



ACUB Fact Sheet

Fort Campbell



Background

Fort Campbell is located on the Kentucky-Tennessee border, approximately 50 miles north-east of Nashville, Tennessee. Fort Campbell's mission is to support training, mobilization, deployment and redeployment of mission-ready forces. While Fort Campbell primarily supports the 101st Airborne Division and other assigned active component combat units, over 50,000 military personnel train at Fort Campbell annually. Fort Campbell's units are among the first combat units to deploy to Theater and have an operational tempo that is among the highest in the Army. To maintain the required level of mission readiness, they require the ability to conduct realistic ground training and aviation operations on and around the installation—particularly at night.

Fort Campbell is concerned about the effects of increasing urbanization in the surrounding four-county metropolitan region; particularly adjacent privately-owned lands. These lands have historically served as over-flight areas and noise buffers. Fort Campbell mitigates noise, dust and smoke from weapons, vehicles and aircraft through workarounds. Light pollution, or photopollution, is excess or obtrusive light created by humans. Lights generated at night from nearby development can interfere with Fort Campbell's critical night operations training. Extensive photopollution eliminates the Army's critical training advantage. If left unchecked, changes in land use and increased photopollution associated with the region's growth will ultimately result in the degradation of Fort Campbell's military training and deployment capabilities.

Fort Campbell is home to two threatened and endangered species: the gray bat and the Indiana bat. Loss of habitat outside the fenceline can result in additional training restrictions on post. Fort Campbell's training areas contain approximately 4,000 acres of unique grassland called barrens that serve as transitional areas between forest and grasslands. Fort Campbell and the surrounding privately owned landscape has been identified as an area of exceptional ecological importance in the Interior Low Plateau Ecoregion. Through the ACUB program, Fort Campbell has

the opportunity to help preserve the ecological integrity of the surrounding landscape so that the habitat inside the fenceline is part of a much larger network of protected lands that provide critical habitat for threatened and endangered species in the region.

The ACUB at Fort Campbell will establish protective buffers around the installation training area perimeter, preventing incompatible land uses from occurring within designated high noise zones and aircraft over-flight areas. Approved in 2006, the Fort Campbell ACUB goal is to protect almost 80,000 acres over a 10-year period. The first buffer will be approximately 400 acres within the noise contour of the Sabre Army Heliport.

Objective

The Fort Campbell ACUB program will prevent light pollution from interfering with night operations, redirect incompatible land uses within designated high noise zones and aircraft over-flight areas and protect key natural habitats and their associated flora and fauna.

Partners

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Installation ACUB POC

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