

Eastern NC Sentinel Landscapes Partnership



North Carolina Foundation for
Soil & Water Conservation, Inc.



LINKING WORKING LANDS, CONSERVATION AND NATIONAL DEFENSE

Sentinel Landscapes: What are they?

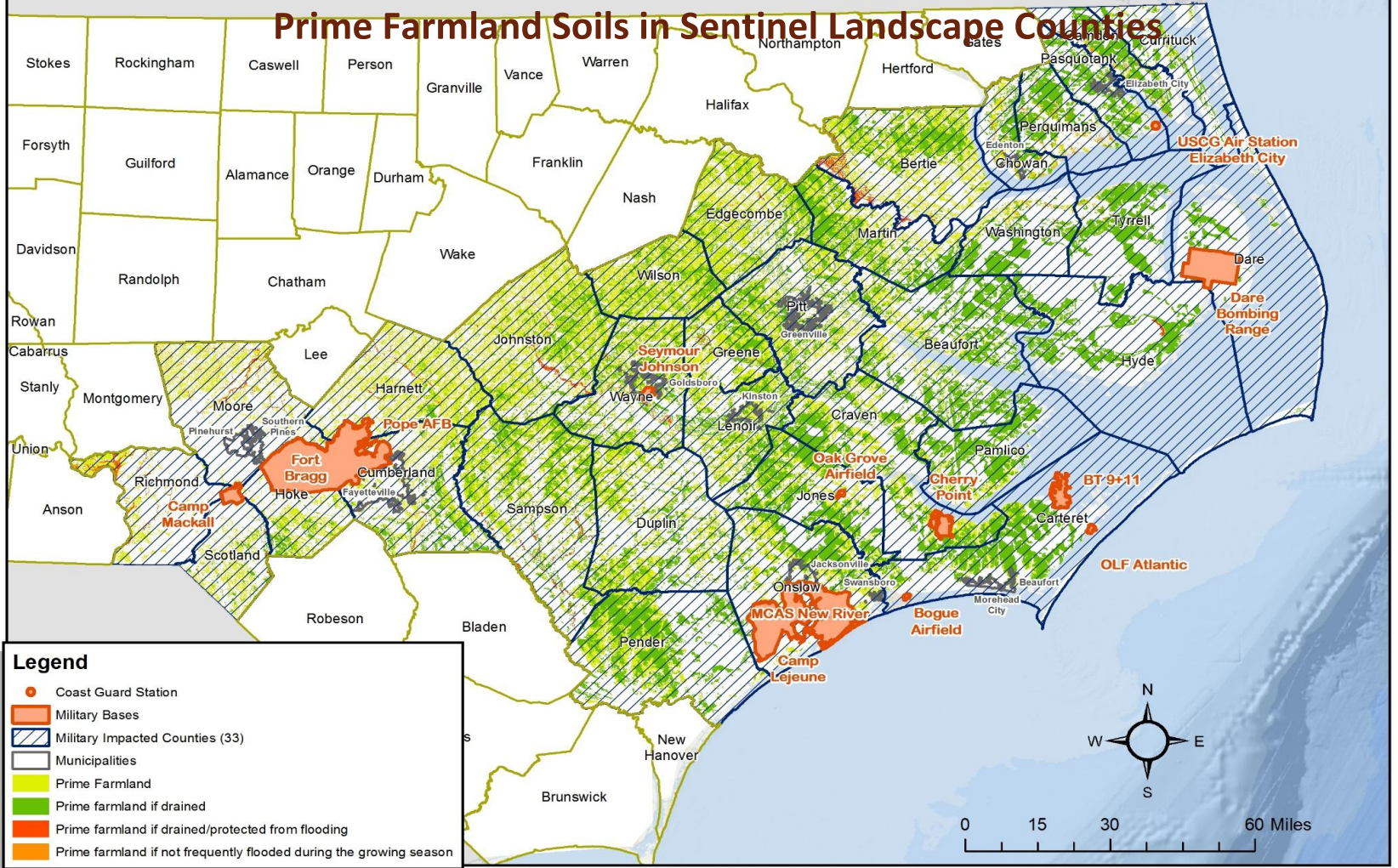
Public and private landscapes...

