

Western Regional Partnership

Presentation on WRP Concept



DoD Perspective



- Installations are no longer located in remote areas
- Increasing population puts more pressure on already strained resources
- There are over 300 federally listed threatened and endangered species are on DoD-managed lands
- An abundance of military testing and training activity takes place within the western region

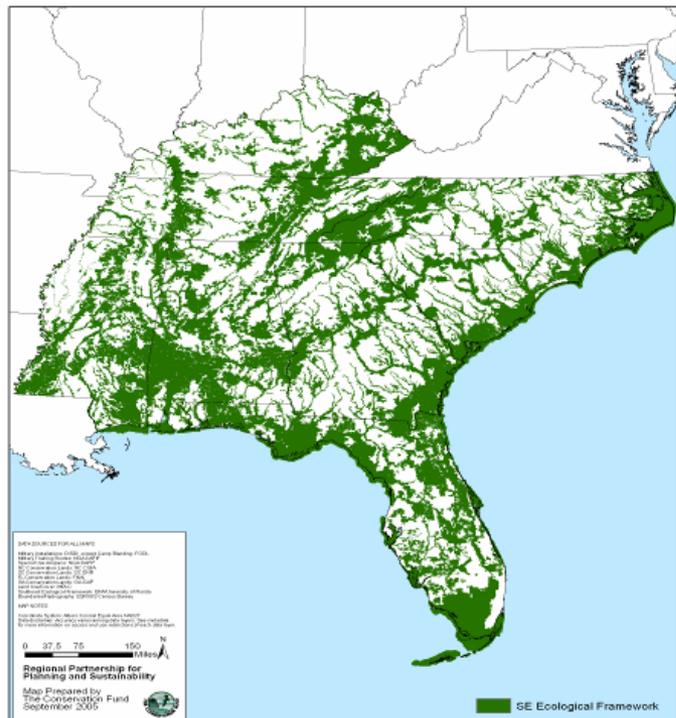


Power of Partnering

- Opportunity to work with partners that have similar missions and goals, thereby encouraging compatible growth to ensure future mission viability
- Eliminate redundancies in resource management and create a strong entity working toward a common goal
- Proactive approach to managing potential conflicts
- Illuminates new solutions
- Opportunities to:
 - Build partnerships among all interested players
 - Recognize shared, common interests and objectives
 - Create processes that align interests and facilitate common understanding

Background

- Two regional partnering efforts:
 - Southeast Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPPAS) and
 - Western Regional Partnership (WRP)



SERPPAS:

- More established partnership
- State partners include: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina
- Federal partners include: EPA, USFS, USFWS, NOAA
- Region-wide and place based projects

SERPPAS Projects

For more info: <http://www.serppas.org/>



SERPPAS Focus Areas

Sharing of GIS maps and identification of potential land uses (i.e., Strategic Lands Inventory, see project focus page), and development of partnership activities to leverage resources and promote mutual and multiple benefits to SERPPAS partners



Marine Coastal Initiative

The only cross-state effort to coordinate coastal and marine resources and management approaches in the Southeast.



Strategic Lands Inventory (SLI)

SLI uses a rule-based, expert-opinion approach to developing to criteria used in a land suitability analyses.



Red-cockaded woodpecker Translocation (RCW)

2-year pilot project will hire 2-3 additional translocation biologists to monitor and identify surplus RCWs for translocation efforts



Longleaf Pine Conservation

Outcomes for project include implementing place-based demonstration projects, and the development of a range-wide conservation plan for longleaf pine.

