

DRAFT

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2017-2021
INTEGRATED CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN
FORT BLISS, TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO**



Prepared for:

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October 2016

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2017-2021
INTEGRATED CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN
FORT BLISS, TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO

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DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

1.0 PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

The purpose of the Proposed Action is for Fort Bliss to implement an updated *2017-2021 Fort Bliss Texas and New Mexico Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP)* as required under Army Regulation (AR) 200-1; Title 54 of the United States Code (U.S.C.) of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1996, as amended in 2014; Section 106 of the NHPA, and Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 4715.16, which mandates use of the ICRMP as the DoD instrument for compliance. The 2017-2021 ICRMP is needed to describe cultural resource stewardship programs and conservation initiatives that would sustain military mission capabilities and, concurrently, minimize training constraints. Impacts of implementing the ICRMP on the environment were analyzed through an Environmental Assessment (EA) per 32 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 651 *Environmental Analysis of Army Actions* Subparts 651.10 (b) and 651.33 (h). Only the No Action Alternative and Proposed Action were analyzed in the EA.

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF ALTERNATIVES

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, the proposed management measures set forth in the 2017-2021 ICRMP would not be implemented. Fort Bliss would continue to manage its cultural resources under the goals, objectives, and strategies outlined in the 2008-2012 ICRMP. However, the No Action Alternative would not be in compliance with AR 200-1, which mandates that Fort Bliss prepare and implement the updated ICRMP.

Proposed Action

Fort Bliss proposes to implement the 2017-2021 ICRMP, in cooperation with regional stakeholders, to act as the blueprint for management of cultural resources on the Installation through 2021. The 2017-2021 ICRMP is an update of the 2008-2012 plan that would continue the management programs currently in place, as well as implement new specific program element techniques, goals, objectives, and action items. This would allow Fort Bliss to manage its cultural resources through an updated, integrated, and adaptive management approach designed to sustain and be consistent with the military mission. In addition, the ICRMP would be implemented in conjunction with a 2015-2025 Programmatic Agreement (PA) between Fort Bliss, the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), the Texas SHPO, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Fort Bliss is also entering into a Draft stage of a Comprehensive Agreement (CA) in compliance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act [25 U.S.C. 3001-3013] (NAGPRA) regarding the Inadvertent Discovery and Intentional Excavation of Native American Human Remains and Cultural Items with the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma, the Fort Sill Apache Tribe, the Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma, the Mescalero Apache Tribe, the Pueblo of Isleta, the White Mountain Apache Tribe, and the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo (Tigua).

3.0 SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND IMPACTS

The EA determined that implementation of the Proposed Action would have no significant adverse effects on land use, soils, biological resources, cultural resources, water resources, air quality, and health and safety on Fort Bliss or in the surrounding area. The new goals, objectives, and projects established and undertaken under the Proposed Action are anticipated to have beneficial, long-term effects on the environment and cultural landscape.

4.0 CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis of the Proposed Action presented in this EA, I conclude that impacts of implementing the ICRMP would not significantly affect the human or natural environment of Fort Bliss or the surrounding area and, thus, a Finding of No Significant Impact is warranted. Furthermore, the implementation of the Proposed Action would not constitute a major Federal action requiring the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Public Law 91-190).

DRAFT

Mike Hester
Colonel, U.S. Army
Commanding

Date

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern
ACHP	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
AIRFA	American Indian Religious Freedom Act
AR	Army Regulation
ARPA	Archaeological Resources Protection Act
BASH	Bird/Wildlife Aircraft Strike Hazard
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BRAC	Base Realignment and Closure
CA	Comprehensive Agreement
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CLG	Certified Local Government
DoD	Department of Defense
DPW-E	Directorate of Public Works – Environmental Division
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EMU	Ecological Management Unit
EPCHC	El Paso County Historical Commission
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FBTC	Fort Bliss Training Center
FLPMA	Federal Lands Policy Management Act
FNSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
FTXs	Field Training Exercise Sites
GC	Garrison Commander
GFS EIS	Growth and Force Structure EIS
GIS	Geographical Information System
ICE	Immigration and Customs Enforcement
ICRMP	Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan
IHWMP	Integrated Hazardous Waste Management Plan
INRMP	Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan
IPMP	Integrated Pest Management Plan
ITAM	Integrated Training Area Management Plan
IWFMP	Integrated Wildland Fire Management Plan
LINR	Locally Important Natural Resource
LUA	Limited Use Area
MLWA	Military Lands Withdrawal Act
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NMDGF	New Mexico Department of Game and Fish
NMED	New Mexico Environment Department
NOA	Notice of Availability

NOI	Notice of Intent
NPS	National Park Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
OLA	Off-Limits Area
PA	Programmatic Agreement
PL	Public Law
RCMP	Range Complex Master Plan
ROD	Record of Decision
RPMP	Real Property Master Plan
SEIS	Supplemental EIS
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
T&E	Threatened and Endangered
TCP	Traditional Cultural Property
TCEQ	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
THC	Texas Historical Commission
TPWD	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
USAEC	U.S. Army Environmental Command
U.S. Army	United States Department of the Army
U.S.C.	United States Code
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USDI	U.S. Department of the Interior
USEPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USFS	U.S. Forest Service
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
VEC	Valued Environmental Component
WSA	Wilderness Study Area

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Environmental Assessment (EA) analyzes the effects on the environment from proposed actions described in the United States Department of the Army (U.S. Army) Fort Bliss Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, 2017-2021 (ICRMP). The ICRMP was developed by Fort Bliss in accordance with the Title 54 (54 United States Code [U.S.C] 306101 through 306114) and Section 106 (36 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 79) of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 4715.16, which mandates use of the ICRMP as the DoD instrument for compliance, and Army Regulation (AR) 200-1 *Environmental Protection and Enhancement* (U.S. Army 2007a). The purpose of the Fort Bliss 2017-2021 ICRMP is to provide guidance for the implementation and management of cultural resources on Fort Bliss during the 5-year period from 2016 through 2020.

The Fort Bliss 2017-2021 ICRMP uses an integrated and adaptive cultural resources management approach for sustainability and consistency with the military missions on Fort Bliss. The U.S. Army, with the assistance of a Programmatic Agreement (PA) with the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), the Texas SHPO, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), is responsible under Title 54 and Section 106 of the NHPA and the Sikes Act (16 U.S.C 670a-670f, as amended) for carrying out programs and implementing strategies to conserve and protect biological and cultural resources on Fort Bliss lands. Implementation of this ICRMP is imperative for increasing mission capabilities, minimizing military training constraints, and maintaining maximum flexibility. Implementation of this ICRMP could create potential impacts on the natural and human environments and, as such, requires an EA per 32 CFR Part 651 Environmental Analysis of Army Actions, § 651.33 (h).

This EA identifies, documents, and evaluates the potential environmental effects of the implementation of the ICRMP at Fort Bliss, and has been prepared by Fort Bliss Directorate of Public Works – Environmental Division (DPW-E) to comply with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (Public Law [PL] 91-190;42 U.S.C 4321-4347), as amended. NEPA is a Federal environmental law establishing procedural requirements for all Federal agency actions, and directs the Army to disclose the environmental effects of its proposed activities to the public and officials who must make decisions regarding a proposed action.

The Fort Bliss 2017-2021 ICRMP, as proposed, is an update of the *Fort Bliss Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan 2008-2012* (U.S. Army 2008). Differences from the 2008-2012 ICRMP that drive this EA include the following:

- Introduction of program goals and objectives and specific projects for the management of individual resources.
- Fort Bliss continues to operate under a 2014 PA, as amended, among the U.S. Army Garrison - Fort Bliss, the New Mexico SHPO, the Texas SHPO, and the ACHP for the management, operation, and development of historic properties on Fort Bliss under Section 106 of the NHPA. The PA provides stipulations for project review, updates to the significance standards, reporting damage to cultural resources, notification and

involvement of institutions and interested members of the public, broader Fort Bliss outreach, inadvertent discovery of archaeological sites, dispute resolution, annual reports, fiscal requirements and sources, amendments, termination of the PA, and duration of the PA.

- Under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), Fort Bliss has drafted a Comprehensive Agreement (CA) regarding inadvertent discovery and intentional excavation of Native American human remains and cultural items with the following tribes: Comanche Nation of Oklahoma, Fort Sill Apache Tribe, Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma, Mescalero Apache Tribe, Pueblo of Isleta, White Mountain Apache Tribe, and Ysleta del Sur Pueblo (Tigua) within lands managed by Fort Bliss in New Mexico and Texas.
- As of July 2016, a total of 20,812 archaeological sites and approximately 1,305 historic buildings and structures have been identified on Fort Bliss. One archaeological district, seven historic districts, and 12 historic landscapes have also been identified on Fort Bliss. Of the archaeological sites recorded, 3,684 have been recommended as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (17.7 percent), 10,621 have been recommended as not eligible (51 percent), and the remaining 6,507 sites (31.3 percent) have not yet been evaluated for eligibility. Under the 2017-2021 ICRMP, additional inventories would be conducted on unsurveyed lands to document any new resources, or in areas that require resurvey to locate previously recorded archaeological sites and structures and to update those resources, as necessary. Additional evaluations would be conducted for sites, buildings, and structures with undetermined eligibility.

The Proposed Action of this EA is to implement the Fort Bliss 2017-2021 ICRMP, which would guide cultural resources management on the Installation through 2020. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to ensure the conservation and sustainability of natural and cultural resources on Fort Bliss through compliance with applicable environmental and cultural laws and regulations so as to maintain quality lands upon which the U.S. Army can continue to accomplish its training mission.

The U.S. Army (and by extension, Fort Bliss) is the lead agency responsible for the completion of this EA. If no significant environmental impacts are determined based on the evaluation of impacts in this EA, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) would be determined and signed by the Garrison Commander (GC). If it is determined that the Proposed Action would have significant environmental impacts, the Proposed Action would be suspended, revised, and reevaluated, or a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would be published in the *Federal Register*.

The U.S. Army invites public participation in the NEPA process to promote open communication and enable better decision making. Input and comments would be solicited from the public in accordance with NEPA. The EA and draft FNSI will be made available to the public with a Notice of Availability (NOA) published in the *El Paso Times*, *Las Cruces Sun-News*, and the *Alamogordo Daily News*, and drafts will be distributed to local libraries and to

agencies and organizations who have expressed interested in the ICRMP. The EA will also be posted on the Fort Bliss website:

<https://www.bliss.army.mil/DPW/Environmental/EISDocuments2.html>.

The EA and draft FNSI (if applicable) will be made available to the public for a 30-day comment period. During this time the U.S. Army will consider any comments submitted on the Proposed Action, the EA, or the draft FNSI. At the conclusion of the comment period, the Army may, if appropriate, execute the FNSI and proceed with the Proposed Action.

SECTION 1.0
PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

1.0 PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Fort Bliss is a multi-mission United States Department of Army (U.S. Army) Installation encompassing approximately 1.12 million acres in western Texas and south-central New Mexico. Approximately 11 percent of the Fort Bliss land area is in El Paso County, Texas, and approximately 89 percent is in Doña Ana and Otero counties in New Mexico (Figure 1-1). The main post is adjacent to the city of El Paso and comprises East and West Bliss, Biggs Army Airfield, William Beaumont U.S. Army Medical Center, Logan Heights, and Castner Range. The Fort Bliss Training Center (FBTC), on which most of the training activities occur, consists of the South Training Area in Texas and the Doña Ana Range – North Training Area and McGregor Range in New Mexico. The FBTC comprises several major physiographic features including the Organ Mountains, the Tularosa Basin, Otero Mesa and its escarpment, and the foothills of the Sacramento and Hueco mountains.

As a result of the Base Closure and Realignment Act (BRAC) mandates and Army Transformation and Growth Initiatives, Fort Bliss has transitioned from the Army's Air Defense Artillery School to a major mounted training facility that supports the U.S. Army 1st Armored Division. Fort Bliss is a training platform for multiple units deploying to theater and is a focal point for the U.S. Army as a major Installation for training Soldiers for combat readiness. The change in mission has resulted in the stationing of approximately 30,000 Soldiers and their families at Fort Bliss and has increased the demand and impact on Fort Bliss's resources. The impacts of this mission change have been analyzed in the *Fort Bliss, Texas and New Mexico Mission and Master Plan Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)*, for which a Record of Decision (ROD) was signed on 30 April 2007 (U.S. Army 2007b); and the *Fort Bliss Army Growth and Force Structure Realignment Final Environmental Impact Statement (GFS EIS)*, for which a ROD was signed on 08 June 2010 (U.S. Army 2010). This Environmental Assessment (EA) would incorporate these documents by reference.

Fort Bliss proposes to implement the *Fort Bliss Texas and New Mexico Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan 2017-2021*. The Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) was developed by Fort Bliss in accordance with Title 54 (54 United States Code [U.S.C.] 306101 through 306114) and Section 106 (36 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 79) of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Army Regulation (AR) 200-1 *Environmental Protection and Enhancement* (U.S. Army 2007a), and Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 4715.16.

An ICRMP is a planning document that allows DoD installations to implement land-level management of their cultural and historic resources in cooperation with various stakeholders. The Fort Bliss ICRMP would provide guidance for the management of cultural resources and the implementation of cultural resources programs and initiatives from 2016 through 2020, while increasing mission capabilities and minimizing military training constraints. Implementation of the ICRMP would create potential impacts on the natural, cultural, and human environments and, as such, would require an analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) per 32 CFR Part 651 *Environmental Analysis of Army Actions* subpart 651.33 (h).

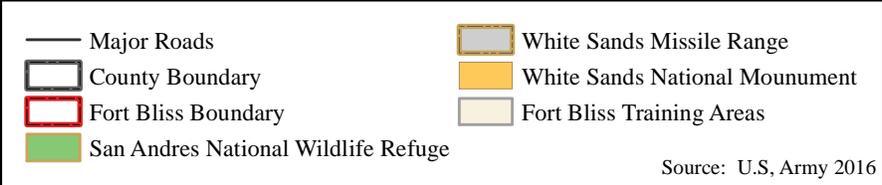
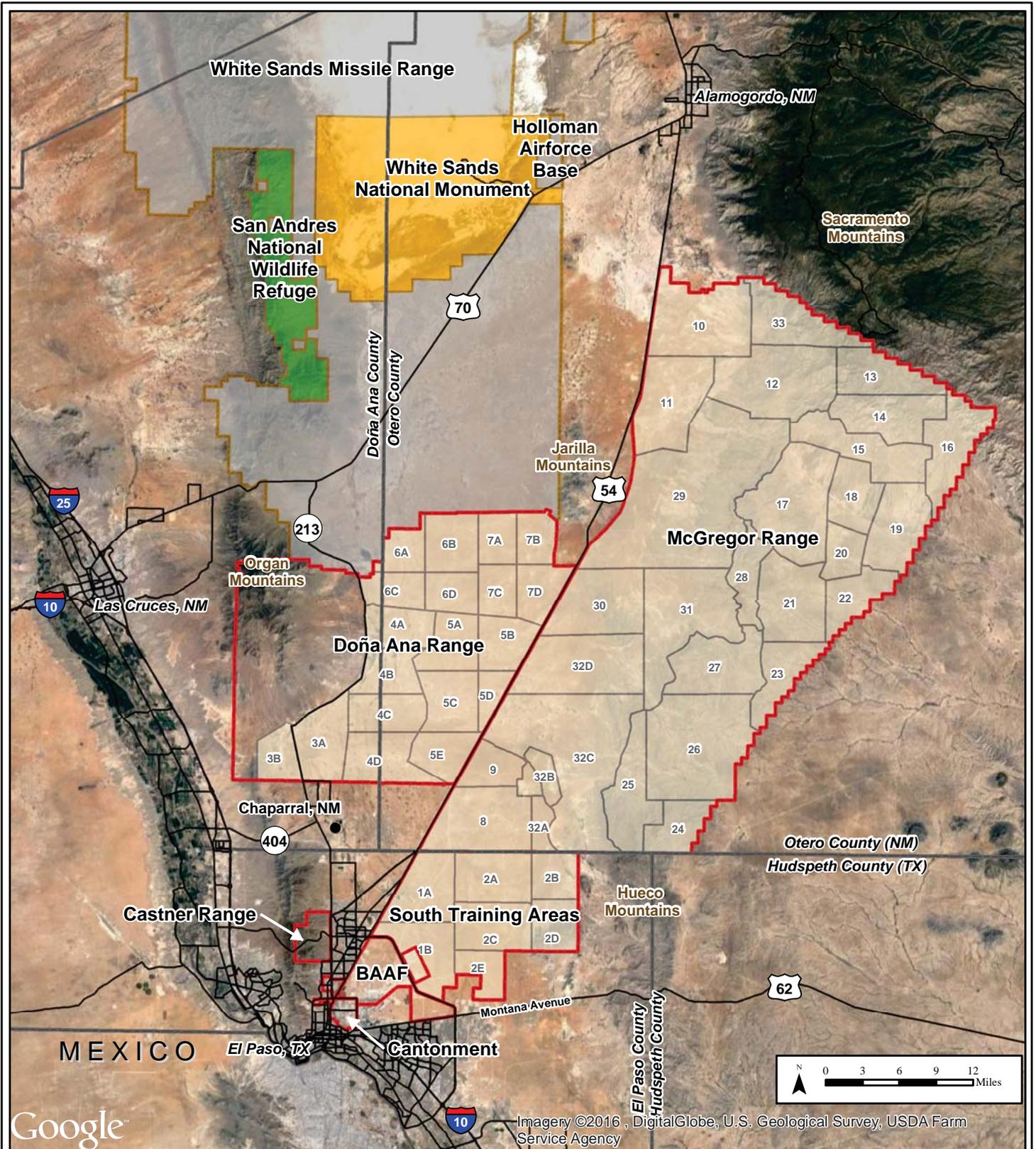


Figure 1-1. Fort Bliss Vicinity Map

The proposed ICRMP is a revision of the *Fort Bliss Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan 2008-2012* (U.S. Army 2008). Differences from the 2008-2012 ICRMP that would be addressed in this EA include the following:

- Fort Bliss would introduce program element goals and objectives and specific projects for the management of individual resources.
- Fort Bliss would continue to operate under a 2014 Programmatic Agreement (PA), as amended, among the United States Army Garrison - Fort Bliss, the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), the Texas SHPO, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) for the management, operation, and development of historic properties on Fort Bliss under Section 106 of the NHPA of 1966, as amended. The PA provides stipulations for project review, updates to the significance standards, reporting damage to cultural resources, notification and involvement of institutions and interested members of the public, broader Fort Bliss outreach, inadvertent discovery of archaeological sites, dispute resolution, annual reports, fiscal requirements and sources, amendments, termination of the PA, and duration of the PA.
- Under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), Fort Bliss has drafted a Comprehensive Agreement (CA) regarding inadvertent discovery and intentional excavation of Native American human remains and cultural items with the following tribes: Comanche Nation of Oklahoma, Fort Sill Apache Tribe, Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma, Mescalero Apache Tribe, Pueblo of Isleta, White Mountain Apache Tribe, and Ysleta del Sur Pueblo (Tigua) within lands managed by Fort Bliss in New Mexico and Texas. The CA would establish guidelines and protocols to be followed regarding identification and treatment of Native American remains and mortuary items and procedures for consultation to ensure Fort Bliss is in compliance with NAGPRA.
- As of July 2016, a total of 20,812 archaeological sites and approximately 1,305 historic buildings and structures have been identified on Fort Bliss. One archaeological district, seven historic districts, and 12 historic landscapes have been identified on Fort Bliss. Of the archaeological sites recorded, 3,684 have been recommended as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (17.7 percent), 10,621 have been recommended as not eligible (51 percent), and the remaining 6,507 sites (31.3 percent) have not yet been evaluated for NRHP eligibility. Under the 2017-2021 ICRMP, additional inventories would be conducted on unsurveyed lands to document any new resources or in areas that require resurvey to locate previously recorded archaeological sites and structures, and to update those resources, as necessary. Additional evaluations would be conducted for sites, buildings, and structures with undetermined eligibility.

1.2 PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Proposed Action is to implement the ICRMP at Fort Bliss that would guide cultural resources management on the Installation through 2020. The ICRMP is the primary tool for implementing the goals of the U.S. Army regarding cultural resources management. The Proposed Action would meet the need for Fort Bliss to comply with the body of laws that have

been passed to protect and preserve historic properties under the jurisdiction of Federal agencies. Environmental management programs (such as an ICRMP or Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan [INRMP]) must undergo environmental impact analysis. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to ensure the conservation and sustainability of cultural resources on Fort Bliss through compliance with applicable cultural laws and regulations so as to maintain quality lands upon which the Army continues to accomplish its training mission. The laws, regulations, and guidance specifically addressed in this ICRMP are listed in Table 1-1 below.

Table 1-1. Cultural Resources Laws, Regulations, Executive Orders, and Guidelines

Public Law 89-665	National Historic Preservation Act of 1996, as amended
Public Law 96-95	Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) of 1979
Public Law 101-601	Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990
Public Law 98-341	American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA) of 1978
House of Representatives (H.R.) 4155, 1994	AIRFA Amendments of 1994
32 CFR Part 229	Protection of Archaeological Resources
36 CFR Part 60	National Register of Historic Places
36 CFR Part 68	The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation Projects
36 CFR Part 79	Curation of Federally-owned Archaeological Resources
36 CFR Part 800	Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties
43 CFR Part 10	Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Regulations
48 CFR Part 44716	Archaeology and Historic Preservation: Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines
Executive Order 11593	Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment (1971)
Executive Order 12555	Protection of Cultural Resources (1986)
Executive Order 13007	Indian Sacred Sites (1996)
Executive Order 13084	Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments (1998)
Executive Order 13287	Preserve America (2003)
DoD Instruction 4715.16	Cultural Resources Management (2008)
AR 200-1	Environmental Protection and Enhancement

Analysis of the current cultural resources management program at Fort Bliss shows that a number of actions must be taken during 2017-2021 to address concerns associated with each of the laws listed in Table 1-1. Action plans have been developed in the 2017-2021 ICRMP to assist the Garrison Commander (GC) in addressing concerns and achieving compliance with these laws. During the life of this ICRMP, the action plan outlines the following goals that would direct the cultural resources program at Fort Bliss:

- Integrate cultural resources and historic preservation compliance requirements with other Installation plans, including but not limited to the Installation master plan, the facilities maintenance plan, training and range area management plans, natural resources management plans, mobilization and deployment plans, and information management systems, and with military training, construction, maintenance, real property management, land use decisions, and other undertakings.
- Establish procedures for compliance with Federal laws, regulations, and executive orders requiring the protection and management of cultural resources with the least possible effect on military training and mission support activities.

