



MEMORANDUM

FROM: Congressman Paul E. Kanjorski

SUBJECT: Foreign Affairs Security Training Center (FASTC)

This memorandum is designed to serve as a guide for the U.S. Department of State's new Foreign Affairs Security Training Center (FASTC) Project. Additional information can be found by visiting the project's website at <http://www.state.gov/recovery/fastc/>.

QUICK SUMMARY

In an effort to make its security training more effective and efficient, Congress provided the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Diplomatic Security \$70 million under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to consolidate its 19 existing training centers into one new security training facility.

Land currently owned by the Earth Conservancy in Conyngham Township, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania is under early consideration as a potential location for the new security training facility. To date, no official decisions about locating the new security training center have been made.

The consolidated facility is referred to as the Foreign Affairs Security Training Center (FASTC).

The new facility will provide up to 10,000 students per year with state-of-the-art training that meets agency standards.

Potential Short Term Economic Impact: Early analysis shows the facility will create 350-550 construction jobs for Phase 1.

Potential Long Term Economic Impact: At least 400 new permanent staff positions will be created once the entire facility is completed (150-200 new jobs in Phase 1). In addition, staff from existing training facilities will be transferred to the new facility and ***total*** workforce is estimated to be between 850-1,000 at full build-out.

GENERAL BACKGROUND

The Bureau of Diplomatic Security (DS) is the security and law enforcement arm of the U.S. Department of State.





Information provided by the Office of Congressman Paul E. Kanjorski



DS protects people, property, and information at U.S. embassies and consulates worldwide. In the U.S., DS protects the Secretary of State, conducts visa and passport fraud investigations, and provides protection for some visiting foreign dignitaries.

Currently, training of DS staff is done at 19 contracted locations in the U.S. A May 2008 report to Congress indentified the need for a consolidated facility to improve training efficiency, decrease operating costs, and provide priority access to training venues which meet current facility standards.

The new consolidated facility is referred to as the Foreign Affairs Security Training Center (FASTC).

Establishing the FASTC requires the acquisition of property and the construction of a new federal security training building.

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) oversees the business aspect of the U.S. federal government. More specifically, it is responsible for providing workplaces for federal employees and managing federal properties.

As a result, GSA will acquire the site for the consolidated training facility working in conjunction with the State Department.

Congress provided \$70 million in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for the acquisition and Phase 1 development of the FASTC.

The amount of future funding available will determine how many phases will be required beyond Phase 1.

ESTIMATED ECONOMIC IMPACT

Short term: Early analysis shows the facility will create 350-550 construction jobs for Phase 1.

Long term: At least 400 new permanent staff positions (150-200 in Phase 1). In addition, staff from existing training facilities will be transferred to the new facility and total workforce is estimated to be between 850-1,000 at full build-out.





New jobs will be created in the following areas: buildings and grounds, range operations, emergency medical services (EMS), administrative, custodial, vehicle maintenance, security, telecommunications, and food service.

Most jobs *at the site* will require applicants be eligible for security clearance and the level of clearance will be based on type of job.

Early stages of development will not include lodging or cafeterias to house and feed students and staff. Therefore, there will be a dependency on local hotels and restaurants to fill needs.

Currently, State books approximately 25,000 hotel rooms annually for existing training programs. Per Diem for food will be provided based on existing federal standards.

There are likely to be multiple opportunities for local businesses to contract or subcontract during and post construction. Opportunities will be made publicly available on the internet via <http://www.fbo.gov>.

Property values will be impacted, unclear whether impact will be negative or positive for individual homeowners.

Additional economic analysis will be conducted as part of the environment impact process.

DETAILS OF FACILITY

The facility will be built to train up to 10,000 students per year and will take an estimated 3-5 years to construct.

It will be a fully secured fenced-in facility within the community. Measures will be taken to contain/minimize any sounds generating from activities.

Depending upon the terrain, sounds will be contained/minimized by constructing walls, earthen berm, vegetation and establishing depressed terrain areas.

Soft skill training programs will require classrooms, simulation labs, administrative offices and a fitness center.





Information provided by the Office of Congressman Paul E. Kanjorski



Hard skill training program will require driving tracks, mock urban environments, indoor/outdoor firing and explosive ranges and weapons and explosives storage facilities.

Life support for the facility will require student housing/dining, medical and fire services, recreation and basic logistic needs.

Infrastructure needed to operate the facility will require power, water, waste services, telecommunications, building and supporting ground services.

Types of explosive that will be detonated and how often:

- ½ lb. charge: 9 to 10 times per week
- 1 ½ lb. charge: 6 times per year
- 3 lb. charge: 6 times per year

Activities at the facility will be undertaken during the weekday hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and advance notifications will be provided for certain activities.

Current plans call for a 300-foot vegetated buffer at facility perimeter or fences setback an estimated 100-200 feet with a height of 8-9 feet.

Activities that won't occur at the facility: No heavy weapons (.50 caliber weapons, 40 mm grenade launchers), no helicopters or aircraft of any kind, no chemical/biological weapons, no artillery.

INITIAL SITE SELECTION

GSA and State Department published a notice on June 29, 2009 outlining the requirements for a site and soliciting expressions of interest from sellers.

The notable requirements were for a site within 150 miles of Washington, DC and that had at least 1,200 acres available. These requirements are currently being re-evaluated.

Approximately 30 sites in 5 states were evaluated.

On November 30, 2009, the preferred site was identified as the Hunt Ray/Crismer Farms in Queen Anne's County, Maryland.





Information provided by the Office of Congressman Paul E. Kanjorski



Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), this project is considered to be of significant federal action. As a result, GSA is required to prepare at least an Environmental Assessment (EA).

The EA will analyze the impacts of the proposed action on the natural, social and cultural environments.

In addition, under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), federal agencies are required to take into account the effects of significant action on historic properties.

As a result, GSA is required to assess the effects of the undertaking on historic properties and to seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects.