.....landscapes that are often in rural areas and part of a working economy and/or contributing to ecosystem services. Examples include managed forested land, small farms and large agribusinesses, ranches, mixed-used working lands, landscapes that are developing new and innovative ways to remain in a rural state while contributing to the economy.

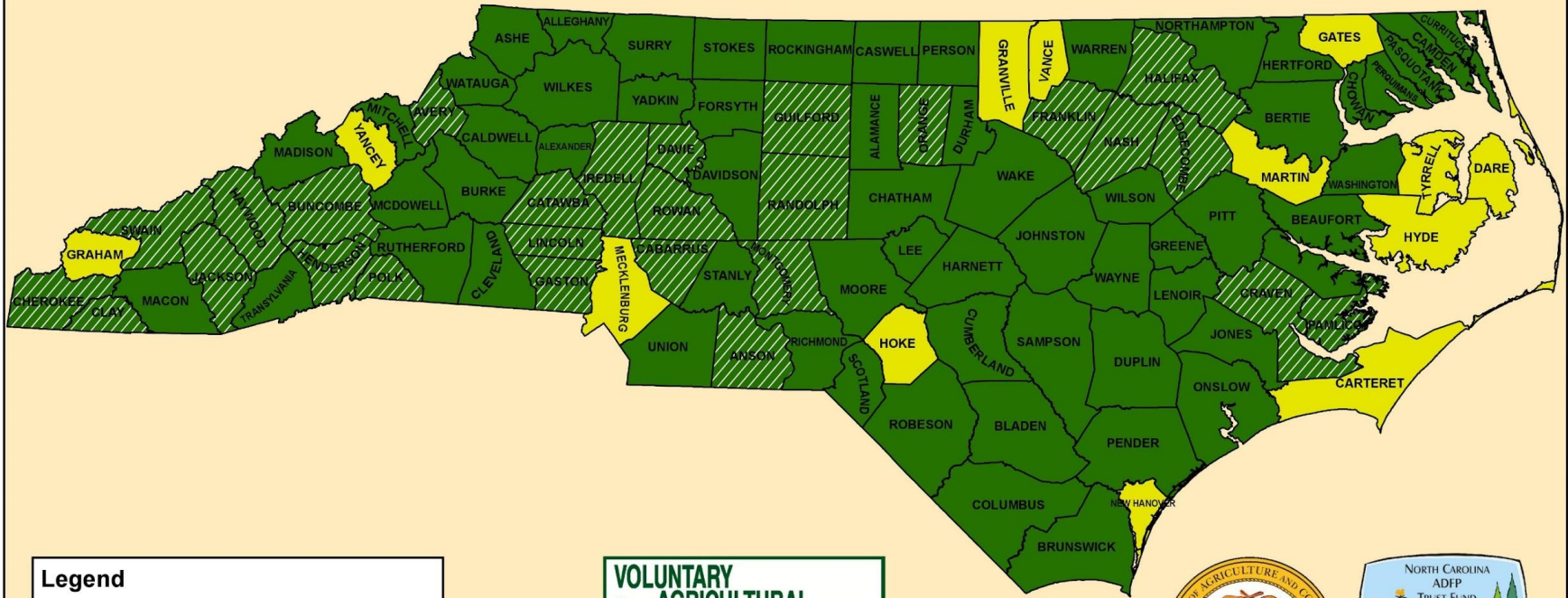
Places where conserving those landscapes adds value....

- Strengthens the economies of communities, forests, farms, and ranches
- Conserves habitat, flora, and fauna, and other natural resources
- Lands play a critical role in water, air, food, and energy sustainability, and national security
- Protects vital test and training missions to ensure military readiness where installations are anchored to such landscapes

Prime Farmland Soils in Sentinel Landscape Counties



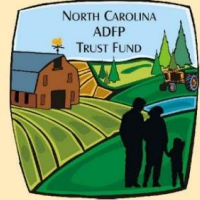
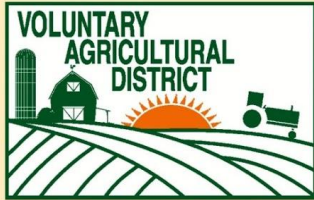
VOLUNTARY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS



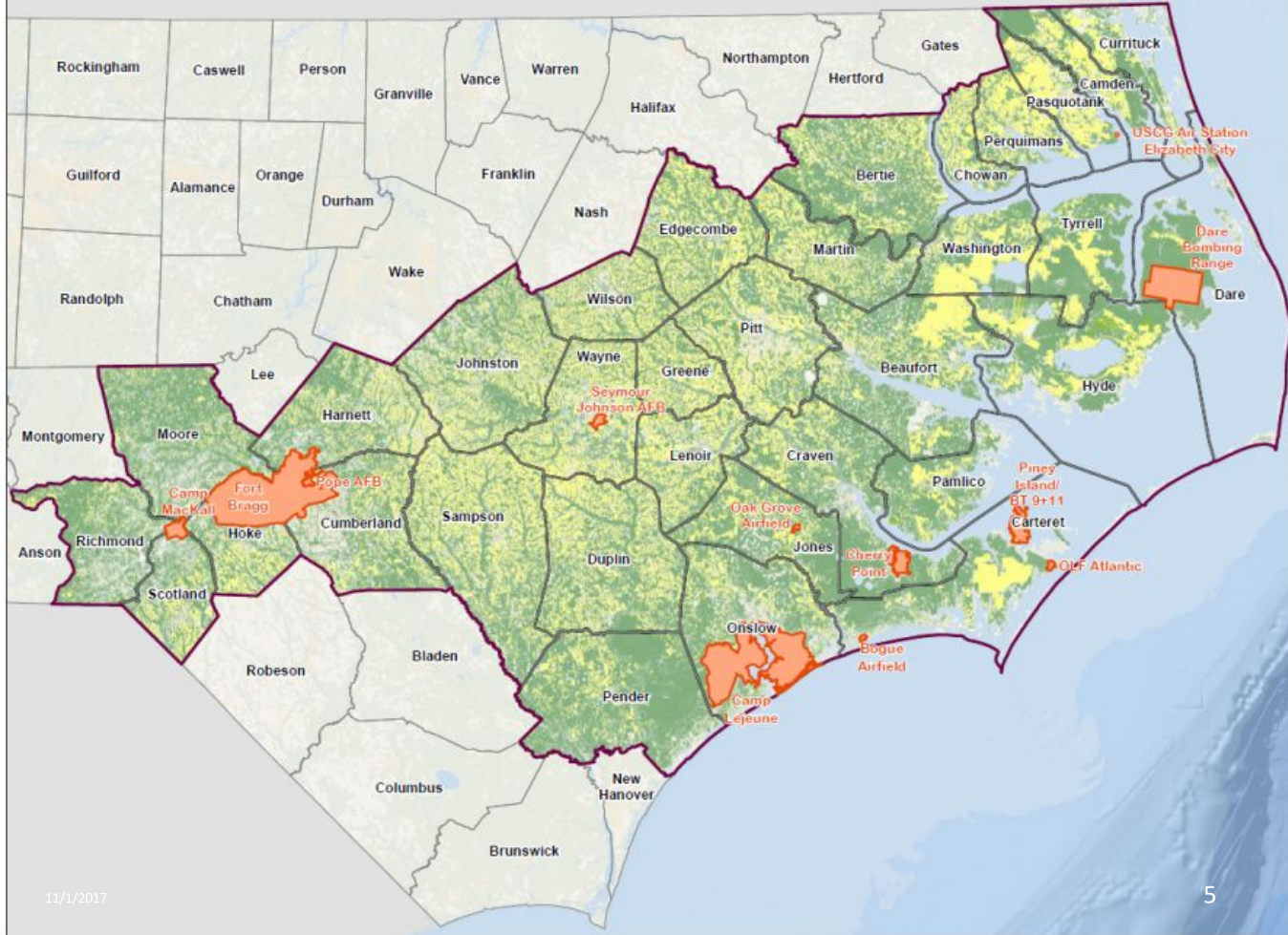
Legend

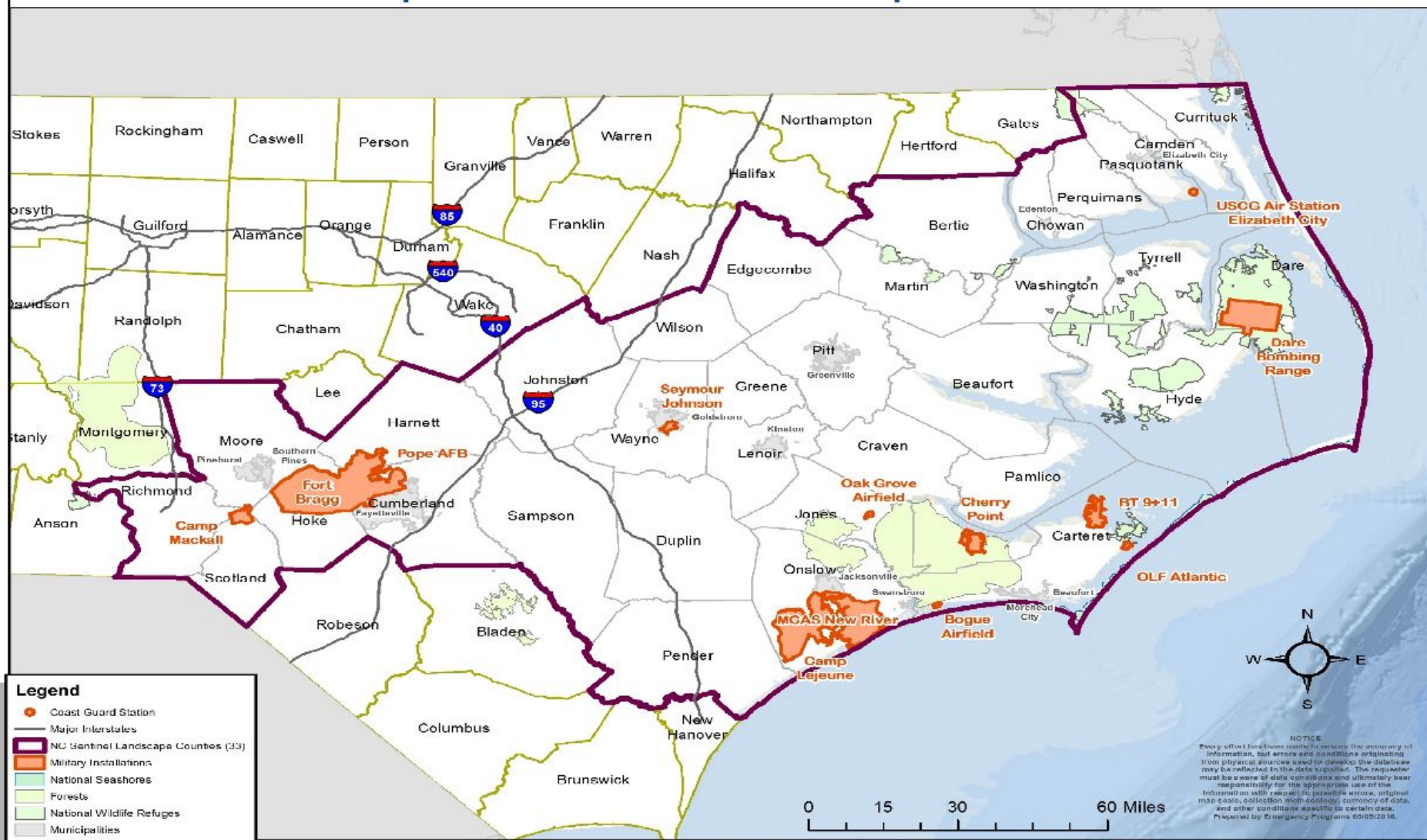
87 Counties with VAD Programs

- Voluntary Agricultural District Programs (60)
- Enhanced VAD Programs (27)
- None (13)



Agricultural and Forest Lands in NC Sentinel Landscape Counties





EASTERN NC SENTINEL LANDSCAPE FOOTPRINT

Sentinel Landscapes: Why do we need them?

1

Implement a **coordinated** and **comprehensive strategy** within a **defined landscape** (the Eastern NC Sentinel Landscape) to promote compatible land use.

