



Department of Defense Legacy Resource Management Program

Project 12-086

National Public Lands Day 2012

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National Environmental Education Foundation
Washington, D.C.

April 9, 2013

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
LEGACY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (12-086)**

National Public Lands Day 2012

On September 29, 2012, 175,000 volunteers participated at over 2,200 National Public Lands Day (NPLD) sites to improve parks and other public lands in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and Guam. NPLD volunteers contributed an estimated \$18 million in public land improvements by removing 500 tons of trash; collecting 23,000 pounds of invasive vegetation; building and maintaining 1,500 miles of trails; and planting 100,000 trees, shrubs and other native plants. Many NPLD events included an environmental education component to teach volunteers about land stewardship. In 2012, NPLD focused on promoting the health benefits of outdoor recreation. Sites were encouraged to integrate recreational activities for adults and youth into their events, such as hiking, birding, biking and fishing.

The Department of Defense provides funds to the National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF) for National Public Lands Day projects on military lands open to the public for recreation. Since 1999, National Public Lands Day has received \$2,072,395.67 through the Legacy Resource Management Program (Legacy). In 2012, National Public Lands Day received a total of \$200,000 from Legacy. Of this amount, \$160,000 was allocated to sites. Also distributed to sites was \$11,728.30 in carryover funding from 2011. In 2012, a total of \$168,505.43 was distributed to installations for materials and supplies. The Legacy funds were used to enhance Department of Defense (DoD) lands through various cultural and natural resource improvement projects. Participating in NPLD provides the natural and cultural resource managers the means and labor to complete small installation-specific projects that may not otherwise get done due to budget or staffing limitations. These projects improve habitat and biodiversity for common and rare species alike, often reducing the need for intense management of these species.

The National Environmental Education Foundation received 41 applications for Legacy awards of up to \$6,500 each for 2012 NPLD projects. In September, NEEF notified 36 sites that they were selected to receive a Legacy Resource Management Program Award. NEEF awarded Legacy funds to sites by sending payment directly to the installation or reimbursing vendors for all items purchased that pertained to the awarded project. The branches awarded Legacy Resource Management Program funding consisted of eight Air Force, nine Army, seven Army/Air National Guard, two Marine Corps and ten Navy sites.

Over 1,100 volunteers took part in various natural and cultural resource improvement activities that were offered at the 36 Legacy sites. Many Legacy sites organized work projects to improve habitat for pollinator species including bees, birds, bats and insects. Other natural resource activities performed by volunteers included removing invasive plants, restoring rivers, enhancing dunes, constructing trails and planting native trees and wildflowers. The cultural resource activities included preserving burial sites, repairing historic structures and installing educational signage.

Legacy Sites 2012

<u>United States Air Force</u>	<u>Amount Awarded</u>
Beale Air Force Base California	\$5,155.87
Bellows Air Force Base Hawaii	\$6,412.00
Eglin Air Force Base Florida	\$5,125.25
Hill Air Force Base Utah	\$5,725.00
Malmstrom Air Force Base Montana	\$6,248.00
McConnell Air Force Base Kansas	\$1,223.88
Randolph Air Force Base Texas	\$3,577.35
Tyndall Air Force Base Florida	\$6,495.00
<u>United States Army</u>	
Fort Bliss Texas	\$1,832.50
Fort Bragg North Carolina	\$4,783.00
Fort Hood Texas	\$6,471.94
Fort Leavenworth Kansas	\$6,500.00
Fort Riley Kansas	\$2,800.00
Joint Base Lewis McChord Washington	\$6,500.00
Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall Virginia	\$2,009.00
Ka`ala/Schofield Barracks West Range Hawaii	\$2,650.00
Redstone Arsenal Alabama	\$1,886.00
<u>United States Army/Air National Guard</u>	
Biak Training Center Oregon	\$3,293.00
Camp Dawson Army Training Site West Virginia	\$2,899.45
Camp McCain Training Center Mississippi	\$4,978.69
Fort Custer Training Center Michigan	\$6,500.00
Fort Indiantown Gap Pennsylvania	\$6,500.00
Fort Jackson McCrady Training Center South Carolina	\$1769.37
Fort Ruger Hawaii	\$6,500.00