Under NEPA and NHPA, GSA must seek public input and take into consideration all comments received from the public and other parties.

Once the Queen Anne's site was selected as the preferred site, GSA began the NEPA and NHPA process and hosted several public meetings.

During those public meetings, residents raised concerns related to the:

- transparency of the selection process
- impact on property values
- fear of government takeover of their property through eminent domain
- general government spending considering how many other federal facilities exist
- traffic concerns
- potential noise concerns
- area becoming a terrorist target,
- impacts on the neighboring state park
- aircraft flyovers

Community concern was so great GSA and State decided to look for another location.

EARTH CONSERVANCY

Earth Conservancy is a non-profit organization dedicated mine land





Information provided by the Office of Congressman Paul E. Kanjorski



reclamation, conservation and economic development in the Wyoming Valley of Luzerne County, PA. (www.earthconservancy.org)

The organization was founded in 1992 when Congressman Kanjorski secured a \$20 million grant from the U.S. Department of Defense for the organization to purchase 16,300 acres of abandoned mine lands from the Blue Coal Corporation.

More than 1,200 acres of mine-scarred land have been reclaimed and Earth Conservancy is working to restore an additional 1,100 acres.

According to its annual report, 10,000 acres have been dedicated to green/recreational space.

Over the years, Earth Conservancy has worked with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Department of the Interior and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection on numerous projects.

EARTH CONSERVANCY LAND FOR FASTC

Earth Conservancy owns two parcels of land in Conyngham Township, Luzerne County that are under consideration among several other sites as a potential location for the FASTC. No final decisions have been made.

Both parcels are located in relatively remote areas and border conserved land. One parcel is 2,300 acres and the other is 1,100 acres.

The location is about twelve miles south of Wilkes-Barre, PA along the Susquehanna River.

In addition, the parcels are adjacent to U.S. Route 11 and about two miles from Interstate 81.

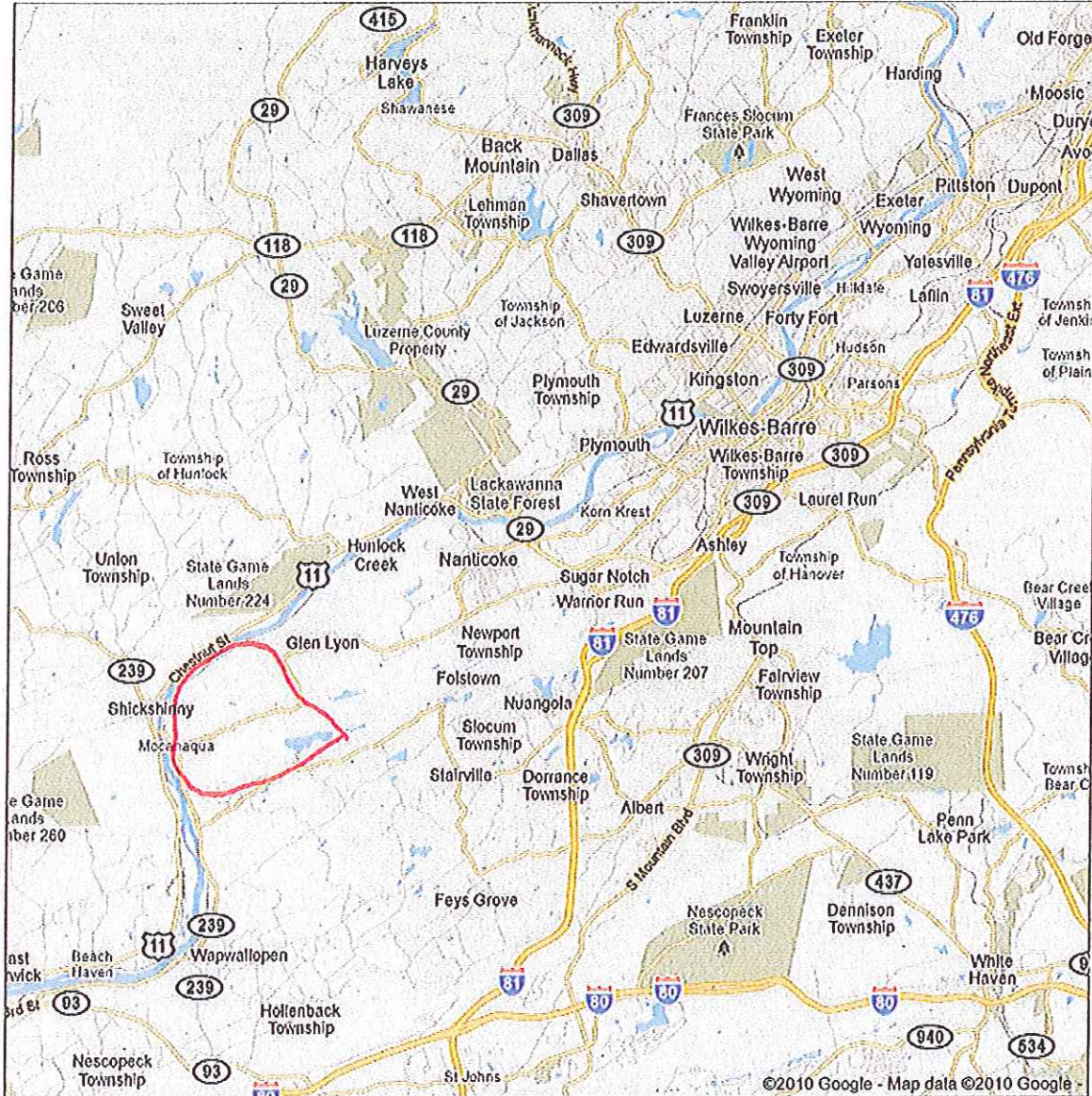

The Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport is an estimated 20 miles away and the surrounding community has numerous hotels and restaurants along with other amenities.