2

Coordinate the **delivery of Federal, State, NGO and Local programs** to willing landowners whose working and natural lands support the military mission within designated Sentinel Landscapes

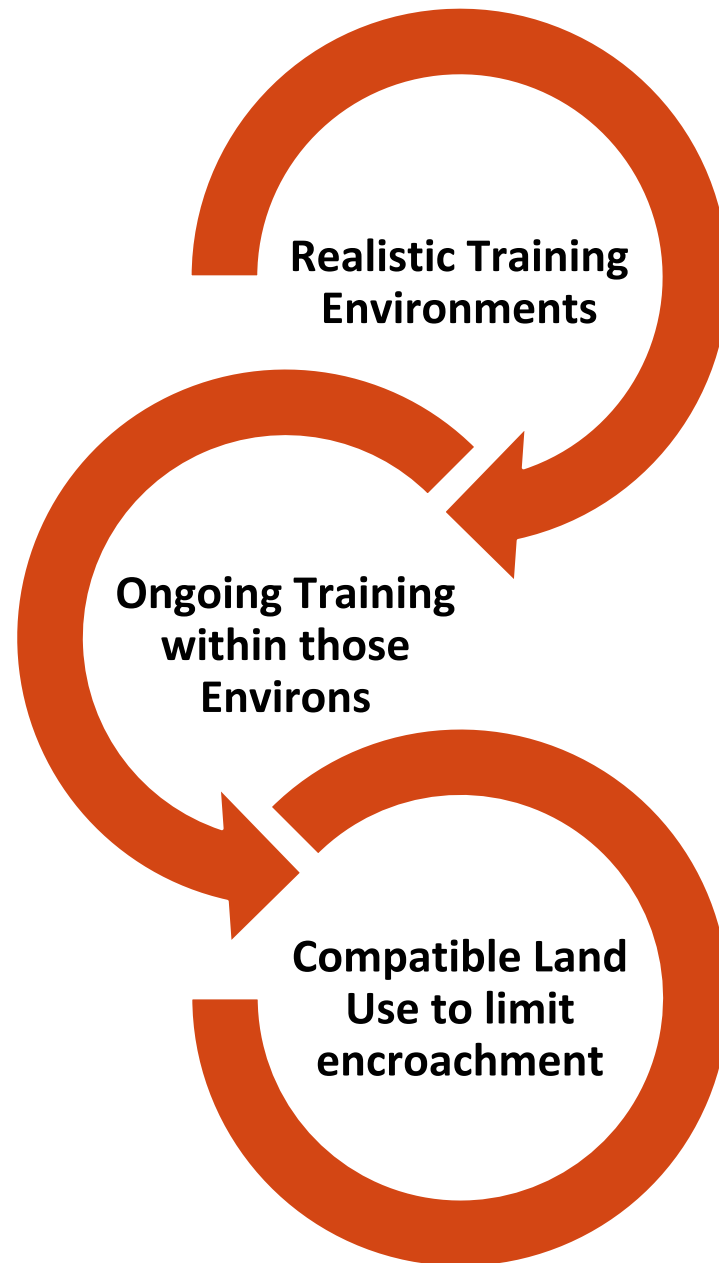
3

Encourage state, local, and NGO/ private **participation & use of multiple resources** to engage and reward voluntary landowner participation through recognition and monetary incentives that complement Federal programs.

Sentinel Landscapes: Benefits to Military Services

1. Gives priority consideration for REPI, REPI Challenge and Service funding
2. Increases partnership funding focused in areas supporting compatible land use in defined Sentinel Landscapes
3. Supports partner mission objectives while protecting our national security
4. Provides a trusted gateway to engage private landowners in support of the military mission
5. Increases the flexibility and opportunities for military training through the promotion of compatible resource uses

3 Elements Aid Military Readiness



The Eastern North Carolina Sentinel Landscapes Partnership

Embodies the Department of Defense (DoD) Sentinel Landscapes philosophy

- Landscape-scale conservation and regional partnerships
- Linking working lands, natural resource conservation, and national defense

Collaboration among 30+ agencies and organizations

Developing and implementing multiple benefits for all partners

Provides the existing management and implementation structure

Long history between a core set of partners – since 2011.