<u>United States Marine Corps</u>	<u>Amount Awarded</u>
Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, 29 Palms California	\$3,940.00
Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point North Carolina	\$1,709.29
<u>United States Navy</u>	
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Hawaii	\$6,275.66
Joint Regions Marianas Naval Base Guam	\$6,053.00
Naval Air Station Fallon Nevada	\$6,174.40
Naval Air Station Key West Florida	\$6,500.00
Naval Air Station Oceana Virginia	\$6,360.00
Naval Support Activity Hampton Roads Virginia	\$4,605.05
Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach California	\$6,500.00
Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach Detachment Fallbrook California	\$5,357.60
NIOC Sugar Grove West Virginia	\$5,918.00
Patuxent River Naval Air Station Maryland	\$4,500.00



United States Air Force

Beale Air Force Base | California Natural Resource Project: Tree Plantings and Trail Improvements

Project Date: October 12-13, 2012

Project Summary: The goal of this project was to improve riparian habitat in a park located behind family housing. Over the course of two days, volunteers renovated foot bridges, restored a trail and planted 37 native trees. The group also added 575 feet of trail and installed signage at the trailhead. These improvements made the trail more accessible to park visitors.

The Sacramento Tree Foundation spoke to volunteers on tree planting best practices. An additional speaker discussed the importance of riparian buffers. Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts learned how to 'tickle the roots' of trees to prepare them for replanting.

Contact: James Lang, Environmental Compliance Inspector | (530) 634-2642



Bellows Air Force Station | Hawaii Cultural and Natural Resource Project: Sand Dune Restoration

Pollinator Project

Project Date: September 19, 2012 and November 17, 2012



Project Summary: Students from Blanche Pope Elementary and the University of Hawaii helped implement a pilot sand dunes restoration project at Bellows Air Force Station. Volunteers learned how proper placement of vegetation and fencing can stabilize dunes. Participants went onto the dunes and planted native vegetation. This work will help guide a larger dune restoration effort seeking to reduce shoreline erosion and protect native Hawaiian burial sites resting beneath the dunes.

Hawaiian ceremonial practices, conducted before the start of each event, highlighted the cultural and spiritual relevance of the plantings. Volunteers left the project with a greater understanding of the area's culture, history and environment.

Contact: Dan Dagdagan, Environmental Manager | (808) 259-4213

Eglin Air Force Base | Florida Natural Resource Project: Pond and Stream Restoration

Pollinator Project

Project Date: September 26-28, 2012

Project Summary: Over the course of three days, 24 volunteers participated in pond and stream restoration projects. The group planted more than 900 native trees, shrubs, grasses and forbs at the Anderson Pond Recreation Area. These efforts helped stabilize the soil and increased shade.

Additional vegetation was planted to benefit wildlife and pollinators. The vegetation—swamp tupelo, red sage and persimmon—will provide additional habitat and food for wildlife. Longleaf pine trees were also planted to help re-establish habitat for the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker.



Contact: Patricia Williams, Research Assistant II | (850) 883-1192

Hill Air Force Base | Utah Natural Resource Project: Pond Enhancements

Pollinator Project

Project Date: September 29, 2012

Project Summary: To restore a neglected trail surrounding a pond, volunteers performed a variety of maintenance projects. Air Force volunteers and local elementary students removed trail debris. Boy Scouts built and installed bee houses and bat boxes. Additional groups removed weeds and planted native wildflowers, grasses, forbs and shrubs. The trail will become a natural resource education center for schools, the base population and the larger community.

Contact: Jo Proctor, Wildlife/Habitat Biologist | (801) 777-4618

Malmstrom Air Force Base | Montana Natural Resource Project: Trail Restoration

Pollinator Project

Project Date: September 29, 2012 and October 20, 2012

Project Summary: Over several days, 40 volunteers enhanced a deteriorated recreation trail. Participants removed invasive vegetation, resurfaced a 600 meter walking trail and picked up 60 pounds of garbage. Eighteen Ponderosa pines were planted to enhance wildlife habitat, increase shade and reduce erosion. Native wildflower seed mix was spread along the trail to benefit pollinators. Three outdoor interpretive displays, explaining the ecology and local wildlife, were installed.