According to Earth Conservancy, water, sewage treatment, and electricity are all available for the site.



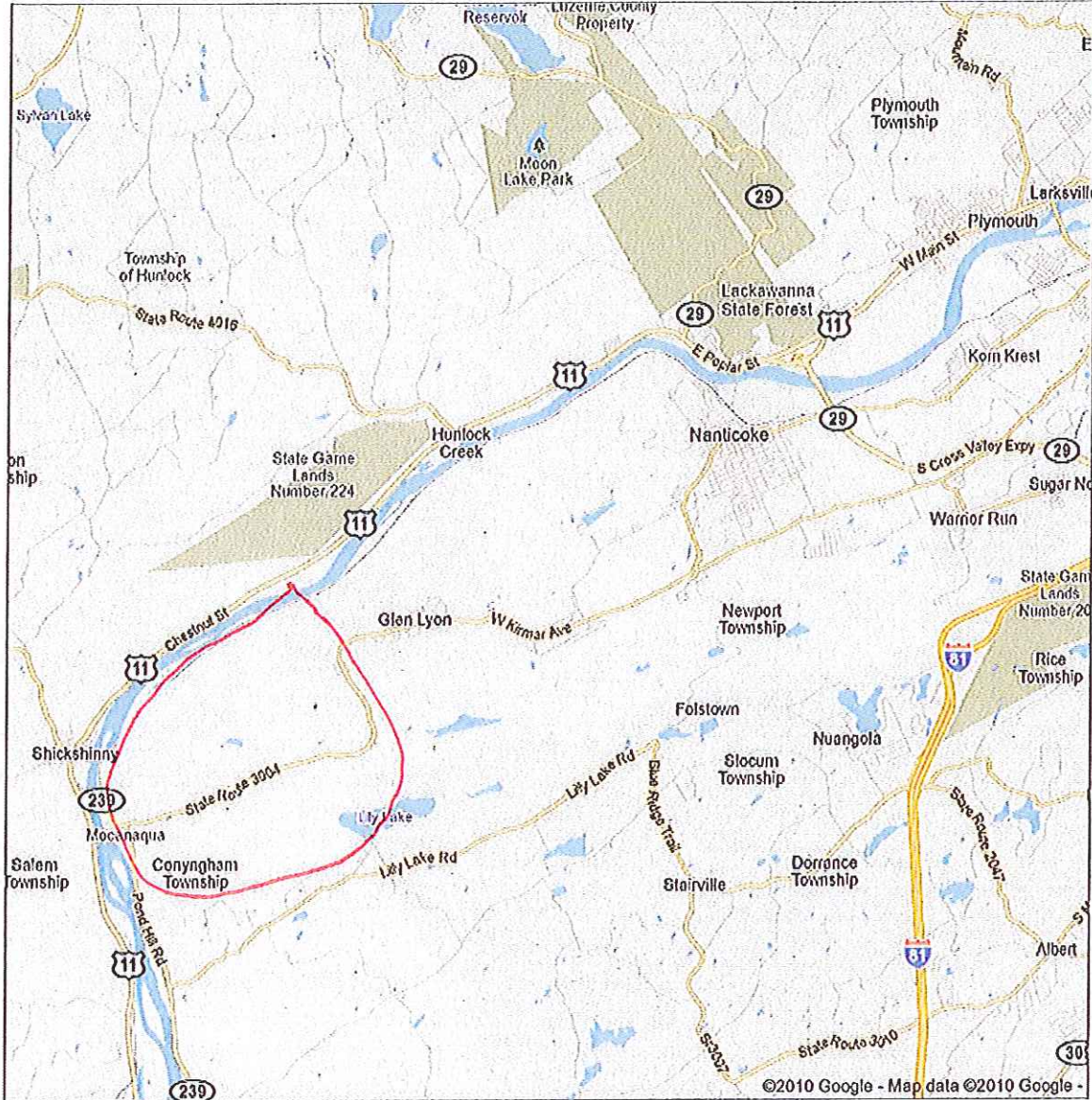


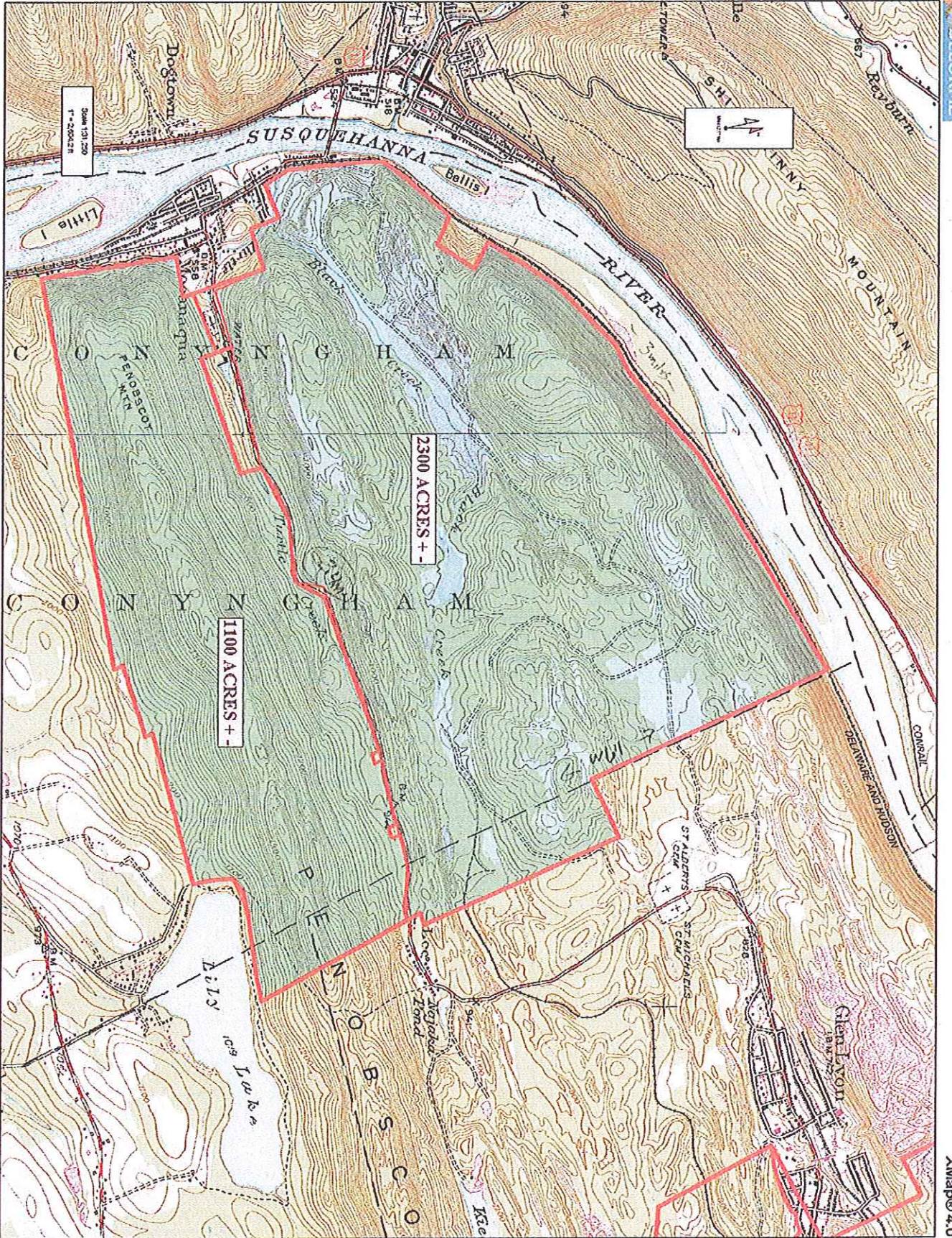
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Sheet 131 250
1" = 2,604.2 ft



FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECURITY TRAINING CENTER [FASTC]

An American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Project



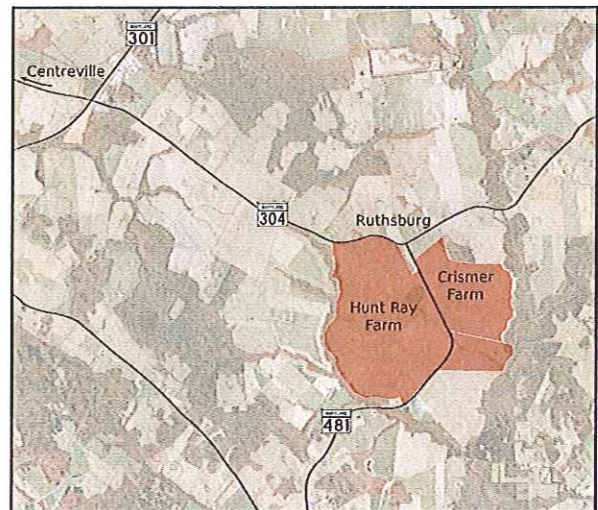
PROJECT FACT SHEET (No. 1)

PURPOSE

■ The purpose of the Foreign Affairs Security Training Center (FASTC) is to establish a consolidated training center from which to conduct training for a wide array of law enforcement and security disciplines within the U.S. Department of State. The new facility will provide up to 10,000 students per year with state-of-the-art training that meets agency standards.

■ Diplomatic security training is currently conducted in 19 different geographically separated leased and contracted facilities nationwide. A May 2008 report to Congress identified the need for a consolidated facility to improve training efficiency, decrease operating costs, and provide priority access to training venues which meet current facility standards.

■ The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) dedicated \$70 million to the U.S. Department of State towards the site acquisition and phased development of a soft and hard skills training center for the Bureau of Diplomatic Security.



Queen Anne's County, MD

■ The U.S. Department of State has contracted an Architect/Engineering design team to perform Site Planning, NEPA Consulting, Programming, Master Planning and Design Drawings.

■ GSA will acquire the site, provide construction procurement, construction management, commissioning and other services necessary to complete the project. Upon completion of site acquisition and development, the U.S. Department of State will retain custody and control of the property.

■ The acquired site will be developed into a state-of-the-art center designed to meet the Silver Certification through the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program.

■ The facility will be fully secured and safe within the community in which it resides.

NEXT STEPS

