

# Natural Selections

Department of Defense Natural Resources Program



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## COMING SOON — LEGACY RFP

The Legacy Fiscal Year 2016 (FY16) Request for Proposals (RFP) will be released in early 2015. Look for the email or visit <https://www.dodlegacy.org/Legacy/intro/guidelines.aspx>, [www.denix.osd.mil/nr/Legacy/news.cfm](http://www.denix.osd.mil/nr/Legacy/news.cfm), or [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) for more information.

The anticipated FY16 Areas of Emphasis that will receive funding priority are:

- Readiness and Range Sustainment;
- Planning to Address and Adapt to New and Emerging Threats;
- Asset Resiliency through Historic Preservation;
- Training and Communications; and
- Streamlining the Management of DoD Cultural Resources

Check out the article on [Learn How to Prepare a Successful Legacy Program Pre-Proposal!](#) for tips on successfully preparing your Pre-Proposal.

## SPOTLIGHT — SUPPORTING OUR PEOPLE

By Don Schregardus, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Environment)

I believe the strength of an organization is dependent on the strength of the people who support that organization. Over the years I have had the good fortune to observe the professionalism, knowledge, and passion of individuals supporting environmental programs of the Department of the Navy and Department of Defense (DoD). My belief has been confirmed that our people are the backbone through our successful environmental programs.

To have great professionals requires hiring the right people and then providing them the support and tools to get the job done. In DoD, professional development is an essential part of ensuring that our environmental professionals are motivated and on the forefront of evolving science, technology, regulations and management practices. Supporting and investing in our civilian personnel enhances the individual and strengthens our environmental programs and overall organizational performance. Training, including workshops, special assignments, and specific subject matter training is key to professional development and allows of our natural resources and conservation managers to have knowledge superiority and support the DoD mission around the world.

Our environmental professionals, and specifically our natural resources managers, have unique resources to manage which require, in many cases, training specific to an ecosystem, species, or process. This type of training is not easily done remotely, over the telephone, or through the internet – it is best done in person, with experts, and amongst peers. There is great value in exchanging ideas, methodologies, and lessons learned among the Military Services. Although the foundation of our natural resources management programs is similar to our federal resource agency partners, our support of the military mission while ensuring environmental compliance and stewardship makes what our natural resources professionals do on a daily basis unique and critical to DoD. As such, we must strive to support our people by providing exciting and challenging professional development opportunities whenever possible.

*The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual.*

–Vince Lombardi

# NATURALLY SPEAKING

## SKILLED PROFESSIONALS – THE HEART OF DOD’S NATURAL RESOURCES PROGRAM

From the Desk of L. Peter Boice, Deputy Director, DoD Natural Resources Program, Director, Legacy Program



The Sikes Act (16 USC) 670e-2 explicitly recognizes the vital importance of having trained professionals providing for the conservation and rehabilitation of natural resources on military installations. These professionals support the military’s combat readiness mission by ensuring continued access to realistic habitat conditions for testing, training, and operational activities, while simultaneously working to ensure the long-term sustainability of our nation’s priceless natural heritage.

A key to our long-term success in maintaining a highly-trained workforce has been their attendance at the [National Military Fish and Wildlife Association’s](#) annual training workshop, held in conjunction with the [North American Natural Resources and Wildlife Conference](#). For those who can get travel orders approved, this venue remains the single best opportunity to promote DoD’s program goals (e.g., listed and at-risk species management; on-site and off-base partnerships; enhanced cost efficiencies) with natural resources stakeholders from across the country. In addition to military natural resource managers, attendees include representatives from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, state fish and wildlife agencies, and other organizations who work on Sikes Act issues and many technical areas of common concern. [Todd Wills](#) presents additional details about this year’s training workshop.

The recent reductions in travel and concurrent Office of Management and Budget travel restrictions funds have made it increasingly difficult for many to attend workshops and other training events. Although not always as effective, we have turned to web-based training wherever possible to meet ongoing needs for both new and experienced natural resources managers. DoD Bird Conservation (Partners in Flight (PIF)) and DoD Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (PARC) have provided a series of regular technical webinars on a wide range of topics. We plan to continue these presentations, and begin to intersperse them with other natural resources topics, including periodic

policy updates. Previous webinars are available on the [DoD Bird Conservation \(PIF\)](#) and [DoD PARC](#) websites.

As described in [Complete DoD’s ESA Implementation Training From Your Desk](#), we are in the process of finalizing an interactive training course on implementing the Endangered Species Act (ESA) on DoD lands. This advanced training is specifically designed for those with some existing knowledge of, and experience with, the ESA. We will send a special announcement once the training is available. If this interactive short course proves successful, we may consider additional offerings (e.g., Sikes Act Implementation).

Existing training materials also are available on the [DoD Natural Resources Program](#) website which provides links to slides and other materials from in-person training the Program previously offered on the ESA and Sikes Act– click the “[Training and Education](#)” link – as well as to materials developed for workshops on Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan/State Wildlife Action Plan integration; Threatened and Endangered Species; Climate Change Tools; and Pollinators. You should also check your Military Service for focused training materials. For example, the Marine Corps recently completed reference guides on the Marine Mammal Protection Act and Sikes Act.

