to the Lima Army Tank Plant was returned to NEEF and will be applied to 2008 NPLD projects.

Contact: Mark Lane at (419) 221-9611

U.S. Army and Air National Guard



**Fort Pickett, Twin Lakes Recreation Area, Virginia
- Natural and Cultural Resource Project**

The Twin Lakes Recreation Area serves as Fort Pickett's premier outreach venue. The lakes are popular fishing spots and food plots are located nearby for wildlife management. The installation hosts its Army Earth Day celebration here each year. Scout troops visit regularly, and a nature trail provides access in and around the lake. The site exists on the footprint of an historic farm that was also a major recreational area during the pre-WWII era, thus it has a long history of public access. Natural resource managers have been rehabilitating and improving the site with previous NPLD grants, and the 2007 event was a continuation of that effort.

On September 28th, 2007, volunteers helped maintain trails and picnic areas, installed interpretive cultural signs and kiosks, cleared unwanted vegetation, cleaned up trash, landscaped areas around the buildings, and constructed new trails with benches for access to the historic sites.

Fort Pickett was awarded \$1,200.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: James Shaver at (434)298-6391

Fort Custer Training Center, Michigan- Natural Resource Project

The Fort Custer Training Center's cantonment area hosts few native tree species. After a severe wind storm in 2002, Dutch elm's disease, and natural succession, many of the native tree species have died throughout the area.

On National Public Lands Day 2007, 45 volunteers worked for 4 hours on two separate tree planting projects. On one project, volunteers placed native shade trees throughout a block of military barracks in the cantonment area. Volunteers planted approximately 25 trees ranging in size from 4 to 10 feet. Volunteers also worked on a second tree planting project: the stocking of a tree nursery that was developed during the 2006 NPLD event. Restocking of this nursery with approximately 150 native species trees provides more landscaping trees for the FCTC cantonment area for the future. This project encompassed both natural and cultural restoration qualities, as tree species were selected on their native origins and historic prevalence. Volunteers planted the trees, fertilized, mulched, and watered them on September 29th.

This tree planting project provided many benefits for Fort Custer. The cantonment area plant material has been damaged by both military and natural disturbance. Restoring the cantonment with pre-settlement vegetation has helped the installation restore a more native historic landscape.

Fort Custer was awarded \$5,500.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Jonathan Edgerly at (269)731-6570

Camp Bowie, Texas – Cultural Resource Project

Camp Bowie is a prominent part of the City of Brownwood and Brown County's history and development. The lands the installation now occupies were important to prehistoric communities, as well as homesteaders of the late 1800s. When the U.S. Army created Camp Bowie to train soldiers for WWII, many families had to sacrifice their homes and land. Very little remains of these original sites after years of training by the Army and National Guard.

The site 41BR538 is an historic homestead eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The historic homestead is unique in that it retains integrity of its foundation and layout. The Brown County Historical Society has expressed interest in visiting and working with the Texas Army National Guard Cultural Resource Program to document and preserve sites at Camp Bowie.

During National Public Lands Day, 24 volunteers worked for 4 hours to clean up this historic homestead archaeological site; demarcate the area for siberst stakes to be placed by ITAM; and record, collect and identify surface artifacts. Volunteers also removed 6 invasive trees. Photos, maps, and notes were collected to develop a public brochure with volunteers providing insight into early occupation in Brown County. For this event, Camp Bowie partnered with the Brown County Historical Society, Brownwood Boy Scout Troop 14, and the

Central Texas Treasure Collectors Club.

Site manager Kristen Wenzel commented that “the greatest thing about our event was having old and young together working on a common goal. From the 90 year old Historical society member to the 11 year old boy scout, everyone benefited.”

Camp Bowie was awarded \$1,332.70 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Kristen Wenzel at (512) 782-6194

Camp Navajo, Arizona – Cultural Resource Project

Camp Navajo played a historic role in supporting the war effort during WWII and was instrumental in the development of Flagstaff and Northern Arizona. It houses an historic district that is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Camp Navajo was named to honor the Native Americans (predominantly Navajo and Hopi) who lived and worked on the installation, and whose support was vital during WWII.