- Maintain the historic fabric and character of buildings and landscapes contributing to the Fort Bliss historic districts.
- Avoid, minimize, and mitigate adverse effects on all cultural resources and historic properties on Fort Bliss meeting criteria for listing, or that are listed, in the NRHP, in concert with the execution of military training and support activities.
- Conduct data recoveries on NRHP-eligible properties under the attached PA, eliminating the necessity for an individual Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on each project.
- Continue development of project manuals and handbooks for the guiding treatment of historic buildings, structures, and landscapes, as well as regular systematic inventory and evaluation of these properties.
- Set priorities based on currently available information for the inventory and evaluation of cultural resources and establish a procedure for revising those priorities: (1) survey and conduct NRHP evaluation of archaeological sites and historic properties for eligibility in all areas where military training has or is expected to have the greatest impact; (2) evaluate any site with “undetermined” eligibility; and (3) if adverse impacts are unavoidable, seek ways to mitigate those adverse impacts on historic properties, or conduct ongoing data recovery of sites in areas expected to receive the greatest impact. This plan can incorporate the use of remote sensing, geographic information systems (GIS) data, and predictive modeling.
- Give top priority to management of properties most at risk for adverse effects by the military mission.
- Use a system of internal controls for review of routine and mission-critical undertakings.
- Eliminate, or exempt from review, undertakings that do not or are not likely to adversely affect cultural resources.
- Enforce Federal laws prohibiting the vandalism of cultural resources or illegal collection of archaeological materials on Fort Bliss and strengthen that effort with continued training and additional staff (as funding is available).
- Implement the existing plan to ensure management of archaeological collections relevant to cultural resources at Fort Bliss in compliance with 36 CFR Part 79.
- Make collections available for research by professionals, interested Native Americans, and other members of the public at the Fort Bliss curatorial facility during normal duty hours.
- Establish and implement a management plan for currently endangered paper collections relating to historic structures, archaeology, cultural landscapes, and objects on Fort Bliss.
- Work with New Mexico and Texas SHPOs to explore and define Fort Bliss’s interested parties. Once identified, define how the interested parties would be brought into implementation of this ICRMP.
- Implement and enhance the public awareness program, including maintaining a mailing list and sending out brochures to interested parties detailing the findings of recently completed projects addressing cultural resources.
- Maintain cultural resources/historic preservation training opportunities for military and civilian personnel whose jobs or building occupancies have an influence on cultural resources.
- Establish realistic budgetary goals based on ongoing and future projects and available industry data.

- Ensure that staff responsible for cultural resource management meet the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation*, (*Federal Register* Vol. 48, No. 190, pp. 44717-44742) and receive continuing training.
- Through the implementation of this ICRMP, develop an innovative program that may serve as a model for other Federal facilities, demonstrate the value of cultural resources and historic preservation management programs, and publicize and promote the commitment of Fort Bliss to those programs.

1.3 SCOPE

This EA identifies, documents, and evaluates the potential environmental effects of the implementation of the ICRMP at Fort Bliss, and has been prepared by Fort Bliss Directorate of Public Works – Environmental Division (DPW-E) to comply with the NEPA of 1969 (Public Law [PL] 91-190;42 U.S.C. 4321-4347), as amended. NEPA is a Federal law establishing procedural requirements for all Federal agency actions, and directs the Army to disclose the environmental effects of its proposed activities to the public and officials who must make decisions regarding a proposed action. Preparation of the EA follows instructions established in 32 CFR 651, *Environmental Analysis of Army Actions*; 40 CFR 15000-1508, Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations; and AR 200-1, *Environmental Protection and Enhancement* (U.S. Army 2007a).

1.4 DECISION(S) TO BE MADE

The U.S. Army, Fort Bliss, is the lead agency responsible for the completion of this EA. If no significant environmental impacts are determined based on the evaluation of impacts in this EA, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) would be signed by the GC. If it is determined that the Proposed Action would have significant environmental impacts, the Proposed Action would be revised and reevaluated, or a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would be published in the *Federal Register*.

1.5 PUBLIC AND AGENCY PARTICIPATION

1.5.1 Public Participation

The U.S. Army invites public participation in the NEPA process to promote open communication and enable better decision making. Input and comments will be solicited from the public in accordance with NEPA. This draft EA and draft FNSI will be made available to the public with a Notice of Availability (NOA) published in the *El Paso Times*, *Las Cruces Sun-News*, and the *Alamogordo Daily News*, and will be distributed to local libraries and to agencies and organizations who have expressed interest in the ICRMP. This EA will also be posted to the Fort Bliss public environmental documents website at:

<https://www.bliss.army.mil/DPW/Environmental/EISDocuments2.html>.

This draft EA and draft FNSI (if applicable) will be made available to the public for a 30-day comment period. During this time, the Army will consider any comments submitted on the Proposed Action, the draft EA, or the draft FNSI. At the conclusion of the comment period, the

Army may, if appropriate, execute the FNSI and proceed with the Proposed Action. A distribution list for the EA can be found in Appendix B.

1.5.2 Agency Participation

The ICRMP was prepared in cooperation with the agency stakeholders listed below:

- **Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP).** The ACHP is an independent Federal agency responsible for reviewing policies and programs of Federal agencies to ensure their consistency with the policies and programs of the NHPA. The ACHP provides guidance on the application of the procedures in the Section 106 process and generally oversees the operation of the Section 106 process. Although identified as an interested party, the ACHP is a concurring party in the Army's management of historic properties under the NHPA and is included in the PA between Fort Bliss and the New Mexico and Texas SHPOs.
- **El Paso County Historical Commission (EPCHC).** EPCHC has statutory responsibility to initiate and conduct historic preservation programs suggested by the El Paso County Commissioners Court and the Texas Historical Commission (THC). In El Paso, the EPCHC works in a dynamic and positive partnership with the THC to preserve El Paso's heritage for the use, education, enjoyment, and economic benefit of present and future generations. It has been responsible for the preservation of historic buildings, artifacts, documents, and other pieces of Texas history. The EPCHC is also responsible for reviewing applications for state historical markers in the El Paso area, including those at Fort Bliss, before they are sent to the THC. It also serves as advisor to the commissioner's court on matters of historic preservation.
- **El Paso County Historical Society, Inc.** The mission of the El Paso County Historical Society is to study El Paso and El Paso County history, foster local research, acquire and preserve historical documents and archives, make collections available to the public for research and information, encourage historical writing and publication, and maintain and restore the Richard F. Burges House, which is home to the Society. Fort Bliss is significant in the history and development of the city and the county.
- **El Paso Historical Landmark Commission.** The City of El Paso is a Certified Local Government (CLG). This means that the city has a preservation program certified by the Texas SHPO and the National Park Service (NPS) as meeting the minimum standards to participate as a partner in the NHPA preservation programs and receive grant funds. As a CLG, the City of El Paso carries out the purposes of the NHPA on the local level. The El Paso Historical Landmark Commission acts on behalf of the City of El Paso.
- **El Paso Preservation Alliance.** The mission of the El Paso Preservation Alliance is to promote the preservation of El Paso's history as it is manifested in the community's historic buildings.

- **New Mexico Heritage Preservation Alliance.** The New Mexico Heritage Preservation Alliance is a state-wide, private, non-profit organization that promotes, protects, and advocates for New Mexico's heritage.
- **Preservation Texas.** Preservation Texas, with offices in Austin, Texas, is a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of Texas's historic resources through education, promotion, and advocacy.
- **State Historic Preservation Officer.** Pursuant to Section 101 of the NHPA, the SHPO is responsible for administration of a State Historic Preservation Program as approved by the Secretary of the Interior. Although identified as an interested party, the SHPO is a consulting party in the Army's management of historic properties under the NHPA. In addition, SHPO staff members are available to lend technical assistance in cultural resources management issues. Fort Bliss, with lands in both New Mexico and Texas, coordinates with the New Mexico and Texas SHPOs. They are also included in the PA between Fort Bliss and the ACHP.
- **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) - U.S. Forest Service (USFS).** The USFS is not a signatory party to the ICRMP or EA; however, the USFS has management responsibility on lands withdrawn from public use in the Lincoln National Forest (approximately 17,000 acres), for use by the Department of the Army. Fort Bliss shares this land and has management responsibility for any military activities. This responsibility is defined by PL 99-606, the Military Lands Withdrawal Act (MLWA) of 1999, the Federal Lands Policy Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976, and the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Fort Bliss and the USDA (1971). The MOU establishes the USFS as the administering agency for all non-defense land uses and further establishes that these lands will be open to all forest users when not in use by the military.
- **U.S. Department of the Interior (USDI) - Bureau of Land Management (BLM).** The BLM is not a signatory party to the ICRMP or EA; however, the BLM has management responsibility for non-military activities on withdrawn lands on Fort Bliss (McGregor Range). This responsibility is defined by PL 99-606, MLWA, FLPMA, and the MOA between Fort Bliss and the USDI (2007). These responsibilities include management of cultural resources in withdrawal areas.

The following are Federally recognized Native American Tribes that have expressed interest in Fort Bliss's management of cultural resources. Although identified as interested parties under this section, Native American Tribes have a government-to-government relationship with Fort Bliss and should be consulted with at that level. Native American Tribes are also part of an effort to establish a CA between Fort Bliss and other tribes regarding the inadvertent discovery and intentional excavation of Native American human remains and cultural items.

Federally Recognized Native American Tribes

- Comanche Nation of Oklahoma
- Fort Sill Apache Tribe
- Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma
- Mescalero Apache Tribe
- Pueblo of Isleta
- White Mountain Apache Tribe
- Ysleta del Sur Pueblo (Tigua)

SECTION 2.0
DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

2.1 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Under the No Action Alternative, the proposed management measures set for the 2017-2021 ICRMP would not be implemented. Fort Bliss would continue to manage its cultural resources under the goals, objectives, and strategies outlined in the 2008-2012 ICRMP. The No Action Alternative would not comply with AR 200-1; Title 54 of the U.S.C., NHPA of 1996, as amended in 2014; or Section 106 of the NHPA. Fort Bliss requires an ICRMP review every 5 years in accordance with AR 200-1. The No Action Alternative serves as the baseline against which Federal actions can be evaluated and, as such, inclusion of the No Action Alternative is prescribed by CEQ regulations.

2.2 PROPOSED ACTION

Under the Proposed Action, Fort Bliss would implement the 2017-2021 ICRMP, which supports the management of cultural resources on the Installation and is a revision of the 2008-2012 ICRMP. The purpose of the Proposed Action is also to continue the management programs currently in place. The 2017-2021 ICRMP reviews the cultural resources activities undertaken at Fort Bliss since the implementation of the 2008-2012 ICRMP and proposes new projects and initiatives for the next 5 years. The 2017-2021 ICRMP is a living document and is designed to be a valuable, dynamic management tool that changes as the military mission or cultural resources conditions change. It serves as a practical guide for the management, sustainment, and stewardship of all cultural resources present on Fort Bliss, thus helping to ensure no net loss of mission capabilities.

The ICRMP establishes Installation-specific cultural resource management goals and objectives consistent with DoD 4715.16, AR 200-1; Title 54 of the U.S.C., NHPA of 1996, as amended in 2014; and Section 106 of the NHPA, as well as overall U.S. Army policy and guidance. Additionally, the ICRMP presents a series of projects and activities that would enhance cultural resources for multiple use, preservation, and protection without affecting other Installation plans, activities, or the overall mission. The goals and objectives would allow Fort Bliss to manage its cultural resources through an integrated and adaptive cultural management approach that is designed to sustain and be consistent with the military mission. The complete Draft 2017-2021 ICRMP can be found at www.bliss.army.mil/DPW/Environmental/EISDocuments2.html.

SECTION 3.0
AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

3.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

In accordance with NEPA and the CEQ regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR 1501.7[3]), the analysis of environmental conditions only needs to address those areas and environmental resources with the potential to be affected by either of the alternatives. A Table of Valued Environmental Components (VECs) was used to determine which resources would potentially be affected by either of the alternatives (U.S. Army Environmental Command [USAEC] 2007). The following resources are not affected by the Proposed Action and, as such, are not addressed in this EA:

- **Airspace:** The Proposed Action would not affect, or be affected by, the use of Fort Bliss military airspace or adjacent civilian airspace.
- **Geology:** The Proposed Action would not affect, nor be affected by, the use of geological and mineral resources on Fort Bliss provided that activities associated with geologic and mineral resources avoid cultural resources or are subject to the provisions of the PA and CA. The implementation of the 2017-2021 ICRMP would not change the geology of the area, but some ground disturbance could be associated with the implementation of the ICRMP, particularly if it includes subsurface testing as part of the ICRMP either during survey, site evaluation testing, or data recovery efforts. While such activities would have an impact on soils, the potential impacts on geological or mineral resources would be insignificant.
- **Groundwater:** The Proposed Action would not affect groundwater resources.
- **Noise:** The Proposed Action would have no impact on the current noise emissions that would occur on Fort Bliss.
- **Socioeconomics:** The Proposed Action would not affect socioeconomics, as no additional personnel or facilities would be added to the Installation.
- **Environmental Justice:** No disproportionate health or environmental effects on minorities or low-income populations or communities would occur as a result of the Proposed Action. The protection of cultural resources and historic properties could provide indirect benefits to low-income populations and communities by enriching and preserving the cultural heritage (e.g., historic properties and districts) of low-income communities.
- **Traffic and Transportation:** No public transportation routes or methods would be affected by the Proposed Action.
- **Air Quality:** The Proposed Action would have no impact on air quality and any actions would comply with National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

The VECs that could be affected by the Proposed Action are Land Use, Cultural Resources, Biological Resources, Soils and Ecosystems, Hazardous Materials and Waste, and Health and Safety.

3.1 LAND USE

Fort Bliss is an Army Installation used primarily for military training. Several Plans, MOUs (BLM, USFS), a PA (Texas and New Mexico SHPO and the ACHP), a Draft CA for Inadvertent Discovery and NAGPRA with affiliated Native American tribes, and EISs direct the land use

planning and management at Fort Bliss. Various management plans include the Range Complex Master Plan (RCMP), the Real Property Master Plan (RPMP), the 2015 INRMP, the Integrated Training Area Management Plan (ITAM), the SEIS, the GFS EIS, and the 2008-2012 ICRMP.

To better manage the land use on Fort Bliss, the FBTC has been divided into Land Use categories. These categories are based on such resources as soils, topography, vegetation type, cultural resources, and limit what type of training activity can occur in that area (i.e., on-road maneuver, off-road maneuver, dismounted maneuver, live fire, and mission support). Fort Bliss has established special land use designations for certain areas of the FBTC. These include the Culp Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA), the Black Grama Grassland Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs), Limited Use Areas (LUAs), Off-Limits Areas (OLAs), and Controlled Field Training Exercise Sites (FTXs). These land use designations are based on protecting the underlying resources (i.e., riparian areas, grasslands, cultural resources), and impact or Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) areas (Figure 3-1 and Table 3-1) (U.S. Army 2010).

Table 3-1. FBTC Land Use Categories

FBTC Land Use Category	Military Uses											
	Off-Road Vehicle Maneuver: Heavy	Off-Road Vehicle Maneuver: Light	On-Road Vehicle Maneuver	Dismounted Maneuver	Aircraft Operations	Controlled FTX	Mission Support Facilities	Live-Fire	SDZ / Safety Footprint	Surface Impact	Range Camps	Environmental Management
A	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•
B		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•
C			•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•
D			•	•	•		•	•	•			•
E			•	•	•			•	•			•
F			•	•	•	•			•			•
G			•	•	•				•			•
WSA/ACEC*				•	•				•			•
Impact Areas					•				•	•		
Range Camps					•		•		•		•	•

Source: U.S. Army 2010

* WSA = Wilderness Study Area

* ACEC = Area of Critical Environmental Concern

Non-military uses such as public road access and utility easements, hunting, hiking, and birding are allowed on portions of Fort Bliss, provided they do not conflict with military uses or pose safety risks to the public (Figure 3-1). Hunting on Fort Bliss is co-managed by Fort Bliss, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), and the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF). Currently, hunting is allowed on portions of the Doña Ana Range – North Training Areas, McGregor Range, and the South Training Areas. The total acreage available for hunting is approximately 681,000 acres. No hunting is permitted within the Main Post Area or

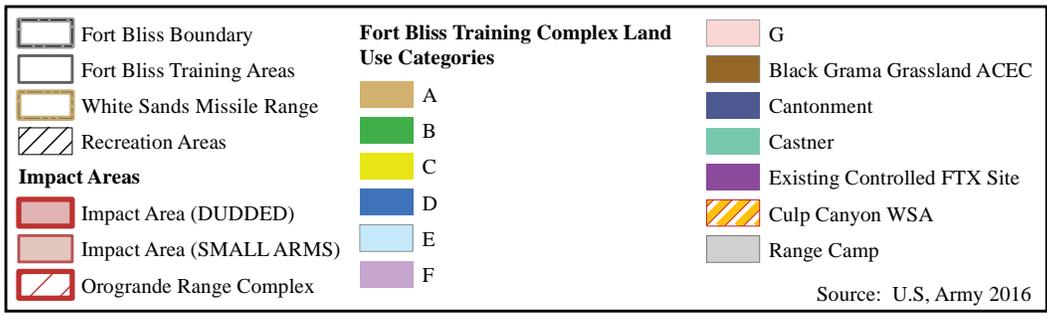
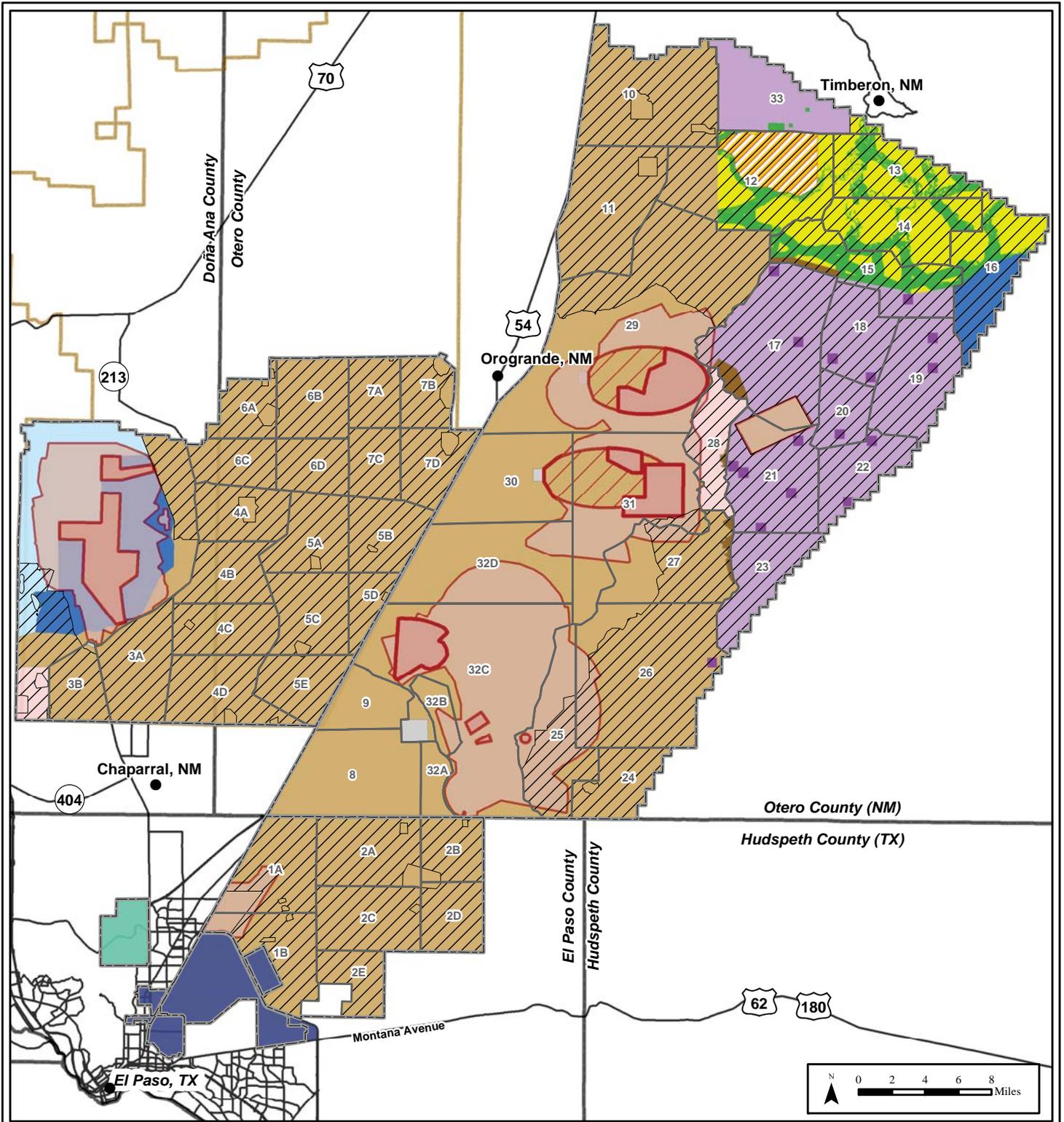


Figure 3-1. Fort Bliss Land Use Categories

Castner Range. All non-military uses can only be undertaken when military training is not ongoing and when authorized by Fort Bliss (U.S. Army 2010) (See Figure 3-1).

Per the MLWA, the Las Cruces District Office of the BLM manages livestock grazing on 14 grazing units (Figure 3-2) covering approximately 270,000 acres of the McGregor Range, while the USFS manages grazing within the Sacramento Mountains portion of the Lincoln National Forest. The number of grazing units and the number of livestock allowable per unit each year varies depending on ecological conditions. When active grazing units are utilized by the military, livestock are rarely relocated (U.S. Army 2010). Co-use of grazing units by the military and livestock have been occurring for more than 20 years with very few conflicts. This is due to restrictions on live-fire munitions and off-road vehicle maneuvering within grazing units.

The BLM uses four categories for rating visual aesthetics of landscapes. They are Class I and II, the most aesthetically valued; Class III moderate value; and Class IV the least aesthetically valued. A corridor along US 54 and NM 506 on McGregor Range has been designated as a Class III. The objective of the Class III designation is to partially retain the existing character of the landscape. The BLM has ranked Culp Canyon WSA on McGregor Range as Class II. A Class II designation indicates that changes to the characteristic landscape should be low impacts. The BLM objective is to retain the existing character of the landscape. The USFS also assigns visual classifications to its co-managed areas ranging from Preservation to Maximum Modification. The Lincoln National Forest adjacent to McGregor Range is classified as a Modification Area due its relatively low visual quality, its alterations such as roads and signage, and evidence of productive uses (U.S. Army 2010) (see Figure 3-2).

3.2 CULTURAL RESOURCES

Cultural resources represent the material manifestations of the knowledge, technologies, beliefs, art, morals, laws, and customs particular to the people who have resided in a region (U.S. Army 2010). Cultural resources on Fort Bliss are managed and protected through historic preservation laws, regulations, and other provisions including, but not limited to, NHPA, AIRFA, ARPA, NAGPRA, Executive Order 11593 Protection of the Cultural Environment (1971), Executive Order 13007 Indian Sacred Sites (1996), Army Regulation 200-4 (Cultural Resources Management), and the PA between Fort Bliss and the New Mexico and Texas SHPOs and the ACHP. Cultural resources include prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs), sacred sites, historic buildings, structures, artifacts, cultural landscapes, and historic districts. Fort Bliss has a designated historic district on the main cantonment, and OLAs have been established within the FBTC to protect a representative sample of significant cultural resources. The *Fort Bliss Texas and New Mexico, Mission and Master Plan, Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement* (U.S. Army 2000) describes in detail the cultural history of Native Americans and post-contact inhabitants in the region. The 2017-2021 ICRMP also contains detailed information regarding the history of Fort Bliss (U.S. Army 2016).