What’s on the horizon? Key will be responding to the adaptation goals of the DoD’s [2014 Climate Change Adaptation Roadmap](#), including integrating climate change considerations across the Department. In response, we are starting to look at ways to provide information on how to effectively address the impacts of climate change in your Installation Natural Resources Management Plans. We also are evaluating how to respond to the Council on Environmental Quality’s [Enhancing the Climate Resilience of America’s Natural Resources Priority Agenda](#), in particular how to identify and provide best practices for sustaining long-term ecosystem functions and resilience.

The bottom line is we are trying to provide training and tools within the parameters set for us. How can you help? Let us know what other training is needed, and how it would help you do your job. Forward your ideas through the proper channels, and we’ll try to focus on one or two of your highest priorities this year and next.



Students participate in Natural Resources Course Field Trip at Kahanahaika Management Unit, U.S. Army Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. Source: Douglas Ripley

## NMFWA ANNUAL TRAINING WORKSHOP

By Todd Wills, President, National Military Fish and Wildlife Association



The National Military Fish and Wildlife Association (NMFWA) will hold its annual training workshop March 9-13, 2015 in Omaha, Nebraska, in conjunction with the 100th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference. This event provides a unique and valuable training opportunity for DoD natural resources professionals. The workshop allows attendees to maintain their professional certification, facilitate compliance with Sikes Act requirements, discuss program accomplishments and challenges, and meet and share information related to DoD conservation programs on military installations with other DoD natural resources professionals. The current workshop allows military natural resource professionals the opportunity to interact face-to-face with federal and state fish and wildlife agencies and non-governmental organization stakeholders and partners.

The annual training workshop will include Military Service breakout sessions. During breakout sessions, leadership from each Service will focus on program updates, priorities, and issues of interest while engaging participants. There will be workshops and technical sessions related to the management of endangered species, invasive species, climate change, bats, and migratory birds on DoD lands, conservation law enforcement, recreational hunting and fishing, and bird/animal aircraft strike hazards. Also planned are a day long forestry meeting, meetings of the DoD Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation, and DoD Bird Conservation. Technical sessions for 2015 include *Planning for Species Sustainability –Avoiding the Need to List under the Endangered Species Act* and *The Evolution of Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research*. The workshop agenda and registration information are available at [www.nmfwa.net](http://www.nmfwa.net). The North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference is held concurrently with the NMFWA annual training workshop.

## NAVY AND USFWS COLLABORATE TO OFFER DOD FOCUSED WORKSHOPS ON MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION, COMPLIANCE, AND MANAGEMENT

By Tammy Conkle, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Headquarters

The U.S. Navy (Navy), in cooperation with the DoD Bird Conservation Program (Partners In Flight) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Headquarters Division of Migratory Bird Management is working to customize workshops based on the USFWS National Conservation Training Center's *Migratory Bird Conservation for Federal Partners* course curriculum. These Navy-sponsored courses will be modified to focus on DoD and Navy issues related to compliance with migratory bird related laws and regulations, impacts assessments for National Environmental Policy Act, and management programs in support of Integrated Natural Resources Management Plans. Each course will be modified to focus on regional issues and species that occur or are of interest to DoD and the Navy to better manage migratory birds while supporting the military mission.

The Navy and USFWS will be offering five courses over the next two years with the first scheduled for April 2015 at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Florida. Follow up workshops are planned for late summer 2015 in San Diego, California, spring 2016 at

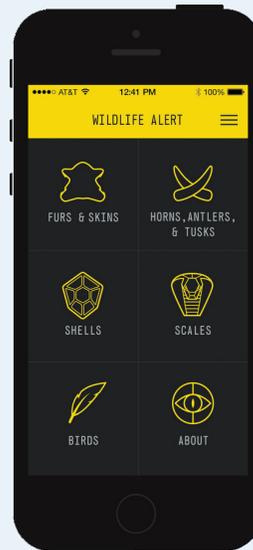


Interagency bird watching at DoD Partners in Flight Conference in Tucson, AZ, 2014. Photo by Tammy Conkle, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Headquarters

Naval Base Kitsap, Washington, and late summer 2016 in the Norfolk, Virginia area. Depending on availability of funds, one additional offering might be held in Hawaii for installations in the Pacific. For more information, please contact [Dr. Richard Fischer](#), U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Environmental Lab, or [Ms. Tammy Conkle](#), Naval Facilities Engineering Command Headquarters.

## NOW AVAILABLE ON THE APP STORE<sup>SM</sup> ONLINE STORE AND GOOGLE PLAY<sup>TM</sup>! WILDLIFE TRADE AND THE U.S. MILITARY ABROAD: MOBILE DEVICE APP – WILDLIFE ALERT

By Heidi Krester, PhD, Wildlife Conservation Society



The Wildlife Conservation Society and DoD are pleased to announce the release of *Wildlife Alert*, an app that can help military personnel identify products made from animal fur, skin, horns, or ivory, and provides guidance on what items can or cannot be traded. The app is currently designed for military personnel travelling in or near Afghanistan and features 75 species traded in that region. The app is now available on the App Store online store and the Google Play store.

*Google Play is a trademark of Google Inc.*

## UNDERSTANDING CLIMATE CHANGE VULNERABILITY TO INFORM CLIMATE ADAPTATION

By Bruce Stein, PhD, Director, Climate Change Adaptation and Naomi Edelson, Director, State and Federal Wildlife Partnerships, National Wildlife Federation

Climate change poses significant challenges for managers charged with sustaining ecological resources on military lands and waters. Given the important role of natural ecosystems for realistic military training and testing, ensuring the continued functioning of these ecosystems in the face of a rapidly changing climate is critical for maintaining military readiness. National Wildlife Federation (NWF) and a number of federal agencies developed two training courses to help resource managers understand the principles of climate change adaptation and translate these concepts into on-the-ground practice.