Indian Village was the Native American laborer’s camp and is critically important to the cultural significance of the facility. It requires upkeep to maintain the integrity of the sites. Before NPLD, there were very few interpretive signs available to visitors of the installation regarding this history.

Work during the National Public Lands Day 2007 event included maintenance of the historic Indian Village. Sixteen volunteers worked for 6.5 hours to assemble and install an interpretive sign, pick up trash, and perform other activities to protect the site from fire and other impacts. Volunteers cut and thinned new growth ponderosa pine trees with the help of the Camp Navajo Fire Department. Volunteers hauled the cut trees and debris into slash piles, and cleared away thick pine duff from site features.

Site manager David Larsen reported that NPLD 2007 was a huge success, with an exceptional volunteer crew that worked extremely hard. Not only did volunteers accomplish the work planned, but site managers were also able to educate the public on the site’s significant cultural resources. Site managers were very pleased to have a woman from the Hopi Tribe that had grown up, lived, and worked on the installation visit the work site. She provided additional background and information regarding life on the installation.

Camp Navajo was awarded \$2,350.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: David Larsen at (602) 267-2740

**Forbes Field Army National Guard, Topeka, Kansas
- Natural Resource Project**

About 30 volunteers planted an improved variety of native buffalo grass called *Turffalo* on September 27th and 28th along $\frac{3}{4}$ of a nature trail on the Forbes Field installation. *Turffalo* attains a height of only four-inches and virtually eliminates grass mowing, saving numerous dollars in grounds maintenance costs and providing a native grass planting area around and inside the trail. Volunteers also planted aquatic plants and native grass mixes in areas along the trail. Lastly, volunteers installed gravel for a native tree nursery during this National Public Lands Day event.

Forbes Field was awarded \$5,500.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Doug Chase at (785) 861-4402

Florida Air National Guard - Natural Resource Project

Site manager Lt. Dean Diana planned two site improvement projects for National Public Lands Day. The first is to clean up a retention pond on the installation near Building 42 and remove surrounding exotic plants and replace them with native shrubs and trees. The second project would involve removal of exotic plant species and planting of native vegetation within the Nature Park area on the installation. Volunteers would also install benches, create a border and mulch the area.

However, due to some changes concerning on-site regulations, the projects had to be postponed. NEEF will continue to follow up with Lt. Diana about this project, as it may take place later in the year or an alternative project may be organized.

Florida Air National Guard was awarded \$3,235.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Lt. Dean J. Diana at (904)741-7410

Biak Training Center, Oregon - Natural Resource Project

****PROJECT CANCELLED****

Community volunteers from the Prineville area, supported by the Oregon Army National Guard and the Bureau of Land Management had planned a National Public Lands Day clean up of an illegal trash dump site located on Biak Training Center lands. However, the event had to be cancelled in September. The \$1,100.00 originally allocated to Biak Training Center for the NPLD project was returned to NEEF and will be applied to NPLD projects in 2008.

Contact: Jeff Mach at (503) 584-3493

United States Air Force



Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi - Natural Resource Project



Photo by Frank Lockhart

According to site manager Frank Lockhart, the Columbus Air Force Base nature areas have been under-utilized, and a National Public Lands Day event was planned to transform part of these areas into butterfly gardens, which would serve natural resource purposes as well as provide an educational opportunity for the Air Force Base's personnel.

Professors from Mississippi State University identified six locations for butterfly gardens on base. During September and October, the locations were cleared of debris and soil samples were taken for analysis. The Agricultural Extension Office had the samples analyzed and fertilizer and lime were applied by volunteers according to the analysis. Volunteers helped plow the six locations to produce deep furrows which were filled with compost that was generated on the base. With the aid of a tractor mounted tiller, volunteers applied 42,000 lbs of compost to the six areas.