Volunteers received a tour around the recreation areas. Guides explained the benefits of native pollinators and how to identify invasive vegetation. Participants were also educated on the symbiotic relationship between wetlands, freshwater ecosystems and riparian areas.

Contact: Jenni Hill, Biological Scientist | (406) 731-6165

McConnell Air Force Base | Kansas Natural Resource Project: Pollinator Habitat Improvements

Pollinator Project

Project Date: October 13, 2012



Project Summary: Twenty-five volunteers enhanced a North American honey bee habitat at the Krueger Recreational Area on McConnell Air Force Base. Base biologists and the local community worked with an Eagle Scout candidate to restore the habitat. Invasive weeds surrounding the honeybee trees were removed. A barrier fence was added to prevent weeds from reentering the area. The group also installed educational signage, which discussed the honeybee colony and the role of pollinators.

Enthusiasm, from volunteers and project leaders, was high throughout this event. One leader commented that “the idea that we are doing our part to save bee hives that can pollinate many flowers and crops in the local area really excited our volunteers as well as our base biologist.”

Contact: James Vause, Outdoor Recreation Director | (316) 759-4435

Randolph Air Force Base | Texas Natural Resource Project: Recreation Area Enhancements

Pollinator Project

Project Date: September 29, 2012

Project Summary: Use of the Canyon Lake Recreational Area has increased in recent years, creating the need for additional maintenance. Volunteers planted wildflowers and native grasses to create a rain garden. They also developed more than 20 new campsites. The group also added additional recreation opportunities for visitors. Removing trees, rock and brush created a new recreation trail. Additionally, volunteers mulched trees, marked a trail and removed about 60 pounds of trash.

This project opened up a walking trail located between two parks. Visitors can walk along a small beach, hike in the woods and go on a wildlife observation walk.

Contact: John Guerra, Natural Resources Manager | (210) 652-7131

Tyndall Air Force Base | Florida Natural Resource Project: Nature Trail Improvements

Pollinator Project

Project Date: October 27, 2012

Project Summary: Four nature trails on Tyndall Air Force Base were improved over eight workdays. Forty-five individuals contributed 165 volunteer hours of labor. Volunteers improved access to a trail, repaired a boardwalk and added signage. The group also planted native vegetation and enhanced a butterfly garden. Additionally, viewing binoculars were installed at a pavilion. This expands opportunities for visitors to view birds and marine life in St. Andrew Bay.

In response to volunteer interest, site coordinators added two nature trail projects and increased the number of service days. Vegetation was cleared to



improve trail safety and accessibility. The enhancements protect native vegetation by encouraging visitors to remain on the trail and away from sensitive coastal and woodland habitats. Additionally, more schools and youth organizations can use the nature trails as a learning experience. The trails go through several ecosystems that are unique to Florida.

Contact: Wendy Jones, Wildlife Biologist | (850) 527-2009

United States Army



Fort Bliss | Texas Natural Resource Project: Trail Maintenance and Wetland Restoration

Project Date: November 17, 2012

Project Summary: Twenty-eight volunteers restored a footpath located in a desert wetland. This area had not been intensively maintained since 2003. As a result, the site had accumulated a large amount of flood debris, making the footpath inaccessible. Volunteers restored the wetland by removing about 3,000 pounds of trash along a half mile of trail. This immediately beautified the area and increased access for future cleanup efforts. Additionally, local waterfowl are no longer in direct contact with accumulated flood debris and trash.

A number of the volunteers expressed an interest in completing future restoration work. Activities were scheduled for a weekday afternoon in March, 2013.