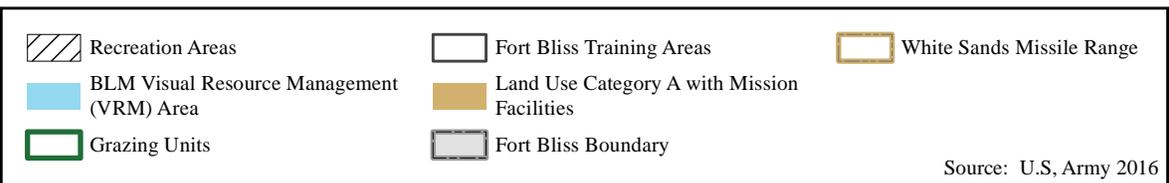
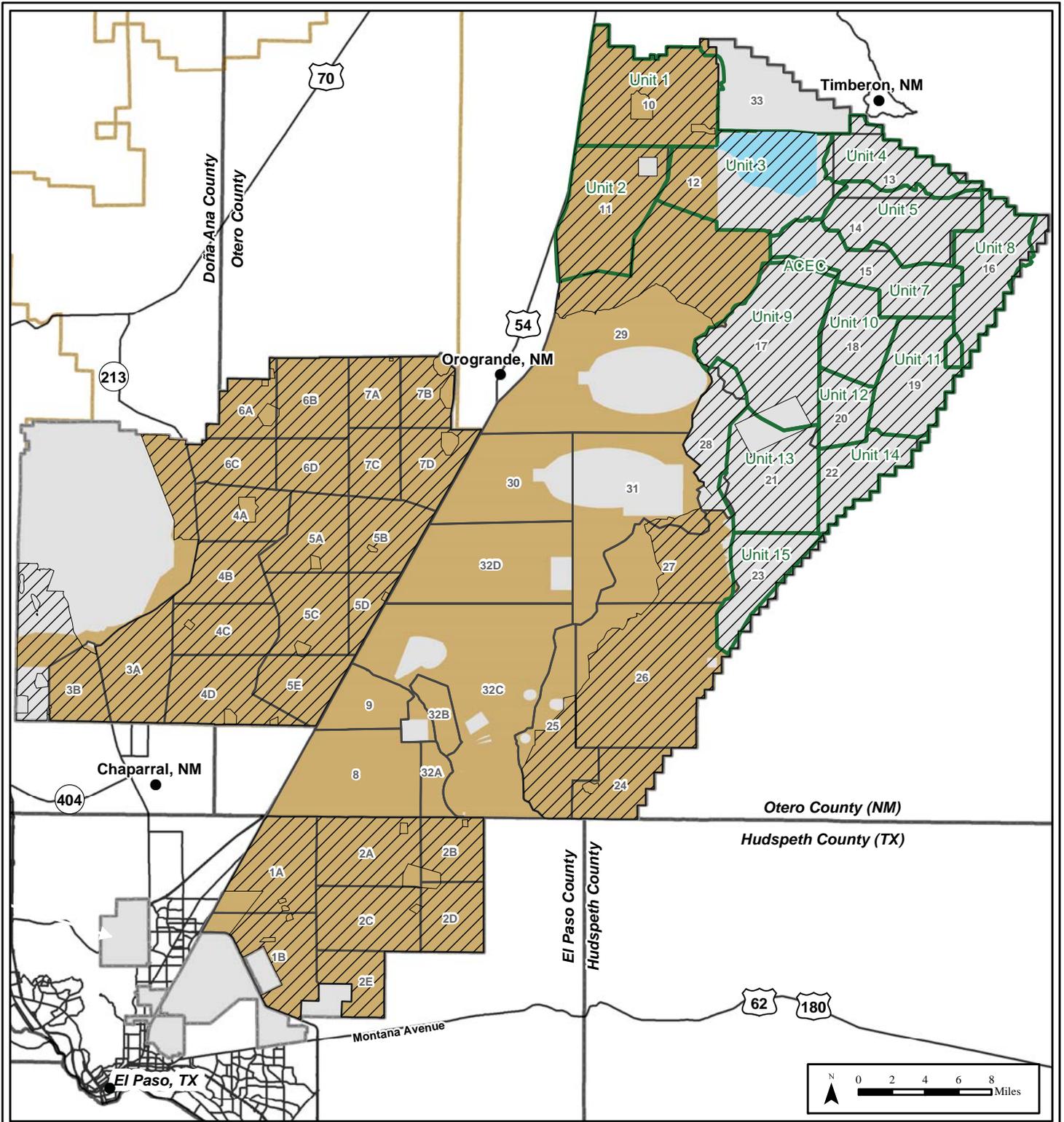


Figure 3-2. Fort Bliss Land Use and Aesthetics

As of July 2016, a total of 20,812 archaeological sites and approximately 1,305 historic buildings and structures have been identified on Fort Bliss. One archaeological district, seven historic districts, and 12 historic landscapes have been identified on Fort Bliss. Of the archaeological sites recorded, 3,684 have been recommended as eligible for the NRHP (17.7 percent), 10,621 have been recommended as not eligible (51 percent), and the remaining 6,507 sites (31.3 percent) have not yet been evaluated for NRHP eligibility. In addition to archaeological sites, historic properties, and historic districts, Fort Bliss manages TCPs and sites that are sacred to affiliated Native American Groups.

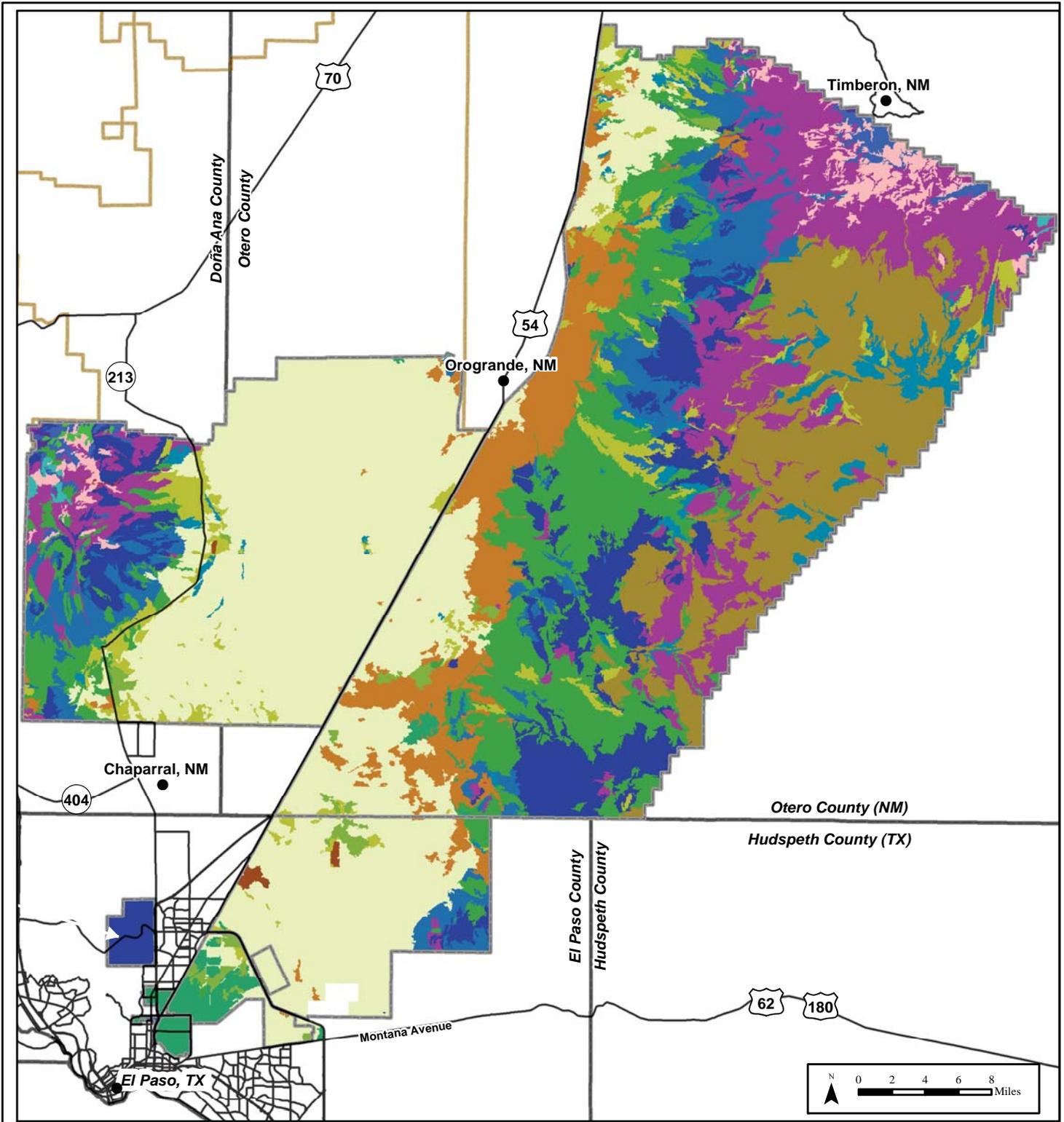
Previous investigations have identified sites that span the range of cultural and temporal periods from the Paleoindian to the Protohistoric and range from large multi-room pueblos to small lithic scatters and rock art. The Historic Period begins with Spanish exploration and culminates with the Cold War era. The 2017-2021 ICRMP provides a detailed culture history of Fort Bliss and its surrounding environment, including the variety of types of sites that are known or can be expected within the Installation.

3.3 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Fort Bliss exhibits a high degree of biodiversity due to its varied topography and large size (approximately 1.12 million acres). Plant communities on the Installation range from Chihuahuan desertscrub in the Tularosa Basin to Rocky Mountain conifer forests in the Organ and Sacramento Mountains. The major plant community types in the lower areas of Fort Bliss are desert grasslands, Chihuahuan desertscrub, and plains mesa sandscrub. Vegetation types that occur in the mountains are juniper savanna, coniferous and mixed woodlands, and montane conifer forests. The Main Post contains trees and other landscaped shrubbery (U.S. Army 2007b).

Fort Bliss is generally characterized as a shrub-grassland vegetation community, as over 95 percent of the Installation is classified by these two general vegetation types. Grassland plant communities account for more than 26 percent of the land on Fort Bliss. Approximately 3 percent of Fort Bliss is sandy plains and basin desert grasslands, 11 percent is mesa and piedmont grasslands, and 12 percent is foothills desert grasslands. Approximately 31 percent of Fort Bliss is mesquite-dominated plant communities, most of which are coppiced dunes, while another 30 percent of the Installation is covered by creosote-dominated plant communities. Basin sandscrub communities cover about 8 percent of Fort Bliss and are areas where a high diversity of annual and perennial plant species can occur during years of average to above-average precipitation. Woodland plant communities cover approximately 1 percent of Fort Bliss (U.S. Army 2007b). The land cover vegetation types are shown in Figure 3-3.

The borderlands region of New Mexico and Texas is a center of biodiversity in temperate North America for birds, mammals, amphibians, and reptiles. Likewise, Fort Bliss supports a relatively high faunal diversity. Approximately 335 species of bird, 58 species of mammal, 39 species of reptile, and eight species of amphibian are known to occur on Fort Bliss lands. In addition, many more species have the potential to occur on Fort Bliss due to the presence of suitable habitat, but have not been documented to date.



Source: U.S. Army 2016

Figure 3-3. Fort Bliss Plant Communities

Seven exotic plant species considered noxious occur on Fort Bliss. African rue (*Peganum harmala*) is the only actively controlled invasive species on Fort Bliss. It invades disturbed areas and, once successfully established, can spread and outcompete native grasses. Russian thistle (*Salosa tragus*) is another species that has been established on disturbed ground throughout Fort Bliss. Saltcedar (*Tamarix ramosissima*) exists at some stock tanks and at other widely scattered locations on Fort Bliss. Malta starthistle (*Centaurea melitensis*) is another invasive species that grows on Fort Bliss along U.S. Highway 54, and may occur along other roadways on the Installation as well. Other exotic species of concern include Johnsongrass (*Sorghum halepense*) which occurs in some drainages, Bermudagrass (*Cynodon dactylon*) which is found on some abandoned farmland that is no longer irrigated, and kochia (*Bassia scoparia*), which occurs on Otero Mesa (U.S. Army 2015).

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and the states of New Mexico and Texas list various species of flora and fauna that are known to occur, or have the potential to occur, on Fort Bliss as threatened, endangered, or species of concern. Additionally, Locally Important Natural Resources (LINRs) have been identified for protection by Fort Bliss. LINRs include black grama grasslands, sand sagebrush communities, shinnery oak islands, and arroyo-riparian drainages and playas (U.S. Army 2010). Fort Bliss has 57 sensitive, threatened, or endangered species of flora and fauna that are known to occur, or have the potential to occur, on the Installation (U.S. Army 2010). Of these 57 species, nine have Federal special status. Eight species are Federally listed as threatened or endangered (T&E) and one is a candidate for listing. Of the eight listed species, only the Sneed's pincushion cactus (*Escobaria sneedii* var. *sneedii*) occurs on Fort Bliss. The remaining seven species, Kuenzler's hedgehog cactus (*Echinocereus fendleri* var. *kuenzleri*), interior least tern (*Sterna antillarum athalassos*), yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*), southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*), piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*), northern aplomado falcon (*Falco femoralis septentrionalis*) and the Mexican spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis lucida*), are not known to occur, have no suitable habitat or insufficient habitat to maintain a population, or exist as rare, transitory, or seasonal migrants, and breeding is not known to occur on Fort Bliss. The northern aplomado falcon is a Nonessential Experimental Population within the states of New Mexico and Arizona. The species is known to occur on Otero Mesa. Sprague's pipit (*Anthus spragueii*) is a Federal candidate species for listing as endangered and occurs on grasslands of Otero Mesa in winter.

3.4 SOILS AND ECOSYSTEMS

Most of Fort Bliss is located in a large intermontane basin called the Tularosa-Hueco Basin. The basin lies between the Franklin and Organ mountains to the west, and the Sacramento and Hueco mountains to the east. Fort Bliss elevations range from the basin floor at approximately 3,800 feet above sea level, to over 8,800 feet in the Organ Mountains. The region is part of the Basin and Range Physiographic Province of the western United States, as well as the northern part of the Chihuahuan Desert, an interior continental desert which receives most of its rainfall during the hot summer months (USAEC 2013).

Fort Bliss uses pedological, geomorphic, vegetative, and other criteria to define Ecological Management Units (EMUs) that contain similar natural characteristics. Fort Bliss EMUs were

created for use as a management tool to maintain ecological connectivity between Fort Bliss and surrounding lands (Figure 3-4) and to assist in the development of goals for ecosystem management. The EMU concept helps promote better land stewardship and sustainment practices on Fort Bliss within the INRMP (U.S. Army 2010).

Fort Bliss EMUs consist of areas of similar vegetation, fauna, topography, soils, and climate and are as follows:

- **Basin Aeolian:** Major landforms of the Basin Aeolian EMU are wind-driven, large shifting sands, coppice dunes, and sandsheets. Elevations range from 3,900 to 5,200 feet. Wind-deposited (Aeolian) coppice dunes anchored by mesquite (*Prosopis glandulosa* var. *torreyana*) and other shrubs, cover most of the basin floor. The dune soils are mainly Entisols, exhibiting little soil horizon development, and having formed only within the last few hundred years. They are sands and loamy sands that are highly susceptible to wind erosion due in part to the lack of soil structural development and sparse vegetative cover. Typically underlying the coppice sand dunes is a much older (Pliocene-Pleistocene) calcrete soil up to 7 meters thick. The calcrete (“caliche”) is a massive white calcium carbonate unit that generally has a soil texture of sandy clay loam. Where calcrete horizons are exposed on the surface or are shallowly buried, the soils are classified as Aridisols, a soil order having diagnostic subsurface soil horizons (in this case, calcrete) (USAEC 2013)

Vegetation associated with the coppice dunes includes mesquite, broom snakeweed (*Gutierrezia sarothrae*), and four-winged saltbush (*Atriplex canescens*). Large-scale wind-driven shifting sand dunes contain typical sand-obligate plant species including sensitive briar (*Mimosa quadrivalvis*), pink plains penstemon (*Penstemon ambiguus*), sand reverchonia (*Reverchonia arenaria*), bindweed heliotropium (*Heliotropium convolvulaceum*), hoary rosemary mint (*Poliomintha incana*), and shinnery oak (*Quercus havardii*). Shinnery oak occurs in the northern portions of McGregor Range and represents one of the westernmost outlier stands for the species’ geographic distribution. Outside the dune systems, sandy soils persist on the piedmont to the basin bottom transition, forming sparse desert grassland and shrublands of sandscrub (*Ceanothus* spp.), mesquite, and a mix of mesa dropseed (*Sporobulus flexuosus*), four-wing saltbush, and creosote bush (*Larrea tridentata*) (U.S. Army 2010).

- **Basin Alluvial:** The Basin Alluvial is the landform intermediate between Basin Aeolian and the Foothill-Bajada Complex EMUs. Water-mediated erosion and deposition are the major terrain-forming processes as indicated by intermontane valleys, arroyos, alluvial fans, alluvial plains, and playas. Soils are mainly Entisols and Aridisols, and are predominantly alluvial (derived from water-deposited sediments). Elevation ranges from 3,900 to 5,200 feet, with upper elevations composed of mainly gravelly soils. At lower elevations loamy and silty soils occupy depressions adjacent to Basin Aeolian sandsheets and dunes. Silt and clay soils are found in low-lying playas and other depressions that are subject to occasional flooding (USAEC 2013).

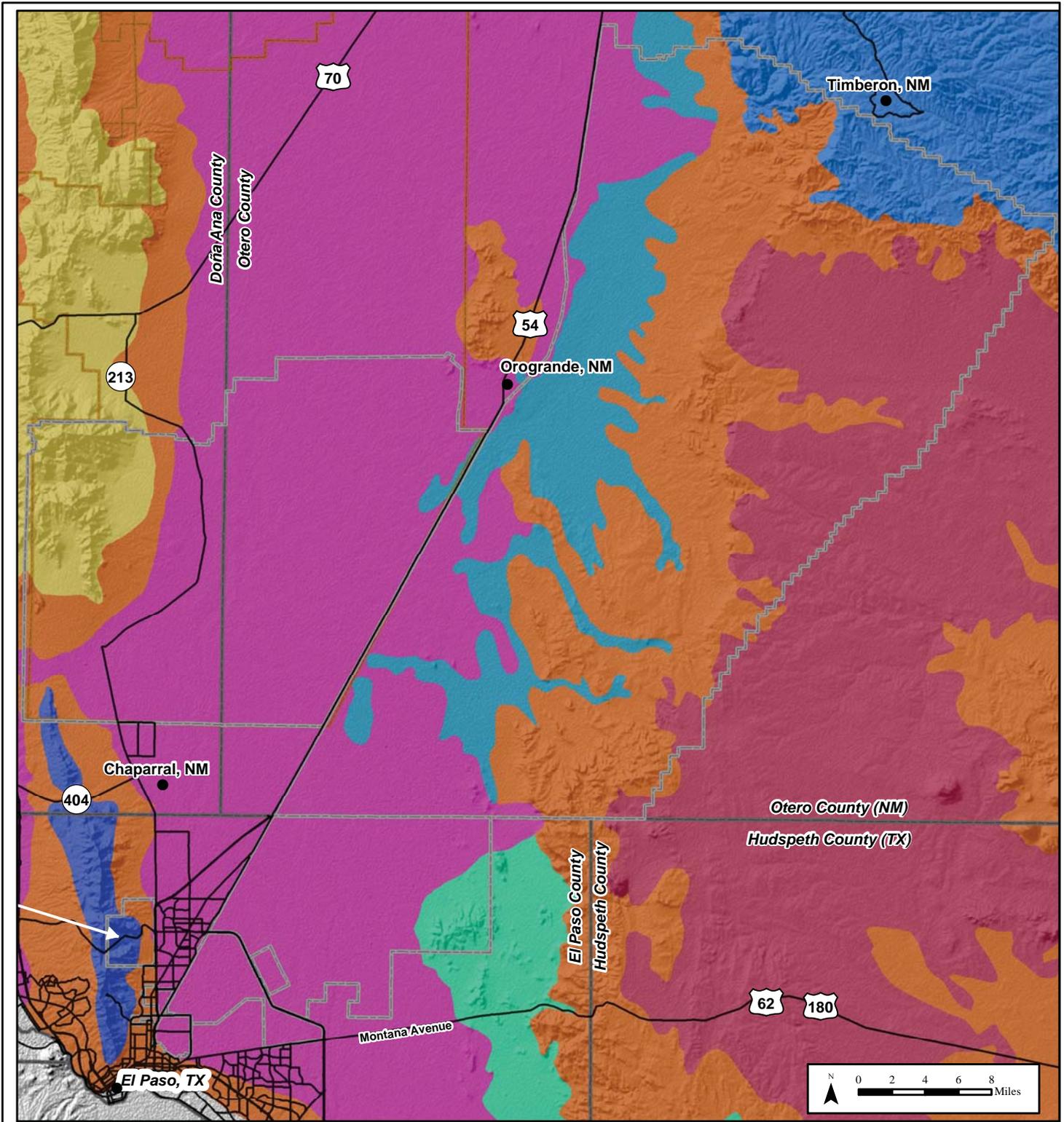


Figure 3-4. Regional and Fort Bliss Ecological Management Units

Desertscrub with scattered inclusions of desert grassland occurs on the shallow rocky soils and tarweed (*Madia* spp.) is found on the lower, gently grading to flat bottom areas with siltier soils. Sandy-loam soils support mesquite, sandsage (*Artemisia filifolia*), and a mix of mesa dropseed, four-wing saltbush, and creosote bush. The basin alluvial areas are the most productive lowland areas and are valuable for wildlife habitat (U.S. Army 2010).

- **Foothill-Bajada Complex:** The Foothill-Bajada Complex EMU is located in two separate areas of Fort Bliss: (1) near the western boundary on the east and south slopes of the Organ Mountains, and (2) running north to south along the western edge of the Sacramento Mountains, Hueco Mountains, and Otero Mesa. Elevation is between 4,000 and 5,500 feet. This EMU comprises a gently sloping piedmont dissected by drainages originating from the Organ, Franklin, Sacramento, and Hueco mountains, and Otero Mesa. The texture for these alluvial soils is typically sandy loam, but the soils also contain variable amounts of rock fragments eroded from the adjacent mountains. Soils in the upper elevations of this EMU consist of shallow loamy or gravelly soils atop sedimentary or igneous bedrock. These soils are susceptible to gully and sheet erosion from running water and less prone to wind erosion (USAEC 2103).

The Foothill-Bajada Complex EMU supports a diversity of shrubs such as beargrass (*Nolina* spp.), sotol (*Dasyilirion wheeleri*), feather pea bush (*Dalea formosa*), Mormon tea (*Ephedra viridis*), mariola (*Parthenium incanum*), javelin bush (*Condalia ericoides*), acacia (*Acacia* spp.), mesquite, dropseed (*Sporobulus* spp.), grama grass (*Bouteloua* spp.), muhly grass (*Muhlenbergia* spp.), and numerous cacti. The area also has high-quality grama grasslands in portions of the EMU (U.S. Army 2010).