The butterfly garden locations were planted by volunteers on October 20, 2007. Forty-five volunteers planted 350 plants, including Butterfly Bushes, Abelia Grandiflora, Harvest Moon coneflowers, and mixed butterfly perennials. The volunteers also seeded areas around the locations with 20 pounds of wildflower seed that were supplied by the USDA Plant Materials Center and some that were donated by a local farm. A total of 73 volunteers spent 292 hours for the project throughout several months. Volunteers included the Wives of Stripes Club, Boy Scouts Troop No 3, Girl Scouts Troop No 238, and the Extension Entomology Department Mississippi State University Co-Operative Extension Service.

Site manager Frank Lockhart commented that one of the girl scouts was so excited about the gardens she helped with that she had her parents bring her back to the site the next day to see what had been done.

Columbus Air Force Base was awarded \$4,650.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Frank Lockhart at (662) 434-7958

Beale Air Force Base, California - Natural Resource Project

On September 20th and various other work days, volunteers replaced 5,000 square feet of irrigated lawn area with about 80 drought tolerant native plants, mulch and rock. 75% of the newly landscaped area was planted in native, drought resistant shrubs, plants and wildflowers. The remaining 25% was covered in river rock and mulch. Volunteer also installed geotextile fabric for weed control and "dry water" gel for the plants.

Replacing the existing landscape with low-maintenance, drought tolerant landscaping will conserve millions of gallons of potable drinking water annually. Additional benefits of planting native plants include reducing pesticide and fertilizer usage, providing biodiversity and encouraging wildlife by providing food sources.

Beale Air Force Base was awarded \$2,785.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Chuck Carroll at (530) 634-2738

Randolph Air Force Base, Texas - Natural Resource Project

A 115-acre site was selected on the Canyon Lake Reservoir area of Randolph Air Force Base for a native wildflower seed planting project on National Public Lands Day. The site was chosen because it drains well and allows for the continuation of this planting in the future. Installation personnel prepared the area by raking and tilling the soil and removing existing vegetation to eliminate competition with the newly planted seeds. One-inch depressions were placed throughout the plot.



Nineteen volunteers spent 7 hours on September 22nd, 2007 to plant over 420 pounds of wildflower seed. Masonry sand was mixed with the seed to increase volume and provide even distribution of seed material. Volunteers spread seeds uniformly over the entire site and rolled the area to press seed material into the soil.

Boy Scout Troop 475 participated as volunteers, and many Boy Scout troops in the San Antonio area asked to support the same project if funded next year. Site managers also distributed Leave No Trace materials to educate volunteers.

Growing native wildflowers helps to conserve the aesthetic, historical and ecological value of the area. Wildflowers promote beneficial insect pollinators

and provide food for various herbivores indigenous to the area. These plants also help stabilize the soil and reduce soil erosion.

Randolph Air Force Base was awarded \$4,600.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Matthew Kramm at (210) 652-4668

Langley Air Force Base, Virginia - Natural Resource Project

The Langley Nature Walk is situated along Tabbs Creek and the northwest branch of the Back River in the Chesapeake Bay estuary. The Langley Nature Walk was rebuilt following Hurricane Isabel. However, most of the interpretive signage was also lost during this storm. The diversity of flora and fauna coupled with the need for airmen and their families to assimilate and appreciate their presence in the



Photo by H. Reed Jeavons

Chesapeake Bay watershed warrants additional interpretive signage.

Langley Air Force Base's 2007 NPLD work project focused on restoring such interpretive materials. However, of eighteen volunteers recruited for the work project on September 29th, only five showed. Fortunately four unregistered non-commissioned officers came and performed the majority of the work. These officers removed 60 pounds of trash, 40 invasive plants, mounted ten 9" x 12" signs in frames and installed them along an elevated nature walk.

