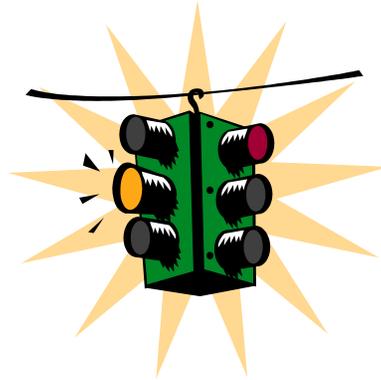


Environmental Risk Awareness



Field Recognition of Environmentally Sensitive Areas

Fort Gordon, GA

Directorate of Public Works and Directorate of Plans, Training and Mobilization

POC: Rob Drumm/DPW (706-791-6374) and Leslie Parris/DPTM (706-791-9935)

Updated: April 2003



AGENDA

1. **WHY is this important to YOU**

2. **BE AWARE OF YOUR LOCATION...**

Uplands, Bottomlands, and other sensitive areas

3. **PROCEED WITH CAUTION...**

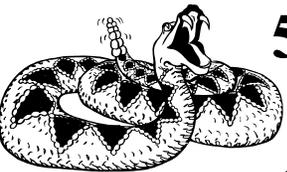
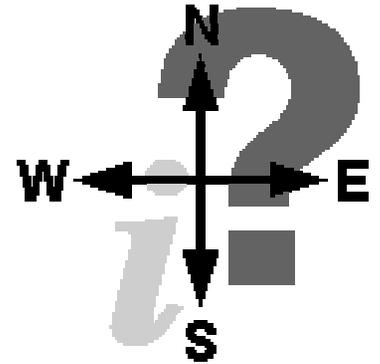
Endangered species in Uplands!

4. **PROCEED WITH CAUTION ...**

Protected species in Bottomlands!

5. **Protect YOUR installation!**

6. **Protect YOURSELF!!**





Purpose of Field Recognition Training:

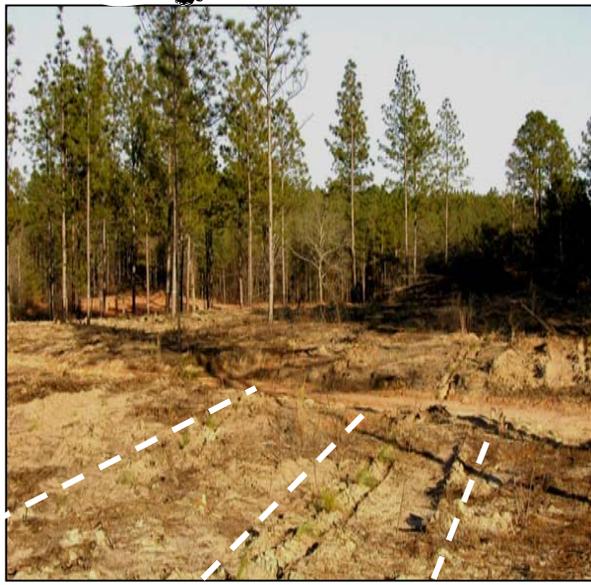
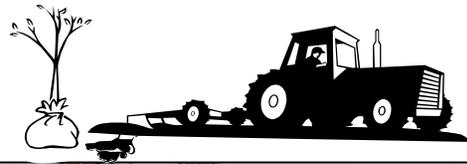
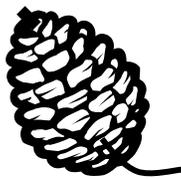
The purpose of this training is to teach soldiers how to identify threatened, endangered species and habitat, wetlands, and other environmentally protected areas during field training exercises.



“Why is this important to YOU”

Your Commander, Unit, or you personally could be fined or imprisoned for violation of environmental laws

WHAT you need to avoid depends on WHERE you train....



#1 "UPLAND" habitat

#2 "Bottomland" habitat

#3 Pine plantation & 'Food Plot'

LOCATION... What HABITAT TYPE are you in?