- **Franklin Mountains:** The Franklin Mountains are a relatively small EMU located within the Castner Range. Elevations range from 4,300 to 5,500 feet. Vegetation is a mix of desertscrub with some riparian vegetation and a high diversity of cacti. Water erosion is a potential hazard if plant cover is disturbed (U.S. Army 1996).
- **Hueco Mountains:** The Hueco Mountains EMU is at the southeastern border of Fort Bliss. Elevation ranges from 4,500 to 6,000 feet. Steep limestone mountain and hill slopes with shallow soils alternate with narrow to broad mountain valleys that drain northwest through alluvial piedmonts to the basin floor. Water erosion is a potential hazard if plant cover is disturbed (USAEC 2013).

Succulent communities with agave, sotol, yucca (*Yucca* spp.), beargrass, and cacti populate the lower elevations; juniper (*Juniperus* spp.) grows sparsely on the higher slopes and in canyons. Although there are mesic canyons, there is no montane riparian vegetation or perennial water. In addition, lechuguilla (*Agave lechuguilla*), creosote bush, and mariola dominate the shallow soils on the steep, rocky limestone slopes. Sideoats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*) and occasionally black grama (*Bouteloua eriopoda*) desert grasslands occupy gentle slopes, as well as gravelly, somewhat deeper soils on the upper piedmont. The lower piedmont often supports creosote bush communities (U.S. Army 1996).

- **Organ Mountains:** The Organ Mountains EMU encompasses the slopes and peaks of the Organ Mountains, which are at the northwest border of Fort Bliss. Elevation ranges from 4,500 to 8,800 feet. Topographic relief is high with steep, precipitous slopes alternating with deep canyons. Steep elevation gradients combine with diverse geologic substrates to support the highest vegetation diversity of any EMU on Fort Bliss (USAEC 2013).

Pinyon pine (*Pinus edulis*) and juniper are dominant forest types, but ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) and Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) stands occur at the higher elevations. Oak woodlands are found on the middle slopes along with montane grasslands. Chihuahuan Desert grassland and scrub occur at lower elevations. Water erosion is a potential hazard if plant cover is disturbed (U.S. Army 1996).

- **Otero Mesa:** The Otero Mesa EMU is located adjacent to the Sacramento Mountains and the Foothill-Bajada Complex. This area is tableland (a nearly flat, elevated plateau) with a broad drainage system that originates in the Sacramento Mountains to the north and the Otero Mesa escarpment to the west. Elevations on the mesa range from 4,756 to 5,248 feet, with average cooler temperatures and rainfall several inches higher than adjacent lowlands (U.S. Army 1996).

Otero Mesa contains deep, well-drained, sandy and loamy soils and has a large expanse of relatively intact black grama grassland mixed with shrubs. Vegetation includes grama grasses, muhly grasses, and three-awn (*Aristida* spp.), with swale areas having coarser grasses such as tobosa grass (*Pleuraphis mutica*). Four separate plots of land at Fort Bliss have been designated as ACECs and were established to ensure that portions of black grama grasslands remain intact (U.S. Army 1996).

- **Sacramento Mountains:** This EMU comprises the southern end of the Sacramento Mountains, which occur at the northeastern border of Fort Bliss. The elevation range is 4,450 to 7,700 feet. This area is made up of a complex of limestone foothills of diverse aspects alternating with steep-sided canyons and narrow to moderately wide valleys. The entire mountain range includes coniferous forest, riparian zones, and springs. Water erosion is a potential hazard if plant cover is disturbed (USAEC 2013).

Fort Bliss occupies only a small portion of the Sacramento Mountains range which primarily consists of pinyon-juniper and mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus montanus*) at higher elevations, and sandscrub and Chihuahuan desertscrub at lower elevations. There is no montane riparian vegetation and very little ponderosa pine forest on the McGregor Range portions of the Sacramento Mountains.

More detailed information on Fort Bliss soils and ecosystems can be found in the Fort Bliss Soil Survey (USDA 2004), which includes physical, chemical, and engineering properties, as well as limitations for military uses and ecological site descriptions and classifications. The soil survey contains data characterizing current conditions of soils, vegetation, and overall ecology, which may be useful in planning military actions and selecting locations for construction and training purposes.

3.5 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND WASTE

Hazardous materials are substances that cause human physical or health hazards (29 CFR 191.1200). Materials that are physically hazardous include combustible and flammable substances, compressed gases, and oxidizers. Health hazards are associated with materials that cause acute or chronic reactions, including toxic agents, carcinogens, and irritants. Hazardous materials are regulated in Texas and New Mexico by a combination of mandated laws promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), and the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). In addition to the mandates established by these agencies, Fort Bliss manages hazardous materials under the Installation Hazardous Waste Management Plan (IHWMP).

3.6 HEALTH AND SAFETY

Federal, state, and Fort Bliss guidelines, rules, and regulations are in place to protect personnel throughout and near the Installation. Safety information and analysis is found in literature published by Fort Bliss, such as Fort Bliss Regulation 385-63 and AR 385-10, *Army Safety Program* (U.S. Army 2011). Health programs are promoted through the U.S. Army Public Health Command and Medical Command. Fort Bliss has also established various procedures to meet health and safety requirements of the Installation. Health hazards throughout the Installation include exposure to UXOs, dehydration and heat illness, venomous wildlife, exposure to smoke, bird/wildlife aircraft strike hazard (BASH), vehicle accidents, and exposure to pests. Major pests include mice, gophers, skunks, termites, mosquitos, flies, cockroaches, crickets, ants, spiders, and ticks (U.S. Army 2015). Such pests are managed under the Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPMP), Fort Bliss, Texas and New Mexico (Fort Bliss DPW-E 2012a).

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

Environmental impacts (consequences or effect) can either be beneficial or adverse, and can be either directly related to the action or indirectly caused by the action. Direct impacts are those effects that are caused by the action and occur at the same time and place (40 CFR 1508.8[a]). Indirect impacts are those effects that are caused by the action and are later in time or further removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable (40 CFR 1508.8[b]). As discussed in this section, the No Action Alternative and the Proposed Action may create temporary (lasting the duration of construction), short-term (up to 3 years), long-term (greater than 3 years), or permanent impacts.

Environmental impacts on each resource can vary in degree or magnitude from a slightly noticeable change to a total change in the environment. For the purpose of this analysis, the intensity of the impacts would be classified as negligible, minor, moderate, or major. The intensity thresholds are defined as follows:

- **Negligible:** A resource would not be affected or the effects would be at or below the level of detection, and changes would not result in any measurable or perceptible consequences.
- **Minor:** Effects on a resource would be detectable, although the effects would be localized, small, or of little consequence to the sustainability of the resources. Mitigation measures, if needed to offset adverse effects, would be simple and achievable.
- **Moderate:** Effects on a resource would be readily detectable, long-term, localized, and measurable. Mitigation measures, if needed to offset adverse effects, would be extensive and likely achievable.
- **Major:** Effects on a resource would be obvious, long-term, and would have substantial consequences on a regional scale. Extensive mitigation measures to offset the adverse effects would be required and success of the mitigation measures would not be guaranteed.

Resources that would be impacted by the Proposed Action and discussed in this EA are land use, cultural resources, biological resources, soils and ecosystems, hazardous materials and waste, and health and safety. A summary of the impacts on these resources are shown in Table 4-1.

4.1 LAND USE

4.1.1 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, Fort Bliss would continue to manage its cultural resources as detailed within the 2008-2012 ICRMP, MOU, MOA, PA, CA, existing guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place. These primarily address the management of its cultural resources from an individual activity or project basis. No changes in current land use would occur and land use would continue to be managed under guidelines, rules, regulations, and MOUs currently in place. However, the No Action Alternative does not meet the long-term needs of Fort Bliss as a sustainable military training Installation.

Table 4-1. Summary Matrix of Environmental Impacts

Resource	No Action Alternative	Proposed Action
Land Use	<p>Negligible. No changes in current land use would occur. Land use would continue to be managed under guidelines, rules, regulations, and MOUs currently in place.</p> <p>Minor, adverse. The proposed management measures set forth in the 2017-2021 ICRMP would not be implemented. Fort Bliss would continue to manage its cultural resources under the goals, objectives, and strategies outlined in the 2008-2012 ICRMP. However, the No Action Alternative would not be in compliance with AR 200-1, which mandates that Fort Bliss prepares and implements the ICRMP.</p>	<p>Moderate, beneficial. New goals, objectives, and projects would be established or undertaken that would have a beneficial long-term impact on land use and how it is managed. They would allow Fort Bliss to become a sustainable military training Installation.</p>
Cultural Resources	<p>Negligible. The biological resources would continue to be managed as detailed within the 2015 INRMP, the MOUs, the guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place.</p> <p>Negligible. Soils and ecosystems would continue to be managed as detailed within the 2015 INRMP and the Fort Bliss Construction Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) guidance.</p>	<p>Major, beneficial. The 2017-2021 ICRMP is an update of the 2008-2012 plan that would continue the management programs currently in place, as well as implement new specific program element techniques, goals, objectives, and action items. This would allow Fort Bliss to manage its cultural resources through an updated, integrated, adaptive, management approach designed to sustain and be consistent with the military mission. The Proposed Action would allow Fort Bliss to comply with AR 200-1.</p>
Biological Resources	<p>Negligible. Soils and ecosystems would continue to be managed as detailed within the 2015 INRMP and the Fort Bliss Construction Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) guidance.</p>	<p>Minor, beneficial. The 2017-2021 ICRMP would better integrate with the 2015 INRMP to ensure avoidance or minimal impact to T&E species and ACECs. Protection and avoidance of cultural resources and landscapes may inadvertently provide added protection to flora and fauna species.</p>
Soils and Ecosystems	<p>Negligible. Hazardous materials and waste would continue to be managed under guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place.</p>	<p>Minor, beneficial. The 2017-2021 ICRMP would better integrate with the 2015 INRMP to ensure avoidance or minimal impact to soils and ecosystems. Protection and avoidance of cultural resources and landscapes may inadvertently provide added protection to ACECs.</p>
Hazardous Materials and Waste	<p>Negligible. Health and safety would continue to be managed under guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place.</p>	<p>Minor, beneficial. The 2017-2021 ICRMP would ensure that proper procedures are followed in the rehabilitation of historic structures, minimizing adverse effects associated with the exposure for hazardous materials such as asbestos.</p>
Health and Safety	<p>Negligible. Health and safety would continue to be managed under guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place.</p>	<p>Minor, beneficial. The 2017-2021 ICRMP would ensure that proper procedures are followed in the rehabilitation of historic structures, minimizing exposure to hazardous materials such as asbestos to Soldiers, families, employees, contractors, and the general population.</p>

4.1.2 Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would not affect the land use or change the character of the landscape, as the primary land use would remain military. Instead, the Proposed Action establishes goals, objectives, and projects that would have a long-term beneficial impact on land use and how it is managed. The goals, objectives, and projects would allow Fort Bliss to become a sustainable military training Installation.

The Proposed Action would integrate cultural resources and historic preservation compliance requirements with other Installation plans including, but not limited to, the Installation master plan, the facilities maintenance plan, training and range area management plans, natural resources management plans, mobilization and deployment plans, and information management systems, and with military training, construction, maintenance, real property management, land use decisions, and other undertakings. It would also establish procedures for compliance with Federal laws, regulations, and executive orders requiring the protection and management of cultural resources with the least possible effect on military training and mission support activities. The Proposed Action would ensure that Fort Bliss is in compliance with AR 200-1 and other Federal laws and would ensure the protection and management of cultural resources, which would allow land use at Fort Bliss to continue as a sustainable military training Installation with minimal impacts on the mission. Implementation of the 2017-2021 ICRMP would not affect recreational activities such as hunting, hiking, or birding, except where sensitive cultural resources may require additional protection. The Proposed Action would also not significantly alter the landscape or visual aesthetics of the area.

Archaeological and historical districts, as well as cultural and historical landscapes, may limit certain land use categories, such as Off-Road Vehicle Maneuver areas and certain training activities (e.g., live fire, surface impact) that could alter, damage, or destroy cultural resources within districts/landscapes. For example, newly identified cultural resources including archaeological sites, historic buildings, archaeological districts, historic districts, and historic landscapes would potentially change the land use categories of the Installation where new sites are found in areas where they were no known cultural resources. Areas classified currently as A or B may need to be changed to F or G, or WSA/ACEC, to limit off-road traffic and ground disturbance.

4.2 CULTURAL RESOURCES

4.2.1 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, Fort Bliss would continue to manage its cultural resources as detailed within the 2008-2012 ICRMP, MOU, MOA, PA, CA, existing guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place. The proposed management measures set forth in the 2017-2021 ICRMP would not be implemented. However, the No Action Alternative does not meet the long-term needs of Fort Bliss as a sustainable military training Installation. The No Action Alternative would not be in compliance with AR 200-1, which mandate that Fort Bliss prepare and implement the ICRMP. The No Action Alternative does not meet the long-term needs of Fort Bliss as a sustainable military training Installation.

4.2.2 Proposed Action

Any operations that involve ground-disturbing activities have the potential to adversely affect cultural resources on Fort Bliss. Mission activities that may affect archaeological sites include excavation and ground-disturbing activities associated with military training, off-road maneuvers, construction of new facilities, and static positions where troops, vehicles, or equipment are concentrated. Mission activities likely to affect architectural properties include demolition of historic properties, construction of new facilities, landscaping, or maintenance and renovation.

Fort Bliss manages its cultural resources through the ICRMP, PA, CA, MOA, and MOUs. Archaeological sites, historic buildings, and districts can be identified through survey and evaluation prior to disturbances associated with activities described above. Protections also extend to historic buildings that are rehabilitated utilizing the provisions outlined in the ICRMP. In unsurveyed areas, prior to any ground disturbance for a specific project, an archaeological survey must be performed to ascertain if any cultural resources are present in accordance with Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). If any cultural resources are encountered, an evaluation as to their eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP must be conducted. SOPs 1 through 5 of 2017-2021 ICRMP would provide for review of new activities and construction, and as a result, protect cultural resources from impacts while at the same time allowing for the successful completion of mission activities:

- SOP No. 1: Compliance with ARPA
- SOP No. 2: Compliance with NAGPRA
- SOP No. 3: Native American Consultation under NHPA
- SOP No. 4: Identifying Consulting Parties
- SOP No. 5: Curatorial and Collection Management of Archaeological and Historical Collections and Associated Records.

If a site is found eligible for inclusion in the NRHP, appropriate mitigation measures are then prescribed. The preferred measure is usually avoidance of the site.

With the implementation of the 2017-2021 ICRMP, archaeological surveys are planned to be conducted on more than 55,000 acres of land that were not previously surveyed for cultural resources. In addition, Fort Bliss would evaluate more than 140 buildings constructed between 1921 and 1972, evaluate and test dozens of previously recorded sites, monitor and evaluate rock art, and conduct data recovery at select sites. These surveys, evaluations, monitoring, testing, and data recovery efforts would identify previously unrecorded cultural resources and known archaeological sites that would have potentially been adversely impacted by mission activities conducted on the Installation. As a result, significant cultural resources can be identified and protected before they can be impacted by mission activities. In addition to the provisions outlined in the ICRMP, the Integrated Wildland Fire Management Plan (IWFMP) identifies wildfire protection measures regarding cultural resources (DPW-E 2013a). Implementation of the 2017-2021 ICRMP would ultimately have long-term beneficial impacts on cultural resources.

SECTION 4.0
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

4.3 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

4.3.1 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, Fort Bliss would continue to manage its cultural resources as detailed within the 2008-2012 ICRMP, MOU, MOA, PA, CA, existing guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place. The biological resources would continue to be managed as detailed within the 2015 INRMP, the MOUs, the guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place. However, the 2008-2012 ICRMP does not meet all updated guidelines, rules, and regulations of the 2015 INRMP and undertakings with a cultural resources component could have the potential to adversely affect the biological resources and sensitive species. The No Action Alternative does not meet the long-term needs of Fort Bliss as a sustainable military training Installation.

4.3.2 Proposed Action

It is possible that provisions within the ICRMP may require survey, testing, and data recovery in biologically sensitive areas or near the presence of endangered and protected species. Ground-disturbing cultural resources investigations also have the potential to promote the spread of invasive species, though on a very limited scale, if the disturbed areas are not subject to environmental restoration (e.g., backfilling and hydroseeding, if necessary). While implementation of the ICRMP may involve ground-disturbing activities and possible disturbance of habitat and endangered species, actions conducted under the implementation of the ICRMP would also be subject to the provisions outlined in the INRMP. Adherence to the provisions of the INRMP would avoid, minimize, or mitigate any potential effects on biological resources. As a result, no adverse impacts on biological resources are anticipated from the implementation of the 2017-2021 ICRMP. Furthermore, the 2017-2021 ICRMP would better integrate with the 2015 INRMP to ensure avoidance or minimal impact on T&E species and ACECs. Protection and avoidance of cultural resources and landscapes may inadvertently provide added protection to select flora and fauna species.

4.4 SOILS AND ECOSYSTEMS

4.4.1 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, Fort Bliss would continue to manage its cultural resources as detailed within the 2008-2012 ICRMP, MOU, MOA, PA, CA, existing guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place. Soils and ecosystems would continue to be managed as detailed within the 2015 INRMP and the Fort Bliss Construction Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) guidance. However, the 2008-2012 ICRMP does not meet all updated guidelines, rules, and regulations of the 2015 INRMP and undertakings with a cultural resources component could have the potential to adversely affect soils (e.g., causing erosion) and sensitive ecosystems (e.g., introducing invasive and disturbed-ground species). The No Action Alternative does not meet the long-term needs of Fort Bliss as a sustainable military training Installation.

4.4.2 Proposed Action

It is unlikely that implementation of the 2017-2021 ICRMP would adversely affect soils or ecosystems, but relatively minor ground disturbance could result, particularly from subsurface testing during survey, site evaluation testing, and data recovery efforts. Soil erosion as a result of minor excavations would not be significant. Such ground-disturbing activities would conform to

provisions outlined in the 2015 INRMP, and would include measures such as a SWPPP, backfilling of spoils, and revegetation of disturbed areas to prevent or limit the spread of invasive species.

The 2017-2021 ICRMP would better integrate with the 2015 INRMP to ensure avoidance or minimal impact on soils and ecosystems. Implementation of the 2017-2021 ICRMP may indirectly protect soils, ecosystems, and ACECs within and surrounding archaeological sites and historic properties through avoidance and monitoring.

4.5 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND WASTE

4.5.1 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, Fort Bliss would continue to manage its cultural resources as detailed within the 2008-2012 ICRMP, MOU, MOA, PA, CA, existing guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place. Hazardous materials and waste would continue to be managed under guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place. Materials that are physically hazardous include combustible and flammable substances, compressed gases, and oxidizers, but are typically not associated with cultural resources activities. The primary health hazard associated the cultural resources would be exposure to asbestos and lead during the rehabilitation of historic structures. The 2008-2012 ICRMP does not necessarily conform to up-to-date laws regulating hazardous materials and waste by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), and the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), or the Installation Hazardous Waste Management Plan. The No Action Alternative does not meet the long-term needs of Fort Bliss as a sustainable military training Installation.

4.5.2 Proposed Action

Cultural resources investigations do not typically result in the generation of hazardous materials and waste. However, hazardous materials can often be associated with historic building materials (e.g., asbestos treatment, particularly tiles; lead paint), so rehabilitation and conservation efforts would often encounter issues with hazardous materials. Hazardous materials would be disposed of properly, and replaced with new, non-hazardous, in-kind material to avoid adverse effects on health and safety of personnel.

The 2017-2021 ICRMP would ensure that proper procedures are followed in the rehabilitation of historic structures, minimizing adverse effects associated with the exposure to hazardous materials such as asbestos and lead.

4.6 HEALTH AND SAFETY

4.6.1 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, Fort Bliss would continue to manage its cultural resources as detailed within the 2008-2012 ICRMP, MOU, MOA, PA, CA, existing guidelines, rules, and regulations currently in place. Federal, state, and Fort Bliss guidelines, rules, and regulations are in place to protect personnel throughout and near the Installation. Safety information is found in literature published by Fort Bliss, such as Fort Bliss Regulation 385-63 and AR 385-10, *Army*

Safety Program (U.S. Army 2011). Fort Bliss has also established various procedures to meet health and safety requirements of the Installation. The 2008-2012 ICRMP does not contain current guidelines associated with health hazards throughout the Installation such as exposure to UXOs, dehydration and heat illness, venomous wildlife, and exposure to pests. The No Action Alternative does not meet the long-term needs of Fort Bliss as a sustainable military training Installation.

4.6.2 Proposed Action

Personnel participating in cultural resources fieldwork have the potential to be exposed to wildlife, dehydration, and heat illness, and would follow standard safety protocols to minimize health and safety dangers. The 2017-2021 ICRMP would ensure compliance with Fort Bliss Regulation 385-63 and AR 385-10, *Army Safety Program* (U.S. Army 2011) and the Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPMP), Fort Bliss, Texas and New Mexico (Fort Bliss DPW-E 2012a). The rehabilitation of buildings that could contain hazardous materials, such as asbestos and lead, has the potential to affect construction personnel. Removal and disposal of hazardous materials would be done by professionals who follow standard protocols to minimize health and safety threats during the rehabilitation of historic structures. The 2017-2021 ICRMP would ensure that proper procedures are followed in the rehabilitation of historic structures minimizing exposure to hazardous materials such as asbestos and lead on Soldiers, families, employees, contractors, and the general population.

SECTION 5.0
CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

5.0 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Cumulative Impacts are defined as the impacts on the environment that result from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions. The Proposed Action is to implement a revised ICRMP, which would have beneficial cumulative impacts on the management and sustainability of cultural resources on Fort Bliss, when added to or augmenting the programs and procedures already in effect under the 2008-2012 ICRMP. The 2017-2021 ICRMP would be used to address numerous actions and the following examples are a representative sample of the types of actions and the cumulative impacts.

Fort Bliss proposes to implement Net Zero energy, water, and waste goals by 2020, while meeting energy mandates for renewable energy production and greenhouse gas emissions reduction (DPW-E 2013b). Fort Bliss plans to implement Alternatives 2 through 7, which include conservations policies and procedures, a water reclamation pipeline, a waste-to-energy plant, geothermal energy facility, dry-cooled concentrating solar power technology, and to implement other renewable energy technologies. The only significant impact would occur on parade-ground vegetation from irrigation with reclaimed water; however, this action is no longer foreseeable. All other impacts are less than significant, and the Section 106 process would be completed prior to any construction associated with Alternatives 2 through 7 (DPW-E 2013b). Following procedures and guidelines of the 2017-2021 ICRMP, extensive archaeological inventories and evaluations of identified sites would be necessary. Fort Bliss would consult with Texas and New Mexico SHPOs, tribal governments, and other possible interested parties. If NRHP-eligible historic properties are identified, strategies for avoidance and mitigation would be developed and carried out prior to construction in accordance with the procedures outlined in the PA and the CA.