Mission & Goals of Partnership

Mission: Through collaboration and innovation, North Carolina sentinel landscapes will maintain and enhance working lands and waters, conservation, and military readiness for today and tomorrow

Goals:

Short-Term: Increase awareness, understanding, and/or problem solving ability among stakeholders (e.g. landowners, military, state natural resource and agricultural agencies, funding agencies/entities, and non- governmental organizations)

Middle-Term: Increase behavioral changes favorable to the North Carolina sentinel landscapes partnership

Long-Term: Preserve compatible resource (land, water, air, and spectrum) uses for economic, social, agricultural, and environmental benefits

The North Carolina Sentinel Landscapes Partnership

Established new programs and concepts

- Developed an all-Service military mission footprint map
- Establishment of Working Lands Conservation Trust
- Tested and validated innovative conservation concepts to achieve goals at lower cost
 - Term-limited performance-based contracts; Reverse auction bidding
 - Streamlined military agreement process; time and cost
 - Ensured development of compatible renewable energy infrastructure

Coordinated state and local programs to provide benefits to military training

- PUV, VAD, and EVAD
- Increased awareness of resource dollars
- Creation of landowner outreach programs

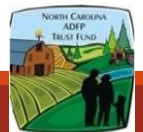
NCSLP: Innovative Programmatic Approaches

Enhancing the network and linkages between agriculture, conservation and military goals for Sentinel Landscapes

- Facilitate quarterly meetings and monthly conference calls
- Advise senior personnel on emerging natural resources issues
- Strategic conservation planning in consideration of long-term training mission needs
- Ongoing performance monitoring and evaluation for the integration of lessons learned
- Coordinate strategic marketing and outreach efforts
- Coordinate and integrate Sentinel Landscapes activities with larger regional efforts (i.e. SERPPAS, South Atlantic Alliance)

Landscape Scale Conservation

- Evaluating proactive solutions that avoid ESA issues for oyster reefs/living shorelines
- Conduct an analysis of cost of community services
- **FORCES Partnership**
 - Development of 50 woodland management plans



Compatible Forestland-Use Education and Conservation Planning

Working lands conservation outreach

- [Conservation Working Lands Handbook – print 1000](#)
- Conducted trainings workshops to integrate elements of sentinel landscapes, food and fuel, working lands conservation, and FORCES
- New priority is to conduct community outreach

Working Lands Trust

- first nonprofit in the eastern United States fully dedicated to conserving working lands.



