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Establishing and Sustaining a Collaborative Partnership with your Military Installations

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Introduction





Discussion Topics

- The Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) program
- Sentinel Landscapes
- A template for successful collaboration – Fort Hood, Texas
 - Assisting military veterans in your communities
 - Promoting agriculture and employment
 - Preserving the character of rural communities



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What is DoD's REPI Program?

- Cost-sharing partnerships authorized by Congress (10 U.S.C. § 2684a).
- Protects military training capabilities on U.S. military installations.
- Conserves working lands and natural resources near U.S. military installations.
- *Willing* landowners only.



Why REPI?

- The military must have the space necessary to conduct realistic training.
- Increased potential for land use conflicts.
- The DoD needs to preserve key (buffer) lands adjacent/near military installations.



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Who Can be a REPI Partner?

- Partnerships are between a military installation and an eligible entity (*partner*).
- Who qualifies as an eligible entity?
 - State and local government agencies whose primary mission is conservation.
 - Private conservation organizations.

Compatible Lands Foundation's REPI Program Partnerships





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Sentinel Landscapes – What are They?

- A partnership between DoD, USDA, & DOI.
- A defined area that represents overlapping priorities for:
 - military mission protection
 - working lands preservation
 - natural resource conservation
- There are currently 7 Sentinel Landscapes.



Collaboration and Partnering Benefits

MILITARY

- Protects Military Readiness.
- Preserves compatible land use near critically important training and testing sites.
- Promotes communication, coordination, and mutual understanding with State and local governments.

STATES

- Contributes to the longevity of working farms, forests, and ranchlands.
- Increases recreational and open space opportunities for nearby residents and military families.
- Protects against mission relocations that can affect local economies.



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How Can States Collaborate with DoD?

- Become a REPI partner with military installations located in your State, you ARE an *eligible entity* under the law.
- Become a partner and/or support a Sentinel Landscape located in your State.
- Propose a REPI Challenge project for a military installation in your State.

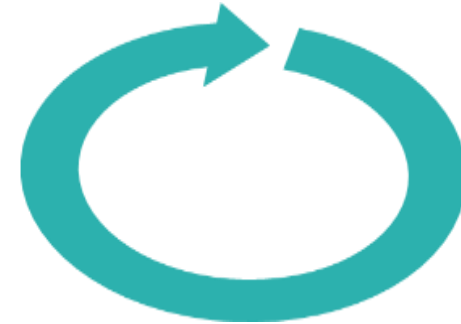
Veterans' Farming Education And Training (FEAT) Initiative





“Closing The Circle”

- REPI Program
 - protects military readiness
 - helps ensure our military remains the best trained in the world
- FEAT Initiative
 - provides returning Veterans with training and employment opportunities in agriculture
 - provides healing, counseling and mentoring





- Compatible Lands Foundation
 - Preventing incompatible development inside Fort Hood’s Army Compatible Use Buffer zone
- Farmer Veteran Coalition
 - *Homegrown by Heroes*
- Texas A&M University
 - *Battleground to Breaking Ground*



On Your *FEAT!*