

9. THE FORT MCCOY REGION'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM



Fort McCoy's strategic location allows it to take advantage of all modes of transportation. The well maintained and easily accessible transportation system in and around Fort McCoy connects the base by rail, highway, air, and water to the immediate region and the Nation. For this reason Fort McCoy is in an advantageous location due to the diversity of transportation networks that serve the military reservation. Map 9-1 on page 9-5 illustrates Fort McCoy's advantageous location.

Fort McCoy is served by a spur of the Class 1 freight line railway owned by Canadian Pacific Rail Systems Company. This rail line runs between Chicago and Minneapolis-St. Paul and points beyond. Canadian Pacific Railway is a Class 1 North American railway with a 14,000 mile rail network in the United States and Canada. Canadian Pacific Rail Systems operates 623 miles of railroad in Wisconsin. The rail line also serves Volk Field connecting Fort McCoy to the full-time military Air National Guard airfield, Map 9-1.

The fact that the Canadian Pacific Rail Line travels through Fort McCoy creates efficiency and a value-added level of service for Fort McCoy's equipment and vehicle



A Spur Line to the Class 1 Canadian Pacific Rail Line Allows Military Vehicles to be Directly Transported Out of Fort McCoy

repair mission that would be hard to replicate anywhere else. The railroad allows Fort McCoy to receive vehicles and equipment by rail that are being placed into service or are being returned from tours of duty from around the world for repair and maintenance at the Fort. In a period of slightly over two years (September 2001 through December 2003), as part of a mobilization mission, 1,181 rail cars used the Fort McCoy spur line to move military freight and equipment.

Passenger Rail Service — Amtrak operates on the Canadian Pacific Railroad for its passenger rail service in Wisconsin. The Amtrak depots in close proximity to Fort McCoy are the Tomah and La Crosse depots. The Amtrak train that makes stops in La Crosse and Tomah is the Empire Builder. Each day there is one eastbound train and one westbound train. The Empire Builder train route is from Chicago to either Portland, Oregon or Seattle, Washington via Minneapolis-St. Paul. By train, Fort McCoy is approximately four hours from Minneapolis-St. Paul and only three and one half hours from Chicago, Map 9-1.

Midwest Regional Rail System - The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WDOT) along with eight other Midwestern states and Amtrak are evaluating a 3,000 mile Chicago based Midwest Regional Rail System (MWRRS). The planned MWRRS would use 3,000 miles of existing rail rights-of-way and provide service with modern train equipment capable of speeds of up to 110 mph. A depot is proposed for the City of Tomah on the Chicago-Milwaukee-Minneapolis/St. Paul line. Upon completion, Tomah and Fort McCoy would be connected by high speed rail to nine Midwestern states and such cities as Cleveland, Detroit, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Chicago, Milwaukee and Minneapolis/St. Paul.

Fort McCoy has excellent access to the United States Interstate Highway System, State Highways and local roads. Fort McCoy's location just minutes from Interstate 90 and Interstate 94 puts Fort McCoy within hours of Chicago, Milwaukee, and Minneapolis/St. Paul.

Interstate 90 and Interstate 94 - Interstate 90, which travels through the southern end of the military base is the Nation's longest interstate highway at 3,020 miles. Interstate 90 stretches across the U.S. from Seattle, Washington to Boston, Massachusetts. Access to Interstate 90 can be gained by Exit 28 (State Hwy. 71) which is 2 miles northwest of the main gate for Fort McCoy.



Interstate 90 and 94 Both Serve the Fort McCoy Region. Interstate 90 Crosses the Southern Part of Fort McCoy. I-94 is Only 17 Miles East of Fort McCoy

Interstate 94 which stretches nearly 1,600 miles from Port Huron, Michigan to Billings, Montana is located east of the Fort McCoy Military Base. Access to Interstate 94 can be gained by traveling 17 miles east via Interstate 90. Interstate 94 separates from Interstate 90 two miles east of Tomah (approx. 15 minutes from Fort McCoy), Map 9-1.

State and U.S. Highways - In addition to Interstate 90 and 94, Fort McCoy Military Reservation is served by numerous well maintained U.S. and State Highways. State Highway 16 runs parallel to Interstate 90 through the southern portion of the military reservation and connects the base to the cities of Sparta and Tomah. State Highway 21 travels between the cities of Sparta and Tomah and goes through the central part of the military reservation. Within a few minutes of the military reservation are numerous other State and U.S. Highways (USH 12, STH 71, STH 27, STH 131) which provide alternate routes to the cities of La Crosse, Eau Claire, and Madison, Map 9-1.