A 2007 Air Force Academy graduate and second lieutenant took the lead on the artwork for "animal mailbox" interpretive material storage units. Due to low registration, three rather than the ten proposed interpretive information holders were fabricated and painted. These "animal mailboxes" consist of silhouettes – raccoon, brown pelican, and striped bass - cut from plywood and attached to heavy-duty mailboxes. She was assisted by a young Cub Scout and his mother.

In addition, the officers also removed approximately forty Chinese Privet (*Ligustrum sinense*) and Wax Leaf Privet (*Ligustrum japonicum*) from the edge of the road abutting the nature walk area.

Langley Air Force Base was awarded \$2,632.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Harry Jeavons at (757) 764-1090

Shaw Air Force Base, Poinsett Electronic Combat Range, South Carolina— Cultural Resource Project

In 2007, site managers at Shaw Air Force Base have continued the restoration of the original South Carolina Forest Commission Fire Tower and House on Poinsett Electronic Range (PECR). The Tower has been restored and is currently used to support flight training missions at PECR by transmitting electronic signals to aircraft, crew and Air Traffic Control.

The Rosemary Tower and House has been declared eligible for listing as historic by the South Carolina Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The Rosemary project is important in many ways. The goal after completion is to use the house in two capacities: first as a historical Fire Commission and local Ecosystem Education Center and second as the Headquarters for our Natural Resource hunting programs.

In 2006 volunteers and site managers put on a new roof, painted, added storm windows, restored original construction and put in a well for the Fire Tower and House. All work has been volunteer work and in consultation with the SHPO.

Volunteers and site personnel worked on numerous days throughout the summer and fall of 2007, as well as on September 28th as part of a National Public Lands Day event to perform various improvements on the house and tower. These include installing electricity, plumbing, a kitchen sink, a commode and other fixtures in these historic buildings; wood working; painting; tiling; and general cleaning. Six volunteers also helped to landscape the parking lot and build a wildlife trail and wetland area along this trail on September 28th.

In addition, a big screen monitor was bought and installed with a rolling moniker of upcoming events and that is also used to present slide shows to visitors.

Shaw Air Force Base was awarded \$5,947.04 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: David Davis at (803)895-5325

Vandenberg Air Force Base, California ---Natural and Cultural Resource Project

Vandenberg has an historical building called the U.S. Coast Guard Rescue Station and Lookout Tower at Point Arguello (a.k.a. Boathouse). The facility was last refurbished in 1982 -1983 in a project related to the West Coast Space Shuttle program. The Boathouse is also located near a very important biological area for many marine mammals, including sea otters, migrating whales, and a haul-out for harbor seals and sea lions and a roosting location for monarch butterflies as they migrate. The beach in this area is used for small recreational activities as well as surfing and diving; however, the Boathouse is not a facility that is generally open to the public.

On National Public Lands Day 2007, 120 volunteers came out to the base and worked for four hours. These volunteers painted and re-built the fence around the Boathouse. The volunteers primed and painted all of the wood, placed fence posts, and nailed the fence together. They also installed an interpretive biological/archaeological sign and removed 100 pounds of trash from the area.

National Public Lands Day also provided volunteers with an opportunity to experience this area in a new way. Professional archaeologists and historians gave tours of the facilities in small groups. Staff biologists were onsite to help volunteers identify local flora and fauna. An environmental education activity was organized for the children during the day. Volunteers played a game from Project WILD (Oh Deer!) and site managers gave out coloring books from the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Wetland Awareness Program.

Site manager Liz Bell commented that "hearing the stories from volunteers made this project worth all of the tremendous effort it took to coordinate. One volunteer had been married in the Boathouse many years ago and was extremely happy to be able to help with anything with the project. A lot of mystery and charm revolves around the facility and all of the volunteers were excited to have the opportunity to tour the site. It was an excellent opportunity to create awareness about the site."