Understanding the vulnerability of natural and cultural resources to climate change impacts is essential for designing effective adaptation strategies and actions. [Scanning the Conservation Horizon: A Guide to Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment](#) (Glick et al. 2011), developed with assistance from DoD, offers a practical approach for designing and carrying out vulnerability assessments, and is the basis for a 3-day training course offered through the US Fish and Wildlife Service's National Conservation Training Center (NCTC). This course explores the three major components of vulnerability – sensitivity, exposure, and adaptive capacity – and enables participants to apply various approaches for assessing the vulnerability of species, habitats, and ecosystems. The course has been held more than 16 times at locations around the nation, and is open to federal, state, and non-governmental participants.

Assessing vulnerability is only one step in an overall adaptation process, however, and [Climate-Smart Conservation: Putting Adaptation Principles into Practice](#) (Stein et al. 2014), offers guidance on using information from such assessments to incorporating climate considerations into resource management and planning. Also developed collaboratively by NWF and a number of federal agencies, the guidance is designed to help resource managers understand general principles of climate adaptation and offers a generalized framework for adaptation planning and implementation. A three-day companion training course is offered by NCTC that provides trainees with the opportunity to explore key characteristics of climate-smart conservation, as well as each of the seven steps in the climate-smart conservation cycle. By using case studies, participants develop practical experience in linking climate impacts and vulnerabilities with potential adaptation strategies and actions. The *Climate-Smart Conservation* course has been held six times to date, with several more offerings scheduled for 2015.

The *Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment* and *Climate-Smart Conservation* training courses are designed to help conservation and resource practitioners gain a realistic sense of the challenges that climate change poses to their work, and understand what they can begin doing to address these challenges in the context of their particular institutional policies, practices, and values. To date, nearly 500 federal, state, and non-governmental organization participants have had the opportunity to take one or both of these courses, contributing to the goal of creating a more climate-informed cadres of resource managers and planners. View the NCTC [catalog](#) for details on these training courses.

## DOD NATURAL RESOURCES COMPLIANCE COURSE

By Douglas Ripley, PhD, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Natural and Cultural Resources Program Manager, Retired

The DoD Natural Resources Compliance Course is the only DoD-sponsored residence course available to military natural resources managers and staff. Conducted by the U.S. Navy's Civil Engineer Corps Officer School (CECOS), the course curriculum is approved by the Inter-Service Environmental Education Review Board and is taught by representatives from each of the Military Services and the Office of the Secretary of Defense.



Natural Resources Course Field Trip at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia. Source: Douglas Ripley

The course offers an overview and update of the major environmental and natural resources laws, regulations, policies, Executive Orders, DoD Instructions, and other guidance, noting Service-specific requirements. It provides an excellent opportunity for both new and experienced military natural resources managers to learn about the many specific environmental requirements of military natural resources management.

Offered at military installations throughout the country, the curriculum also includes a half-day field trip on the host installation which provides an opportunity to observe and discuss the management of many of the issues presented in the course. The course concludes with an exercise in which students are challenged to use the course information to address a hypothetical military operational proposal with a multitude of potential environmental impacts.



Students participate in Natural Resources Course Class Exercise at Naval Air Station Key West, Florida. Source: Douglas Ripley

Eligible attendees include: primary duty natural and cultural resources managers and personnel, environmental lawyers, civil and public works natural resource managers (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers), natural resources law enforcement personnel, National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 planners, collateral duty personnel (non-natural resources specialists responsible for natural resources management and compliance with Federal laws and DoD policy), and personnel having a direct or indirect impact on natural resources during the performance of their duties.

This course is specifically required for Navy personnel positions listed under Chapter 12 of OPNAVINST 5090.1 (series). It is also required for Air Force natural resources personnel as specified in Air Force Instruction 32-7064, Chapter 18. The course offering dates and registration information may be obtained at the [CECOS website](#).



*Natural Resources Course Field Trip at New Boston Air Force Station, New Hampshire.  
Source: Douglas Ripley*

## TRAINING FOR MILITARY SERVICE NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGERS

By [Derrick Golla, Booz Allen Hamilton](#)

The DoD Legacy Resource Management Program (Legacy Program) awarded Booz Allen Hamilton funding via Legacy Projects 09-417, 10-417, and 11-417 to develop the following training courses: *Introductory Sikes Act 101*, *Advanced Sikes Act Implementation*, and *Endangered Species Act Implementation*. These courses targeted Military Service natural resources managers and those who work with natural resources managers on military installations. The training supported cooperation between DoD, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies; facilitated regulatory and stakeholder cooperation; highlighted positive military activities and efforts; and supported DoD's ongoing efforts to protect its mission-critical resources. The courses also helped ensure that natural resources compliance and conservation were efficiently and properly implemented and in-line with the Office of the Secretary of Defense's priorities.

The training provided personnel with usable tools and knowledge to develop Integrated Natural Resources Management Plans, Biological Opinions, and Environmental Assessments that complied with natural resources rules and regulations. From 2009 to 2011, the courses successfully trained more than 320 people at conferences or military installations. Course materials are available on the [DoD Natural Resources Program Training Courses website](#).