Fort Bliss proposes to construct, operate and maintain mountain village training facilities within Fort Bliss on northern McGregor Range (USACE 2012a). Under Alternative 2 (Preferred), there is one archaeological site of undetermined NRHP eligibility that would require further testing to determine whether adverse effects would occur as a result of the implementation of the Preferred Alternative. The site would be avoided by all actions and no adverse effects on cultural resources are anticipated. Under Alternative 2, there were two sites of undetermined eligibility and two that were recommended eligible. All four sites would be delineated with stakes for avoidance. If avoidance is not possible, a mitigation plan for their treatment would be developed under the PA in accordance with the 2017-2021 ICRMP. No adverse effects are anticipated.

Fort Bliss proposes to issue a renewable permit to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to construct, operate, and maintain one or more buildings totally approximately 90,000 square feet on approximately 19 acres within Fort Bliss, Texas (Fort Bliss DPW-E 2012b). No adverse impacts on cultural resources are anticipated. The parcel had been previously surveyed as part of three separate investigations, followed by subsequent testing and evaluations. A re-evaluation of the sites recommended that none were NRHP-eligible. However, any unanticipated subsurface cultural resources encountered during the construction of the proposed ICE facility would be properly mitigated under Fort Bliss supervision in accordance with the procedures set forth in PA

between Fort Bliss and the Texas State Historic Preservation Officers, the CA, and the 2017-2021 ICRMP.

The U.S. Army proposes to sell two parcels on the periphery of the Fort Bliss Cantonment to provide land for private housing and light commercial development suited, but not exclusive, to Fort Bliss military personnel (USACE 2012b). The purpose of the Proposed Action is to optimize the land use of certain areas on the margins of the Fort Bliss Cantonment to meet crucial U.S. Army needs in terms of additional military housing, buffer areas, and other uses. Under Alternatives 2 through 5, there could be minor impacts to cultural resources. Numerous cultural investigations have been conducted in the various parcels associated with each Alternative. Several of the archaeological sites have also been subject to archaeological testing. NRHP-eligible archaeological sites would remain protected through avoidance, or would need to be subject to mitigation as outlined in the PA and 2017-2021 ICRMP if avoidance is not possible. Individually eligible structures/buildings and landscape features would be subject to Historic American Buildings Survey, Historic American Engineering Record, and Historic American Landscapes Survey documentation to mitigate any adverse effects as per the PA and 2017-2021 ICRMP, if avoidance/preservation in place is not feasible. All cultural resources and historic properties (undetermined, unevaluated, or eligible) would be managed under the guidelines of the 2017-2021 ICRMP and PA with the ACHP and Texas and New Mexico SHPOs.

Ultimately, the Proposed Action would result in the greatest possible protection and management of cultural resources while complying with Federal law and ensuring no net loss of mission capabilities.

SECTION 6.0
REFERENCES

6.0 REFERENCES

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SECTION 7.0
LIST OF PREPARERS

7.0 LIST of PREPARERS

The following people were primarily responsible for preparing this Environmental Assessment.

Name	Agency/Organization	Discipline/ Expertise	Experience	Role in Preparing EA
John Barrera	Fort Bliss Directorate of Public Works (DPW) Environmental Division	NEPA Program Manager	23 years NEPA studies	Fort Bliss NEPA Manager; EA review and comment
John Kipp, PhD	Fort Bliss DPW Environmental Division, NEPA Planner	Soil science, Geomorphology	28 years earth science and NEPA studies	Fort Bliss EA review and comment
Belinda C. Mollard	Fort Bliss DPW Environmental Division, Cultural Resources Manager	Archaeology	19 years archaeology and Federal cultural resource management and compliance	Fort Bliss Project Manager
Steve Oivanki	Gulf South Research Corporation	Geology/NEPA	36 years natural resources and NEPA studies	EA review and comment
Dave Hart	Gulf South Research Corporation	Archaeology	22 years cultural resources management	EA preparation``
Liz Ayarbe-Perez	Gulf South Research Corporation	GIS/Graphics	14 years GIS/graphics experience	GIS analysis and graphics
Logan Mccardle	Gulf South Research Corporation	Biology	10 years biological studies	Biological resources

APPENDIX A
PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT

50 specifically the changing land use to open up an additional 700,000 acres of potential off road maneuver
51 area; and

52
53 **WHEREAS**, from 2006 to 2013, Fort Bliss conducted archeological survey of over 300,000 acres in
54 response to the 2006 PA, evaluated 8,472 archeological sites, completed data recovery mitigation on 443
55 archeological sites and standard treatment measures on 60 buildings to mitigate potential adverse effects
56 resulting from military construction and training, and established Off Limits Areas (aka Red Zones); and

57
58 **WHEREAS**, Fort Bliss, using the National Park Service (NPS) Native American Graves Protection and
59 Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) online database, the Department of Housing and Urban Development Tribal
60 Directory Tool, as well as past consultation experience and known interest, has identified and consulted
61 with the following federally-recognized Indian tribes: the Comanche Nation, the Fort Sill Apache, the
62 Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma, the Mescalero Apache, the White Mountain Apache, and the Ysleta Del Sur
63 Pueblo (Tigua), for which some sites at Fort Bliss have religious and cultural significance and has invited
64 the Tribes to participate in the development of this PA; and

65
66 **WHEREAS**, Fort Bliss, consulting with the above-referenced tribes, has identified 32 unnamed
67 properties as having religious and cultural significance; and

68
69 **WHEREAS**, Fort Bliss has invited the El Paso Historic Landmark Commission, El Paso Preservation
70 Alliance, Preservation Texas, City of Socorro, Texas, and the El Paso County Historic Society, Inc. to
71 comment and participate on this PA via email; and

72
73 **WHEREAS**, Fort Bliss has invited the public to comment through notice in local newspapers and has
74 made the draft PA available on the Fort Bliss Directorate of Public Works (DPW), Environmental
75 Division's (DPW-E) webpage (<https://www.bliss.army.mil/dpw/Environmental/EISDocuments2.html>)
76 and has considered all recommendations, if any, into this PA; and

77
78 **WHEREAS**, in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.6(a)(1), Fort Bliss has notified the Advisory Council on
79 Historic Preservation (ACHP) of its adverse effect determination providing the specified documentation,
80 and the ACHP has chosen to participate in the consultation pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.6(a)(1)(iii); and

81
82 **WHEREAS**, the management of certain historic properties and day-to-day operations are covered by the
83 *Programmatic Memorandum of Agreement Among the United States Department of Defense, the Advisory*
84 *Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers*
85 *Regarding the Demolition of World War II Temporary Buildings (as amended); the Program Comment*
86 *for Capehart and Wherry Era Army Family Housing and Associated Structures and Landscape Features*
87 *(1949-1962); the Program Comment for Cold War Era Unaccompanied Personnel Housing (1946-1947);*
88 *the Program Comment for World War II and Cold War Era (1939-1974) Ammunition Storage Facilities;*
89 *and Programmatic Agreement regarding the Fort Bliss Residential Communities Initiative (RCI) and*
90 *therefore are not part of this PA; and*

91
92 **WHEREAS**, Fort Bliss has developed, in consultation with the NMSHPO, TXSHPO, and the Tribes the
93 *Significance and Research Standards for Prehistoric Archaeological Sites at Fort Bliss: A design for the*
94 *Evaluation, Management, and Treatment of Cultural Resources* (Miller et al. 2009) (Significance
95 Standards) in order to provide an innovative program for assessing NRHP eligibility for prehistoric sites,
96 and the NMSHPO and the TXSHPO concurred on the Significance Standards in 2009 for Fort Bliss to
97 implement the Significance Standards and update by December 30, 2016; and

99 **WHEREAS**, in 2008 Fort Bliss completed the *Reevaluation of Selecting Ranching Sites on Fort Bliss*
100 (Victor, et. al., 2008) that includes two historical contexts: *Agricultural Development in South Central*
101 *NM 1870-1955* and *Irrigation and the Engineering of Water Resources in South Central NM 1870-1955*
102 and is currently developing a historic context for historic railroads on Fort Bliss, and these contexts help
103 provide Fort Bliss with tools to define site eligibility criteria, levels of adequate inventory, and site
104 documentation requirements to guide the evaluation of historic sites, buildings, structures, objects and
105 districts that may be eligible for listing in the NRHP; and
106

107 **NOW, THEREFORE**, Fort Bliss, the NMSHPO, the TXSHPO, and the ACHP agree that the
108 management of historic properties shall be implemented in accordance with the following stipulations in
109 order to take into account the effect of undertakings on historic properties.
110

111 **STIPULATIONS**

112
113 Fort Bliss shall ensure that the following measures are carried out:
114

115 **I. PROJECT REVIEW**

116
117 A. Policy: Fort Bliss shall avoid adverse effects to historic properties under its management, to the
118 extent possible, while meeting mission needs, and coordinating Section 106 responsibilities with
119 the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
120

121 B. Procedure

122 I. Qualifications:

123 a) All work required to meet the Stipulations of this PA will be carried out
124 under the supervision of a person who meets the minimum standards as
125 identified in the Secretary of the Interior's "Archaeology and Historic
126 Preservation: Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines (as
127 amended and annotated)" (Professional Qualifications) as appropriate for
128 the historic property being addressed.
129
130

131 b) Fort Bliss staff

132
133 (1) Cultural Resources Manager (CRM): the CRM is the person
134 responsible, on behalf of the GC, for meeting the Stipulations of
135 this PA. The DPW-E Conservation Branch Chief shall be
136 designated as the CRM. If the CRM does not meet the
137 Professional Qualifications, then qualified staff members will
138 fulfill those responsibilities. Fort Bliss will notify the signatories
139 of the name(s) of staff fulfilling CRM responsibilities.
140

141
142 (2) CRM Staff: the CRM Staff shall include qualified staff
143 implementing the Integrated Cultural Resources Management
144 Plan (ICRMP) for Garrison Command, supervised by the CRM.
145

146 2. Determine the Undertaking

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- a) The CRM or CRM Staff shall determine if the proposed project is an undertaking as defined in 36 CFR § 800.16(y) and subject to this PA.
 - b) If the CRM or CRM Staff determines the proposed project is not an undertaking as defined in 36 CFR § 800.16(y), or subject to this PA, Fort Bliss has no further obligations under this Stipulation.
 - c) If the CRM or CRM Staff determine that the proposed project is an exempted undertaking as listed in Appendix B, the CRM shall document this determination for inclusion in the official Fort Bliss, and Fort Bliss has no further obligations under this Stipulation.
 - d) If the CRM or CRM Staff determines the proposed project is not listed in Appendix B and is an undertaking, the CRM or CRM Staff shall document this determination for inclusion in the Record of Historic Properties Consideration (RHPC), see Appendix D for an example, for the undertaking and continue the Project Review process.
3. Define the Area of Potential Effects and Identify Historic Properties .
- a) The CRM or CRM Staff shall determine and document the project APE for each specific undertaking, appropriate to the scope and scale of the undertaking, and considering direct, indirect, and cumulative effects in the RHPC.
 - (1) The CRM or CRM Staff shall determine whether previous identification and evaluation work has been conducted in the APE, if historic properties have been identified, the standard under which the inventory and evaluations were conducted, the types of historic properties are likely to be found, and whether a existing historic context applies.
 - (i) Any survey, in which standards in Appendix C apply or Fort Bliss consulted on with the appropriate SHPO, is adequate enough not to require Fort Bliss to undertake a new cultural resource survey.
 - (2) The CRM or CRM Staff shall determine if new cultural resource surveys (to include determinations of eligibility) are needed and shall use one of the following two processes to complete new surveys.
 - (a) The CRM or CRM Staff shall use a process as outlined in Appendix C, to make a reasonable and good faith effort to identify and evaluate historic properties in the APE.

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(b) The CRM or CRM Staff shall consult with the appropriate SHPO, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO), Tribe, and/or other Consulting Party (as appropriate) to determine the process as needed to complete a reasonable and good faith effort to identify and evaluate historic properties in the APE.

b) If the CRM or CRM Staff does not identify historic properties within the APE, and there is no need for a new cultural resource survey, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall document this determination for inclusion in the official Fort Bliss database, and Fort Bliss has no further obligations under this Stipulation.

c) If there are properties requiring evaluation present in the APE, the CRM and/or CRM Staff will evaluate the property for eligibility to the NRHP and will forward documentation supporting the evaluations to the appropriate SHPO for review and concurrence.

(1) The SHPO shall be afforded 30 days, upon receipt of all pertinent information, to respond to the determinations of eligibility.

(2) If the CRM or CRM Staff and the SHPO agree that the cultural resources in the APE are or are not eligible for inclusion on the NRHP, the CRM or CRM Staff may proceed to Stipulation I(B)(4)(b).

(3) If the CRM or CRM Staff and the SHPO do not agree on determinations of eligibility, the CRM can attempt to resolve the disagreement through further consultation, with SHPO responding no longer than 15 days upon receipt of all pertinent information (or as appropriate in consultation with the appropriate SHPO) or the CRM can consult the Keeper of the National Register pursuant to 36 CFR Part 63 if needed.

4. Evaluate Effects of the Undertaking

a) The CRM or CRM Staff shall work with the appropriate project proponent to discuss best management practices to avoid or minimize effects to historic properties.

(1) The CRM or CRM Staff may consult with the appropriate SHPO and/or Tribe to discuss best management practices to avoid or minimize effects to historic properties.

(2) The best management practice(s) identified by the CRM or CRM Staff and discussed with the appropriate project proponent shall be documented in the RHPC.

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(3) If any contributing resource within the boundary of an eligible or listed historic district is proposed for demolition, the CRM or CRM Staff shall consider the demolition in accordance with 36 CFR §§ 800.5 through 800.7 and not in accordance with this PA.

b) The CRM or CRM Staff shall assess the effects of the proposed undertaking on historic properties, including direct, indirect, and cumulative effects, using the criteria of adverse effects (36 CFR § 800.5(a)(1)) and shall make one of the following determinations:

(1) "No Effect to Historic Properties": if the CRM or CRM Staff determines that there are no historic properties or that historic properties present in the APE will not be affected by the undertaking, the CRM or CRM Staff shall document this determination in the RHPC, and Fort Bliss has no further obligations under this Stipulation.

(2) "No Adverse Effect to Historic Properties": if the CRM or CRM Staff determines that historic properties present in the APE will not be adversely affected by the undertaking, the CRM or CRM Staff shall document this determination in the RHPC, and Fort Bliss has no further obligations under this Stipulation.

(3) "Adverse Effect to Historic Properties": if the CRM or CRM Staff determines that historic properties present in the APE will be adversely affected by the undertaking, the CRM or CRM Staff shall document this determination in the RHPC and proceed in the Project Review process.

5. Resolution of Adverse Effect to Historic Properties

a) For those undertakings with a finding of "Adverse Effect to Historic Properties" the CRM or CRM Staff shall provide the appropriate SHPO and Tribe(s) with the RHPC including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) project description, to include but is not limited to depth and amount of ground disturbance anticipated and a summary of best management practices and/or alternatives to avoid or minimize effects to historic properties considered but ultimately rejected;

(2) APE map showing the location of the project and of any identified historic properties;

(3) description of the historic properties affected;

(4) any photos as necessary;

(5) standard mitigation measure to be used (see Appendix G); and/or

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(6) an alternative mitigation measure as appropriate.

- b) The Tribes are under no obligation to provide comments on the effect determination or mitigation measure selected; however, if they wish Fort Bliss to consider their comments regarding the effect determination, Tribes should submit comments in writing within 30 days of receipt. If no comments are received within that time, the CRM or CRM Staff shall make a second attempt to ensure that the original notification was received, if comments will be submitted, and if they wish to participate in the resolution of adverse effects before concluding consultation. Fort Bliss shall take any tribal comments received into consideration before concluding the consultation and will notify the SHPO of any tribal concerns, respecting the Tribal request for confidentiality, and the Fort Bliss response to those concerns.
- c) SHPO shall provide any comments to the Fort Bliss effect determination and mitigation measure within 30 days of receipt of all pertinent documentation.
- d) The CRM or CRM Staff shall notify appropriate Consulting Parties, and the public, within 10 days of notifying the appropriate SHPO and Tribes of an adverse effect finding and mitigation measure for an undertaking using the following process:
 - (1) The CRM or CRM Staff shall prepare and send the RHPC to the appropriate Consulting Parties including a description of the undertaking, an illustration of the APE, a list of identified historic properties within the APE, the explanation for the finding of adverse effects, steps taken or considered by Fort Bliss to avoid or minimize the adverse effects, and any appropriate SHPO comments received by Fort Bliss regarding the undertaking.
 - (2) When the Adverse Effect is part of an action being analyzed through an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with NEPA, then Fort Bliss will solicit public participation following Stipulation IV.
- e) Appropriate Consulting Parties are under no obligation to provide comments on the effect determination or proposed mitigation measure; however, if they wish Fort Bliss to consider their comments, Consulting Parties should submit comments in writing within 30 days of receipt. If no comments are received within that time, the CRM or CRM Staff shall make a second attempt to ensure that the original notification was received, if comments will be submitted, and if they wish to participate in the resolution of adverse effects before concluding consultation. If comments are received, Fort Bliss shall take those comments into consideration before concluding the consultation and shall notify the

342 appropriate SHPO of any concerns and the Fort Bliss response to those
343 concerns.

- 344
- 345 f) The CRM or CRM Staff shall organize a consultation meeting if
346 appropriate, to include the appropriate SHPO, 45 days after notifying
347 appropriate Consulting Parties, to discuss standard or alternative
348 mitigation measures if necessary. Additional meetings shall be scheduled
349 as needed.
- 350
- 351 g) If through consultation with the appropriate SHPO and Consulting
352 Parties the adverse effects are minimized or mitigated, then the measures
353 agreed to by Fort Bliss, the appropriate SHPO, and Consulting Parties
354 shall be documented in the RHPC or a Memorandum of Agreement as
355 appropriate.
- 356
- 357 h) The ACHP will only participate in the resolution of adverse effects for
358 individual undertakings if a written request is received from Fort Bliss, a
359 SHPO, or a Tribe.
- 360

361 **II. Updates to the Significance Standards**

362

363 A. Policy: Fort Bliss relies on the Significance Standards to guide the evaluation of historic
364 properties, particularly prehistoric/protohistoric archaeological sites.

365 B. Procedure

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- 368 1. Fort Bliss shall update the 2009 Significance Standards within two years after
369 execution of this PA in consultation with SHPOs and Tribes.
- 370
- 371 2. Fort Bliss shall update the Significance Standards every five years in conjunction
372 with major ICRMP updates, with new archaeological and ethnographic data as
373 appropriate.
- 374

375 **III. Reporting Damage to Cultural Resources**

376

377 A. Policy: Fort Bliss recognizes that routine Army activities (i.e., training, operation, and
378 maintenance) pose some risk of damage to historic properties. Through the project review
379 process, project monitoring, and cultural resources awareness training of Garrison staff, military
380 units, and contractors by the CRM or CRM Staff, Fort Bliss attempts to minimize that risk.

381 B. Procedure

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1. When the CRM or CRM Staff are made aware of damage to a historic property (or an unevaluated cultural resource that may be eligible for inclusion in the NRHP), either from unintentional or intentional causes (and may or may not be associated with an ongoing project or training exercise), the CRM or CRM Staff shall review the site records, visit the property, and assess the damage to the property. Activity in and around the site (or portion of site) will cease until the procedures applicable to the level of damage in this Stipulation are completed.
2. If the damage proves to be intentional, Fort Bliss will follow the guidelines in Archaeological Resources Protection Act.
3. If the cultural resource is unevaluated, the CRM or CRM Staff will follow the procedures for documentation and evaluation of that property type and consult on the determination of eligibility with the appropriate SHPO and the CRM or CRM Staff will follow the procedures found in this Stipulation if the property is determined to be eligible for inclusion in the NRHP.
4. If the damage is so slight as to have no effect on the site, or does not affect the characteristics that qualify the property for inclusion in the NRHP in a manner that would diminish the integrity of the property's location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association (36 CFR § 800.5(a)(1)), the CRM or CRM Staff shall make a finding of No Adverse Effect, complete the RHPC, and report the incident in the Annual Report.
5. If the damage rises to the level of an Adverse Effect, the CRM or CRM Staff shall notify the appropriate SHPO via email, phone, or fax within 48 hours of the initial damage. Within 30 working days, Fort Bliss shall update or prepare a RHPC and the appropriate supporting documents (e.g., site form updates) with a letter signed by the GC.
 - a) The RHPC will document the circumstances of the damage, its extent and effect, along with potential mitigation measures, as appropriate.
 - b) The appropriate SHPO shall have 30 days to comment on that submission.
 - c) If mitigation is proposed, and there are no objections to the methods, those measures shall be completed after that 30-day review period and thereafter be reported to the appropriate SHPO.
 - d) If some other treatment is agreed to by the parties that treatment will be completed after the 30-day review period and thereafter are reported to the appropriate SHPO.
 - e) If the parties are in dispute over proposed mitigation or treatment measures, the parties will follow the procedures in Stipulation VII.
6. If the damage is to a property of traditional religious and cultural importance to the Tribes, the CRM or CRM Staff shall review the incident, prepare a report for

433 the GC, make recommendations for treatment, if any, and recommend procedures
434 that avoid future effects. The GC will begin consultation with the Tribes within
435 30 working days of notice of the damage, on the nature of the damage, any
436 proposed treatment, and procedures proposed to avoid future effects.
437

438 7. If the damage is to a property that is known to have or is discovered to have
439 human remains or other NAGPRA objects, Fort Bliss will follow the process
440 outlined in NAGPRA.
441

442 **IV. Notification and Involvement of Institutions and Interested Members of the Public**

443

444 A. Policy: Fort Bliss shall notify and invite public comment on planned projects within the
445 implementation of this PA.
446

447 B. Procedures

448

449 1. Through the NEPA process, the public is invited to comment on planned projects
450 when an EA or an EIS is the appropriate document for a given project as well as
451 the Section 106 review.
452

453 2. Mailing Lists of institutions and interested members of the public shall be
454 maintained by the CRM or CRM Staff by area of interest and/or research
455 concern. The institution or interested individual may then contact the CRM or
456 CRM Staff to request an electronic version of a report of interest.
457

458 **V. Broader Fort Bliss Outreach**

459

460 A. Policy: When Fort Bliss determines studies produced will have a wider range of interest, they
461 may be published in scholarly journals, periodicals, books, or given as papers at learned and
462 historical societies.
463

464 B. Procedure:

465

466 1. All studies prepared by the CRM or CRM staff shall be submitted through
467 channels to the Fort Bliss Public Affairs Officer (PAO) to ensure compliance
468 with AR 360-5, *Public Information Policies*,
469

470 2. Release of studies prepared under contract will be approved as specified in the
471 contract.
472

473 3. The CRM or CRM Staff shall ensure that a process that meets the standards of
474 AR 360-5 is included in the scope of work for contracts approved by Fort Bliss.
475

476 4. Exact location(s) of historic properties or other information that, in the opinion of
477 the CRM or CRM Staff, might endanger the resources or are administrative in
478 nature and have neither research value nor public interest will be released
479 consistent with Section 304 of the NHPA.
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5. The CRM or CRM Staff shall provide copies of published articles to the SHPOs.
6. The CRM or CRM Staff may attend meetings of local and state organizations concerned with cultural resources management issues at county and state historical societies, and archeological societies.
 - a) The CRM or CRM Staff may speak on the status of Fort Bliss cultural resources management program. Informal presentations, including slide presentations, may be presented without prior approval of the PAO.
 - b) The CRM or CRM Staff shall notify the PAO in advance of anticipated formal presentations and coordinate further if the PAO so requests. If a formal paper is given and copies are distributed, the text will be submitted to the PAO prior to the presentation to ensure the requirements of AR 360-5.
 - c) The CRM will inform the PAO and appropriate members of the command group of any potentially controversial issues raised during formal or informal presentations.
7. The CRM or CRM staff may include the development of popular publications as companions to technical reports when project budgets allow. Fort Bliss will provide Portable Document Files (PDF) of popular publications to individuals and organizations upon request.
8. The CRM or CRM Staff may develop an Internet web page that can be used to disseminate information to a broader audience on cultural resource materials and program.