Contact: Kelly Blough, Storm Water Compliance Manager | (915) 568-0794

Fort Bragg | North Carolina Natural Resource Project: Pollinator Garden Maintenance

Pollinator Project

Project Date: September 28, 2012 and November 2, 2012

Project Summary: Fort Bragg hosted two events to remove invasive Bermuda grass from a garden. Invasive grasses were replaced with native vegetation including purple muhly grass, black-eyed Susan and purple coneflower. Additionally, volunteers planted eight holly bushes, 20 live oaks and more than 170 herbaceous plants.

“Service projects build camaraderie and morale among the Soldiers,” added Sargent Tyrell Kerney, Green Boot Program coordinator. That camaraderie and morale is especially important as the plantings improved a garden that is used by the Survivor Outreach Service.

Contact: Julia Love, Urban Forester | (910) 729-2559



Fort Hood | Texas Natural Resource Project: Wildlife and Pollinator Garden Maintenance

Pollinator Project

Project Date: September 29, 2012 and October 13, 2012

Project Summary: Fort Hood hosted a two-part garden maintenance project. Each project had volunteers from the installation, Keep Copperas Cove Beautiful, the Copperas Cove 4-H, the City of Copperas Cove and the local community. The first maintenance project occurred on Sept. 29, 2012. Twenty volunteers created a new pollinator garden. They helped build benches, bat houses, nesting boxes and trellises. The bat houses will welcome

hundreds of Mexican free-tailed bats. The nesting boxes will provide homes for wrens and bluebirds. The second phase of the project was completed on Oct. 13, 2012. Twenty-five volunteers planted native vegetation, flowering trees and shrubs.

This project enhanced the aesthetics of Fort Hood and its natural resources. The garden provides an outdoor learning experience. The local community will be able to learn about xeriscaping, sustainable landscaping and water wise landscaping. Additionally, youth will learn the basics of growing plants and be able to participate in garden maintenance. Individuals on base will be educated on how native plants benefit the ecosystem.

Contact: Carla Picinich, Agronomist | (254) 288-2074

Fort Leavenworth | Kansas **Natural Resource Project: Historic Trail Restoration**

Pollinator Project

Project Date: September 29, 2012

Project Summary: Over several work days, more than forty volunteers completed various trail projects at Fort Leavenworth. The group renovated four miles of trail, installed two bridges and replaced one culvert. Specific trail renovations included cutting small trees, trimming brush, digging out stumps and improving the drainage system. This multi-use trail will now provide recreation opportunities for activities such as horseback riding, running and mountain biking.

Contact: Matthew Nowak, Natural Resources Specialist | (913) 684-8979

Fort Riley | Kansas **Natural Resource Project: Nature Trail Improvements**

Pollinator Project

Project Date: September – November, 2012; Multiple Workdays

Project Summary: Seven volunteers participated in a four-day work project at Fort Riley. They constructed a bird viewing station and added benches to an existing walking trail. Along an additional trail, the group planted over 30 pounds of native wildflower seed. This will help restore a nearby prairie. Volunteers also cleared an opening in the woodlands, installed a variety of bird feeders and constructed an eight-foot viewing wall.

The trail is located near troop areas, schools and family housing. The site enhancements will provide each group with more opportunities to enjoy nature and recreate outside.

Contact: Mike Houck, Wildlife Biologist | (785) 239-2537



Joint Base Lewis McChord | Washington **Natural Resource Project: Community Garden and Prairie Restoration**

Pollinator Project

Project Date: November 14-15, 2012

Project Summary: Volunteers restored a previously burned section of Johnson Prairie, located on Joint Base Lewis McChord. The group removed woody debris and planted 3,200 native prairie plugs. They also constructed 100 planter boxes, built garden beds, constructed a greenhouse shed and weeded the garden. In the field, volunteers installed Bluebird, bat and bee boxes.

Enhancements helped restore the prairie habitat for rare species including the checkerspot butterfly, Streaked Horned Lark and mazama pocket gopher.

Contact: Jim Lynch, Fish and Wildlife Biologist | (253) 966-6440

Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall | Virginia Natural Resource Project: Rain Garden Installation

Pollinator Project

Project Date: September 29, 2012

Project Summary: Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall staff and volunteers constructed a rain garden to treat runoff entering the Potomac River. They dug a swale to accommodate water runoff, filled a ditch, added topsoil and planted 42 native plants. The rain garden, designed as a "Living Lab," will educate visitors about runoff and the value of rain gardens. Troops will be involved in maintaining the garden.