UPLAND habitat:



“Upland” = Tall pine trees with shorter ‘broad-leaved’ trees below.
Note: Pine trees are dominate. And notice the layer of pine needles on the ground.



“Upland” habitat is prime location for **Signal training** AND prime habitat for **red-cockaded woodpeckers** and **gopher tortoises**.

Indicators that you are in “upland” habitat:

- * Higher elevations (i.e. ridge, hilltop)
- * Pine trees are dominate (i.e. pines are tallest trees)
- * Dry soils (i.e. not waterlogged)

PROCEED WITH CAUTION... Endangered Species!

In **UPLAND** habitat... you'll most likely encounter:

1. **RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER** ("RCW")

Limitations on training:

"200ft buffer" around the nesting tree...

Nesting trees have two **white bands**

and 200ft boundary is marked with **yellow signs**



200ft Buffer Sign
(yellow sign posted on trees)

RCW Nesting Tree
(tree marked with two white bands)

2. **GOPHER TORTOISE** and "Tortoise Burrows"

Limitations on training:

NO vehicles 25 feet of a tortoise burrow.

For example: Bivouac sites should be surveyed for tortoise burrows before vehicles leave the road.

Gopher tortoise →



Gopher tortoise burrows →



PROCEED WITH CAUTION... Protected Species!

In **UPLAND** habitat... you'll most likely encounter:

3. SNAKES (All NONpoisonous):

* **Hognose Snake..**



Hognose snake

* **Pine Snake.....**



Pine snake



Indigo snake

* **Indigo Snake.....**

4. PLANTS:

* **Sandhill Rosemary.....**



Sandhill Rosemary

* **Pink Lady's Slipper Orchid.....**



Pink Lady's Slipper

LOCATION... What HABITAT TYPE are you in?

BOTTOMLAND habitat:

What is a “bottomland”?

...an area covered by shallow water or has waterlogged soils. Bottomlands do not need to be wet year-round. Areas that occur in bottomlands include: “*wetland*”, “*swamp*”, “*marsh*” and “*bog*”.

One clue that a tract of land may contain wetlands is its position on the landscape.

Wetlands occur in areas where water naturally flows or accumulates, such as in the floodplains of creeks, streams, rivers, in low spots in rolling landscapes, and along the edges of ponds and lakes.



“Bottomland” = Running water (or wet ground) with ‘broad-leaved’ trees dominating

Indicators that you are in “bottomland” habitat:

- * Vegetation with broad leaves (i.e. not pine needles)
- * Soil type
- * Hydrology (i.e. water or wet ground)

PROCEED WITH CAUTION ... Protected resources!

In **BOTTOMLAND** habitat... you'll most likely encounter:

* **Pitcher plant**.....



Pitcher plant

* **Atlantic white cedar**.....



Atlantic white cedar

**AVOID VIOLATIONS BY DRIVING
ONLY ON ESTABLISHED ROADS
AND FIREBREAKS**



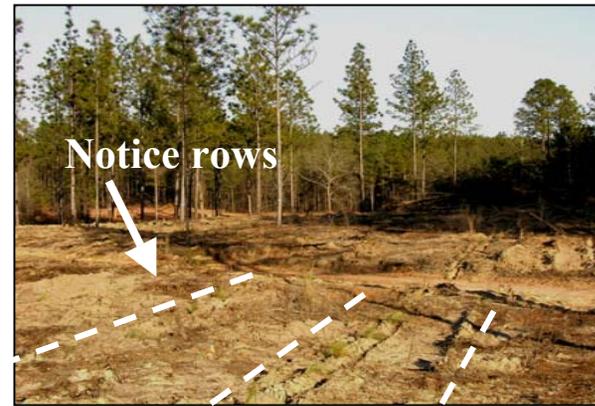
Note: Unauthorized wetland crossing

LOCATION... BE AWARE OF YOUR LOCATION

Pine Plantation and Wildlife 'Food Plots':

* Bare ground may be a:

- 1) Clear-cut
- 2) Pine plantation = NO TRAINING
- 3) Wildlife 'Food plot'



Just planted pine plantation.
Trees are in "grass stage".