VI. Inadvertent Discovery of Archeological Sites

A. Policy: It is the policy of Fort Bliss to handle the inadvertent discovery of archeological sites during its day-to-day activities, both expeditiously and with respect for the resource. It is specified in all applicable Fort Bliss work orders, service orders, training requests, other proposed project work, and any cultural resource training that the CRM or CRM Staff is to be immediately notified in the event of an inadvertent discovery of cultural materials.

B. Procedure

1. Fort Bliss shall follow the procedures in NAGPRA for the inadvertent discovery of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony; all other finds will be addressed in this stipulation.
2. If damage has been done to a historic property, Fort Bliss will also follow Stipulation III.

- 527 3. Fort Bliss shall first ensure that all activity ceases in and around the find; activity
528 may resume when all applicable procedures in this stipulation have been
529 completed.
530
- 531 4. The CRM or CRM Staff shall use the flowchart in Appendix F.
532
- 533 5. The CRM or CRM Staff shall inspect the location as soon as practical and
534 document the find, first determining whether or not the materials constitute a site
535 (either new or previously recorded), and, secondly, if the site is eligible, and
536 thirdly, if any adverse effects are observable can occur if the activity were to
537 continue.
538
- 539 a) Isolated Occurrence: If the cultural materials are found to be an isolated
540 occurrence (IO), activity can resume as soon as the CRM or CRM Staff
541 make that determination; no additional reporting will be required.
542
- 543 b) If the materials are found to be part of a previously recorded site
544 determined Not Eligible for the NRHP, and the discovery does not
545 change that recommendation, activity can resume as soon as the CRM or
546 CRM staff make that determination.
547
- 548 c) If, however, the discovery appears to change that recommendation to
549 eligible, or if the property is eligible or listed on the NRHP, the CRM or
550 CRM will consult with the Tribes and the appropriate SHPO on NRHP
551 eligibility, determination of what type of effect (no adverse/adverse) the
552 activity would have on that site, and if adverse, propose a treatment plan
553 by email, phone, or fax within 48 hours of the find.
554
- 555 (1) The SHPO and the Tribes shall then have 48 hours upon
556 notification in which to review the documentation and any
557 proposed treatment and provide comment back to Fort Bliss.
558
- 559 (2) Fort Bliss shall take into account comments provided and shall
560 move forward with the treatment plan. Activities can resume
561 upon completion. If no treatment is required, work can resume.
562
- 563 6. If any consulting party fails to comment by the end of any review period, Fort
564 Bliss will assume that that party concurs with the proposal and proceed to the
565 next step as appropriate.
566

567 VII. Dispute Resolution

- 568
- 569 A. Should any signatory to this PA object at any time to any actions proposed, or the manner in
570 which the terms of this PA are implemented, Fort Bliss shall consult with such party to resolve
571 the objection. If Fort Bliss determines that such objection cannot be resolved, Fort Bliss will:
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- 573 1. Forward all documentation relevant to the dispute, including the Fort Bliss
574 proposed resolution, to the ACHP. The ACHP shall provide Fort Bliss with its
575 advice on the resolution of the objection within 30 days of receiving adequate

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documentation. Fort Bliss shall prepare a written response that takes into account any timely advice or comments regarding the dispute from the ACHP, signatories, and concurring parties, and provide them with a copy of this written response. Fort Bliss will then proceed according to its final decision.

2. If the ACHP does not provide its advice regarding the dispute within the 30 day time period, Fort Bliss shall prepare a written response that takes into account any timely comments regarding the dispute from the signatories and concurring parties to the PA, and provide them and the ACHP with a copy of such written response.

- B. Fort Bliss shall carry out all other actions that are not the subject of the dispute, subject to the terms of this PA.

VIII. Annual Report

- A. Fort Bliss shall provide an annual report of activities conducted under this PA to all consulting parties and interested members of the public that includes the following:
 1. a summary of 25 sample reviews of exempted undertakings for the first two years of annual reporting.
 2. a summary of all projects that proceeded under the procedures in this PA with the following sections:
 - a) Determination of Eligibility (Texas and New Mexico)
 - (1) State
 - (2) Date
 - (3) RPHC #
 - (4) NEPA #
 - (5) Project #
 - (6) Building #
 - (7) Project Description
 - (8) Determination of Eligibility
 - (9) SHPO Determination of Eligibility
 - b) No Historic Properties Affected
 - (1) State

- 625 (2) Date
- 626
- 627 (3) RHPC #
- 628
- 629 (4) NEPA #
- 630
- 631 (5) Project #
- 632
- 633 (6) Building #
- 634
- 635 (7) Project Description
- 636
- 637 (8) Project Analysis
- 638
- 639 (9) No Historic Properties Affected
- 640
- 641 (10) Comment
- 642
- 643 c) No Historic Properties Adversely Affected
- 644
- 645 (1) State
- 646
- 647 (2) Date
- 648
- 649 (3) RHPC #
- 650
- 651 (4) NEPA #
- 652
- 653 (5) Project #
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- 655 (6) Building #
- 656
- 657 (7) Project Description
- 658
- 659 (8) Project Analysis
- 660
- 661 (9) Not Adversely Affected
- 662
- 663 (10) Comment
- 664
- 665 d) Adverse Effect
- 666
- 667 (1) State
- 668
- 669 (2) Date
- 670
- 671 (3) RHPC #
- 672
- 673 (4) NEPA #

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- (5) Project #
 - (6) Building #
 - (7) Project Description
 - (8) Analysis
 - (9) Adverse Effect
 - (10) Comment
 - (11) SHPO Date
 - (12) Mitigation Comment
- e) Damage Report
- (1) State
 - (2) Date
 - (3) RHPC #
 - (4) NEPA #
 - (5) Project #
 - (6) Building #
 - (7) Project Description
 - (8) Analysis

- 3. a random stratified sample of five complete RHPCs for undertakings within the appropriate state for the appropriate SHPO with a finding of “no historic properties affected” and “no adverse effect” for the first two years of annual reporting.
- 4. all projects proposed for the coming year; and
- 5. recommendations for amending the PA, if any.

C. Upon request, the CRM shall include a list of Fort Bliss professionals who participated in implementation of this PA during the previous and current fiscal years in each PA annual report. The list will include a description of each professional’s current responsibilities.

- 722 D. Fort Bliss shall prepare the final report and submit it, through command channels, for approval,
723 reproduction, and release on 15 November each year the PA is in effect.
724
- 725 E. Consulting parties will submit to Fort Bliss within 60 days of their receipt of the annual report
726 any comments or any requests for specific RHPCs. If there is no response within this time, it will
727 be assumed that the annual report is acceptable.
728
- 729 F. Fort Bliss shall hold an annual review and monitoring meeting as appropriate and/or upon request
730 of a signatory party.
731
- 732 G. Fort Bliss shall retain the original documentation of each project undertaken without formal
733 review of the appropriate SHPO for a period of three years. Original documentation shall be made
734 available to consulting parties or interested members of the public upon written request.
735
- 736 H. The ACHP shall only receive a copy of the annual report if an amendment is proposed by Fort
737 Bliss.
738

739 **IX. Fiscal Requirement and Sources**
740

741 The Stipulations of this PA are subject to the provisions of the Anti-Deficiency Act (31 USC Section
742 1341) and availability of funds. If compliance with the Anti-Deficiency Act alters or impairs the ability of
743 Fort Bliss to implement the Stipulations of this PA, Fort Bliss will consult pursuant to Stipulations X and
744 XI.
745

746 **X. Amendment**
747

748 This PA may be amended when such an amendment is agreed to in writing by all signatories. The
749 amendment will be effective on the date a copy signed by all of the signatories is filed with the ACHP.
750

751 **XI. Termination**
752

- 753 A. If any signatory to this PA determines that its terms will not or cannot be carried out, that party
754 shall immediately consult with the other parties to attempt to develop an amendment per
755 Stipulation X. If within 60 days (or another time period agreed to by all signatories) an
756 amendment cannot be reached, any signatory may terminate the PA upon written notification to
757 the other signatories.
758
- 759 B. Once the PA is terminated, and prior to work continuing on the undertaking, Fort Bliss shall
760 either 1) execute a Memorandum of Agreement pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.6 or 2) request, take
761 into account, and respond to the comments of the ACHP under 36 CFR § 800.7. Fort Bliss shall
762 notify the signatories as to the course of action it will pursue.
763

764 **XII. Duration of this PA**
765

- 766 A. This PA takes effect upon last signature date and will remain in effect thereafter for 10 years.
767 Upon consultation with, and agreement by, other parties of this PA, it may be extended, amended,
768 or terminated at 10 years.
769

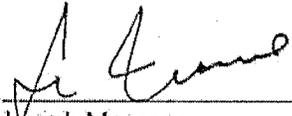
770 B. This PA shall be reviewed periodically, not less than three years from the execution of the PA.
771 Fort Bliss shall consult with the Signatories to determine whether the PA needs to be extended,
772 amended, or terminated and take such actions as appropriate one year to the date this PA would
773 otherwise expire.
774

775 **Execution** of this PA by Fort Bliss, the NMSHPO, the TXSHPO, and the ACHP and implementation of
776 its terms evidence that Fort Bliss has taken into account the effects of this undertaking on historic
777 properties and afforded the ACHP an opportunity to comment.
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PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
AMONG
THE UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FORT BLISS AND
THE NEW MEXICO STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER AND
THE TEXAS STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER AND
THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION
FOR THE MANAGEMENT, OPERATION, AND DEVELOPMENT OF HISTORIC
PROPERTIES ON FORT BLISS
UNDER SECTION 106 OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT OF 1966 (AS
AMENDED)
FORT BLISS, TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO

FORT BLISS, TEXAS

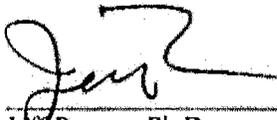


Joseph Moscone
Garrison Manager

Date: 12-19-2014

801 PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
802 AMONG
803 THE UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FORT BLISS AND
804 THE NEW MEXICO STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER AND
805 THE TEXAS STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER AND
806 THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION
807 FOR THE MANAGEMENT, OPERATION, AND DEVELOPMENT OF HISTORIC
808 PROPERTIES ON FORT BLISS
809 UNDER SECTION 106 OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT OF 1966 (AS
810 AMENDED)
811 FORT BLISS, TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO
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814 NEW MEXICO STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
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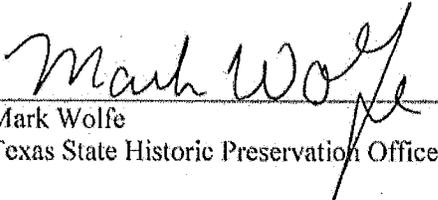
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819 Date: 12/19/14

820 Jeff Pappas, Ph.D.
821 New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer
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PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
AMONG
THE UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FORT BLISS AND
THE NEW MEXICO STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER AND
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FORT BLISS, TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO

TEXAS STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

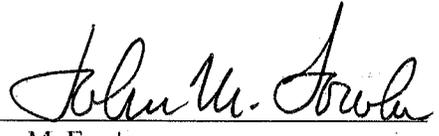

Mark Wolfe
Texas State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: 12/19/14

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**PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
AMONG
THE UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FORT BLISS AND
THE NEW MEXICO STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER AND
THE TEXAS STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER AND
THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION
FOR THE MANAGEMENT, OPERATION, AND DEVELOPMENT OF HISTORIC
PROPERTIES ON FORT BLISS
UNDER SECTION 106 OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT OF 1966 (AS
AMENDED)
FORT BLISS, TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO**

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION



John M. Fowler
Executive Director

Date: 12/24/14

APPENDIX A

ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS

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ACHP	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
APE	Area of Potential Effect
AR	Army Regulation
ARPA	Archaeological Resources Protection Act
CATEX	Categorical Exclusion
CRM	Cultural Resources Manager
DOE	Determination of Eligibility
DPW	Directorate of Public Works
DPW-E	Directorate of Public Work, Environmental Division, Conservation Branch
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
GC	Garrison Commander
GIS	Geographic Information System
GPS	Global Positioning System
HABS	Historic American Building Survey
HAER	Historic American Engineering Record
HALS	Historic American Landscape Survey
HCPI	Historic Cultural Properties Inventory
HP	Historic Property
ICRMP	Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan
IO	Isolated Occurrence
LA	Laboratory of Anthropology
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act of 1966
NMCRIS	New Mexico Cultural Resources Information System
NMSHPO	New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer
NPS	National Park Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
PA	Programmatic Agreement
PAO	Public Affairs Office
PRD	Programmatic Research Design
REC	Record of Environmental Consideration
RHPC	Record of Historic Properties Consideration
SDZ	Surface Danger Zone
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
TARL	Texas Archaeological Research Laboratory
TCP	Traditional Cultural Property
THPO	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
TRU	Transect Recording Unit
TXSHPO	Texas State Historic Preservation Officer
UTM	Universal Transverse Mercator

36 CFR Part 800. The Codified Federal Regulation implementing Section 106 of the NHPA.

916
917 **Aboveground properties.** Properties or portions of properties, typically buildings, structures, and
918 landscapes that are not archeology.
919
920 **Adverse effect.** Includes but is not limited to the physical destruction, damage, or alteration of part or all
921 of a property's characteristics that contribute to the property's eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP.
922 Adverse effects can also include alteration of a property that is not consistent with the Secretary of the
923 Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties. Examples include the introduction of elements
924 that are out of character with the property or affect its setting, neglect resulting in deterioration or
925 destruction of the property, and transfer, lease or sale of the property.
926
927 **Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.** Established under Title 11 of the NHPA, as amended. The
928 ACHP is to be afforded a reasonable opportunity to comment with regard to proposed federal, federally
929 licensed, federally permitted, or federally assisted undertakings that may affect properties included in or
930 eligible for inclusion in the NRHP.
931
932 **Anti-Deficiency Act.** Legislation enacted by the United States Congress (September 13, 1982) to prevent
933 the incurring of obligations or the making of expenditures in excess of amounts available in
934 appropriations or funds. Prohibits the Federal Government from entering into a contract that is not "fully
935 funded."
936
937 **Area of potential effect.** Geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may cause changes in the
938 character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist there. The APE always includes the
939 actual site of the undertaking, and may include other areas where the undertaking will cause changes in
940 land use, traffic patterns, or other aspects that could affect historic properties.
941
942 **Artifact.** An object made or modified by human beings.
943
944 **Assessment of Effect.** Fort Bliss shall apply the criteria of adverse effect to historic properties within the
945 APE. Fort Bliss shall consider any previous or known views concerning effects which have been provided
946 by consulting parties and the public. An adverse effect is found when an undertaking may alter, directly
947 or indirectly, any of the characteristics of a historic property that qualify the property for inclusion in the
948 NRHP in a manner that would diminish the historic property's integrity.
949
950 **Association.** The link of a historic property with a historic event, activity, or person, also, the quality of
951 integrity through which a historic property is associated with a particular past time and place.
952
953 **Building.** A historic property type that represents a resource, such as a house, created principally to
954 shelter any form of human activity.
955
956 **Consulting Parties.** Those individuals and organizations concerned with the effects of a particular
957 undertaking on historic properties. May include, but not limited to SHPO, ACHP, tribes, preservation
958 groups, etc.
959
960 **Criteria.** The general standard by which the significance of a historic property is judged.
961
962 **Cultural Resources Manager.** The CRM is the DPW-E Conservation Branch Chief that meets
963 qualifications as outlined by the Professional Qualifications and designated by the GC. The CRM is the

964 expert in cultural resources and the administrator of the ICRMP and this PA. The CRM acts on behalf of
965 the GC to coordinate compliance with this PA.

966
967 **Days.** In all instances of time periods for actions, "days" is intended to mean "calendar days" unless
968 otherwise noted.

969
970 **Design.** A quality of integrity applied to the elements that create the physical form, plan, space, structure,
971 and style of a property.

972
973 **Determination of eligibility.** The process of ascertaining a property's eligibility for listing on the NRHP.
974 A property eligible for the NRHP but not actually listed or formally determined eligible by the Secretary
975 of the Interior is afforded the same protection under Section 106 as a listed historic property.

976
977 **Dig Permit.** Form used by Army to request digging or excavation, for construction or training.

978
979 **District.** A historic property type that represents a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of
980 sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development.

981
982 **Evaluation.** Process by which the significance and integrity of a historic property are judged for
983 eligibility for the NRHP.

984
985 **Feature.** A feature can include any evidence of human activity and is usually non-portable: trash
986 middens, storage areas, houses, hearths, windmills, corrals, and fences, etc. A hearth feature, at a
987 minimum, is defined as 10 or more fire-cracked rocks in a one sq meter area.

988
989 **Feeling.** Quality of integrity through which a historic property evokes the aesthetic or historic sense of
990 past time and place.

991
992 **Geographic Information System.** A computer system capable of capturing, storing, analyzing, and
993 displaying geographically referenced information; that is, data identified according to location.
994 Practitioners also define a Geographic Information System (GIS) as including the procedures, operating
995 personnel, and spatial data that go into the system (from US Geological Survey web site).

996
997 **Ground-disturbing activities.** Any action that disturbs soil either temporarily or permanently
998 accomplished by any method including but not limited to hand or machine excavation, grading and
999 removal of vegetation, rocks, or other ground cover.

1000
1001 **Historic American Buildings Survey.** A program administered by the NPS to record in detail historic
1002 buildings through architectural rendering, large format photography, and written documentation.

1003
1004 **Historic American Engineering Record.** A program administered by the NPS to record in detail historic
1005 structures through engineering drawings, large format photography, and written documentation.

1006
1007 **Historic American Landscape Survey.** A program administered by the NPS to record in detail historic
1008 landscapes through rendering, large format photography, and written documentation.

1009
1010 **Historic context.** An organizing structure for interpreting history that groups information about historic
1011 properties that share a common theme, common geographical location, and common time period. The

1012 development of historic contexts is a foundation for decisions about the planning, identification,
1013 evaluation, registration, and treatment of historic properties, based upon comparative significance.
1014
1015 **Historic Cultural Properties Inventory.** A form used by the State of New Mexico to record historic
1016 properties.
1017
1018 **Historic property.** Any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, object, or traditional
1019 cultural property included in, or eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. The term includes artifacts, records,
1020 and remains related to and located in such properties.
1021
1022 **Impact Areas.** (Department of the Army Training Circular No. 25-1). *Impact Area- Dudded* – an area
1023 having designated boundaries within which all dud-producing ordnance will detonate or impact. This area
1024 may include vehicle bodies that serve as targets for artillery/mortar direct and indirect fire. Impact areas
1025 containing unexploded ordnance may not be used for maneuver. *Impact Area – Non-Dudded* – an area
1026 having designated boundaries within which ordnance that does not produce duds will impact. This area is
1027 composed mostly of the safety fans for small arms ranges. These impact areas may be used for maneuver,
1028 at the cost of curtailing use of weapons ranges.
1029
1030 **Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan.** A required Department of Defense planning tool for
1031 compliance with statutory management requirements.
1032
1033 **Integrity.** Authenticity of a property's historic identity, evidenced by the survival of physical
1034 characteristic(s) that existed during the property's historic or prehistoric period. Integrity consists of seven
1035 elements: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.
1036
1037 **Isolated Occurrence.** Any cultural material recorded in a survey that does not fit the criteria for a site
1038 and is not close enough in proximity to other cultural materials to be added to a site boundary.
1039
1040 **Keeper:** NPS employ responsible for the NRHP program.
1041
1042 **Location.** A quality of integrity retained by a historic property existing in the same place as it did during
1043 its period of significance.
1044
1045 **Material.** A quality of integrity applying to the physical elements that were combined or deposited in a
1046 particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property.
1047
1048 **Memorandum of Agreement.** A formal Section 106 document that outlines an agreement made among
1049 individuals, groups, or entities, used to cooperatively work together on an agreed purpose or meet an
1050 agreed objective.
1051
1052 **Mitigate.** Reduce harm to historic properties.
1053
1054 **Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.** Federal Act that describes the rights of
1055 Native America lineal descendents, Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organization with respect to the
1056 treatment, repatriation, and disposition of Native American human remains, funerary objects and sacred
1057 objects, and objects of cultural patrimony; also provides greater protection for Native American burial
1058 sites and more careful control over removal of Native American human remains, funerary objects and
1059 sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony.
1060

1061 **National Register of Historic Place.** A list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant
1062 in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture.
1063

1064 **National Environmental Policy Act.** A United State environmental law establishing a national policy
1065 promoting the enhancement of the environment and setting up procedures for all federal agencies in
1066 which to consider the effects of their proposed actions on the environment.
1067

1068 **Object:** A historic property type that represents a construction primarily artistic in nature or relatively
1069 small in scale and simply constructed, such as a statue or milepost.
1070

1071 **Period of significance.** Span of time in which a property attained the significance for which it meets the
1072 NRHP.
1073

1074 **Programmatic Agreement.** A Section 106 agreement document that records the terms and conditions
1075 agreed upon to resolve potential adverse effects, typically developed for a large or complex project or a
1076 class of undertakings that would otherwise require numerous individual requests for ACHP comments
1077 under the NHPA.
1078

1079 **Programmatic Research Design.** A strategic, systematic, and reusable program of identifying research
1080 goals and methods to address data recovery of a class of site types or time periods or some other unifying
1081 characteristic(s).
1082

1083 **Proponent.** The organization with technical and administrative control over the execution of a project or
1084 training exercise; e.g., the DPW acts as the user's agent for construction activity and is the implementing
1085 organization for those projects.
1086

1087 **Red Zones.** Restricted areas on Fort Bliss in which no activity is allowed.
1088

1089 **Record of Historic Properties Consideration.** Fort Bliss documentation of the Section 106 review
1090 process followed by the CRM or CRM Staff to document compliance under Section 106. Information
1091 included on the form includes: initiation date of review, associated Work Order number or Archeological
1092 Project number, name of Proponent, project description, APE, project analysis, documentation of
1093 determinations of eligibility and findings of effect, treatments of adverse effects, and date review closed.
1094