Public Project Overview Meeting

■ January 2010

■ Date | Time TBD

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

■ NEPA Public Scoping Meeting

■ January 2010

■ Date | Time TBD

National Historic Preservation Act

■ Section 106 Public Consultation

■ In conjunction with NEPA

www.Recovery.gov: ARRA Diplomatic and Consular Programs - Hard Skills Training Center Recovery Plan

Public Comments and Inquiries: FASTC.info@gsa.gov or (215) 446-4815

Media Inquiries: GSA Public Affairs Officer, Gina Blyther Gilliam at gina.gilliam@gsa.gov

Contractors: www.fbo.gov for future business opportunities

FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECURITY TRAINING CENTER [FASTC]

An American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Project



PROJECT FACT SHEET (No. 2)

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 (ARRA)

- On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).
- The Department of State's Foreign Affairs Security Training Center (FASTC) project is partially funded by ARRA, authorizing \$70 million toward site acquisition and Phase 1 of development.
- The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) and the U.S. Department of State (DoS) have identified approximately 2,000 acres comprised mainly of the Hunt Ray/Crismer Farms located in Queen Anne's County, Maryland, as the preferred site for the FASTC. GSA is conducting further analysis in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). NEPA and Section 106 of the NHPA require federal agencies to document and assess the impacts of proposed projects on the natural, social, and cultural environments.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 5, 2010

GSA Public Project Overview Meeting

A public meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 5, 2010 from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at the Queen Anne's County High School located at 125 Ruthsburg Road, Centreville, MD. There will be a presentation providing details about the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), the program needs for the U.S. Department of State, and anticipated economic impacts resulting from the project. This meeting will allow the public to learn general information about the project and have an opportunity to provide feedback.

