



LONGLEAF PINE FOREST

# ARMY COMPATIBLE USE BUFFER (ACUB) PROGRAM FORT MOORE, GEORGIA



The Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) Program creates land conservation partnerships between the Army and outside organizations to protect land from development that is incompatible with the military mission.

Fort Moore consists of 182,000 contiguous acres in Georgia and Alabama and is an integral part of the Columbus, Georgia, metropolitan area. Fort Moore is a self-sufficient military community providing support to more than 100,000 military, family members, reserve component soldiers, retirees, and civilian employees. The installation is the training area for the U.S. Army Maneuver Center of Excellence, Noncommissioned Officer Academy, and Officer Candidate School. Fort Moore also provides training facilities for several U.S. Army Forces Command Units.

Incompatible development along Fort Moore's border presents a significant challenge to the military mission and the unique habitat that exists in and around the installation. Lands near Fort Moore can provide essential habitat for sustaining the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker, the gopher tortoise, and several rare plant species including relict trillium. As part of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC 2005) requirements, Fort Moore's population and training needs increased with the arrival of the U.S. Army Armor School. Fort Moore must protect its mission capability by maintaining full use of installation lands for training activities and supporting infrastructure.

The Georgia Chapter of The Nature Conservancy (the Conservancy) is Fort Moore's primary ACUB partner. The Conservancy's mission is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends. In partnership with Fort Moore through the ACUB program, the Conservancy's Georgia Chapter is working with willing private landowners adjacent to the installation to sustain rural and conservation-friendly land uses. Since 2007, the Conservancy has protected over 35,000 acres on the western Fall Line through the ACUB program.

Through a combination of conservation easements and conservation-focused land acquisitions from willing sellers by the Conservancy and its partners, such as the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and the Georgia-Alabama Land Trust, the ACUB Program at Fort Moore targets the protection, restoration, and management of up to 75,000 acres around Fort Moore specifically for conservation purposes. This buffer assists in channeling incompatible land development away from critical portions of the installation's boundary, while maintaining military training opportunities on-post and conserving critical habitat and watersheds off-post.

For more information, contact:

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