A working group of Military Service personnel and DoD counsel developed a one-half day training workshop on climate change tools for adapting management strategies ([Legacy Project 10-466](#)). This training workshop, held during the 2010 National Military Fish and Wildlife Association annual workshop, informed DoD natural resources personnel and those who work on natural resources issues, about tools they can use to help guide management strategies in light of climate change impacts. Although this workshop took place nearly five years ago, the tools featured in the training are still relevant and referenced by prominent individuals in the scientific community today. For more information or to view presentations from the climate change tools workshop, visit the [Climate Change Tools for Adapting Management Strategies website](#).

## ACCESSIBLE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES WORKSHOP

By [Sherril York, Ph.D., Executive Director, National Center on Accessibility](#)

Accessibility has become an important issue for natural resources managers on military installations because of an increasing population of injured Service members returning from the conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq. A growing population of aging veterans and retirees also require assistance to continue to participate in outdoor recreational activities. The inability to access programs and facilities on military installations has a substantial negative impact on veterans, families, dependents of military personnel, and active duty personnel.

The Fort Drum Fish & Wildlife Program (F&WP) identified the need for a training course geared toward staff on military installations responsible for outdoor recreation including trails, fishing, hunting, camping and picnic areas, and beaches. As a result, the Fort Drum F&WP and the National Center on Accessibility partnered to conduct an Accessible Recreational Opportunities Workshop in July 2014. The course provided a background and working knowledge of issues to address to increase accessibility to all people.



*Rich Fabend, in wheelchair, shows the modified gun mount he uses for turkey hunting to Ray Bloomer, who is blind. Source: Sherril York, Ph.D.*

This three-day training, held at Fort Drum, NY, hosted natural resources managers from military installations, state accessibility specialists, and university recreation therapy personnel. The course provided instruction on how design and construction affects people with disabilities; how people with disabilities function in these facilities; legislation related to accessibility and program access; and the updated Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards related to boating and fishing facilities,

picnic areas and campgrounds, trails, beaches, and hunting facilities. The course emphasized a universal design approach for new construction and alterations to existing facilities.

The attendees participated in field exercises outdoors. During these exercises, participants had the benefit of evaluating outdoor recreation facilities for accessibility. Additionally, participants interacted with presenters who have a variety of disabilities, helping them learn about and see first-hand the adaptive technologies that can be used for outdoor recreation.

## WHAT'S HOPPIN' IN DOD PARC: TRAINING AND EDUCATION

By Rob Lovich, PhD, DoD PARC Technical Representative and Chris Petersen, DoD PARC National Representative



As we all know, it is a challenge keeping up with the newest scientific publications, news, and techniques in the field of conservation and wildlife management. It seems like a mountain of new scientific literature is published each year, and trying to read it all can seem like a full time job. DoD Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (PARC) group understands this challenge and has made training and education one of our core strategies to help group members stay informed. Through meeting sponsorship, teleconferences, web-based training, and outreach materials, DoD PARC helps natural resource managers throughout DoD increase their knowledge-base and networking capabilities. Our close partnership with the national PARC organization also enables us to bring training and educational opportunities to group members and military personnel.

Throughout the last two years, DoD PARC has hosted nearly 20 webinars led by researchers conducting scientific studies and investigations (on mostly DoD lands) in the field of herpetology. Additionally, DoD PARC makes group members aware of webinars and training events hosted by the national PARC organization. These events keep natural resources managers informed of the newest research and practices and promote the use of the best available science, content, and technologies to protect, conserve, and manage amphibians and reptiles on DoD lands.



Rob Lovich shows a flat-tailed horned lizard to a group of Navy volunteers prior to a survey at Naval Air Facility El Centro, CA. Photo by Robert Powell, NAF El Centro Installation Natural Resource Specialist.

DoD PARC also develops and distributes current educational and training materials. In partnership with the national PARC organization, we distributed over 100 regional PARC *Habitat Management Guidelines and Inventory and Monitoring Handbook* documents to DoD installation biologists. This year, we developed and distributed two educational posters that educated military personnel on species identification to minimize hazards during mission-relevant training exercises. Additionally, the posters provide information to overcome negative misconceptions and perceptions of snakes, and help educate military personnel about the ecological importance of these species on DoD lands.

Over the last three years, DoD PARC has conducted training at the National Military Fish and Wildlife Association (NMFWA) workshops. In fact, a portion of the 2013 NMFWA workshop in Atlanta, Georgia, was designed to instruct attendees on how to swab amphibians to detect pathogens. An additional training workshop was held at the Sustaining Military Readiness conference in Nashville, Tennessee, in 2011.

DoD PARC representatives also give lectures as outreach to elementary schools and other programs. For instance, one commander asked us to give a lecture on desert reptiles to a neighborhood elementary school this past summer. Our lectures to the community are part of giving back and we encourage our peers to do the same when the opportunity presents itself. As you know, kids dig amphibians and reptiles.



Chris Petersen, DoD PARC, conducting snake training. Source: Chris Martin, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Atlantic

At DoD PARC's inception in 2010, two workshops were held to develop the outline for the first draft of the Strategic Plan for DoD PARC. These workshops were attended by members of all Military Services. While not training per se, the workshops involved information sharing regarding the status of amphibians and reptiles and their relevance to sustaining the military mission.

