



ARMY COMPATIBLE USE BUFFER PROGRAM

ACUB

CAMP RIPLEY ACUB



The Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) program creates land conservation partnerships between the Army and outside organizations to protect land from development that is incompatible with the military mission.

INSTALLATION BACKGROUND

Camp Ripley is a 52,500 acre installation located in central Minnesota approximately 100 miles north of Minneapolis/St. Paul. The primary missions at Camp Ripley are to train the Soldiers and units that support National Security objectives, to provide resources that assist in the protection of life and property, preserve peace, order, and public safety for the state of Minnesota, and to participate in local, state, and national programs that add value to the community.

Designated as the primary winter training site in the United States, Camp Ripley conducts an extensive Winter Warfare Training Program available to all units. Around the clock training exercises are conducted under a variety of extreme weather conditions and produce a significant amount of noise, dust, and smoke. Residential development adjacent to Camp Ripley would likely result in training restrictions on-post due to community complaints generated by training activities. In addition, the land in and around the installation thrives with an abundance of plant and animal life that is unique to the Midwest and more specifically to central Minnesota. Thriving populations of gray wolves, Bald Eagles, and a variety of state sensitive species currently coexist with the Army National Guard's continuous military training at Camp Ripley. Incompatible development on lands bordering Camp Ripley will result in local residual populations of these species relocating onto installation lands, leading to increased training restrictions and less available acreage for military operations.

OBJECTIVE

The ACUB focus area encompasses approximately 110,000 acres of land within a 3-mile radius of Camp Ripley in

For more information

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Morrison, Crow Wing, and Cass counties. Based on an analysis of expected growth and subsequent encroachment, four priority areas have been identified that will protect large caliber weapon impact areas, tank ranges, demolition ranges, artillery firing points, and tank maneuver areas. Creating this buffer zone will maintain the separation of training noise, dust, and smoke from local residents and also provide large tracts of protected habitat.

**PRIMARY PARTNERS:
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

The mission of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is to work with citizens to conserve and manage the state's natural resources, to provide outdoor recreation activities, and to provide for commercial uses of natural resources in a way that creates a sustainable way of life. For more information on the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources visit <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/index.html>.

**MINNESOTA BOARD OF WATER
AND SOIL RESOURCES**

The mission of the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources is to improve and protect Minnesota's water and soil resources by working in partnership with local organizations and private landowners. For more information on the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources visit <http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/>.

For more information on ACUB accomplishments, funding and other stakeholders please view the ACUB website at <http://aec.army.mil/usaec/acub/acub00.html>