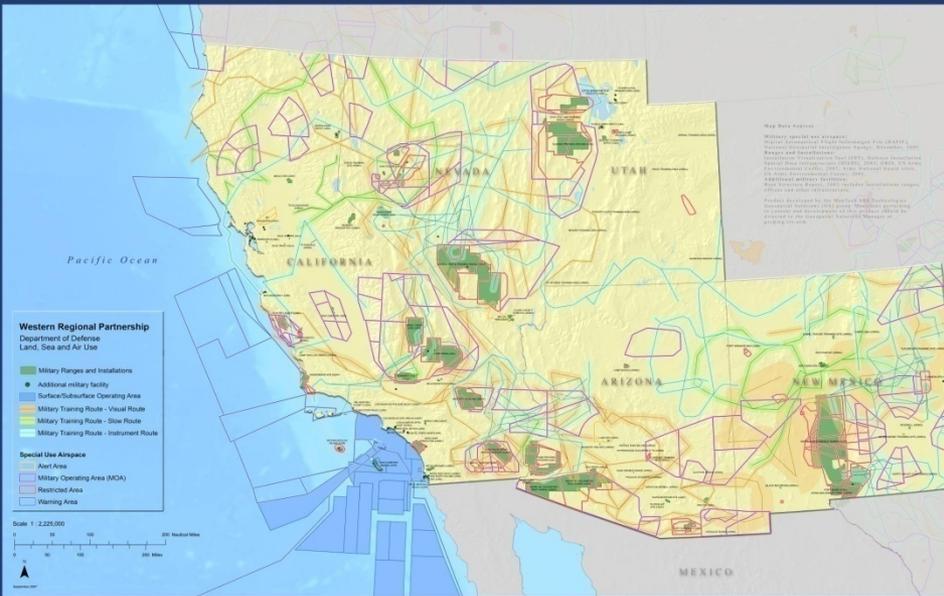


Gopher Tortoise

Protect gopher tortoise habitat and current populations, and prevent the need for USFWS listing of the species under the ESA

Western Regional Partnership

Department of Defense Land, Sea, and Air Use
Western Regional Partnership



Land Cover Classification
Western Regional Partnership



The WRP was established to create a regional senior policy level partnership among the Department of Defense, other Federal agencies, and State and Tribal executive leadership in the states of Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah.

WRP Committees/Focus Areas

(Identified by the First WRP Principals' Meeting in Nov 2007)



Border Committee
(Next Meeting Oct 2008)



Disaster
Preparedness
(First Meeting: Nov
2008)



Wildlife Corridors,
Critical Habitat, &
Threatened &
Endangered Species
Committee
(Next Meeting Oct 2008)



GIS/Maps



Land Use Committee
(First Meeting Oct 2008)



Energy

- Working with WGA on WREZ Initiative

Current Actions

- WRP Committee meetings
- GIS/Mapping
- Internal DoD Communications
 - WRP Service Principals/WRP Management Team
 - Email updates starting Sept 2008 to identified POCs
- External Communications
 - Quarterly newsletters
- Next WRP Principals' Meeting (December 2008)
 - co-hosted by state of Nevada
 - Briefings by Committees on action
 - Discussion on FY2009 Collaborative Efforts
- DRI Alternative Futures Study
- Academic workshop
- Partnership & Efforts with Western Governors' Association

WGA DoD Policy Resolution 08-11: Achieving Sustainable Military Installations and Ranges

- “Western Governors believe that much action has been taken to preserve the military mission viability in the West; however there need to be more effective models to address such issues on a regional level.”
- “Long range, sustainable planning is essential to accommodate growth, sustain economic health of the region and protect public health and safety while at the same time securing the viability of the military mission. “



WESTERN
GOVERNORS'
ASSOCIATION

Western Governors' Association Policy Resolution 08-11

Achieving Sustainable Military Installations and Ranges

A. BACKGROUND

1. The mission of the United States Department of Defense (DoD) is to “provide the military forces needed to deter war and to protect the security of our country.” For the military to conduct realistic testing and training, it must have access to scarce resources such as land, sea, air and broadcast frequency spectrum.
2. Many military operations are regional and not confined to a single installation or range and can extend into multiple states.
3. An abundance of military testing and training activity takes place within the western region. Installations and ranges are no longer located in remote areas. Many installations in the West, once isolated near sparsely populated communities or agricultural or undeveloped open spaces, are now surrounded by urban population centers. The 2003 GAO report on military training informed that urban growth near 80 percent of military installations exceeded the national average.
4. Past Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) actions have had significant adverse consequence for the Western states and encroachment will be a consideration for future BRAC actions.
5. Issues identified (commonly referred to as “encroachment”) that can impact the military mission include: restrictions caused by endangered species habitat on military installations; competition for airspace; and urban growth around military installations. Since each military installation and range has unique operations, many of the Western Governors have established military councils to provide recommendations on executive and legislative actions necessary to support their state’s military missions.
6. It is estimated that nationally over 300 federally listed species are on lands managed by the Department of Defense. An unintended consequence of growth adjacent to and around installations and ranges is the lack of open space essential to support species habitats. This lack of open space off of the bases and ranges raises the importance and criticality of these habitats on DoD property. Accordingly, this can increase the restrictions and limitations to military training that can be conducted on these bases and ranges.
7. Development of renewable energy resources and new transmission corridors is essential to the burgeoning Western states. DoD is a key stakeholder as a major consumer of energy, and is under a mandate to increase reliance on renewable energy sources.

For more information

- <http://www.wrpinfo.org/>



Questions?