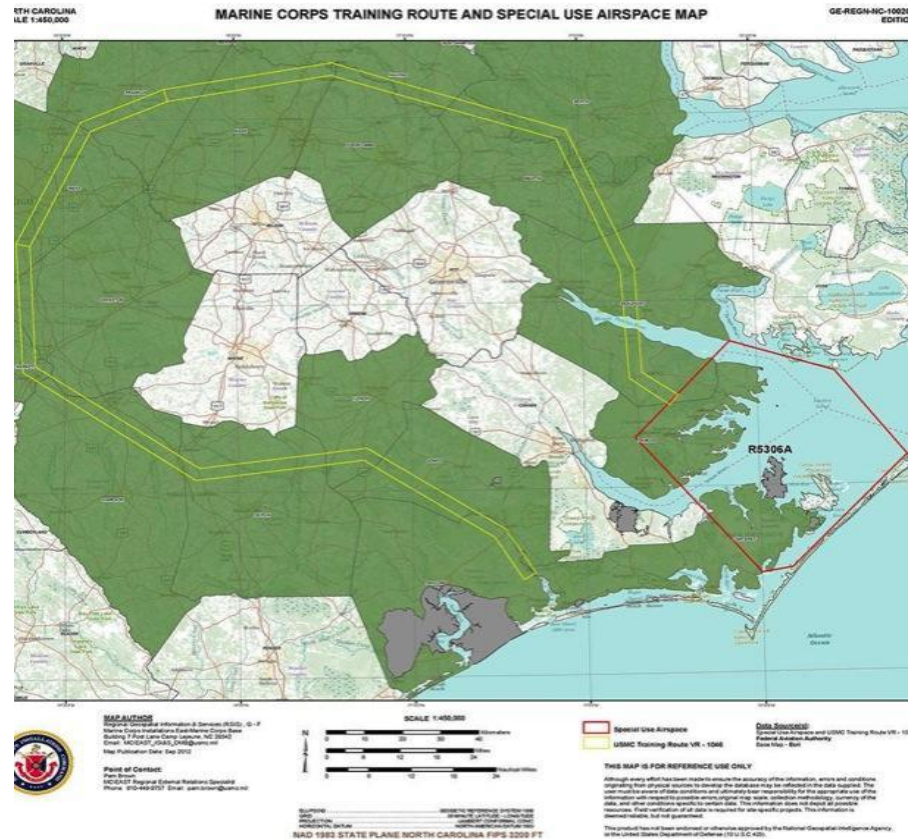
Food and Fuel for the Forces

- Replicate success at Camp Lejeune with local food in dining facilities at other military installations
- Increase number of Farmers selling into the DLA and DeCA food system
- Identify factors that will positively impact the food choices that Marines make in dining facilities
- Create and execute a business plan for a biodiesel refinery that integrates seed oil extraction, food oil production, food oil recycling, and animal feed production



Market-based Conservation Initiative

- Performance-based, term-limited contracts
- Facilitate pilot program contract implementation



NC Sentinel Landscapes Committee

Preserve the working and rural character of the State's private lands is important for both national defense and conservation priorities.

Coordinate the overlapping priority areas in the vicinity of and where testing and training occur near or adjacent to military installations, or other areas of strategic benefit to national defense.

Committee Membership:

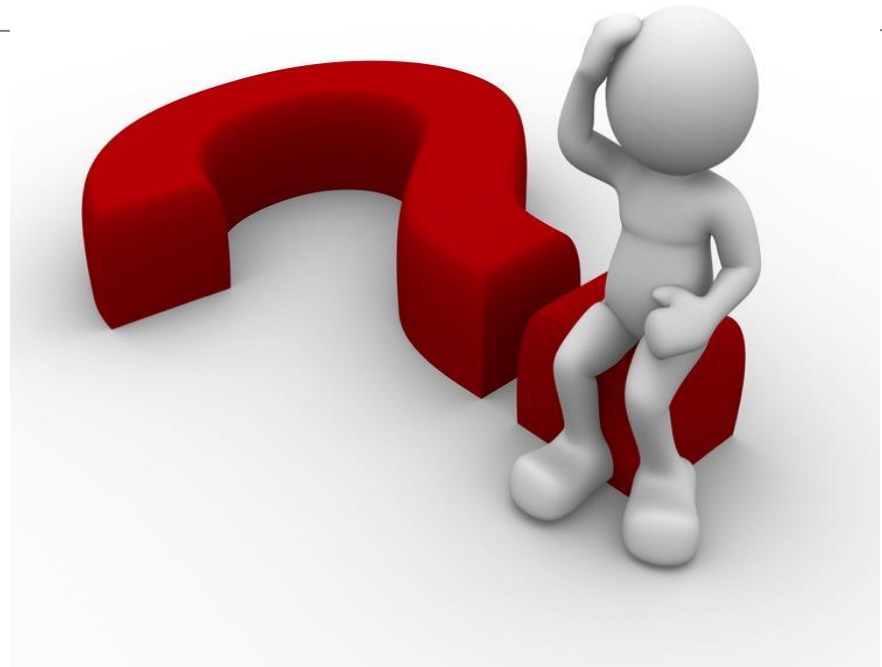
1. Dean, College of Natural Resources
2. Executive Director, Wildlife Resources Commission
3. Secretary, Natural and Cultural Resources
4. Secretary, Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
5. Commissioner of Agriculture

Partnership Institutionalization



- Small core to 33 Partner MOU
- Evaluated program implementation
- Captured Lessons Learned
- Developed a Dissemination Report (Planning Guide)
- Seek external funding
- 2017
 - NC State - Hired a Sentinel Coordinator for the Partnership
 - NC Legislature – Established the NC Sentinel Landscape Committee

questions



For additional information, contact:

Dr. Mary Lou (Lou) Addor
Eastern NC Sentinel Landscapes
Partnership

919.515.8678

mladdor@ncsu.edu