In 2014, group members helped organize a training workshop conducted by FrogWatch, a national organization that monitors the population trends of frogs and toads. These training events help group members remain informed on emerging techniques and develop new skills to manage herpetofauna on military lands.

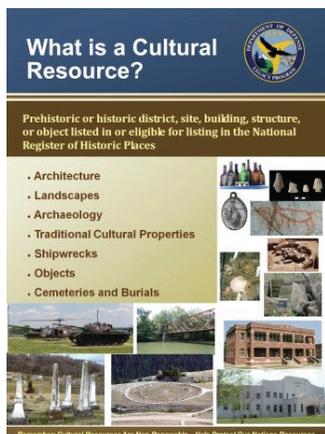
As you can see by the many examples above, training and education is at the heart of the DoD PARC group. By creating opportunities for individuals to learn about the identification, behavior, habitat use, and ecological significance of amphibians and reptiles, installation biologists and military personnel can better support both environmental sustainability and the military mission. For more information on the training opportunities provided by DoD PARC, please contact [Chris Petersen](#) or [Rob Lovich](#) or visit the [DoD PARC website](#).

## TRAINING FOR THE “BOOTS-ON-THE-GROUND” NON-CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGER PROFESSIONAL

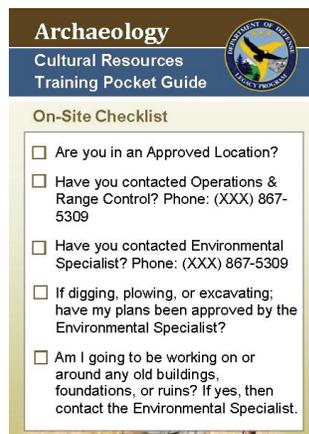
By [Jeremy Bolyard](#), Environmental Management Branch, Oklahoma Military Department

DoD Legacy Project 12-504 was designed to appeal to professionals possessing different amounts of cultural resources experience, education, and training. The project team developed two training modules –one for individuals who are currently serving as Cultural Resource Managers (CRMs) at DoD installations, but have not been formally trained or fully informed of the legislative foundation for cultural resource management; and the other for contractors, civilian employees, and military personnel, or the “boots-on-the-ground” non-CRM professional. These non-CRM professionals are usually in a field position and may inadvertently encounter cultural resources during field training exercises, construction and maintenance activities, or land clearing activities.

The training modules provided awareness and education in the identification and treatment of cultural resources, as well as the protocols that need to be followed to protect cultural resources (e.g., *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plans* and *Standard Operating Procedures for Inadvertent Discoveries*). For newer CRMs, the modules can be easily modified and tailored to meet the specific needs of an installation’s cultural resources outreach program. To increase overall cultural resources awareness and to assist in training, the project team developed templates for a 24-inch by 36-inch awareness poster and a 3-inch by 5-inch cultural resources pocket guide to “put some additional tools in the CRM program outreach toolkit.”



*Cultural Resources Awareness Pocket Guide.* Source: [Jeremy Bolyard](#)



*Archaeology Pocket Guide.* Source: [Jeremy Bolyard](#)

This project would not have been possible without the collaborative efforts and input from the DoD cultural resources community, participating Native American Tribes and State Historic Preservation Officers, National Guard Bureau, and the support of the DoD Legacy Program.

## LEARN HOW TO PREPARE A SUCCESSFUL LEGACY PROGRAM PRE-PROPOSAL!

By [Valerie Leone](#), DoD Legacy Resource Management Program Support Team

The DoD Legacy Resource Management Program Support Team assembled these frequently asked questions to help you prepare a successful pre-proposal. Don’t forget to review the [guidelines](#) too. If you still have questions, contact the [Legacy Program Support Team](#).

*Tip: As you’re working on your pre-proposal, please ensure text contains no formatting. If copying and pasting text into the Tracker on [DoD Legacy tracker home page](#), please first copy the text into Notepad then into the Tracker; choose “Don’t allow” when your browser displays a pop-up window asking if you want to allow this page to access your Clipboard.*

### Where can I find guidelines that explain the Legacy Program funding process?

Visit <https://www.dodlegacy.org/Legacy/intro/guidelines.aspx> for the Legacy Program funding process from the application stage through successful project completion.

### How do I select a sponsor?

A sponsor can be one of the Military Services or DoD. For pre-proposals that will implement work on one or more installations, you should select a specific Military Service. Pre-proposals that will provide overarching methodologies or processes may be better suited for DoD sponsorship. If you have questions about appropriate sponsorship, please contact [Legacy Program support staff](#).

### What information should the Project Synopsis section include?

Include a succinct description of what the proposed project will do, what the anticipated results will be, and how those results will benefit DoD or the Military Services. This section should not exceed one paragraph.

### How long should my pre-proposal be?

The average printed pre-proposal is about 3.5 to 4 pages. The majority of the text is in the Project Details section, and that accounts for 1 to 2 pages.

### What details should the budget include?

Budgets must provide enough detail to allow the pre-proposal reviewers to understand exactly how you derived the total for each budget line item. This includes rates, hours, and benefits for salaries.

### Does the Legacy Program support travel to conferences?

DoD is no longer able to fund travel associated with conferences, seminars, or symposiums. Applicants must include a strong justification for any travel related to the proposal.

### Is there a limit to the funds an author can request?

There is no official cap on the maximum amount of Legacy Program funding that applicants can request in a given year. However, please keep in mind that the overall budget available for Legacy projects is approximately \$4.5 million, which it uses to fund multiple efforts.