January 7, 2010

Public Scoping Meeting for NEPA/NHPA:

A public scoping meeting for NEPA/NHPA will be held on Thursday, January 7th, 2010 from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at Queen Anne's County High School located at 125 Ruthsburg Road, Centreville, MD. The meeting will focus on the NEPA and NHPA processes and will solicit comments on the scope of the action, alternatives, and impacts.

www.Recovery.gov: ARRA Diplomatic and Consular Programs - Hard Skills Training Center Recovery Plan

Public Comments and Inquiries: FASTC.info@gsa.gov or (215) 446-4815

Media Inquiries: GSA Public Affairs Officer, Gina Blyther Gilliam at gina.gilliam@gsa.gov

Contractors: www.fbo.gov for future business opportunities

December 22, 2009

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An American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Project



PROJECT FACT SHEET (No. 3)

PROGRAM

■ The Master Plan requires a minimum of 1,250 acres of developable land, not including setback requirements, to accommodate the following program functions:

Soft Skills Training

- Classrooms
- Simulation Labs
- Administrative Offices
- Fitness Center

Hard Skills Training

- Driving Tracks
- Mock Urban Environments
- Indoor | Outdoor Firing and Explosive Ranges
- Weapons and Explosives Storage

Life Support

- Student Housing | Dining
- Recreation
- Medical and Fire | EMS
- Logistics

Infrastructure

- Power, Water, Waste
- Telecommunications
- Buildings and Grounds

Operations

- Physical | Cyber Security
- Secure Communications
- Mobile Security Deployments
- Defensive Equipment and Armored Vehicle Operations

THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA) AND THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT (NHPA)

■ Both the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) require public participation in the decision-making process.

■ The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires that federal agencies consider the environmental impacts of proposed projects or actions prior to taking any significant action.

■ GSA will prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) in order to comply with the requirement of NEPA. The EA will analyze the impacts of the proposed action on the natural, social, and cultural environments.

■ The goal of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) is to identify historic properties that may be affected by the undertaking, assess the effects of the undertaking on these historic properties, and seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects.

www.Recovery.gov: ARRA Diplomatic and Consular Programs - Hard Skills Training Center Recovery Plan

Public Comments and Inquiries: FASTC.info@gsa.gov or (215) 446-4815

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An American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Project



JOBS

Contracting Opportunities

- 350-550 Construction Jobs – Phase 1
- Federal Business Opportunities (www.fbo.gov)
- Future Small Business Fairs / Networking Prospects
- Small Business Subcontracting Goals (GSA and DoS)

Permanent Jobs

- Job Fairs
- 400+ New Staff Positions (150-200 in Phase 1)
- Training Support
- Management and Administration
- Operations and Maintenance

Buildings and Grounds, Range Operations, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Training, Administrative, Custodial, Vehicle Maintenance, Security, Telecommunications, Food Service

Local Partnership Opportunities

- Agricultural / Food Source
- Hospitality
- Transportation
- Others?



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PROJECT PROGRAM

Soft Skills Training

- Classrooms
- Simulations Labs
- Administrative Offices
- Fitness Center

Hard Skills Training

- Driving Tracks
- Mock Urban Environments
- Weapons and Explosives Storage
- Indoor | Outdoor Firing and Explosive Ranges

Life Support

- Student Housing | Dining
- Recreation
- Medical and Fire | EMS
- Logistics

Infrastructure

- Power, Water, Waste
- Telecommunications
- Buildings and Grounds

Operations

- Physical | Cyber Security
 - Secure Communications
 - Mobile Security Deployments
 - Defensive Equipment and Armored Vehicle Operations
-

FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECURITY TRAINING CENTER [FASTC]

An American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Project



SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESOURCES

Land Use

- Existing Land Uses
- Future Land Uses
- Land Preservation

Methodology/ Sources

- Queen Anne's County Comprehensive Plan & 2009 Draft Update
- Queen Anne's County Zoning Code
- Maryland Department of Planning Growth Management/Land Conservation Tools and Strategies

Planning Policies and Regulatory Environment

- Comprehensive Planning
- Zoning
- Agricultural Policies + Tools
- Tourism Policies + Tools

Methodology/ Sources

- Queen Anne's County Comprehensive Plan & 2009 Draft Update
- Queen Anne's and Caroline Counties Zoning Codes
- Queen Anne's and Caroline Counties Economic Development

Public and Community Facilities

- Schools, Libraries, Recreational Facilities, Community Services
-

FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECURITY TRAINING CENTER [FASTC]

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SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESOURCES

Economic / Fiscal Resources

- Demographics
- Direct and Indirect Employment
- Direct and Indirect Income
- Tax Revenues
- Property Values

Methodology/ Sources

- U.S. Census and Other Government Statistics
- Employment and Unemployment Data
- Indirect and Induced Employment
(Bureau of Economic Analysis Multiplier: 9.3 jobs per million dollars in construction spending)
- Hotel/Per Diem Revenue (25,000 hotel nights annually; \$116 per day)
- State and County Income Tax Rates
- Property Values Analyzed in General, not individually