Vandenberg Air Force Base was awarded \$3,800.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Liz Bell at (805) 605-0392

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

Fourth Cliff Recreation Area consists of 56 acres of land area located at the northern tip of the Humarock Peninsula in the town of Scituate, Massachusetts. The area is open to all active duty military members, military retirees and DoD civilian employees. In 2006 approximately 31,000 people visited the area.

Of the total 56 acres, approximately 20 acres are located along a westerly peninsula extending out from the end of the Humarock Peninsula. Approximately 22 acres are located on the peninsula uplands and contain World War II historic structures. The remaining 14 acres consist of salt marsh and beach areas.

Fourth Cliff is located at the confluence of the North and South Rivers and the coastal environment of the Atlantic Ocean. This unique ecosystem contains a variety of habitat types and wetland resource areas utilized by indigenous species. The salt marsh and its associated coastal dune is an important habitat source for numerous bird species, including three endangered or threatened species: least tern (*Sterna antillarum*), peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*) and piping plover (*Charandrius melodus*).

Over 50 volunteers participated in a beach cleanup at the recreation area during National Public Lands Day 2007. The clean up day improved the existing avian nesting area and provided an opportunity for volunteers to be actively involved in a habitat restoration/protection project. The project assisted and enhanced staff efforts to protect these valuable natural and cultural resources.

Fourth Cliff Recreation Area was awarded \$170.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Dale Minnis at (781) 377-7950

Gila Bend Air Force Auxiliary Field, Arizona - Natural and Cultural Resource Project

On November 3rd, 2007 for a National Public Lands Day event, volunteers repaired, extended, and enhanced an existing interpretive nature trail near the GBFAF Family Campground. Repairs included gravelling the trail surface, replacing exhibit signage, and repairing an existing shelter. Improvements included constructing a foot bridge to span a roadside ditch and constructing an extension trail. Along a wash, volunteers added and replaced plants representative of the Sonoran Desert. Participants also developed exhibits representative of traditional Native American culture. Volunteers also constructed park benches and placed them at selected points along the trail.

This project greatly improved the value of an existing nature trail. The trail now provides users with visual information on the flora and fauna communities typical of the Sonoran Desert. The addition of cultural exhibits also helps to increase users' knowledge of the traditional lifestyles of Native American people who occupied the Sonoran Desert. A better understanding of natural and cultural resources can be expected to increase appreciation of their value.

Gila Bend was awarded \$2,000.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Richard Whittle at (623) 856-9476

Hickam Air Force Base, Fort Kamehameha, Hawaii - Natural Resource Project

The American Red Mangrove, introduced to Hawaii in the early 1900's, has invaded coastal areas around the main Hawaiian Islands. This invader has displaced seashore and intertidal habitat for native Hawaiian species, such as the federally endangered Hawaiian Stilt, and instead has created novel habitat used primarily by introduced species.

As part of their NPLD event, Hickam Base site managers had planned for a volunteer military airman to remove a large stand of mangroves growing above the high tide line using an excavator. However, the Base's heavy machinery shop received a call for deployment for eight of their work-force, leaving them short-handed and unable to contribute the man-hours. Therefore, site managers

targeted mangroves that were growing further out on the reef that the excavator would not have been able to access anyway without significant impacts to the reef.

On November 11, 2007, 37 volunteers used hand tools to remove 0.15 acres of invasive Red Mangroves (*Rhizophora mangle*) from a sensitive inter-tidal wetland area on Hickam Air Force Base. Mangroves do not have a sufficient root system to re-grow after being cut at ground level, so no herbicide application was needed. The volunteer team consisted of local Boy Scout troops, the local airman's council, and other interested Hickam community members.

The site at which mangroves have colonized at Hickam AFB is a small (4 acres), but is a high value coastal wetland contiguous with an expansive reef flat. Although the south shore of Oahu historically was dominated by wetlands contiguous with coastal reef flats, urbanization has left this site one of only two wetland/reef systems in Honolulu's urban core. Removing mangroves and replanting with native plants has helped restore the ecological health of the wetland while enhancing beach access and increasing the educational potential of the site.