Project leaders have already seen benefits. The amount of pollutants entering the storm water system has decreased. Surface water runoff now goes directly into the rain garden. Plants take in the water and prevent excess pollutants from entering the storm water system.

Contact: Dr. Wanda Gooden, Project Manager | (703) 696-8513

Ka`ala/Schofield Barracks West Range | Hawaii Natural Resource Project: Invasive Weed Control

Pollinator Project

Project Date: September 29, 2012

Project Summary: Volunteers removed three highly invasive weed species on Mt. Ka'ala, one of the most pristine native forests on Oahu. The group removed invasive thorny blackberry and applied herbicide to the stumps. Participants also removed soft rush weeds. Additionally, invasive sphagnum moss was sprayed with a non-toxic herbicide.

Project leaders also coordinated a special hike for volunteers. They were driven to the top of Mt. Ka'ala, normally only accessible to very experienced hikers. The only public access to the summit is along a very steep (elevation gain of 4000 feet in 4.5 miles) and challenging hiking trail. The group stopped to interpret the views and the native resources, plants and animals.

Contact: Kimberly Welch, Environmental Outreach Specialist | (808) 656-7741

Redstone Arsenal | Alabama Cultural and Natural Resource Project: Historic House Restoration

Project Date: October 6, 2012

Project Summary: At Redstone Arsenal, eight volunteers were involved in two projects. The group cleaned up the historic Harris House. They enhanced the interior, removed rotted wood from the porch and repaired the cellar doors. Outside the house, volunteers removed over 4,000 pounds of debris. Much of the material was later recycled. The second project was at Joiner Cemetery. The group replanted four cedar trees and replaced dead ornamental vegetation with native plants.

The project coordinator stated, "It was amazing to see the transformation that the Harris House underwent in a single day, thanks to a handful of volunteers!"

Contact: Ben Hoksbergen, Cultural Resource Manager | (256) 955-6971

United States Army/Air National Guard



Biak Training Center | Oregon Natural Resource Project: Cave and Site Maintenance

Project Date: September 15, 2012

Project Summary: At Biak Training Center, 2,400 pounds of trash was removed from the Redmond Caves and Training Area Bravo. Volunteers consisted of 60 youth and 10 staff from the Oregon Youth Challenge Program, an alternative high school. Project leaders relayed how taking care of our public lands and facilities is a collective effort. Speakers highlighted that all of society benefits from service projects, especially activities that enhance our public lands.

The project leader was proud of the results. Press from this event will be used to begin expansion of Biak's volunteer base and service opportunities.

Contact: David J. Duncan, ITAM Manager | (541) 923-8943

Camp Dawson Army Training Site | West Virginia Natural Resource Project: Interpretive Trail Enhancements

Project Date: September 29, 2012

Project Summary: An interpretive trail was developed on Camp Dawson's Volkstone Training Area. Nineteen volunteers constructed a common access deck and refurbished an existing boardwalk. Volunteers from the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts and other community groups joined individuals from Camp Dawson.

Members of the local community will benefit from the educational hikes offered on this trail. A naturalist teaches youth and adults about select bottomland tree and wetland species. Each tree and plant along the tour has a tag containing the common and scientific name of the species.

Contact: Rick Chaney, ATS Environmental Manager | (304) 791-4135



Camp McCain Training Center | Mississippi Cultural and Natural Resource Project: Cemetary and Pollinator Enhancements

Pollinator Project

Project Date: October 20, 2012

Project Summary: Volunteers at Camp McCain Training Center were involved in a cemetery cleanup project and a marker dedication. Before the work projects began, the on-base environmental office explained the mission of Camp McCain and the history of the cemeteries. Fifteen volunteers removed over twenty pounds of brush and debris, enhancing the habitat for numerous honeybees and other native pollinators.

All participants were given information explaining the Mississippi Army National Guard's mission and their role in caring for cultural and natural resources.

