NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

AND

DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

ENHANCED TRAINING AT FORT BENNING, GEORGIA

The United States Army Maneuver Center of Excellence, Directorate of Public Works, Fort Benning, Georgia, hereby announces the availability of the Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for the proposed enhanced training at Fort Benning, Georgia. These documents address how Fort Benning plans to accommodate the Army Force Structure decision to convert the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team (ABCT) to an Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT), locate Army Reconnaissance Course (ARC) off-road heavy maneuver training to reduce red-cockaded woodpecker impacts, and enhance already approved off-road heavy maneuver boxes in the Good Hope Maneuver Training Area (GHMTA).

The EA and Draft FNSI have been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA; 42 USC 4321 et seq), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508), and the Army NEPA Regulation (Environmental Analysis of Army Actions, Final Rule, 32 CFR Part 651). Publication of this notice begins a 30-day public review period. The public is invited to review and comment on the EA and Draft FNSI from June 25 – July 25, 2015. Copies of the EA and Draft FNSI may be viewed at the following locations:

- 1. Columbus Public Library
- 2. Cusseta-Chattahoochee Public Library
- 3. Sayers Memorial Library (Fort Benning Main Post Library)
- 4. Phenix City Russell County Library

In addition, the EA and Draft FNSI are also posted on Fort Benning's website at <u>http://www.benning.army.mil/garrison/DPW/EMD/legal.htm</u>. Written comments concerning this Final EA and Draft FNSI are invited; the comments must be received by July 25, 2015 to ensure consideration prior to reaching any FNSI.

Written public comments should be addressed to:

Fort Benning Environmental Management Division, IMBE-PWE-P, C/O NEPA Program Manager, 6650 Meloy Drive, Building 6, Room 309, Fort Benning, GA 31905-5122

For further information or to request a copy of the documents, please contact the U.S. Army Maneuver Center of Excellence, Directorate of Public Works, Environmental Programs Management Branch (Attention: **Mr. John E. Brown,** NEPA Program Manager) or call (706) 545-7549.

Sincerely,

Craig Taylor

Director of Public Works Fort Benning, Georgia