Hickman Air Force Base was awarded \$4,900.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Gary O'Donnell or Aaron Hebshi at (808) 449-3196

United States Navy



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

During National Public Lands Day 2007, 25 volunteers worked for 4 hours to restore 400 feet of coastal habitat. The volunteers helped in the digging and planting of 20 trees and 190 other plants. This event was a continuation of the 2006 National Public Lands Day project when invasive-exotic trees were removed from this area of the beach.

All of the plants used to replace the invasives are native to the Florida Keys and are appropriate for the restoration of this particular coastal habitat. It is important to perform this project in order to re-introduce native trees and plants in an area where exotic trees once took over. Lack of vegetation on the beach causes unstable substrate eventually leading to severe erosion, especially during the storm season. This beach is an important nesting area for sea turtles and is also used for recreational purposes by DoD families and friends.

In addition to the work project, The Nature Conservancy set up a booth with information on invasive and exotic plants to educate the volunteers.

Patio Beach Naval Air Station was awarded \$5,500.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Carrie Backlund at (305) 293-2192

Dam Neck Annex, Virginia Beach, Virginia - Natural Resource Project

At the Dam Neck military installation, the dune system along the Atlantic Ocean has been severely eroding due to the limited vegetation holding the system in place. The only storm or hurricane protection afforded to the Navy assets exists in this remnant dune and man-made dune system. The system is only stable when entirely vegetated. Many storm scour areas have created problem areas within the dune system, requiring restoration plantings.

In February and March of 2008, a National Public Lands Day dune restoration project is planned with volunteer participation. The later event date is due to the fact that early spring is the preferred time for dune grass planting along the coast. Volunteers will plant approximately 30,000 native dune species grasses on the existing dune system. The species are mixed to ensure the maximum survivability. Installation of sand fencing to build dunes may also be included in the volunteer tasks.

Dam Neck Annex was awarded \$6,400.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Patricia Kerr at (757) 462-8564 ext. 391

China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station, California – Cultural Resource Project

Coso Village is one of the original communities east of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. It was one of the earliest villages in eastern California-- constructed at least by 1860 as a gold and silver mining community. It is entirely located on China Lake's North Range, approximately 45 miles north of the main site. It consists of numerous slump stone buildings and rubble piles (formerly houses, miner's shanties, and mining workings) which have had no stabilization or preservation attention since the Base was established in 1943. It is an important location for ethnic history as many of the miners were Californios (Mexicans descendant from the original settlers in California and runaway blacks from farms in Owens Valley plus Native Americans). The site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic places, possibly under all four criteria.

All roofs of Coso Village have collapsed, and the stone walls are in danger of falling down as well. If DoD employees and volunteers do not stabilize this important community, it is in jeopardy of completely collapsing.

During their 2007 National Public Lands Day event, volunteers cleaned up the village site, picked up trash, and constructed forms and bracing to stabilize walls of four buildings so that they will not deteriorate further.

Partners and volunteers included the Ft. Independence Indian Tribe; Searles Valley Historical Society; Epsilon Systems Solutions, Inc.; Far Western Anthropological Group; Eastern California Museum; Maturango Museum, Friends of China Lake Archaeology; and the National Park Service, Death Valley.

China Lake was awarded \$3,950.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Russell Kaldenberg at (760) 939-1350

Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, California - Natural Resource Project



Photo by Caitlyn Schallmann

The Department of the Navy, through the Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, the Department of the Interior, through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge, and the Friends of the Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge are in a formal partnership aimed at promoting the conservation of natural resources on the public lands encompassed by the Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach.

For National Public Lands Day, these organizations hosted a volunteer event on site with the objective of restoring native vegetation to several acres of upper salt marsh habitat and adjacent upland habitat. The restoration project included removing invasive plants (Fountain Grass, Fennel, and Hottentot Fig), preparing the land for restoration, and planting native plants.