Contact: Mark Williams, Natural Resources Specialist | (662) 294-0305

Fort Custer Training Center | Michigan **Cultural Resource Project: Pollinator Habitat and Recreation Area Enhancements**

Pollinator Project

Project Date: September 22, 2012

Project Summary: Approximately thirty community volunteers, including a local Boy Scout troop, completed three different projects. They planted over 100 trees to benefit native pollinators. Trees will also reduce the amount of energy consumed by the installation. Vegetation projects included broadcasting native seed and planting native species in disturbed areas. Volunteers also established multiple handicap accessible hunting areas. Disabled veterans will use these locations during their deer hunt, called the Freedom Hunt. This is scheduled to occur in the fall of 2013.

Additionally, project leaders held a two-day hunter safety and bow hunter education workshop. Nearly fifty students attended. They participated in classroom and outdoor activities, which included going onto the ranges to practice shooting rifles and shotguns.

Contact: Jonathan Edgerly, Natural Resource Analyst | (269) 731-6570

Fort Indiantown Gap | Pennsylvania **Natural Resource Project: Native Species and Pollinator Conservation**

Pollinator Project

Project Date: September and October 2012

Project Summary: Fort Indiantown organized 12 different events. Fifty-six volunteers attended the events and contributed over 320 total service hours. Projects included removing debris and invasive brush, collecting native seed and improving outdoor recreation areas. Originally, only 11 projects were planned. An additional project was added to repair damage from Hurricane Sandy. Students and staff from Milton Hershey School removed the storm debris.

These projects improved a habitat that is part of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The native seed collected will support conservation of the regal fritillary butterfly and other pollinators. Fort Indiantown Gap is one of the only two eastern locations with habitats that support this species of butterfly.

Contact: Rita Meneses, Cultural Resource Manager | (717) 861-9415

Fort Jackson McCrady Training Center | South Carolina **Natural Resource Project: Interpretive and Fitness Nature Trail Maintenance**



Project Date: October 19, 2012

Project Summary: Fort Jackson McCrady Training Center hosted a trail maintenance event. Volunteers were from the Lugoff-Elgin Middle School Science Club and the installation's environmental office. They built one-quarter mile of trail and laid Cypress mulch on it. Volunteers also enhanced sections of established trails.

Projects improved trail access for both military personnel and the public. The base and local community now have more locations to exercise and experience nature.

Contact: Layne Anderson, Natural Resource Manager | (803) 299-2237

Fort Ruger | Hawaii **Natural Resource Project: Native Forest Restoration**

Pollinator Project

Project Date: September 29, 2012

Project Summary: Volunteers removed trash and outplanted native plants in Diamond Head Crater. The 149 participants were from the Hawaii Army National Guard, Hawaii State Parks, Youth Challenge Academy and Kapiolani Community College. They collected over 500 pounds of trash. Additionally, 210 native and Polynesian dryland trees were planted. Shrubs and outplanted vegetation were also added to help restore Diamond Head. Outplanted species are being monitored several times a week until they become established.

Major General Darryll D.M. Wong, Hawaii National Guard's Adjutant General, surprised volunteers with a visit. He spoke to the group about the importance of their work, highlighting the legacy volunteers would leave by planting trees and beautifying the crater.

Contact: Angela Kieranvast, Conservation Program Manager | (808) 672-1255

United States Marine Corps



Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, 29 Palms | California Natural Resource Project: Garden Improvements

Pollinator Project

Project Date: October 2012; November 8, 2012

Project Summary: Throughout October and November, 10 volunteers turned three adjacent gardens into one cohesive unit. Volunteers included Marines, DoD employees and contractors. Employees from the Marstel-Day consulting group were integral to the completion of this project. They volunteered in the early morning and during work breaks.

Volunteers added gravel, stone walkways and a picnic table. To further enhance the garden, volunteers planted three mesquite trees and two dozen native plants. In November, volunteers planted trees and other vegetation to create additional habitat for pollinator species.