Freshly plowed dirt indicates
Pine Plantation or 'Food Plot'.



Planted wildlife food plot

* If Wildlife 'Food Plot' is planted = NO TRAINING

* If the 'Food Plot' is needed for training,
contact ITAM (DPTM) or ENRMO (DPW).
Area will be set aside and not replanted.

LOCATION... BE AWARE OF YOUR LOCATION

Other Sensitive Areas:

1. Cemeteries

***ALL activities are prohibited!**



All activity prohibited in
cemeteries



Damaged Cemetery
(How would you feel if this
was your mother and sister?)

2. Archaeological sites and Old “homesteads”

***DO NOT TAKE FROM THE SITE...
report to ENRMO (791-2403)**

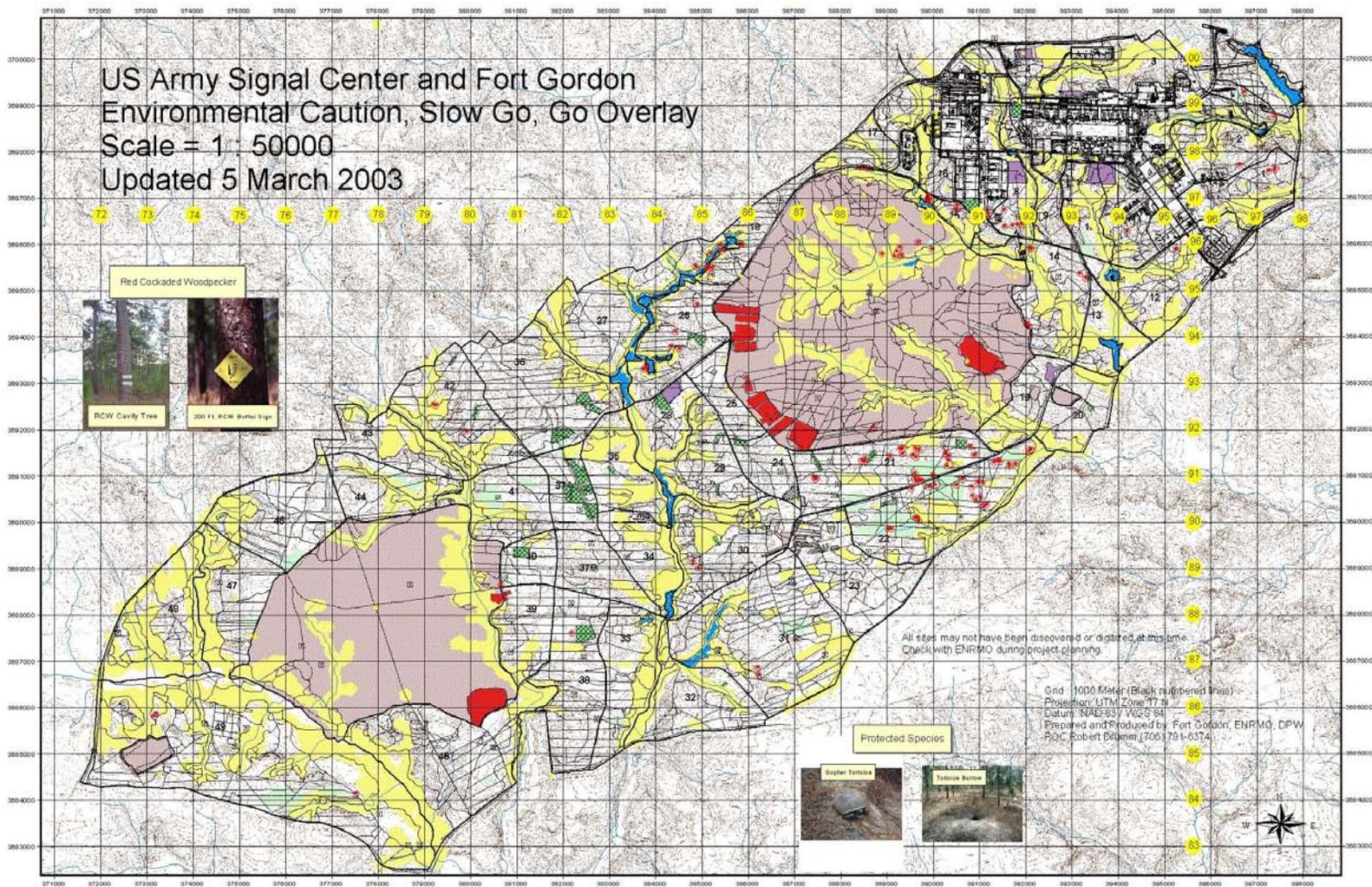


Old home sites may
be historic properties
and should be
avoided.



LOCATION..... BE AWARE OF YOUR LOCATION

Incorporate the Environmental Slow Go Map into your FTX...



Key	
Training Area Boundary	OFF LIMITS
Roads and Firebreaks	Artillery Firing Points
Streams	Landfills
Lakes	Ranges
Sub-Training Areas (Preapproved)	Red cockaded woodpecker (RCW) cavity tree
Cemetery	200 ft RCW Cavity Tree Buffer
Caution	
Slow Go	
Protected Site	

CAUTION AREA
NO digging
NO MCT
NO Field Showers
Foot-traffic only/ off roads/firebreaks
Vehicles ONLY on established roads/firebreaks
