



## ARMY COMPATIBLE USE BUFFER PROGRAM

# ACUB

### FORT KNOX 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

Fort Knox is located 30 miles south of Louisville, Ky. The installation encompasses 109,000 acres, of which approximately 63,000 acres are range and training lands and nearly 40,000 acres are impact areas. The mission at Fort Knox is to forge the Army's mounted combat force. Training activities include basic combat training, heavy force training and maneuver, aerial gunnery, and amphibious operations conducted in the training complex and Eastern Corridor Battle Space.

The training facilities at Fort Knox are in use 365 days a year to support multiple exercises involving Soldiers assigned to the installation, as well as active component Army units from other installations and Army Reserve, National Guard, Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps units. Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) requirements and the Global Defense Posture Realignment require Fort Knox to support new and challenging training requirements, which include hosting units from Europe and South Korea, an Infantry Brigade Team, Army Cadet Command and the combined Human Resources Command.

Training activities at Fort Knox generate considerable operational noise and vibrations which are expected to increase as a result of the installation's new training requirements. Local growth is converting private farms and natural areas along the installations eastern and southern perimeters into residential and commercial land uses, resulting in the potential for restrictions to training, maneuver, and deployment capabilities. In addition, Fort Knox is home to the Indiana and gray bats, both of which are federally listed species. Further environmental degradation and conversion of habitat

#### For more information

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outside the installation could result in increased protection requirements for habitat on post.

## OBJECTIVE

The ACUB program at Fort Knox targets protection of approximately 8,000 acres around the Eastern Corridor Battle Space. The protected parcels will buffer the battle space from incompatible land uses and off post ambient lighting that could interfere with night operations, as well as conserve key natural habitats and associated flora and fauna. In addition to buffering the Eastern Corridor Battle Space, the Fort Knox ACUB partner will seek acquisition of conservation easements on an additional 27,000 acres of agricultural and undeveloped natural areas surrounding the installation. The ACUB program at Fort Knox ensures the installation's long-term ability to conduct realistic training and aviation operations.

## PRIMARY PARTNER: LINCOLN TRAIL AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

The Lincoln Trail Area Development District (LTADD), part of Kentucky's Area Development Districts, is the focal point of a necessary Federal-State-Local partnership for improvement of the quality of life in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The District brings local community and governmental leaders together to accomplish major objectives and takes advantage of opportunities which cannot be achieved or realized by those governments acting alone. For more information on the Lincoln Trail Area Development District, visit <http://www.ltadd.org/>.



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

