

2013 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards Cultural Resources Management Installation and Individual/Team Awards

Each year since 1962, the Department of Defense has honored individuals, teams, and installations for their outstanding achievements and innovative environmental practices and partnerships that promote the quality of life and increase efficiencies without compromising mission success. A panel of judges with relevant expertise, education, or experience from federal and state agencies, academia, and the public evaluated each of the nominees to select winners of the nine categories that cover six subject areas: sustainability; environmental quality; environmental excellence in weapon system acquisition; natural resources conservation; environmental restoration; and cultural resources management. As structured since Fiscal Year 2009, some of the awards within these categories are on a two-year cycle with large/small and non-industrial/industrial installations competing in alternate years.

About the Cultural Resources Management, Installation and Individual/Team Awards

In 2013, the Cultural Resources Management category covered awards for both installations and individuals/teams. These awards recognize efforts to promote cultural resources stewardship in the Department of Defense by highlighting outstanding examples of Cultural Resources Management. The awards are designed to showcase the Department's extensive cultural resources including archaeological sites, the historic built environment, and cultural landscapes. Desired initiatives include partnering with external stakeholders such as Native Americans, State Historic Preservation Officers, and local communities, and working with internal stakeholders, such as master planning, public works, and range management. The 2013 winner of the Cultural Resources Management, Installation award is *Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, South Carolina* and the winner of the Cultural Resources Management, Individual/Team award is *Ms. June Noelani Cleghorn, Marine Corps Base, Hawaii*.

About Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, South Carolina

Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Beaufort, South Carolina is home to nearly 8,500 persons, including more than 3,500 military personnel and their 3,600 family members, air station employees, and 1,300 civilian employees. MCAS Beaufort serves as a home and base of operations for Fleet Marine Force units of the Second Marine Aircraft Wing and the Second Force Service Support Group. Its mission is to maintain and operate facilities to support flight operations, the Marine Aircraft Group, and associated Wing units, among other activities. For at least 10,000 years, people of all backgrounds, including Native Americans, English colonists, African and Indian slaves, and African-Americans, have occupied the land that now houses the Air Station and housing area. Because of the MCAS Beaufort's past history, cultural resource management is a key element in project planning at the Air Station and the Cultural Resource Management Program continues its excellence activities both on the Installation and for Townsend Bombing Range in McIntosh County, Georgia. Program activities



MCAS Beaufort is rich in cultural history, having been the site of some of the earliest settlements in the eastern U.S. Completed surveys help identify various grave markers and provide information about those buried there.

include maintaining its Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan (ICRMP) and furthering programs and relationships with regulatory groups with streamlined project planning and execution. Some specific accomplishments include:

- Engaged proactively with private land owners to conduct intensive archeological studies of properties around Townsend Range to assess potential expansion options. These expansion plans will increase the current 5,183 acre range by 28,630 acres.
- Completed a survey and history of eight cemeteries using techniques such as geographical information systems (GIS) and ground penetrating radar (GPR) to identify a total of 386 graves that can now be properly protected. The Air Station is in a location that was home to some of the earliest settlements in the eastern United States, so it is important to ensure proper management of these areas to preserve its rich history.
- Assisted in cataloging and characterizing nearly all of the property within MCAS Beaufort with additional surveys reported in five studies. This work was necessary to ensure construction projects will not compromise the cultural and natural resources on the Air Station as it prepares for the re-location of the Joint Strike Fighter.



Subsurface investigation, an archeological survey technique, requires a well-developed plan for collecting soil and artifacts at varying depths. Here is the dig plan for Site 38BU1331, indicating where shovel tests were positive (triangles), negative (circles), and where digs were not possible (cross in circle).



Shovel tests determine soil layers and assess whether a site had been used through the collection of artifacts. While shovel tests do not always provide results, occasionally they provide artifacts that help determine a site's past use or historical value. Here is an example of the kinds of artifacts found at Site 38BU1331, mostly fragments of china and pottery.