Refueling from 5 gallons can ONLY

SLOW GO
Concentrated areas of protected species or sites
Red Cockaded Woodpecker (RCW) (see RED DOTS)
Training limits within 200ft of cavity tree
Follow 1996 ARMY RCW Guidelines

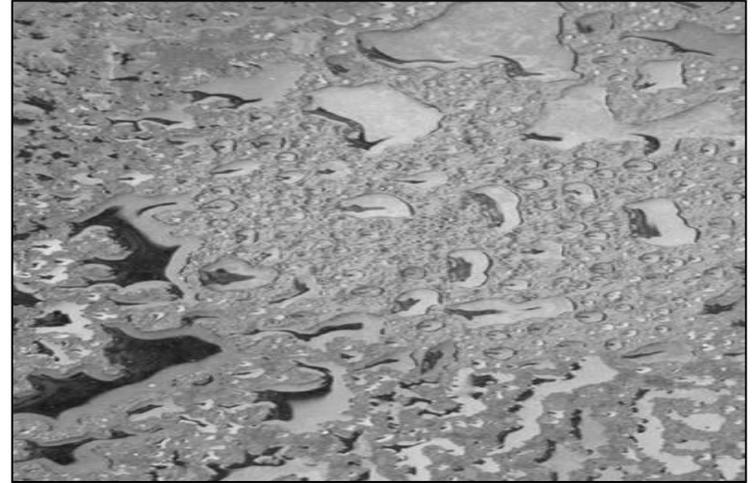
GO AREA [Areas not shaded]
Coordinate DIGGING with Range Control
Coordinate pyrotechnics (including CS & smoke) with Range Control on DAILY BASIS
Vehicles off road only in/out of training site
Notes BEFORE exit road: recon site for Gopher Tortoise burrows (25ft between vehicle and burrow)
MCT and field showers must comply with FM-21-10
No "Gray Water" will be allowed to enter stream or lake

= Sub-Training Areas are "preapproved training sites". For SOP visit ENRMO website <http://gordon.army.mil/dgmr/preapproved.html> or visit Range Control website: <http://gordon.army.mil/dgmr/range%20control.htm>

Protect YOUR installation!



Report ALL fires



Report ALL Spills!
Even spills thought to be minor...



Do not leave any waste in the field!



Your unit can be fined **\$12,000**
per container per DAY for
dumping! (GA State Inspector)



Drum filled with
CLP: damaged
and leaking

Protect YOURSELF!!

INSECTS:

* Ticks.....



* Mosquitoes.....