### What expected products are required?

The Legacy Program requires a project fact sheet, an interim progress report at six-month intervals, technology transfer to distribute project results to relevant groups, and any other deliverable associated with the completion and implementation of the proposed work.

### Are Letters of Support and Permission Forms for Installation Access required for pre-proposals?

No; *Letters of Support* and *Permission Forms for Installation Access* are required at the full proposal stage.

### What should I include in the Comments field of the Action & Review tab?

Please indicate the type of award you hope to receive (e.g., Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request, Project Order, Cooperative Agreement). See the [guidelines](#) for a description of each type of award.

### How do I print my pre-proposal?

Click on the Print icon in the upper right corner of your pre-proposal. A new window will open that asks you to select options for the Report Selection. Click "Print" and then click "Download Reports" after the page loads. An automatically generated a PDF of your pre-proposal will appear on your screen. If this doesn't work, try holding down the Ctrl key while you click the Print Icon, or email [DoDLegacy@bah.com](mailto:DoDLegacy@bah.com).

### If I already have a project, can I apply for continuation funding?

Yes, provided they respond to one of the Areas of Emphasis listed in the RFP. As with new work, to receive funding for follow-on work for an existing project, you must clearly articulate the specific ways in which the proposed work will provide mission-relevant benefits to DoD and/or installations regionally or nationally.

All Legacy pre-proposals are treated as independent, stand-alone efforts with agreed upon periods of performance, scopes of work, and set of expected products.

### How are pre-proposals reviewed?

A committee of representatives from the DoD, Military Service chains of command and, when needed, subject matter experts, review and rank all submitted pre-proposals. Legacy Program support staff coordinate reviews and notify applicants whether their pre-proposals are turned down or advanced to the full proposal stage.



Students participate in Natural Resources Course Field Trip at Naval Base Coronado, San Diego, California. Source: Douglas Ripley

## NATURAL RESOURCES DOCUMENTS

Highlighted here are reports, fact sheets, spreadsheets, and presentations on the Natural Resources page of the [DENIX site](#). These documents are designed to provide direct benefit to the mission and installation Natural Resource Managers by transferring knowledge and results of high priority natural resources efforts.

### Part IV: Wildlife Trade and the US Military Abroad: Raising awareness and reducing demand (Project 12-444) – Fact Sheet, & Presentation

The fact sheet and presentation explain the process to design an interactive web-based training module to identify and stop the inadvertent trafficking of illegal wildlife trade products by military personnel. The mobile app, [Wildlife Alert](#), provides information on 75 species typically traded in Afghanistan as well as some high profile species under threat of extinction due to illegal trade such as elephants, tigers, and rhinoceros.

### Monitoring Species of Concern Using Noninvasive Genetic Sampling and Capture-Recapture Methods: Pilot Demonstration With Coyote, a Predator to Species at Risk and Game Species on DoD Lands (Project 12-612) – Technical Report, Fact Sheet, & Presentations

This project evaluates the efficacy of noninvasive genetic sampling and capture-recapture as a viable, long-term inventory and monitoring approach for species of concern on DoD installations by comparing the cost-benefit with alternative approaches. The presentations highlight monitoring species of concern using noninvasive genetic sampling and balancing scat deposition rates and fecal DNA degradation rates to optimize noninvasive genetic sampling of carnivores.

### DoD Amphibian Disease Survey: Natural Resource Manager Training and Data Collection (Project 12-426) – Final Report & Fact Sheet

The project team conducted amphibian disease sampling at military installations throughout the DoD landscape. They provided natural resources managers with techniques, training, and supplies needed to conduct sampling on their installations. In addition, the team analyzed the field-collected data and summarized the results. The outcome of this investigation offered critical scientific information on amphibian pathogens and populations and helped to sustain military readiness.

## Bat Roost Habitat Assessment and Conservation Planning (Project 10-142, 11-142, & 12-142) – Final Reports & Fact Sheets

Bat Conservation International surveyed potential bat roost habitat at 10 DoD installations in New Mexico (White Sands Missile Range, Fort Bliss, Kirtland Air Force Base, Holloman Air Force Base, Cannon Air Force Base, and five Army National Guard training sites) for three years. The report and fact sheet include a summary of results, a data analysis, management and conservation priorities, and recommendations to installations for their integrated natural resource management plans.

## COMING THIS YEAR! COMPLETE DOD'S ESA IMPLEMENTATION TRAINING FROM YOUR DESK

By [Stephanie Rice and Angie Degory \(Concurrent Technologies Corporation\)](#), [Alicia Shepard, Jeff Fairbanks, and Tom Braswell \(HydroGeoLogic, Inc.\)](#)

DoD's Endangered Species Act (ESA) Implementation Training Course will soon be available on the U.S. Department of Defense Environment, Safety, and Occupational Health Network and Information Exchange (DENIX) site and improve natural resource manager access to the material. The online course is anticipated to include audio and visual content organized by chapters, as well as navigation, resources, knowledge checks, and a final quiz.



The ESA Implementation Training Course chapters will focus on specific sections of the ESA, and provide three unique case studies from the Army, Marine Corps, and Air Force. The plan for the course is to advance through the course, participants must answer a series of chapter-based "Knowledge Checks" presented as multiple choice questions. When each chapter has been successfully completed, participants are able to take the final quiz. Participants must score 70% on the final quiz and submit a Course Evaluation Form before they can print the "Certificate of Completion." The certificate recognizes their participation and qualifies them for 2 hours of Professional Development Hours. DoD is working to finalize course content and format. We hope to have it available in the next few months!

