

# **APPENDIX C**

## **FORT MCCOY'S INSTALLATION ENVIRONMENTAL NOISE MANAGEMENT PLAN (IENMP)**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**



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**April 2003**

**Executive Summary**

**Overview.**

The Installation Environmental Noise Management Plan (IENMP) provides a strategy for noise management at Fort McCoy. Elements of the IENMP include education, complaint management, noise and vibration mitigation, noise abatement procedures, and noise assessment.

The Installation Environmental Noise Management program provides a methodology for analyzing exposure to noise and safety hazards associated with military operations and provides land use guidelines for achieving compatibility between the Army and the surrounding communities. The Army has an obligation to U.S. citizens to recommend uses of land around its installations that will: (a) protect citizens from noise and other hazards; and (b) protect the public's investment in the installation.

The noise impact on the community is described by the use of noise zones. The program defines four noise zones. Zone I is compatible with most noise-sensitive land uses. Zone II is normally incompatible with noise-sensitive land uses. The Land Use Planning Zone provides the installation with a better means to predict possible complaints, and meet the public demand for a better description of what will exist during a period of increased operations. Zone III is incompatible with noise-sensitive land uses.

**Conclusions.**

The analysis of the noise impacts upon privately owned land around Fort McCoy shows that a few citizens are exposed to noise that exceeds the levels recommended under federal land use guidelines (FICUN 1980).

Currently, Fort McCoy and the citizens of Monroe County are in a symbiotic relationship. Fort McCoy provides jobs and protects a number of rare, threatened or endangered species. In return, a handful of people are exposed to annoying levels of noise a few times each year. The computer analysis shows that Fort McCoy's noise has not changed over the past decade. However, there are two scenarios that could shift the balance. The first would be an increased tempo of training at Fort McCoy. The second would be the development of land near the ranges and impact area in the northern third of the installation. Because of the proximity to I-94 and the Black River State Forest, the open land on the east side appears to have greater potential for construction of up-scale homes than the somewhat noisier land on the west side. Because neither scenario appears likely at this time, Fort McCoy and Monroe County still have an opportunity to prevent future problems through land use planning.

**Recommendations.**

The following recommendations apply to Fort McCoy.

- Share the information in this INEMP with Monroe County government.
- If there is an interest, sponsor a one day seminar to teach local officials and any interested citizens about military noise, how it is assessed and how it can be mitigated. Assistance is available from the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine (CHPPM) for presenting such a seminar.
- In cooperation with Monroe County officials, discuss the merits of incorporating a scenario of maximum range utilization into a county land use plan.

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- Continue the current noise complaint management effort and include the noise complaint telephone number on the Fort McCoy website.
- Distribute a short and simple brochure on the Fort McCoy noise environment, to include the blast noise contour map, its interpretation, and guidelines on rattle-proofing buildings against low frequency sound. This new brochure would replace the 1996 brochure.
- Request pilots conducting flight operations in and around Fort McCoy to stay at least 400 meters away from domestic animals or protected wildlife.
- Request that pilots adhere to the Fly Neighborly guidelines.
- Choose a set of fixed flight corridors for accessing Nap of the Earth routes, provide maps of these corridors to the owners of over flown properties, and ask pilots to fly inside these corridors.
- Request that the Installation Management Agency (IMA) promulgate uniform aircraft noise management guidelines for all installations.

The following recommendations apply to Monroe County:

- Determine the best way to share the information on Fort McCoy noise with people who already own noise-impacted property and people who are considering building homes on noise-impacted property.
- In cooperation with Fort McCoy officials, discuss the merits of incorporating a scenario of maximum range utilization into a county land use plan.

There are no recommendations for Jackson County. Although a small portion of the LUPZ from the noise of large weapons does encroach into Jackson County, the area inside the LUPZ is part of Black River State Forest.