1095 **Section 106 process.** A review process established under NHPA Section 106 and administered by the
1096 ACHP under its regulations. During this process, agencies afford the ACHP an opportunity to comment
1097 on any agency activity or undertaking that may affect historic properties, and must take such comments
1098 into account.
1099

1100 **Section 110.** The section of the NHPA that defines federal agencies' responsibilities to preserve and use
1101 historic buildings and to establish a program to identify, evaluate and nominate historic properties to the
1102 NRHP.
1103

1104 **Service Order.** Request for work that can be completed for under \$1,200 or under 40 man-hours of time.
1105

1106 **Setting.** A quality of integrity applying to the physical environment of a historic property.
1107

1108 **Site.** A historic property type representing a location of a significant event, a prehistoric or historic
1109 occupation or activity, or a building or structure, whether standing, ruined, or vanished, where the

1110 location itself possesses historic, cultural, or archeological value regardless of the value of any existing
1111 structure.
1112
1113 **State Historic Preservation Officer.** A position created under the NHPA. The SHPO is appointed by the
1114 governor and charged with the administration of the NHPA and to ensure that the state's interests are
1115 considered.
1116
1117 **Structure.** A historic property type representing a functional construction made for purposes other than
1118 creating shelter, such as a bridge.
1119
1120 **Surface Danger Zone.** (Department of the Army Pamphlet 385-63) The ground and airspace designated
1121 within the training complex (to include associated safety areas) for vertical and lateral containment of
1122 projectiles, fragments, debris, and components resulting from the firing, launching, or detonation of
1123 weapon systems to include explosives and demolitions. The SDZ is a depiction of the mathematically
1124 predicted area a projectile will return to earth either by direct fire or ricochet. (Exempted from project
1125 review only when active.)
1126
1127 **Tenant.** A person who occupies real property owned by another based upon an agreement between the
1128 person and the landlord/owner, almost always for rental payments.
1129
1130 **Traditional Cultural Property.** Properties associated with the traditional cultural practices of a living
1131 community that (a) are rooted in that community's history or (b) are important in maintaining the
1132 continuing cultural identity of the community. A Traditional Cultural Property (TCP) is the terminology
1133 used by the NRHP program.
1134
1135 **Transect Recording Unit.** A 15 m by 15 m unit or "cell", part of a larger, virtual grid placed over an
1136 archeological survey area, in which all cultural materials are recorded, usually by means of a hand-held
1137 computer, for later projection and use in a GIS.
1138
1139 **Undertaking.** Under this PA, an undertaking is defined as a project, activity, or program funded in whole
1140 or in part under the direct or indirect jurisdiction of a Federal agency including those carried out by or on
1141 behalf of the Army; those carried out in whole or in part with Army funds, and those requiring Army
1142 approval--from 36 CFR § 800.16(y).
1143
1144 **Universal Transverse Mercator.** Geographic coordinate system developed by the U.S. Army Corps of
1145 Engineers, to give locations on the surface of the earth. The system divides the earth into 60 zones, each a
1146 6-degree band of longitude, and uses a secant transverse Mercator projection in each zone.
1147
1148 **View shed.** Areas under the direct or indirect jurisdiction of a federal agency that can be seen from
1149 historic properties, typically from the perimeter of a historic district or historic property.
1150
1151 **Workmanship.** A quality of integrity applying to the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular
1152 culture during any given period or prehistory.
1153
1154 **Work Order.** Requested on Department of the Army Form 4283, a request for maintenance, repair, or
1155 new work over \$1,200 or 40 man-hours.
1156

APPENDIX B

EXEMPTED UNDERTAKINGS

The categories of undertakings listed below have been determined by Fort Bliss, the SHPOs, and the ACHP to meet the criteria for exemption; i.e., they qualify as undertakings, but will have no effect on historic properties, or their potential effects will not be adverse. An undertaking of one or more of the types listed below will not require further Section 106 review with the appropriate SHPO, so long as the undertaking is limited to the types listed below, and is not a part of another undertaking. In addition, if at any time in the course of the undertaking information becomes available that would make this procedure inapplicable, including but not limited to the discovery of historic properties or human remains, Section 106 review or NAGPRA protocol shall be initiated by Fort Bliss.

- A. 32 CFR § 651.9 (b)(1) Emergencies. Immediate actions to promote national defense or security and actions necessary for the protection of life or property, including but not limited to the following:
 - 1. In-place disposal of unexploded ordnance
 - 2. disposal of ordnance in existing open burning/open detonation units
 - 3. emergency response to releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, and contaminants (no cultural resources work would be conducted, unless and until the danger to human health and safety has been cleared).
 - 4. military activities in existing designated Surface Danger Zones (SDZ). The exemption will apply to designated impact (duded) areas, or areas with unexploded ordnance. SDZ are exempted only when active; areas within an SDZ that become contaminated with unexploded ordnance are then exempted, unless and until the unexploded ordnance is cleared).

- B. Fort Bliss will proceed with undertakings required to support mobilization and training required due to unanticipated deployment, mobilization, or armed conflict. The CRM or CRM Staff with appropriate security clearance will conduct an internal review. In all cases, however, the CRM or CRM Staff will ensure that the effects of these undertakings on historic properties will be considered and a reasonable effort will be made to avoid damage to the historic property. The CRM or CRM Staff will include a summary of the undertaking in the Annual Report, provided no information is classified or would have the potential to affect classified actions.

- C. Activities on other areas across Fort Bliss shall be exempted from project review because of the limited (or no) potential for cultural resources sites:
 - 1. Steep slopes (greater than 30 percent)
 - 2. Active arroyos
 - 3. Active floodplains
 - 4. Areas disturbed to a depth below the proposed undertaking

- D. Decisions made through government-to-government consultation with tribes concerning management options for Sacred Sites.

- E. Site Work
 - 1. Replace in kind existing damaged landscaping and plant material with native and/or regional landscaping material. New replacement plantings, xeriscaping

- 1206 and ground cover shall meet the following *Fort Bliss Landscape: A Landscape*
 1207 *Handbook for Historic Properties* (2009) and shall maintain overall character of
 1208 adjacent historic properties and historic view shed;
- 1209
- 1210 2. Repair or replace in kind existing streets, driveways, sidewalks and curbing,
 1211 Undertaking includes stripping of pavement, spreading of new gravel on existing
 1212 roads, and concrete formwork and curing;
- 1213
- 1214 3. Repair or replace existing water, sewer, natural gas, and communications lines in
 1215 their present configuration, alignments and depth with no impact to character
 1216 defining features;
- 1217
- 1218 4. Traffic signs as required by law;
- 1219
- 1220 5. Repair or replace in kind existing building signs. Signs should be mounted in a
 1221 way as to minimize physical damage to historic building materials. New sign
 1222 installation shall maintain character of historic properties and not alter character
 1223 defining features;
- 1224
- 1225 6. Temporary buildings or structures that will not have a life longer than five years;
- 1226
- 1227 7. Undertakings that impact areas less than one square meter of ground disturbance;
- 1228
- 1229 8. Repair or replace in kind existing fencing and fence screens. Installation of
 1230 perimeter security fencing and gates are acceptable provided surveys have not
 1231 identified historic properties and character defining features are not altered; or
 1232
- 1233 9. No, or minimal, ground disturbance, and ground disturbance within previously
 1234 disturbed areas as long as new disturbance does not exceed dimensions of
 1235 previous disturbance.
 1236
- 1237 E. Roofs
- 1238
- 1239 1. Repair in kind existing roof. If roof is deteriorated beyond repair, a compatible
 1240 replacement roof is acceptable. Replacement roof(s) shall not alter overall
 1241 appearance of exterior or diminish character defining features.
- 1242
- 1243 2. All exempted work shall follow *Fort Bliss Standards for the Treatment of*
 1244 *Historic Buildings: Chapter 7 Maintenance Guide for Roofing* (2008) and/or
 1245 *Project Manual – Rehabilitation and Replacement of Historic Roofing* (2002).
 1246
- 1247 3. Installation of new roofing, including white roofs or cool roofs, on a flat-roofed
 1248 building with a parapet, such that the roofing material is not visible from any
 1249 public right-of-way.
 1250
- 1251 F. Exterior
- 1252

- 1253 1. Repair or replace in kind existing materials that maintain character defining
- 1254 features: stucco, concrete, masonry, wood siding, trim, porch decking, porch
- 1255 rails, joists, columns, and stairs.
- 1256
- 1257 2. Installation of materials such as netting, bird spikes or sonar equipment for the
- 1258 deterring of bird habitat and does not alter character defining features.
- 1259 Installation should be reversible and not result in physical damage.
- 1260
- 1261 3. All exempted work shall follow the following Fort Bliss published material
- 1262 specific guidance documents: *Fort Bliss Standards for the Treatment of Historic*
- 1263 *Buildings*, all chapters as applicable (2008); *The Adobe Manual* (2004); *The*
- 1264 *Stucco & Plaster Manual* (2006); *The Wood & Carpentry Manual* (2005); *The*
- 1265 *Waterproofing Manual* (2004).
- 1266

G. Doors

- 1267
- 1268
- 1269 1. Repair in kind existing historic door(s). If door is deteriorated beyond repair, a
- 1270 compatible replacement door is acceptable. Replacement door(s) shall match
- 1271 original design/configuration and shall not alter overall appearance of facade or
- 1272 diminish character defining features. Doors will typically be the same materials
- 1273 unless force protection or safety protocols require otherwise:
- 1274
- 1275 2. Installation of hardware to include dead bolts, door latches and locks, window
- 1276 latches, locks, hinges, and door peepholes, provided historic materials are not
- 1277 removed. New hardware shall be of a plain, contemporary design and made of
- 1278 the same material as existing historic hardware;
- 1279
- 1280 3. Repair in kind door screen(s). Door screen(s) shall be repaired in-kind prior to
- 1281 consideration of replacement. If replacement is necessary, screen shall be
- 1282 replaced in-kind with same material and thickness as existing screen.
- 1283
- 1284 4. All exempted work shall follow the *Fort Bliss Standards for the Treatment of*
- 1285 *Historic Buildings*, Chapter 8 Maintenance Guide for Doors (2008).
- 1286

H. Windows

- 1287
- 1288
- 1289 1. Repair in kind existing damaged window components. If window components
- 1290 are deteriorated beyond repair, individual window component shall be replaced
- 1291 in-kind. Complete window replacement requires SHPO review;
- 1292
- 1293 2. Paint window components in-kind. Unpainted surfaces shall remain unpainted;
- 1294
- 1295 3. Adjustments of window counterweights including associated disassembly and
- 1296 reassembly;
- 1297
- 1298 4. Replace in kind existing broken window glazing. Replacement shall be clear
- 1299 glass with same thickness as broken glass;
- 1300

- 1301 5. Repair or replace in kind existing damaged window screens and storm windows;
1302
1303 6. Installation of hardware to include window latches, locks, hinges, provided
1304 character defining features are not removed. New hardware shall be of a plain
1305 contemporary design and made of the same material finish as remaining existing
1306 historic hardware;
1307
1308 7. All exempted work shall follow these guidance documents: Project Manual –
1309 Construction Documents and Specifications for Rehabilitation and Replacement
1310 of Historic Windows (2002) and/or Fort Bliss Standards for the Treatment of
1311 Historic Buildings: Chapter 9 Maintenance Guide for Windows (2008).
1312
- 1313 I. Interiors
1314
- 1315 1. Repair or replacement of existing non-historic flooring, carpets, and blinds that
1316 does not alter character defining features;
1317
1318 2. Replacement or placement of window treatment such as mini-blinds and curtains;
1319
1320 3. Repair in kind damaged historic flooring. If flooring components are deteriorated
1321 beyond repair, individual flooring component shall be replaced in-kind.
1322 Replacement flooring shall match original design, color and material and shall
1323 not alter character defining features;
1324
1325 4. Removal of paint coating through hand scraping or sanding that does not alter
1326 character defining features. Removal shall follow Project Manual – *Construction*
1327 *Documents and Specification: Preservation & Rehabilitation of Historic Interior*
1328 *Finishes* (2007);
1329
1330 5. Installation of fire, smoke and security detectors;
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1332 6. Installation of new interior furniture/furnishing and information technology
1333 systems and equipment that does not alter or diminish character defining
1334 features;
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1336 7. Repair of structural and mechanical systems that are not visible and does not alter
1337 structural integrity or character defining features;
1338
1339 8. Repaint or refinish historic surfaces in kind. New paint color/finish shall match
1340 existing color and texture and does not alter character defining features;
1341
1342 9. Removal and replacement of non-historic asbestos flooring and mastic and does
1343 not alter character defining features.
1344
1345 10. All exempted interiors work shall follow Fort Bliss Standards for the Treatment
1346 of Historic Buildings (2008), Sections as applicable and/or Project Manual –
1347 Construction Documents and Specification: Preservation & Rehabilitation of
1348 Historic Interior Finishes (2007).
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J. Electrical/Plumbing/HVAC

1. Repair or replacement of existing electrical, plumbing fixtures, wiring, lines and pipes and does not alter character defining features;
2. Repair or replacement of existing heating and cooling systems, ductwork and ventilation systems that are not considered character defining features and do not alter character defining features;
3. Repair or replacement of existing electrical, power, lighting and communication lines in their present configuration and alignments and depth and do not alter character defining features;
4. Upgrading existing electrical and plumbing components such as hot water heaters, existing wiring, lines and pipes that do not alter character defining features;
5. All exempted mechanical and electrical work shall follow *Fort Bliss Standards for the Treatment of Historic Buildings* (2008).

K. Conservation

1. Repair or installation of insulation in roofs, crawl spaces, ceiling, attics, walls, floors and around pipes and ducts that do not alter character defining features;
2. Repair and installation of weather stripping and caulking that does not alter character defining features. Undertaking shall follow *Project Manual – Construction Documents and Specifications for Rehabilitation and Replacement of Historic Windows* (2002) and *Fort Bliss Standards for the Treatment of Historic Buildings: Preservation & Rehabilitation of Historic Windows*;
3. Repair or replacement of existing non-historic lighting systems that do not alter character defining features;
4. Installation of environmental monitoring units, such as those for water, air quality and electrical usage;
5. All exempted undertakings that affect windows shall follow these guidance documents: *Project Manual – Construction Documents and Specifications for Rehabilitation and Replacement of Historic Windows* (2002) and/or *Fort Bliss Standards for the Treatment of Historic Buildings: Chapter 9 Maintenance Guide for Windows* (2008).
6. Energy audits and feasibility studies.
7. Water conservation measures, such as installation of low-flow faucets, toilets, showerheads, urinals, or distribution device controls, provided that plumbing fixtures to be replaced are not original to the building;

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8. Upgrading existing facility and infrastructure-related pumps and motors, including those water/wastewater facilities, to variable-speed or premium efficiency standards;
 9. Hot water tank replacement that does not require a visible new supply or venting; and
 10. Repairing plumbing systems in a manner that does not affect the interior or exterior of the building.
- L. Maintenance
1. Maintenance and routine housekeeping that does not alter character defining features;
 2. Removal of animals, birds, insects and their associated debris.
- M. New Construction
1. New construction in areas that do not include historic properties or with the view shed of a historic district. New construction in or near a historic district and associated view shed shall be reviewed and approved by the CRM and/or CRM Staff.

APPENDIX C

IDENTIFYING AND EVALUATING PROPERTIES

The following procedures are applicable to all survey and/or evaluation work plans conducted under a Section 106/NEPA Review--or a general Section 110 project as appropriate. And will be applicable throughout the term of the PA. Work plans will describe the scope of work (including the boundaries of the survey area, acreage or numbers of buildings and structures to be inventoried), the methods to be used, and the expected output (or deliverables). All work will be conducted by or under the supervision of a professional who meets the minimum standards as identified in the Professional Qualifications as appropriate for the historic property being addressed and must be consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation (48 FR 44716).

I. Archaeological Survey

A. Policy: Fort Bliss shall obtain accurate, descriptive field data of all observed cultural materials in consultation with the appropriate SHPOs and Tribes.

B. Procedure

1. Transect Recording Unit (TRU) Survey

- a) The survey area is gridded into 15 m x 15 m units using GIS software.
- b) Each TRU is identified by the WGS 84 UTM coordinate of its southwest corner. Each crewmember walks a 15 m x 15 m line of units, until all units within the survey area have been observed.
- c) Each crewmember uses a handheld electronic data gathering unit to record all observed cultural materials within each 15 m x 15 m "cell."
- d) The electronic data gathering unit usually includes a GPS application that displays the TRU coordinates, with a correctible accuracy of less than or equal to 1 meter, linked to a menu driven database for recording the artifact and feature types, and other pre-programmed data field.

2. Recording methods

a) Features

- (1) Features are recorded within each 15 m x 15 m unit.
- (2) Data to be gathered when recording a feature include: the type and quantity of materials, the size and shape of the feature, any construction details, probable function, and any relationship to nearby cultural materials.
- (3) Digital photos are taken of each feature.

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(4) If the feature is tested for subsurface depth/content of materials, then plan and/or profile views are drawn.

b) Artifacts

- (1) Artifacts are recorded within each 15 m x 15 m unit.
- (2) Data to be collected can include: type of artifact, size, shape, color, material type (lithic type, ceramic type, glass type), count, maker's mark or other identifiable markings or stamps.
- (3) Crewmembers may estimate the number of artifacts for TRUs where large numbers of artifacts are observed.

3. Defining archaeological sites

a) Minimum standards

- (1) Ten or more artifacts of any class or type (except for fire-cracked rock) within a 15 sq meter area (except when all pieces appear to originate from a single source—a ceramic pot, a broken glass bottle, deteriorated sheet of metal, etc.). An exception might be made for a single knapping area which could be considered an activity area, and thus a site; or
- (2) One or more dateable features (that is, chronometric dating) with or without associated artifacts (associated within a 15-meter radius of the feature); or
- (3) Two or more undateable features within 30 meters of one another; or
- (4) One or more undateable features with any associated artifacts.

b) In general, 30 meters of no cultural materials is the maximum distance allowed between two 15 m x 15 m units containing cultural materials (or "positive" cells) to still be considered part of the same site. Field supervisors will be allowed to assign site status as appropriate to other situations outside of these criteria provided a logical and reasonable justification is made.

c) Prehistoric Site, Historic Site, or Multi-Component Site

- (1) Archeological sites may be historic, or include historic components.
- (2) A historic component is identified when the feature and/or artifacts can be shown to be 50 years of age or older, but not extending into prehistory.

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(3) At Fort Bliss that earliest date is 1659 A.D. (or the establishment of the first Spanish missions).

(4) Relevant historic records searches will be conducted and in New Mexico, the appropriate state forms are completed when historic buildings or structures are present on the site. Appropriate state forms shall be completed by an individual meeting the Professional Standards.

d) Isolated Occurrences

(1) IOs are recorded when there is a positive TRU that contains cultural materials that do not fit the criteria for a site.

(2) Data to be gathered when recording an IO include: the type and quantity of materials, the size and shape of the feature, any construction details, probable function, and any relationship to nearby cultural materials.

4. Conducting Geomorphic Studies

a) Each investigation shall assess the potential for subsurface deposits and the integrity of those deposits at each site through subsurface testing, although natural cuts into the landscape (road cuts, arroyos, and rills) and other previously collected geomorphic/geologic data can be used.

b) Testing shall include trowel tests, auger tests, shovel tests or backhoe tests; testing shall be proportional to the size of the site, but otherwise have a minimal impact.

c) The investigation shall record the soil profile and any other distinguishing characteristics (such as pieces of charcoal or buried artifacts) to identify post-depositional activities that have affected the site (wind or water erosion, man-made impacts, and bioturbation), to estimate the extent of those activities, and to finally arrive at an estimate of the percentage of the site remaining intact.

d) When appropriate for a given project, a geomorphologist shall conduct geomorphological studies.

5. Assessing Chronological and Chronometric Potential

a) Each investigation shall assess the potential for chronological and/or chronometric dating.

b) Chronological or relative dating potential includes the presence of diagnostic ceramics or stone tool types or features; chronometric dating

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potential includes the presence of charcoal pieces or carbon-stained soil for AMS dating techniques.

- c) The potential for other types of chronometric dating methods such as dendrochronological (tree ring) or thermoluminescence (time elapsed since last firing) can also be used.
- d) Actual collection and testing shall be based on the availability of funding.

6. Processing Survey Data

- a) Survey data is downloaded to one unit and/or computer and/or server for later Quality Assurance/Quality Control and further processing.
- b) Those files shall be saved in the ESRI.shp file extension for use in one of the ESRI geographic information system (GIS) products such as ArcMap.
- c) Data collection and summary descriptions shall include:
 - (1) general physical environment;
 - (2) horizontal boundary of the site;
 - (3) quantities and types of artifacts;
 - (4) number, size, and types of features;
 - (5) site integrity based on observation and subsurface testing; and
 - (6) potential for yielding chronometric and/or paleoclimatological samples.
- d) In general, a physical site datum shall be established for each site and a site tag included as appropriate, unless otherwise directed by the CRM or CRM Staff.
 - (1) The datum is usually a piece of rebar with an attached aluminum tag.
 - (2) The tag includes the name of the investigator, date of placement, Fort Bliss project number, and Fort Bliss and appropriate state site numbers.

7. Creating Site Maps

- 1616 a) An overall map of the project area and individual site maps shall be
1617 created for each survey and included in any report or other written
1618 record.
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1620 b) Individual site maps include
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1622 (1) the site boundary;
1623
1624 (2) nearby physiographic features and landmarks;
1625
1626 (3) locations of features, site datum, test units, and collections;
1627
1628 (4) a "north" arrow, a scale and a legend or key;
1629
1630 (5) source graphics; and
1631
1632 (6) both Fort Bliss and appropriate state numbers.
1633
1634 8. Completing State Site Forms
1635
1636 a) Appropriate state forms shall be completed for each recorded site,
1637 following the appropriate state guidance.
1638
1639 b) Fort Bliss numbers are assigned by the CRM or CRM Staff.
1640
1641 c) The primary number for any site on Fort Bliss is the "Fort Bliss" or "FB"
1642 number; the appropriate state number is the required secondary number.
1643
1644 d) Site maps attached to state site forms shall conform to the requirements
1645 of the appropriate state.
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1647 II. Historic Buildings, Objects, Structures, and District Surveys
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1649 A. Policy: Fort Bliss shall obtain accurate, descriptive field data of all buildings, objects,
1650 structures, and districts, not previously surveyed, in consultation with the appropriate
1651 SHPOs and Tribes.
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1653 B. Procedure
1654
1655 1. At a minimum the following information shall be collected in a survey of the
1656 built environment:
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1658 a) Building Number;
1659
1660 b) Year Built;
1661
1662 c) Historic Function;
1663

- 1664 d) Evaluator/Date of evaluation;
- 1665
- 1666 e) Historic code;
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- 1668 f) Historic context;
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- 1670 g) Architectural description; and
- 1671
- 1672 h) Photo of the primary facade
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1674 2. Completing State Forms

- 1675
- 1676 a) Appropriate state forms shall be completed for each recorded building,
- 1677 object, or structure following the appropriate state guidance.
- 1678
- 1679 b) Fort Bliss numbers are assigned by the CRM or CRM Staff.
- 1680
- 1681 c) The primary number for any historic property on Fort Bliss is the "Fort
- 1682 Bliss" or "FB" number; the appropriate state number is the required
- 1683 secondary number.
- 1684
- 1685 d) Maps attached to state forms shall conform to the requirements of the
- 1686 appropriate state.
- 1687
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APPENDIX D

RECORD OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES CONSIDERATION

Date: 11/3/2010 State: TX Archeology
RHPC No.: 1 Architecture
RHPC Preparer: Sitton Archeology and Architecture
Dig Permit

NEPA Number: 99-999 Project Number: 9999
Work Order No.: XXX999 Bldg. Number: 2420

Proponent: Proponent(s) Name

Project Name: Project Name

Project Description:

Describe project particulars, location, timelines, etc.