Here is a snapshot of the course's ten chapters and key objectives.

**Chapter 1: Background** – Understand ESA's origin and history, define critical terms, and identify information in specific sections.

**Chapter 2: Section 4** – Learn how species are added or removed from the Threatened or Endangered Species List.

**Chapter 3: Section 7** – Explore how a biological assessment or evaluation is used to determine if a formal consultation is required. Learn what to do if a consultation occurs.

**Chapter 4: Section 10** – Identify types of species survival permits and the various exceptions for species and critical habitat. Explore how installations can integrate their activities with external partners.

**Chapter 5: Relationship to Other Laws** – Understand the relationship between the ESA and other laws.

**Chapter 6: Administrative Record** – Learn how to create and maintain a thorough Administrative Record.

**Chapter 7: Case Study** – Red cockaded woodpecker (RCW) Management on Army Lands: Illustrates how proactive conservation programs implemented through the Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan can assist with consultation.

**Chapter 8: Case Study** – Consultation for the Marine Corps Build-Up on Guam: Illustrates the complexities of including interrelated and interdependent actions to define the action area and how effects determinations are made, and how in exceptional circumstances the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's jeopardy analysis can be based on impacts to recovery alone.

**Chapter 9: Case Study** – RCW Management on Air Force Lands: Illustrates approaches to streamline Section 7 consultation, and how a liaison can be instrumental.

**Chapter 10: Course Wrap-Up** – Recap key objectives of the course, and provides links to additional resources.

Chapters	Chapter Titles	Chapters Completed
1	Background	●
2	Section 4	●
3	Section 7	●
4	Section 10	●
5	Relationships to Other Laws	●
6	Administrative Record	●
7	Case Study - (RCW) Management on Army Lands	●
8	Case Study - Consultation for the Marine Corps Build-Up on Guam	●
9	Case Study - (RCW) Management on Army Lands	●
10	Course Wrap-Up	●

## UPCOMING EVENTS CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND TRAINING

### **GreenBiz Forum**

*February 17-19, Phoenix, AZ*

The seventh annual GreenBiz Forum defines the current trends, challenges, and opportunities in sustainable business. Workshops and discussions include topics such as the business value of sustainability, growing recycling programs, global partnerships, employee engagement, social media, and corporate responsibility.

### **Great Basin Consortium Conference**

*February 17-19, Boise, ID*

The Great Basin Consortium Conference, with informative presentations on research projects and emerging natural resource issues, will focus on climate programs, water limitations, and geospaces in the Great Basin.

### **Climate Leadership Conference**

*February 23-25, Washington, DC*

The Climate Leadership Conference works to address global climate change through policy, innovation, and business solutions. The agenda includes sessions on renewables and energy efficiency, economic implications of climate change, and water solutions.

### **National Invasive Species Awareness Week**

*February 22-28, Washington, DC*

Each year during National Invasive Species Awareness Week state, federal, local, and tribal officials meet with NGOs, industry, and stakeholder groups to address invasive species to examine laws, policies, and creative approaches to prevent and reduce invasive species threats to our health, economy, environment, and natural resources including special places. Attend events in the U.S. Capitol and in Washington, DC, or host your own event that explores local problems and solutions to invasive species.

### **100th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference**

*March 8-13, Omaha, NE*

Join the Wildlife Management Institute as they celebrate a century of conservation with other industry leaders dedicated to conservation, enhancement, and management of North America's wildlife and other natural resources. Special sessions include planning for species sustainability and the evolution of cooperative fish and wildlife research.

### **National Military Fish & Wildlife Association (NMFWA) Annual Training Workshop**

*March 9-13, Omaha, NE*

NMFWA and the Wildlife Management Institute are hosting a training session for natural resource professionals. Special sessions include Bird Conservation & Mission Support and Using Genetic Tools to Enhance Natural Resources Management on DoD Lands.

### **Environmental Film Festival in the Nation's Capital**

*March 17-29, Washington, DC*

The film festival includes showings and discussions of diverse environmental documentaries, narratives, animations, and short films throughout DC.

### **2015 National Outdoor Recreation Conference**

*April 12-16, Annapolis, MD*

The Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals and the Northeast Recreation Research Symposium join forces and present the 2015 National Outdoor Recreation Conference: Land, Water, and Conservation: Celebrating the Past and Crafting the Future of Outdoor Recreation. Topics include research projects, creative approaches to current and future challenges, modern vision for outdoor recreation, innovative partnerships, new and exciting collaborations, use of technology, entrepreneurial solutions, cultivating political and community support, and other case studies that present new ideas and tools that contribute and create a lasting and sustainable future for outdoor recreation.

### **Earth Day**

*April 22, Global*

Earth Day, celebrated since 1970, promotes environmental conservation across our planet. Look for activities near you!

### **Biodiversity Without Boundaries 2015: The NatureServe Conservation & Natural Heritage Conference**

*April 26-30, Traverse City, MI*

*Biodiversity Without Boundaries* is where the NatureServe network, their partners, and their friends gather to celebrate successes, collaborate on new initiatives, share innovations, and design the future. The 2015 conference will emphasize education, working sessions, and networking. Join industry leaders in discussing how to provide, and how to continue to provide, the scientific basis for effective conservation.