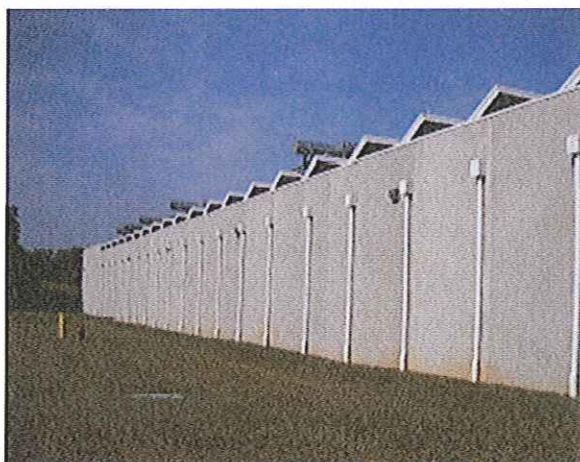
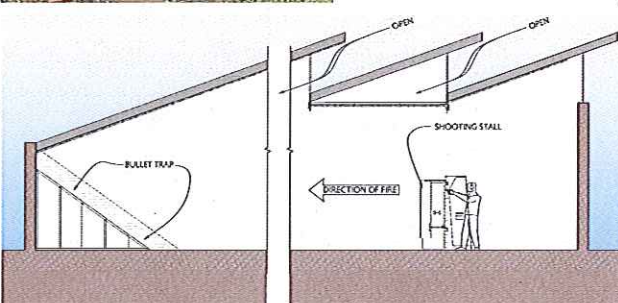
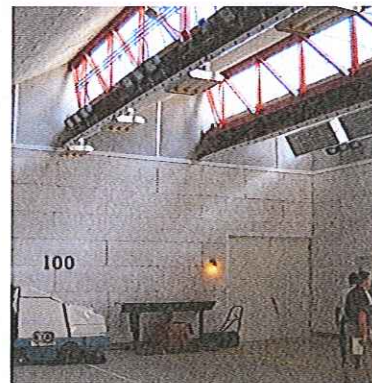
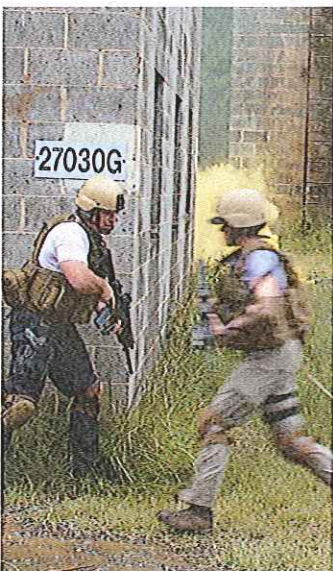
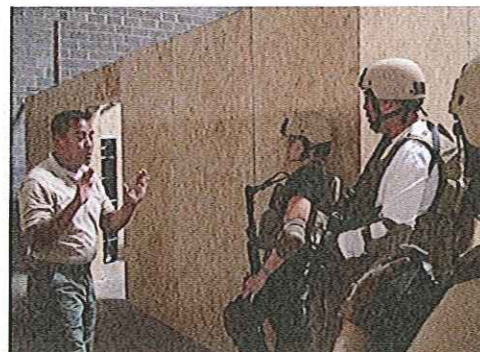
Short-Term, Long-Term, and Cumulative Impacts will be Analyzed.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECURITY TRAINING CENTER [FASTC]

An American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Project



TRAINING OPERATIONS

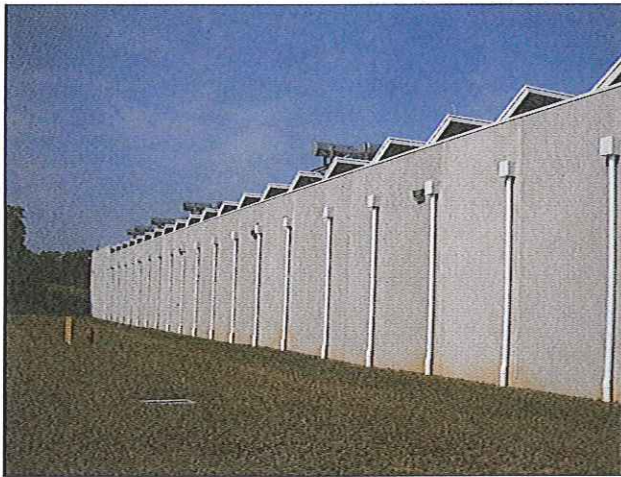


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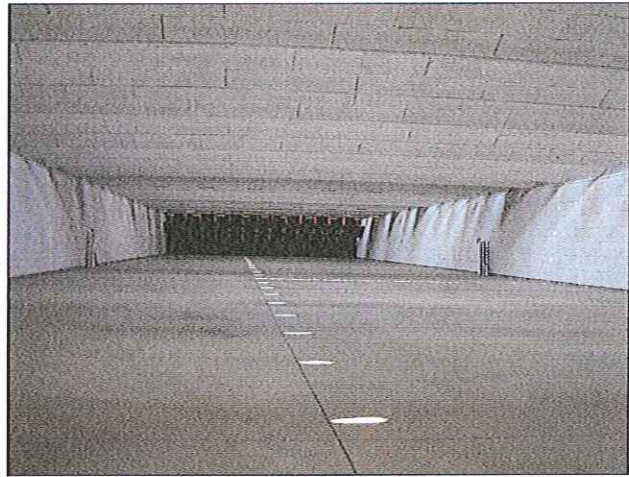
An American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Project



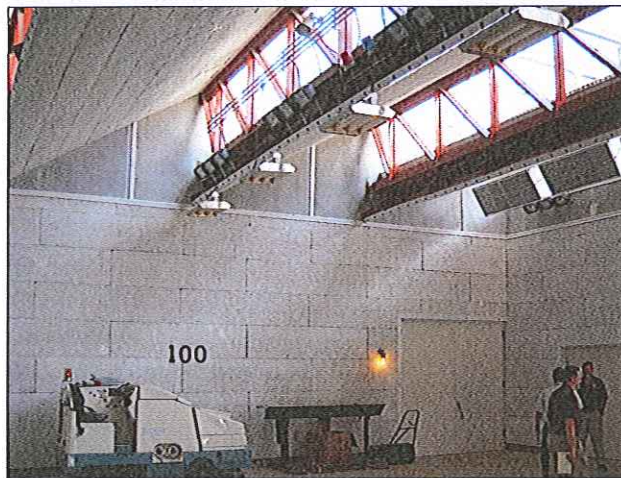
SIMILAR OUTDOOR FULLY BAFFLED FIRING RANGE