Contact: Nicholas Chamberlain, Collections Manager | (760) 830-7650

Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point | North Carolina Cultural and Natural Resource Project: Trail Restoration

Project Date: September-October 2012; Multiple Workdays

Project Summary: Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point hosted a trail restoration project. Volunteers helped repair the eroded Piranha Pit Trail. They replaced bridges and rerouted sections. More than 140 volunteer hours were invested in this project by two local biking clubs, the Marine Corps, local runners and nature enthusiasts.

The Piranha Pit trail is an eight mile biking and running trail. Marines, civilians and the broader community will now be able to use the trail for exercise and nature walks.



Contact: Steven Shephard, Station Forester | (252) 466-5650

United States Navy



Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam | Hawaii Cultural and Natural Resource Project: Burial Platform Enhancements and Native Vegetation Plantings

Pollinator Project

Project Date: September 29, 2012

Project Summary: Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, biologists and other volunteers participated in a cultural and natural resource project at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickham. For the cultural component, volunteers prepared the Halealoha Haleamau Burial Platform for the upcoming annual Makahiki Festival. The natural resource project involved restoring the Ahua Reef wetland. Volunteers removed 1,200 invasive plants, planted 640 native species and picked up 200 pounds of trash.

Each project had an educational element. An archaeologist gave a cultural resources discussion about the burial platform. An in-house wildlife biologist discussed the reef's natural resources.

Contact: Patricia Colemon, Regional Environmental Coordinator | (808) 473-0369

Joint Regions Marianas Naval Base | Guam Natural Resource Project: Native Tree Planting

Pollinator Project

Project Date: November 16 and November 30, 2012

Project Summary: Two tree planting projects occurred at DoD elementary schools. On November 16, seven students and three additional volunteers planted native tree species. The project took place at a playground located on the Government of Guam Harry S. Truman Elementary School. On November 30, 55 students planted trees on the grounds and around a monument at McCool Elementary School. Hedges were also planted around the monument to attract pollinators. At both events, students were paired with adult volunteers. Adults discussed the importance of trees and ecological benefits of Guam's native forests.

Students will continue to monitor the tree growth throughout the year. Teachers and project leaders designed coursework directly related to planting project.

Contact: Gretchen Grimm, Natural Resources Specialist | (671) 339-2158



Naval Air Station Fallon | Nevada Natural Resource Project: Land Restoration

Pollinator Project

Project Date: December 2012

Project Summary: The Dixie Valley area of Naval Air Station Fallon was damaged due to overgrazing from cattle and off-road vehicle use. With the help of a donated tractor and chain harrow, 10 local ranchers and military personnel seeded 12 acres of the valley. Adding native vegetation will also provide a food source for local wildlife, including pollinators. Additionally, the plants will provide a habitat for the migratory birds that rest alongside the ponds.

Volunteers attend education workshops on plant identification and revegetation. Workshops discussed factors leading to degraded habitat and how revegetation could restore damaged habitats.

Contact: Anna Keyzers, Natural Resources Specialist | (775) 426-2922

Naval Air Station Key West | Florida Natural Resource Project: Beach Patio Kiosk Installation

Project Date: March 2013

Project Summary: Fifteen volunteers installed a kiosk at a marina located on Naval Air Station Key West. The kiosk provides educational information on how to be a better boater, sharing the shore with our wildlife and endangered/threatened sea turtles. During the project, the natural resources manager educated volunteers about the natural resources in and around the installation.

Volunteers engaged with those walking along the marina. Many marina customers stated the kiosk was a great idea and the kiosk materials had increased their knowledge about sea turtles.

Contact: Carrie Backlund, Natural Resources Manager | (305) 797-9576

Naval Air Station Oceana | Virginia Natural Resource Project: Dune Restoration

Pollinator Project

Project Date: September 7-8 and September 13, 2012

Project Summary: Volunteers restored the dunes at Naval Air Station Oceana. The base partnered with the National Aquarium in Baltimore to restore and stabilize the rapidly diminishing dune ecosystem. Participants planted 25,000 native dune grasses and removed 100 pounds of trash. One group requested to adopt the dunes, volunteering to conduct routine cleanups, install fences and ensure planting requirements were met.