* Spiders (black widow).....



* Fire ants (mounds!!).....



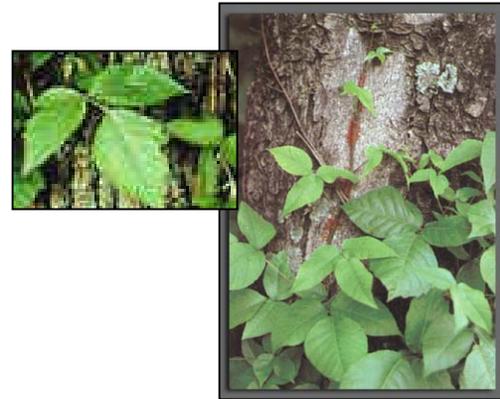
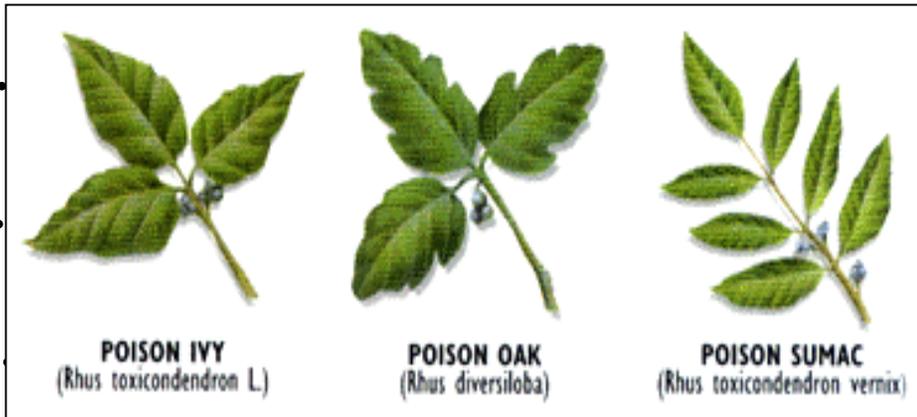
* West Nile Virus, Lyme Disease, Rocky Mt Fever (contact William Walker, DPS, #791-4643)

POISONOUS PLANTS:

* Poison ivy.....

* Poison oak.....

* Poison sumac.....



Poison ivy "vine" climbing the base of a tree

INFECTED ANIMALS:

* Rabies (raccoon, etc)

* Chronic Wastings Disease (deer)

Protect YOURSELF!!

POISONOUS SNAKES:

* **Copperhead**.....



* **Cottonmouth**..



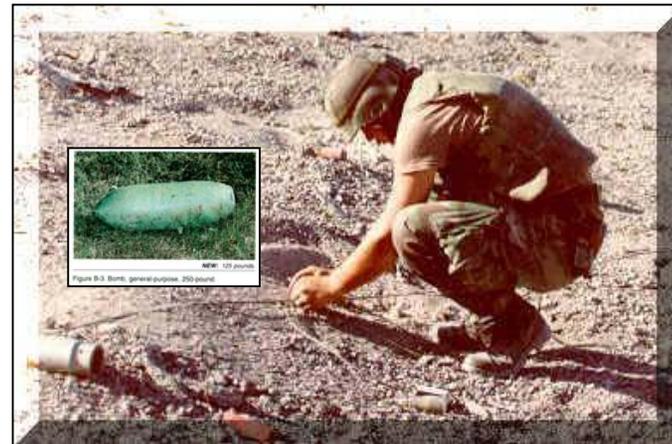
* **Timber Rattlesnake**.....

HEAVILY ERODED AREAS:



Notice heavy erosion...
Poses safety hazard!
Report sites to ITAM (791-9935)

UXO'S:



Report ALL UXOs: Stay Back!

“Why is this important to YOU”

1. These plants, animals, and habitats are protected by **FEDERAL LAWS...**

- * **Endangered Species Act**

- * **Clean Water Act and**

- * **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**

2. **Good land stewardship ensures the Army's lands remain viable to support future training and mission requirements, indefinitely...**