### **International Migratory Bird Day**

*May 10, Global*

Celebrate the many ways in which birds matter to the earth, to ecosystems, and to us. Some bird species provide practical solutions to problems, such as the need for insect and rodent control. Others disperse seeds, helping to re-vegetate disturbed areas. Others are pollinators, ensuring that we have flowering plants, trees, and shrubs. Look for a National Wildlife Refuge [International Migratory Bird Day event](#) near you.

### **Endangered Species Day**

*May 15, Nationwide*

Recognize the national conservation effort to protect our nation's endangered species and their habitats. Zoos, aquariums, botanic gardens, wildlife refuges, conservation groups, national parks, museums, and schools throughout the country will hold tours, open houses, special presentations, exhibits, milkweed plantings/butterfly garden installations, habitat clean-ups/other restoration events, children's activities and more on May 15, that weekend and throughout May. [Find an event near you.](#)

## LINKS OF INTEREST

### AFPMB

The Armed Forces Pest Management Board (AFPMB) recommends policy, provides guidance, and coordinates the exchange of information on pest management throughout DoD. Their mission is to ensure that environmentally sound and effective programs are in place to prevent pests and disease vectors from adversely affecting DoD operations.

### CESU Network

The Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU) Network is a national consortium of federal agencies, tribes, academic institutions, state and local governments, and nongovernmental conservation organizations working together to support research, technical assistance, education, and capacity building. There are 17 CESUs which link DoD and other federal agencies, a host university, and partner institutions. One of the benefits of joining a CESU is a reduced, Network-wide Finance and Administration (i.e., overhead) rate of 17.5% for federal agencies.

### DENIX

The DENIX Natural Resources home page is an electronic environmental network and information exchange that provides access to natural resources information, such as Executive Orders, policies, guidance, INRMPS, fact sheets, and reports.

### DoD Biodiversity Handbook

On this website you will find a thorough introduction to biodiversity and how it applies to the military mission; the scientific, legal, policy, and natural resources management contexts for biodiversity conservation on DoD lands; and practical advice from DoD natural resources managers through 17 case studies.

### DoD Invasive Species Outreach Toolkit

This site provides education and outreach materials to help DoD land managers communicate about invasive species. It contains modifiable outreach materials such as posters, brochures, reference cards, and a PowerPoint presentation. A list of resources to help identify information and funding sources also is included.

### DoD Legacy Resource Management Program Tracker

The DoD Natural Resources (NR) Program funds high priority natural and cultural resources projects that have regional, national, and/or multi-Service benefits through the DoD Legacy Program. The Legacy Tracker lets users download fact sheets and reports for completed Legacy-funded projects.

### DoD Natural Resources Conservation Program

DoD's NR Program provides policy, guidance, and oversight for management of natural resources on all land, air, and water resources owned or operated by DoD. The website offers information on DoD's natural resources initiatives, programs, presentations, and links to other DoD conservation and natural resources sites.

### DoD PARC

DoD Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (PARC) is an inclusive partnership dedicated to the conservation and management of herpetofauna--reptiles and amphibians--and their habitats on military lands. DoD PARC membership includes natural resource specialists and wildlife biologists from the military Services and individuals from state and federal agencies, museums, universities, and environmental consultants.

### DoD PARC Group and Photo Site, DoD PIF Photo Library, DoD Natural Resource Photo Library

The three sites are designed to share pictures, news, information, and ideas with the DoD Natural Resources, DoD PARC, and DoD PIF communities. Members may use the websites to download photographs for reports, Power Point Presentations, and educational materials such as brochures and posters. There is also a forum for posting questions to group members, a calendar listing upcoming events, and a library where reports and documents are stored.

### DoD Partners in Flight

The DoD Partners in Flight Program supports and enhances the military mission while it works to develop cooperative relationships to ensure a focused and coordinated approach for the conservation of resident and migratory birds and their habitats.

### DoD Pollinator Initiatives

This website provides an overview of pollinators and the reasons they are important to DoD. It contains fact sheets and technical reports, how-to guides, resource lists, and more describing some of the simple ways that people can help pollinators and their habitats.

### REPI

Under Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI), DoD partners with conservation organizations and state and local governments to preserve buffer land and habitat around military installations and ranges as a key tool for combating encroachment. By promoting innovative land conservation solutions, REPI supports the military's ability to train and test at its lands now and into the future.

### SERDP and ESTCP

Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program (SERDP) and Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (ESTCP) harness the latest science and technology to improve environmental performance, reduce costs, and enhance and sustain mission capabilities. They are independent DoD programs managed from a joint office to coordinate the full spectrum of efforts, from basic and applied research to field demonstration. SERDP and ESTCP, in conjunction with the Legacy Program, support readiness, quality of life, adherence to legal mandates, and responsible environmental stewardship of natural and cultural resources.

### DoD Natural Resources Program Training Courses

The DoD Natural Resources Program sponsored courses to facilitate regulatory and stakeholder cooperation, highlight positive military activities and efforts, and educate personnel about the military's requirements and commitment to protecting natural resources to ensure no net loss in mission capability. Visit this site to view course materials.



# DOD NATURAL RESOURCES PROGRAM

Enabling the Mission, Defending the Resources

[www.dodnaturalresources.net](http://www.dodnaturalresources.net)

<http://twitter.com/#!/DoDNatRes>

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