

Fort Polk Environmental Management System (EMS)

What is the purpose of the Fort Polk EMS in two words?

Continuous Improvement

By integrating environmental considerations into our management processes, the EMS will help to sustain the installation's mission while cost effectively controlling the impacts of our operations on natural resources.

EMS Policy

- ◆ Ensuring that environmental factors and considerations are integrated into all decision-making processes.
- ◆ Complying with applicable Federal, State, Department of Defense, Army and Installation environmental regulations and policies.
- ◆ Protecting, preserving, conserving and, when required restoring and enhancing, natural and cultural resources.
- ◆ Preventing pollution and minimizing adverse environmental impacts.
- ◆ Training and educating members of the JRTC and Fort Polk community on their roles and responsibilities as environmental stewards and fostering individual accountability.
- ◆ Working cooperatively with communities and agencies outside Fort Polk to form partnerships to achieve common environmental goals and objectives.

How Does EMS Affect Me?

You should know:

- ◆ Our environmental policy
- ◆ How your work activities affect the environment and how negative impacts can be controlled
- ◆ Objectives and targets for improved environmental performance in your area
- ◆ Your responsibility for emergency procedures
- ◆ Consequences of non-conformance

Sustainability and EMS

The Fort Polk EMS supports the Department of the Army strategy for the environment: "Sustain the Mission – Secure the Future."

The Army's environmental strategy recognizes a "Triple Bottom Line" of sustainability: Mission, Environment and Community. Fort Polk's EMS serves as a framework for integrating sustainability into our activities to improve our environmental performance and compliance. By reducing our impacts on the environment, we reduce our true cost of doing business, improve the quality of life for soldiers, families and neighbors, and sustain our mission.

EMS Benefits to the Installation

- ◆ Improved understanding of key environmental issues and their impact on our mission and community
- ◆ Increased efficiency and use of energy and materials, thus reducing waste and associated costs
- ◆ Improved ability to meet legal compliance requirements
- ◆ Reduced number and scope of negative impacts to the environment from military operations
- ◆ Improved image and relationship with the local community

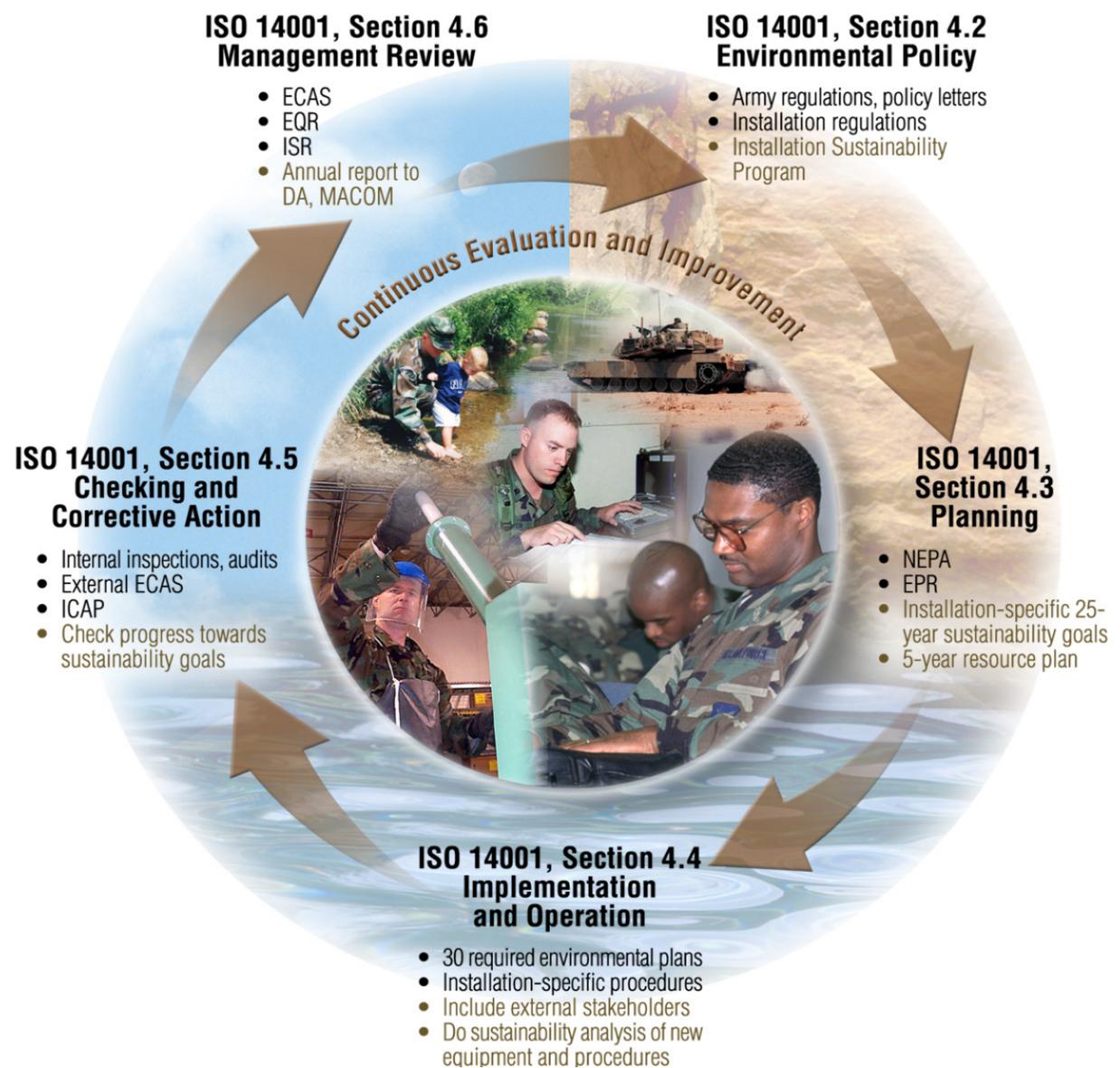
EMS Objectives

- ◆ Mission Support
- ◆ Preventing Pollution
- ◆ Sustainable and Beneficial Use
- ◆ Legal and Policy Compliance

Communication is the Key to Success

Soldiers, civilians, and others on the installation are obligated to convey concerns, issues, and problems through their chain of command, or their Environmental Compliance Officer (ECO), to the Installation Environmental Office or the Environmental Management Representative (EMR).

You can contact the EMR or obtain additional information at Building 2516 or call 531-6008.



Environmental Stewardship is Everyone's Business

Environmental stewardship is an individual's duty. We each have a personal responsibility and obligation to conduct and manage our lives, and to perform our daily missions in a manner to protect and conserve the environment and natural resources.