During the event on September 29th, more than 100 volunteers worked for 4 hours to carry out these projects. Volunteers planted native vegetation on a 5-acre area that was previously choked by invasive weeds. Navy personnel and contractors cleared the heavy growth in the area prior to the event. On the day of the event, volunteers prepped, planted and watered over 500 native grasses, flowers, shrubs and trees. To reduce the amount of labor required to irrigate the plantings, gel irrigation supplements were utilized to provide a 3-month supply of moisture to give plantings a head start before winter rains arrive.

Volunteers included Girl Scouts of America, Boy Scouts of America, and Friends of Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge. Volunteers were educated about

invasive plants through information provided by the California Invasive Plant Council.

Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach was awarded \$5,500.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Robert Schallmann at (562) 626-7290

NIOC Sugar Grove, West Virginia - Natural Resource Project



The 2005 and 2006 National Public Lands Day events at NIOC Sugar Grove were directed at controlling invasive species, mainly Tartarian Honeysuckle and Rambler Rose in the South Fork of the South Branch of the Potomac River riparian buffer area.

That work is still progressing and was part of the 2007 NPLD project to ensure that these species are controlled permanently. 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.

For NPLD 2007, 33 volunteers worked for 3 hours to clear 120 feet of river bank (or approximately 10 acres) of these invasive plants. A certified individual applied herbicide to re-sprouted plants from previous efforts, as well as new cuttings.

NIOC Sugar Grove to partnered with Dr. Joseph Campo, Senior Wildlife Biologist with Geo-Marine Inc. of Plano Texas, and Mr. Jack Markham, Forester with the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Atlantic. They educated the volunteers about the effects of invasive species and the importance of continued stewardship to eradicate these species and restoring the ecology of the natural environment.

Following the NPLD project, installation certified personnel will control the re-sprouting of Tartarian Honeysuckle, Rambler Rose and other invasive species in the riparian buffer area.

NIOC Sugar Grove was awarded \$3,831.90 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Steven Niethamer at (304) 249-6341

United States Marine Corps



Marine Corps Logistics Base, Barstow, California - Natural Resource Project

For years the Rifle Range area on the Marine Corps Logistics Base was unfenced, unrestricted from public use and illegal dumping actions were ongoing; however, the area is now fenced and better controlled. A portion of the area is designated as critical tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) habitat.

On November 12 and 13, 2007, site managers are organizing a National Public Lands Day cleanup event where volunteers will help restore this habitat area by removing old vehicle tires, stoves, automobile parts, old fencing cable, 55 gallon barrels, building materials and other debris that is not natural to the area. The effort will also be used as an opportunity to educate the public on issues that pertain to the natural resource management on the installation.

Marine Corps Logistics Base, Barstow was awarded \$1,909.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Manuel Joia at (760) 577-6111

Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina - Natural Resource Project

For National Public Lands Day 2007, volunteers planted oak and other trees at Onslow Beach. Personnel dug holes with a gas-powered auger, and volunteers placed trees in one-gallon containers and covered them using hands and shovels. Water management gel was added to backfill soil, and trees were watered.

The site's beach master plan identified restoring native vegetation to Onslow Beach as an important goal. Planting live oaks at Onslow Beach serves several functions. First, it helps restore the native coastal maritime habitat and the species that depend on it, including the Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*) in areas that have been damaged by storms or that have had vegetation removed in the

past. Second, the planted trees help to stabilize the dunes with their roots, and by acting as a windbreak to blowing sand. Third, vegetation is an effective tool for reducing the negative effects of lighting on nesting and hatching sea turtles. Finally, live oaks on the beach provide shade and aesthetically pleasing views for recreational users of Onslow Beach.

Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune was awarded \$1,909.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Craig Ten Brink at (910) 451-7228

Quantico Marine Corps Base, Virginia – Cultural and Natural Resource Project

During National Public Lands Day 2007, volunteers enhanced the surroundings of the monument marking the site of the second Prince William County courthouse. The courthouse has been recommended eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places based on the findings of a Phase II archeological investigation. The site is located in Training Area 17B at Marine Corps Base, Quantico, Virginia. The courthouse site is a significant historical site in Prince William County that deserves to be properly maintained.



