

Prevention and Compliance Support Sustainability Goals

Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield (FS/HAAF) is committed to supporting mission readiness and execution, enabling the well-being of over 50,000 Soldiers, Family Members, and Civilians, all while preserving the environment. A Sustainability Management System is a continual cycle of planning, implementing, reviewing, and improving the actions an organization takes to meet its environmental obligations, and that maintaining compliance with all Federal, state, and local laws is one of the four commitments of the FS/HAAF Sustainability Policy. With a large training platform and tactical operations, that is no small task! The Directorate of Public Works (DPW) is tasked with ensuring compliance in a wide variety of media areas, including hazardous waste and materials, solid waste, toxic substances, water and air quality, cultural resources, environmental noise, wetlands and other natural resources. This requires a large staff comprised of engineers, environmental protection specialists, biologists, and managers to inspect and assess the Installation's environmental posture and ensure excellence in every area. Environmental compliance staff members work hard to ensure standard operating procedures designed to ensure compliance are properly implemented. The Environmental Division hosts several training forums throughout the year to keep the ever changing roster of the 3rd Infantry Division up to speed on environmental requirements and assist our Soldiers in performing their jobs in a manner that complies with environmental regulations. The key is awareness! Without this constant training and support to the mission, our environment could fall victim to the lack of continuity in environmental protection measures and stewardship of resources.

In addition to the individual environmental programs that are managed by subject matter experts, a big piece to this intricate puzzle is the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) program. NEPA is essentially the hub of all project-related information coming in and going out of the Environmental Division and is responsible for coordinating the review of all construction and renovation projects as well as minor work. Almost any project submitted in the form of a DA Form 4283 Facilities Engineering Work Request is reviewed for environmental impacts through the NEPA program. NEPA also facilitates the review of stationing actions, changes in tactical equipment used for training on the Installation, and any action that has the potential to impose impacts on the environment. By using this integrated review process and including the customer from start to finish, the DPW is fully integrated in every aspect of the Installation's decision making process. Proactively commenting on Installation projects reminds proponents and designers of the need to protect and sustain our environment throughout all phases of those projects. This collaborative process exhibits an efficient use of resources, execution of cost-effective environmental and infrastructure improvements, and application of best management practices to sustain the natural environment.

As a Federal facility, FS/HAAF must comply with all environmental regulations, but must do this in a manner that supports the triple bottom line of sustainability – mission, community, and environment. To accomplish this, sustainability principles are integrated into daily operations to apply process improvements and program management to meet

environmental quality program goals while maintaining effective operations. As an example of direct support to sustain the mission, the DPW enjoys a close working relationship with the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security (DPTMS) to ensure we perform both today's and tomorrow's missions to standard. The DPW works hand-in-hand with the DPTMS Training Division in developing plans to meet training requirements, such as the construction of a new range facility, with the least amount of impact to the environment. This process ensures the natural environment is protected, conserved, sustained, and where appropriate, restored to comply with legal requirements, while at the same time meeting mission requirements.

To ensure environmental compliance and sustainability are in the forefront of management decisions, sustainability objectives are integrated into the Installation's strategic planning process. In fact, the Installation's sustainability efforts were a contributor to FS/HAAF winning the Army Communities of Excellence Awards for a record six times (2004, 2005, 2006, 2009, 2012, and 2015). These honors, along with many others, were bestowed upon the Installation for superb performance in using its resources to sustain the mission, increasing the productivity of its workforce, and enhancing the quality of life of its community, thus exhibiting a true commitment to the triple bottom line of sustainability.

Now that you've heard how the Installation approaches compliance and works to prevent environmental impacts, it's easy to see that prevention and compliance support sustainability objectives.

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| R | RESOURCES |  |
| O | OPTIMIZE |  |
| C | COMPLIANCE |  |
| K | KEEP IMPROVING |  |
|  | <p align="center"><i>Sustainable Fort Stewart/ Hunter Army Airfield</i></p> | |