

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
FOR THE DIGITAL MULTI-PURPOSE RANGE COMPLEX VEGETATION
REMOVAL AND RANGE MODIFICATIONS
FORT BENNING, GA**

To Whom It May Concern,

Fort Benning, GA, hereby announces the public availability of the Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for the Digital Multi-Purpose Range Complex (DMPRC) Tree Removal and Range Modifications at Fort Benning. These documents were prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and in accordance with the NEPA and Environmental Analysis of Army Actions (32 CFR Part 651).

This SEA supplements the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the DMPRC at Fort Benning, GA published in April 2004. The draft FNSI serves as the Installation Commander's decision document that considers the SEA analysis and proposed changes to the design of the DMPRC as follows:

- Additional vegetation removal to achieve adequate line of sight (LOS) and radio frequency connectivity.
- Additional targetry and support features to enhance and modify range construction to meet the most current training range standards.

Three alternatives were considered in the SEA. The Proposed Action (Preferred Alternative):

- Calls for a completion of construction of the DMPRC to meet evolving Army training standards and mission requirements. The addition of 11 facades and 5 Moving Infantry Targets (MITs) with associated utility lines, and an instrumentation loading dock is required. A camera that was relocated during construction would also require power and optical fiber.
- Calls for upland and lowland (e.g., wetlands and streambanks) vegetation removal for LOS and radio frequency connectivity to maximize range capability and function as follows:
 - the removal of up to 221 acres of upland vegetation to 0' in height;
 - the cutting of up to 244 acres of wetland vegetation to heights varying from 0'-100'; however, in some cases where vegetation still interferes with LOS, it would be removed to 0'; and
 - the cutting of up to 54 acres of streambank vegetation to heights varying from 0'-100'; however, in some cases where vegetation still interferes with LOS, it would be removed to 0'.

The additional action alternative would include all vegetation removal as stated in the Proposed Action; however, additional targetry and support features would not be included.

For the No Action Alternative, construction of the DMPRC range would continue under its original design. No range modifications or additional vegetation removal would be made. However, the range would not be fully functional, training would not meet current standards and some targets would be obscured by vegetation.

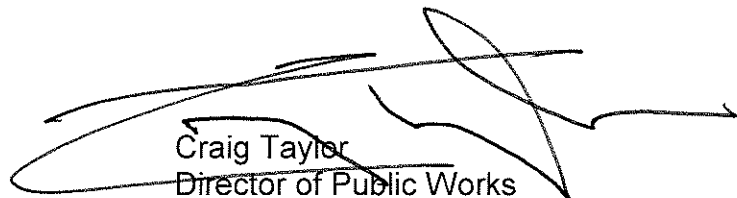
The SEA evaluates the potential environmental effects associated with each of the alternatives on vegetation; soils; surface water hydrology; wetlands and streambanks; federally protected species; state protected species; water quality; unique ecological areas; and migratory birds.

The SEA and Draft FNSI for the proposed action will be available to the public for a review period of 30 days starting from the first day of publication in *The Columbus Ledger-Enquirer*. These documents are available at the following locations, as well as the following website:

- <https://www.infantry.army.mil/EMD/program/legal/index.htm>
- W.C. Bradley Memorial Library, located at 1120 Bradley Drive, Columbus, Georgia.
- South Lumpkin Library, located at 2034 South Lumpkin Road, Columbus, Georgia.
- Fort Benning Main Post Library, located in Building 93, Fort Benning, Georgia.

Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed action or request additional information must write to the U.S. Army Infantry Center, Directorate of Public Works, Environmental Programs Management Branch (Attention: Mr. John E. Brown), Building 6 (Meloy Hall) Room 310, Fort Benning, Georgia 31905-5122, or call (706)545-7549.

Sincerely,



Craig Taylor
Director of Public Works