A dune education session was also part of the service projects. Volunteers learned that dunes provide food, shelter and water sources to various migratory birds and pollinators. Participants were also educated on how dunes function and how to further engage in dune restoration work.

Contact: Michael Wright, Natural Resources Specialist | (757) 433-3461

Naval Support Activity Hampton Roads | Virginia Cultural Resource Project: Cemetary Restoration

Project Date: Multiple days in September-October 2012

Project Summary: Volunteers helped restore several historic Civil War era gravesites on the Northwest Annex Naval Base. The project took place over multiple workdays. Volunteers cut grass, raked leaves and removed rotted fence posts. On a trail leading to the cemetery, participants cut, trimmed and removed overgrown shrubs and trees. After the projects, volunteers learned about the history of the cemetery.

This project also fostered relationships between the installation, a local church and the community. They discussed the historical significance of their work and importance of community service. Participants will have an additional opportunity to connect. All participants will be invited to a ceremony recognizing their accomplishments.



Contact: Linda Hicks, Environmental Director | (757) 836-1862

Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach | California Natural Resource Project: Habitat Restoration

Pollinator Project

Project Date: October 20, 2012



Project Summary: Volunteers, including military personnel, Boy and Girl Scouts, local students and other community members joined in a restoration project at Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach. Volunteers restored the upper saltmarsh habitat and adjacent upland habitat. They removed invasive species and planted over 750 native shrubs and grasses. All volunteers participated in a native planting workshop and received educational materials.

These restored areas will provide habitat and shelter for state and federally listed endangered bird and pollinator species. The areas will also support numerous mammals, amphibians, birds and reptiles. The new plantings provide a buffer between habitat and agricultural lands.

Contact: Bob Schallmann, Conservation Program Manager | (562) 626-7290

Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, Detachment Fallbrook | California Natural Resource Project: Bat House Creation

Pollinator Project

Project Date: September 29, 2012

Project Summary: Seven Navy personnel and over 40 volunteers assembled bat boxes at Fallbrook. Over 40 new bat boxes were constructed and installed. This will expand known roosting sites and provide more suitable habitat options for bats. The bat boxes will also be used in conjunction with a recently awarded bat study project.

Volunteers heard a presentation about bats and their important role in helping to maintain a healthy ecosystem. Information was also provided on where to purchase bat box plans. Instructions were given on how organize bat box building events or build boxes at home. The mother of a young volunteer emailed a note saying, "Thanks for

the Saturday event. Ashleigh told me it was one of her most fun days ever! It was a great project for kids to be involved in."

Contact: Vanessa Shoblock, Conservation Specialist | (760) 731-3516

NIOC Sugar Grove | West Virginia Natural Resource Project: Pollinator Project

Pollinator Project

Project Date: Multiple Days in September, 2012

Project Summary: NIOC Sugar Grove is home to the Shale barren rock-cress (SBRC), a federal endangered flowering plant, and the grizzled skipper, a known pollinator of SBRC. An active recovery plan was developed to benefit these species.

Over several days, volunteers removed invasive species from the upper base and riparian zone located in the lower base. Volunteers also cleaned a nearby stream. They built a butterfly garden to help encourage visits from the grizzled skipper and other pollinators.



Contact: Steven Niethamer, Installation Environmental Programs Manager | (304) 249-6341

Patuxent River Naval Air Station | Maryland Natural Resource Project: Invasive Tree Control Project

Pollinator Project

Project Date: September 28-29, 2012

Project Summary: Over the course of two days, 45 Boy Scouts and their leaders restored an area at Patuxent River Naval Air Station. They removed the stumps and root balls of 400 invasive Bradford Pear trees. These trees are a reproductive source for hundreds of noxious, invasive pear saplings that destroy native forests. Volunteers also planted 18 native trees to restore several hundred acres of the natural landscape.

The work projects had an educational element. Volunteers learned how to identify invasive Bradford Pear trees and how to prevent them from spreading.

Contact: Kyle Rambo, Conservation Director | (301) 757-0005