About Ms. June Noelani Cleghorn, Marine Corps Base, Hawaii

Marine Corps Base (MCB) Hawaii is comprised of 4,500 acres on the island of Oahu and supports over 25,000 Marines, Sailors, civilian employees, and family members. Its mission is to enhance and sustain war fighter readiness by providing state-of-the-art training ranges, facilities, programs, and services that promote the well-being and safety of military and civilian personnel. Ms. June Noelani Cleghorn, Senior Cultural Resources Manager for Marine Corps Base (MCB) Hawaii, played an integral role in establishing the MCB Hawaii Cultural Resources Management Program as one of the leading Department of Defense environmental programs in Hawaii. The Cultural Resources Management Program at MCB Hawaii ensures the protection of the many diverse cultural resources on the installation, as well as rigorous compliance with historic preservation laws to ensure the continued success of the military mission. Ms. Cleghorn and the base Archaeologist manage a diverse portfolio of cultural resources including Hawaiian

archaeological sites and artifacts, some dating back to the (A.D.) 1400s; the unique Mokapu Burial Area archaeological site listed in the National Register of Historic Places; a National Historic Landmark that includes the seaplane hangar that was targeted and bombed by the Japanese on December 7, 1941; Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act cultural items; and sites considered sacred to more than twenty Native Hawaiian organizations. In addition, Ms. Cleghorn has managed several projects critical to the combat readiness and training mission of MCB Hawaii. Some specific accomplishments include:

- Developed a program for cultural resources management staff to teach curation and field survey techniques to Wounded Warrior and Fleet Assistance Program Marines. This program enabled the needed curation of archaeological collections and documentation of previously unrecorded World War II era bunkers at no cost, while providing these Marines with valuable experience in a non-military profession.
- Played a key role as a member of the Office of the Secretary Defense Senior Tribal Liaison team that developed a policy for consultation with Native Hawaiian organizations promulgated and signed on October 25, 2011, as the new DoD Instruction 4710.3.
- Led a government team that successfully executed a Programmatic Agreement culminating two years of complex consultations. This facilitated the execution of eight Military Construction projects for MCB Hawaii in support of the basing of MV-22 Osprey and H-1 tactical helicopter squadrons.
- Achieved formal eligibility determinations from the Hawaii State Historic Preservation Office for the inventory of nearly 200 World War II era historic buildings on base. This also allows for the planning of various Military Construction projects being executed to support the basing and training of MV-22 Osprey and H-1 tactical helicopter squadrons.



A Marine documents current conditions of a tunnel that was used to connect two World War II era aircraft revetments at Marine Corps Training Area Bellows.



On the Mokapu Peninsula's eastern shoreline, one of the kupuna (elders) of the Ahahui (Native Hawaiian stakeholder group) recounts stories of living in his grandmother's house just inland from this same spot where he would play in the tidepools while his "tutu" (grandmother) watched from her kitchen window.



Ms. Cleghorn conducts multiple tours of Hawaiian cultural sites at MCB Hawaii Kaneohe Bay. A group visits the bronze plaque that commemorates the Mokapu Burial Area that at one time held skeletal remains of nearly 2,000 Hawaiians buried in the elevated vegetated sand dunes inland from the peninsula's northern coastline.

**Past Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards
Cultural Resources Management Category Winners**

- | | |
|---|---|
| 2012 - 30 th Space Wing, Vandenberg Air Force Base, California | 2005 - Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, South Carolina and 15th Airlift Wing, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii (tie) |
| 2011 - 88 th Air Base Wing Civil Engineering Directorate, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio | 2004 - Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command, Twentynine Palms, California |
| 2011 - Cultural Resources Management Team, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida | 2003 - Texas Army National Guard Cultural Resources Management Office, Texas |
| 2010 - Camp Guernsey, Wyoming Army National Guard | 2002 - Commander Navy Region Mid-Atlantic, Hampton Roads, Virginia |
| 2009 - Vandenberg Air Force Base, California | 2001 - U.S. Army Air Defense Artillery Center and Fort Bliss, Texas |
| 2009 - Fort Drum Cultural Resources Team, Fort Drum, New York | 2000 - Fort Riley, Kansas |
| 2008 - Redstone Arsenal, Alabama | 1999 - Vandenberg Air Force Base, California |
| 2007 - Mr. Gary M. O'Donnell, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii | 1998 - Fort Hood, Texas |
| 2007 - Fort Drum, New York | 1996 - Fort Carson and Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site, Colorado |
| 2006 - Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, California | |