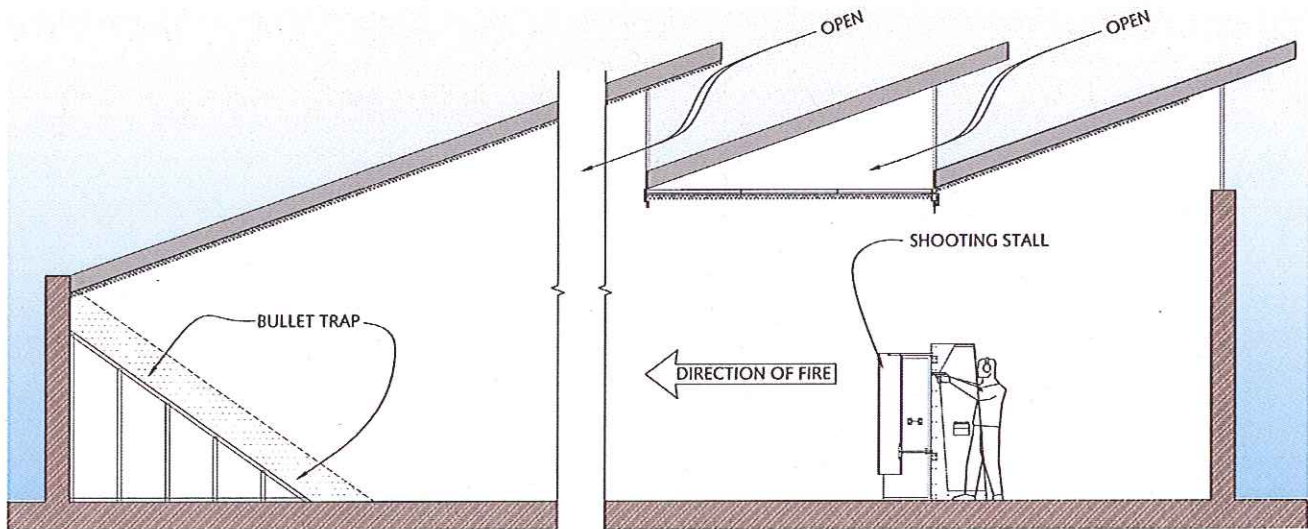
EXTERIOR OF 'OUTDOOR' RANGE



INTERIOR OF 'OUTDOOR' RANGE



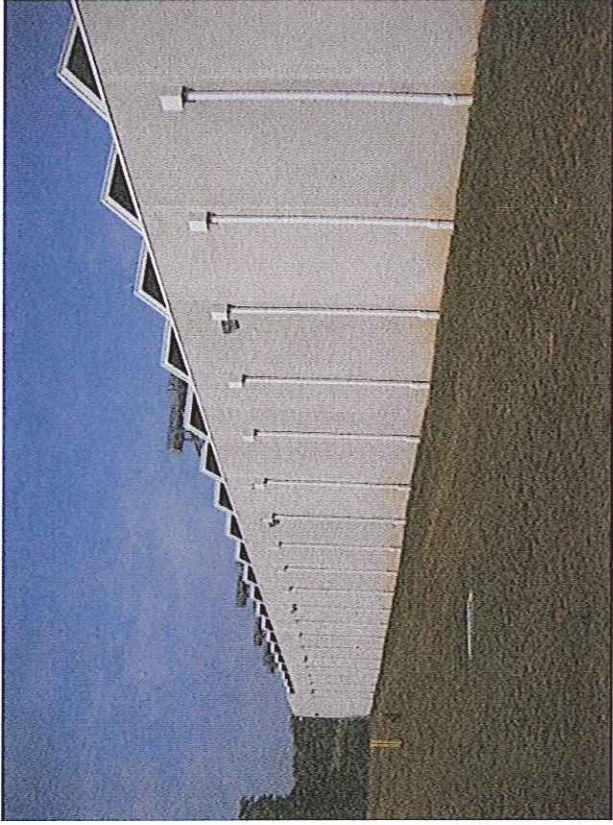
**SAMPLE BAFFLE AT ROOF OF
'OUTDOOR' RANGE**



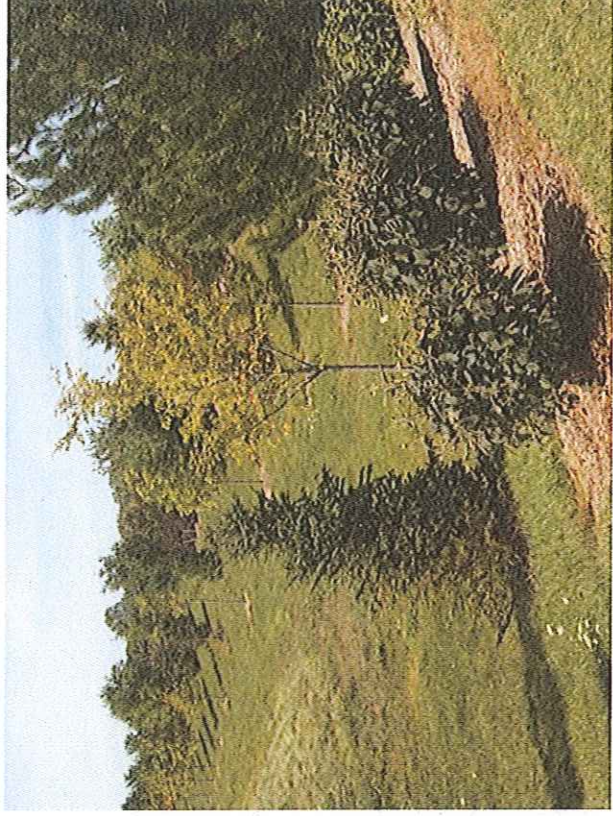
DIAGRAMATIC SECTION

Noise

- How will sounds be contained and/or minimized?