The site includes a stone marker with an inlaid engraving. Before NPLD, the site was adjacent to an abandoned chain link fence that detracted from the beauty of the site and there was no interpretive signage present. There were also some non-native invasive plants encroaching upon the site.

On National Public Lands Day 2007, four projects were conducted by 21 volunteers to enhance the environment at a site marking the location of the 2nd Prince William County Courthouse. Volunteers installed an information kiosk containing a poster describing Prince William County during the 18th century.

Volunteers installed about 200 feet of colonial “snake” rail fencing around the monument site. The “snake” rail was constructed from split locust and is believed to be in keeping with fence design from that period. Participants removed an estimated 1,000 stems of the non-native invasive plants- Autumn Olive, Multiflora Rose, and Japanese honeysuckle- from the vicinity of the monument. They also cleared 200 feet of abandoned chain link fencing of a dense tangle of vines and saplings and then removed the debris from the site. An additional 300 feet were prepared for future removal. The fence removal is part of a larger scale project to restore normal operational capabilities and ecosystem integrity in Training Area 17B.

The ecological integrity of the adjacent training area has been enhanced by removal of the abandoned fencing and invasive plants. This project has proved an ideal means to involve volunteers in a project that provides both cultural and natural resources restoration benefits.



Photo by Tim Stamps

The Marine Corps Base, Quantico, Conservation Volunteer Program, Natural Resources and

Environmental Affairs Branch contributed manpower resources to the project. The project was also coordinated with the Base archeologist to ensure there is no disturbance of sensitive resources and to develop an interpretative display.

Quantico Marine Corps Base was awarded \$3,516.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Robert (Tim) Stamps at (703) 432-6774

Marine Corps Air Station New River, North Carolina - Natural Resource Project

In August 2006, Boy Scout Troop No. 597, under the supervision of future Eagle Scout, Mark Owens, converted a dilapidated physical training trail into an educational nature trail. The trail was improved with the addition of log benches and educational placards, showcasing the native flora and fauna of the area. National Public Lands Day 2007 provided an opportunity to celebrate the anniversary of the opening of this trail and to continue its restoration. As the only nature trail at MCAS New River, it is imperative to keep it clear, safe, and available for the Air Station community to use for years to come.

Over 20 Marines as well as Girl Scouts from Troop No. 975 came out to the Marine Corps Base on September 29, 2007 to volunteer for trail improvements and other projects. Marines set to work during the morning hours cleaning the campground facilities of trash, and reducing the overgrown campsites to more aesthetically pleasing areas suitable for families to camp and enjoy the vast natural resources the installation has to offer. Some Marines picked up trash hidden in the woods, while others used string trimmers, brush cutters, and pole cutters to trim back the overgrown vegetation. Marines hauled over 100 pounds of trash and debris to a staging area to later be properly disposed of by marina personnel.

A few Marines armed with heavy equipment, and the Girl Scouts with clippers, loppers, and shears, attacked the New River Nature Trail with hopes of clearing the trail and returning it to its former glory. The Girl Scouts were delighted to help clear the trail, and took joy in running into several frogs and turtles along the

way. Following the maintenance hike along the trail, the Girl Scouts took to the marina grounds and meticulously picked up litter over the entire recreational facility.

In all, volunteers worked for 3.5 hours to collect 120 pounds of trash and maintained ½ a mile of existing trail.

In-house education materials and demonstration products geared toward the flora and fauna of the New River were used during the event. A bobcat mount was used to educate the teens about the many species of animals that call the trail and campgrounds at the Air Station home.

Marine Corps Air Station New River was awarded \$2,285.00 of Legacy funding for this project.

Contact: Bianca Klein at (910) 449-4293