Area of Potential Effect: Describe area at risk for effects

Project Analysis:

Describe process followed to complete review--nature of project, possible issues, research materials used, previous projects and results, any work required or already completed, etc.

Damage Report Acceptable Loss Interior or Exterior: Exterior In District or Viewshed

Criteria for Evaluation

Historic Context: Summarize applicable Historic Context(s)

Criterion A: How site(s) meets the requirements under the criterion

Criterion B: How site(s) meets the requirements under the criterion

Criterion C: How site(s) meets the requirements under the criterion

Criterion D: How site(s) meets the requirements under the criterion

Criteria Considerations Apply to Property

Criterion Considered: test record

Determination of Eligibility

THIS IS A DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY SHPO Consultation Date: 03-Nov-10

Comments: Log Number or Tracking Number, how any comments were addressed, report title and author

Assessing Effects

THIS IS AN ASSESSMENT OF EFFECT

No Historic Properties Affected

Comments: Any comments to better explain findings.

Historic Properties Not Adversely Affected

Comments: Any comments to better explain findings.

Historic Properties Adversely Affected

Comments: Any comments to better explain findings.

Treatment of Adverse Effect

SHPO Consultation Date: 11/3/2010

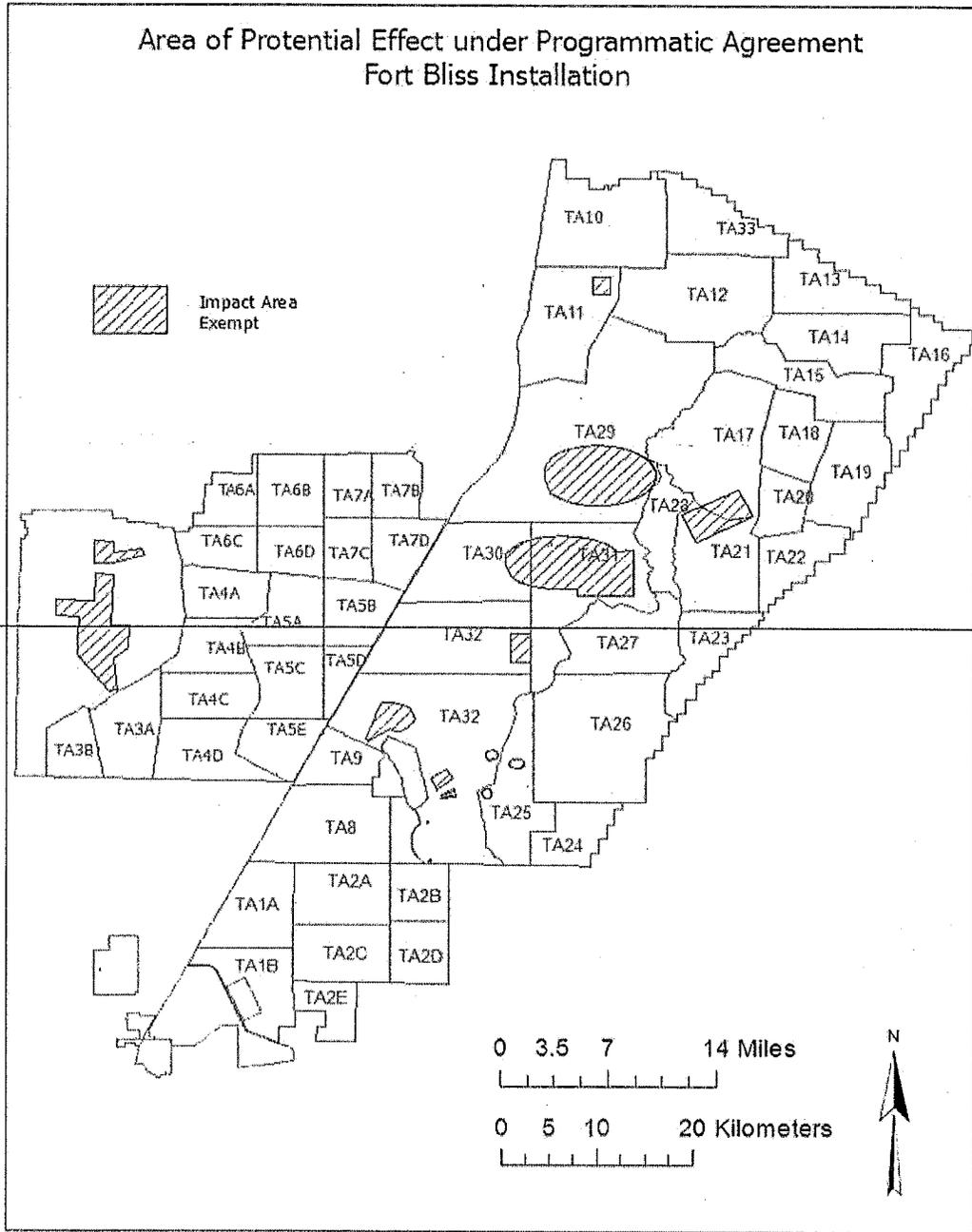
Comments: How any comments were addressed, other consultation conducted, timelines, or other information.

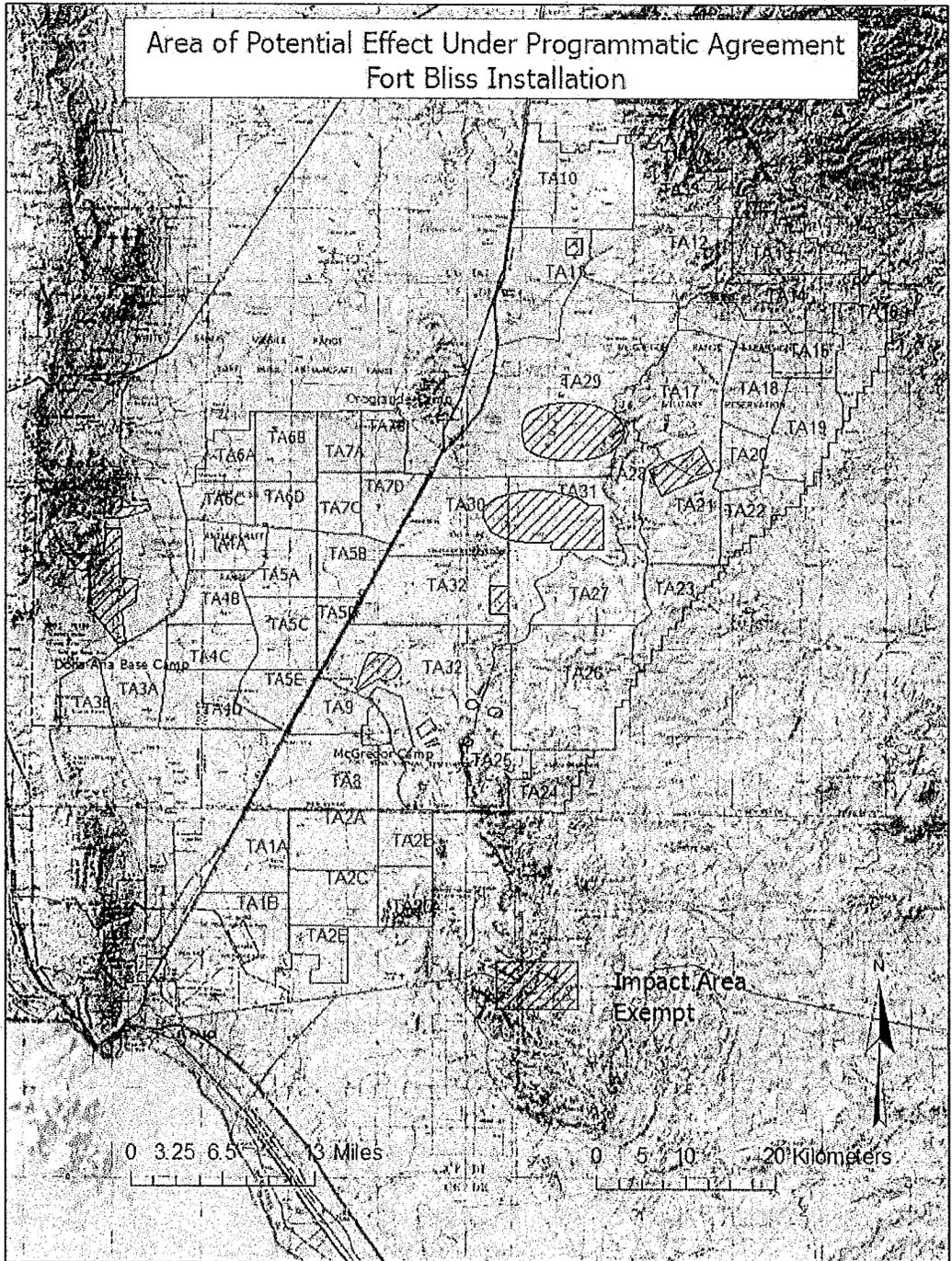
Attachment List: maps, reports, figures, etc.

Signatures For Findings of Adverse Effect

Preparer: Date:

APPENDIX E



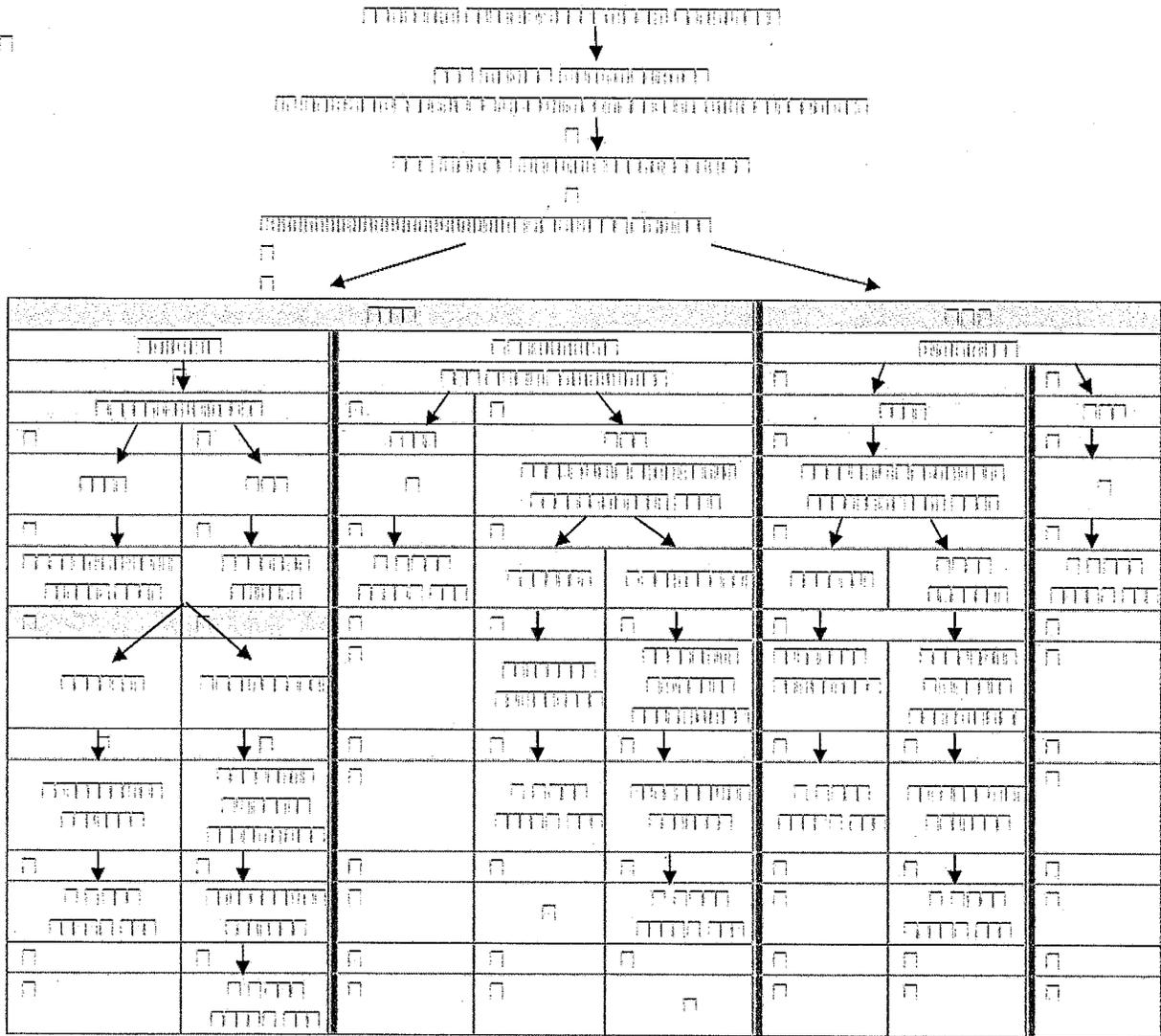


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APPENDIX F

Flowchart – Inadvertent Discovery Procedures



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APPENDIX G

Standard Mitigation Measures

If the CRM and/or CRM Staff make a finding of Adverse Effect, Fort Bliss has identify consulting parties, including Tribes, and have considered all comments on this plan to mitigate those adverse effects. Options for mitigating those effects which include avoiding the site or sites by design, data recovery, or some other creative mitigation plan (trade-offs, preservation of another site, development of a new historic context in lieu of data recovery, etc), or other plans as may be developed during consultation.

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I. Recordation

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A. Digital Photography Package: Prior to project implementation, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall oversee the successful delivery of a digital photography package prepared by staff or contractors meeting the Professional Qualifications for Architectural History, History, Architecture, or Historic Architecture, as appropriate. The digital photography package will meet the standards cited in the NPS' National Register of Historic Places Photographic Policy March 2010 or subsequent revisions (<http://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/photopolICY/index.htm>).

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1. The package shall include a comprehensive collection of photographs of both interior and exterior views showing representative spaces and details of significant architectural features and typical building materials. Exterior photographs shall include full oblique and contextual images of each elevation. Exterior views shall be keyed to a site plan while interior views shall be keyed to a floor plan of the building/structure. The photographs shall be indexed according to the date photographed, site number, site name, site address, direction, frame number, subject matter and photographer's name recorded on the reverse side in pencil.
 2. The package shall include printed color copies of the digital photographs (on appropriate paper, per NPS Photographic Policy), a CD/DVD of the digital photographs (per NPS Photographic Policy), the completed appropriate state inventory form, select existing drawings, where available, and a written site history of the historic property.
 3. The CRM and/or CRM Staff shall submit the package to the appropriate SHPO for review and approval. Once approved by the appropriate SHPO, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall submit a copy of the approved documentation to a state or local historical society, archive, and/or library for permanent retention.

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B. 35mm Black and White Photography Package: Prior to project implementation, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall oversee the successful delivery of a 35 mm black and white film photography package prepared by staff or contractors meeting the Professional Qualifications for Architectural History, History, Architecture, or Historic Architecture, as appropriate.

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1. The package shall include a comprehensive collection of photographs of both interior and exterior views showing representative spaces and details of significant architectural features and typical building materials. Exterior photographs shall include full oblique and contextual images of each elevation. Exterior views shall be keyed to a

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site plan while interior views shall be keyed to a floor plan of the building/structure. The photographs shall be indexed according to the date photographed, site number, site name, site address, direction, frame number, subject matter and photographer's name recorded on the reverse side in pencil.

2. The package shall include one full set of 35mm black and white photographs printed on fiber-based paper, the corresponding 35mm film negatives in acid free sleeves, the completed appropriate state inventory form, select existing drawings, where available, and a written site history of the historic property.
3. The CRM and/or CRM Staff shall submit the package to the appropriate SHPO for review and approval. Once approved by the appropriate SHPO, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall submit a copy of the approved documentation to a state or local historical society, archive, and/or library for permanent retention.

C. Large Format Photography Package: Prior to project implementation, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall oversee the successful delivery of a large format photography package prepared by staff or contractors meeting the Professional Qualifications for Architectural History, History, Architecture, or Historic Architecture, as appropriate.

1. The package shall include a comprehensive collection of photographs of both interior and exterior views showing representative spaces and details of significant architectural features and typical building materials. Exterior photographs shall include full oblique and contextual images of each elevation. Exterior views shall be keyed to a site plan while interior views shall be keyed to a floor plan of the building/structure. The photographs shall be indexed according to the date photographed, site number, site name, site address, direction, frame number, subject matter and photographer's name recorded on the reverse side in pencil.
2. The package shall include one full set of 4x5 or 5x7-inch photographs printed on fiber-based paper, the corresponding 4x5 or 5x7-inch negatives in acid free sleeves, the completed appropriate state inventory form, select existing drawings, where available, and a written site history of the historic property.
3. The CRM and/or CRM Staff shall submit the package to the appropriate SHPO for review and approval. Once approved by the appropriate SHPO, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall submit copies of the approved documentation to a local historical society, archive, and/or local library for permanent retention.

D. Data Recovery: Prior to project implementation, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall oversee the successful completion of data recovery undertaken by staff or contractors meeting the Professional Qualifications for Archaeology.

1. If data recovery for an archeological site is the chosen mitigation method, a Data Recovery Plan will be developed in accordance with the ACHP's *Recommended Approach for Consultation on Recovery of Significant Information from Archeological Sites* (1999), and consultations under this PA.

- 1810 a) The Plan will be submitted to the appropriate SHPO and the Tribes for a
- 1811 30 day review and comment period. If no comments are received, Fort
- 1812 Bliss will assume there are no objections and proceed with the Plan; if
- 1813 comments are received, the CRM and/or CRM Staff will continue
- 1814 consultation until that Plan is acceptable.
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- 1816 b) A copy of the finalized Plan will be provided to the appropriate SHPO
- 1817 and the Tribes.
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- 1819 c) Upon request of any party, the Plan may be submitted to the ACHP for
- 1820 review and comment, also with a 30 day review and comment period.
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- 1822 d) The final report of the execution of any Plan will be submitted to the
- 1823 appropriate SHPO and the Tribes.
- 1824
- 1825 2. Fort Bliss may propose to use a previously accepted Programmatic Research
- 1826 Design (PRD) to implement the mitigation.
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- 1828 a) The appropriate SHPO and the Tribes will continue to be given a 30 day
- 1829 review and comment period, the PRD may still be sent to the ACHP if
- 1830 requested, and the final report of the execution of the Plan will be
- 1831 submitted to the appropriate SHPO and the Tribes.
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1833 **II. Public Interpretation**

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- 1835 A. Prior to project implementation, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall work with the appropriate
- 1836 SHPO to design an educational interpretive plan.
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- 1838 B. The plan may include signs, displays, educational pamphlets, websites, workshops and other
- 1839 similar mechanisms to educate the public on historic properties within the local community, state,
- 1840 or region.
- 1841
- 1842 C. Once an interpretive plan has been agreed to by the parties, the appropriate SHPO and the CRM
- 1843 and/or CRM Staff shall continue to consult throughout implementation of the plan until all agreed
- 1844 upon actions have been completed by Fort Bliss.
- 1845

1846 **III. Historical Context Statements and Narratives**

- 1847
- 1848 A. Prior to project implementation, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall work with the appropriate
- 1849 SHPO to determine the topic and framework of a historic context statement or narrative Fort Bliss
- 1850 shall be responsible for completing.
- 1851
- 1852 B. The statement or narrative may focus on an individual historic property type, a set of related
- 1853 properties, or relevant themes as identified in the statewide preservation plan.
- 1854
- 1855 C. Once the topic of the historic context statement or narrative has been agreed to, the CRM and/or
- 1856 CRM Staff shall continue to coordinate with the SHPO through the drafting of the document and
- 1857 delivery of a final product.
- 1858

- 1859 D. The appropriate SHPO shall have final approval over the end product.
1860
1861 E. Fort Bliss shall use staff or contractors that meet the Secretary's Professional Qualifications for
1862 the appropriate discipline.
1863

1864 **IV. Oral History Documentation**
1865

- 1866 A. Prior to project implementation, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall work with the appropriate
1867 SHPO to identify oral history documentation needs and agree upon a topic and list of interview
1868 candidates.
1869
1870 B. Once the parameters of the oral history project have been agreed upon, the the CRM and/or CRM
1871 Staff shall continue to coordinate with the appropriate SHPO through the data collection, drafting
1872 of the document, and delivery of a final product.
1873
1874 C. The SHPO shall have final approval over the end product.
1875
1876 D. Fort Bliss shall use staff or contractors that meet the Secretary's Professional Qualifications for
1877 the appropriate discipline.
1878

1879 **V. Historic Property Inventory**
1880

- 1881 A. Prior to project implementation, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall work with the SHPO to
1882 establish the appropriate level of effort to accomplish a historic property inventory.
1883
1884 B. Efforts may be directed toward the resurvey of previously designated historic properties and/or
1885 districts which have undergone change or lack sufficient documentation, or the survey of new
1886 historic properties and/or districts that lack formal designation.
1887
1888 C. Once the boundaries of the survey area have been agreed upon, the designated responsible party
1889 shall continue to coordinate with the appropriate SHPO through the data collection process.
1890
1891 D. The designated responsible party shall use appropriate SHPO standards for the survey of historic
1892 properties and appropriate SHPO forms as appropriate.
1893
1894 E. The CRM and/or CRM Staff shall prepare a draft inventory report, according to appropriate
1895 SHPO templates and guidelines, and work with the appropriate SHPO until a final property
1896 inventory is approved.
1897
1898 F. Fort Bliss shall use staff or contractors that meet the Secretary's Professional Qualifications for
1899 the appropriate discipline.
1900

1901 **VI. Geo-References of Historic Maps and Aerial Photographs**
1902

- 1903 A. Prior to project implementation, the CRM and/or CRM Staff shall work with the SHPO to
1904 identify the historic maps and/or aerial photographs for scanning and geo-referencing.
1905
1906 B. Once a list of maps and/or aerial photographs have been agreed upon, the designated responsible
1907 party shall continue to coordinate with the appropriate SHPO through the scanning and geo-

- 1908 referencing process and shall submit drafts of paper maps and electronic files to the appropriate
1909 SHPO for review.
- 1910
- 1911 C. The appropriate SHPO shall have final approval on the quality of the documentation provided by
1912 Fort Bliss.
- 1913
- 1914 D. The final deliverable shall include a paper copy of each scanned image, a geo-referenced copy of
1915 each scanned image, and the metadata relating to both the original creation of the paper maps and
1916 the digitization process.

APPENDIX B
EA CORRESPONDENCE AND DISTRIBUTION

Fort Bliss Regulation ICRMP EA Mailing List

(Updated 31 October 2016)

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