Outdoor Range – Fully Baffled

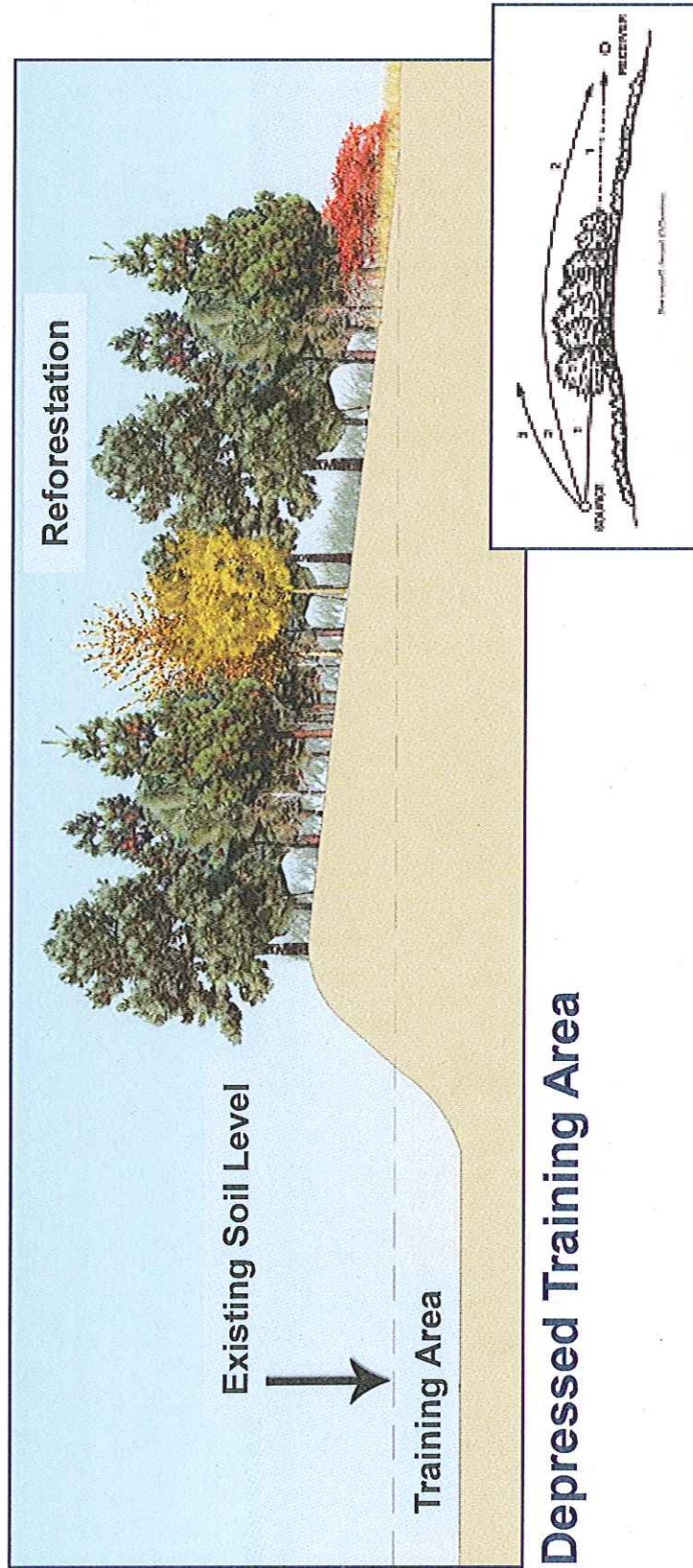


Earthen Berm



Noise

- How will sounds be contained and/or minimized?

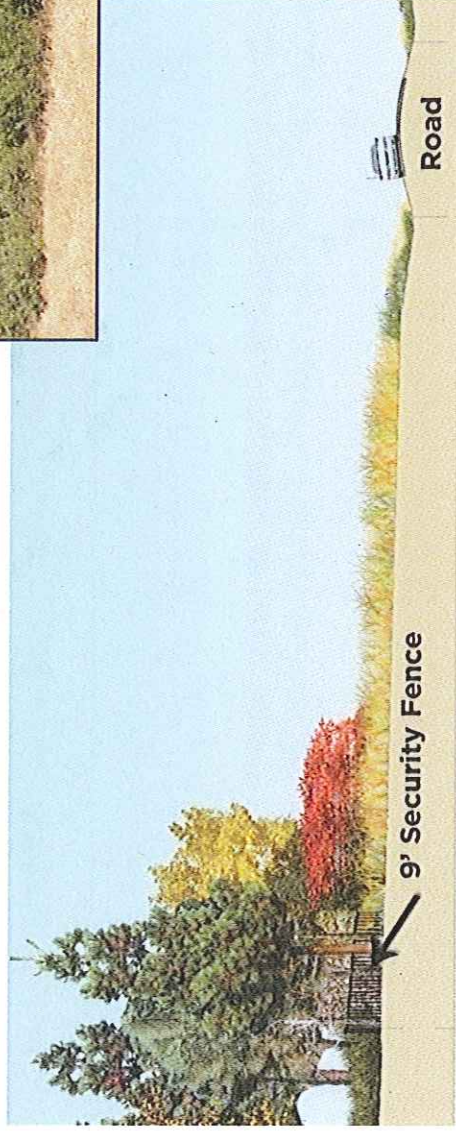


Cultural Resources

- ***How high will the fence be?***
 - ***300-foot vegetated buffer at perimeter***
 - ***Fence setback: 100 - 200 feet***
 - ***Fence Height: 8 - 9 feet***



Vegetated Buffer



Fence Section