Bus Service. Greyhound Lines, Inc. utilizes the highway system in the area to serve the Fort McCoy Region. The City of Tomah which is approximately 4 miles from the

Fort McCoy Military Reservation is served by Greyhound Lines, Inc. bus service. Greyhound is the largest provider of intercity bus transportation in the United States. Tomah is one of Greyhound's 2,500 destinations. Four buses a day travel northbound from Tomah to Eau Claire and beyond. Five buses daily travel southbound from Tomah to Madison and destinations beyond.

Jefferson Lines, based out of Minneapolis, Minnesota offers bus service in the Fort McCoy Region. Jefferson Lines provides bus service in eleven states, with routes from Minnesota to Texas. In the Fort McCoy Region, Jefferson Lines provides bus service to the City of La Crosse from Madison, Wi. and Minneapolis, with one scheduled bus in each direction daily.

Fort McCoy is in close proximity to Volk Field, one of the nation's only full-time military Air National Guard bases and four public airports that provide an additional range of air services. Bloyer Field, Sparta/Fort McCoy Airport, La Crosse Municipal Airport, Black River Falls Airport, and Volk Field are all within 30 minutes of Fort McCoy.

Bloyer Field (Tomah) - Bloyer Field is classified as a general utility airport. The airport is located one mile east of the City of Tomah and approximately 17 miles from Fort McCoy, Map 9-1. A general utility airport can serve all single engine piston and twin engine piston aircraft. Typically, the airport is used for businesses, charter flying and personal use. The runway at Bloyer Field is 3,900 feet long.

Sparta/Fort McCoy Airport - The Sparta/Fort McCoy Airport is classified as a transport/corporate airport. The airport is located on the Fort McCoy military base through joint cooperation of Fort McCoy and the City of Sparta, Map 9-1. A transport/corporate airport generally serves corporate jets, small passenger and cargo jet aircraft, and small airplanes used for commuter air service. The airport's main runway is 4,708 feet in length. The airport also has a crosswind runway of 4,295 feet.

La Crosse Municipal Airport - The La Crosse Municipal Airport is classified as an air carrier/cargo airport. La Crosse Municipal Airport has a tower and air traffic controllers. The airport is located approximately 30 minutes from Fort McCoy and easily accessible via

Interstate 90, Map 9-1. Air carrier/cargo airports can accommodate all aircraft including military transports and wide body jets. In 2003, there were over 38,000 civilian and military air operations at the La Crosse Municipal Airport. An air operation is defined as either a takeoff or a landing. The airport has 3 runways the longest being 8,536 feet. In the past the airport accommodated some of the largest military aircraft made including the U. S. Air Force's C 5A, the Russian made Antonov AN 225, and Air Force One.



La Crosse Municipal Airport

The La Crosse Municipal Airport is utilized for military training and other operations each year. From 1991 to 2000 the airport averaged approximately 2,200 military air operations annually.

The La Crosse Municipal Airport is served by three commercial airlines; American Eagle, Northwest Airlines and Skyway Airlines. American Eagle provides 3 daily flights, Skyway Airlines provides 2 daily flights, and Northwest Airlines provides eight daily flights out of the La Crosse Municipal Airport. The daily flights connect La Crosse and the region to the Chicago, Milwaukee, and Minneapolis-St. Paul airports (hubs).

Black River Falls Airport - The Black River Falls Airport is classified as a general utility airport. The airport is located three miles south of the City of Black River Falls and approximately 30 minutes from Fort McCoy, Map 9-1. A general utility airport can serve all single engine piston and twin engine piston aircraft. Typically, the airport is used for businesses, charter flying and personal use. The runway at the Black River Falls Airport is 4,600 feet long.

Volk Field Air National Guard Base— Volk Field is located approximately 20 miles east of Fort McCoy in Juneau County, Map 19-1. Volk Field has a 9,000 foot long runway with 1,000 foot overruns. Volk Field is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week with no restrictions. Fort McCoy and Volk Field are connected by interstate highway and rail.

Volk Field is an important component to Fort McCoy's military preparedness and mobilization efforts. As part of a mobilization mission, in the two year time period (September 2001 through December 2003) Fort McCoy utilized Volk Field's air field for approximately 195 flights carrying cargo and over 11,395 personnel.

Barge service on the Mississippi River is located only 28 miles west of Fort McCoy via Interstate 90 or the Class 1 Canadian Pacific Railroad. Located on the Mississippi River is the Port of La Crosse, Map 9-1. The Mississippi River links the Port of La Crosse to the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean. The Port of La Crosse consists of the areas on the river that are utilized for the movement of various commodities. Currently, the Port of La Crosse has the capacity to fleet 64 barges. Each barge has the capacity to handle 58 semi-trailers of cargo. The Port of La Crosse has twelve docks that can accommodate barge cargo. Of the twelve docks, eight are privately owned and four docks are publicly owned public use facilities. Four docks in the Port of La Crosse have rail access to the Canadian Pacific Railroad. One of the docks with rail access is a public use dock.



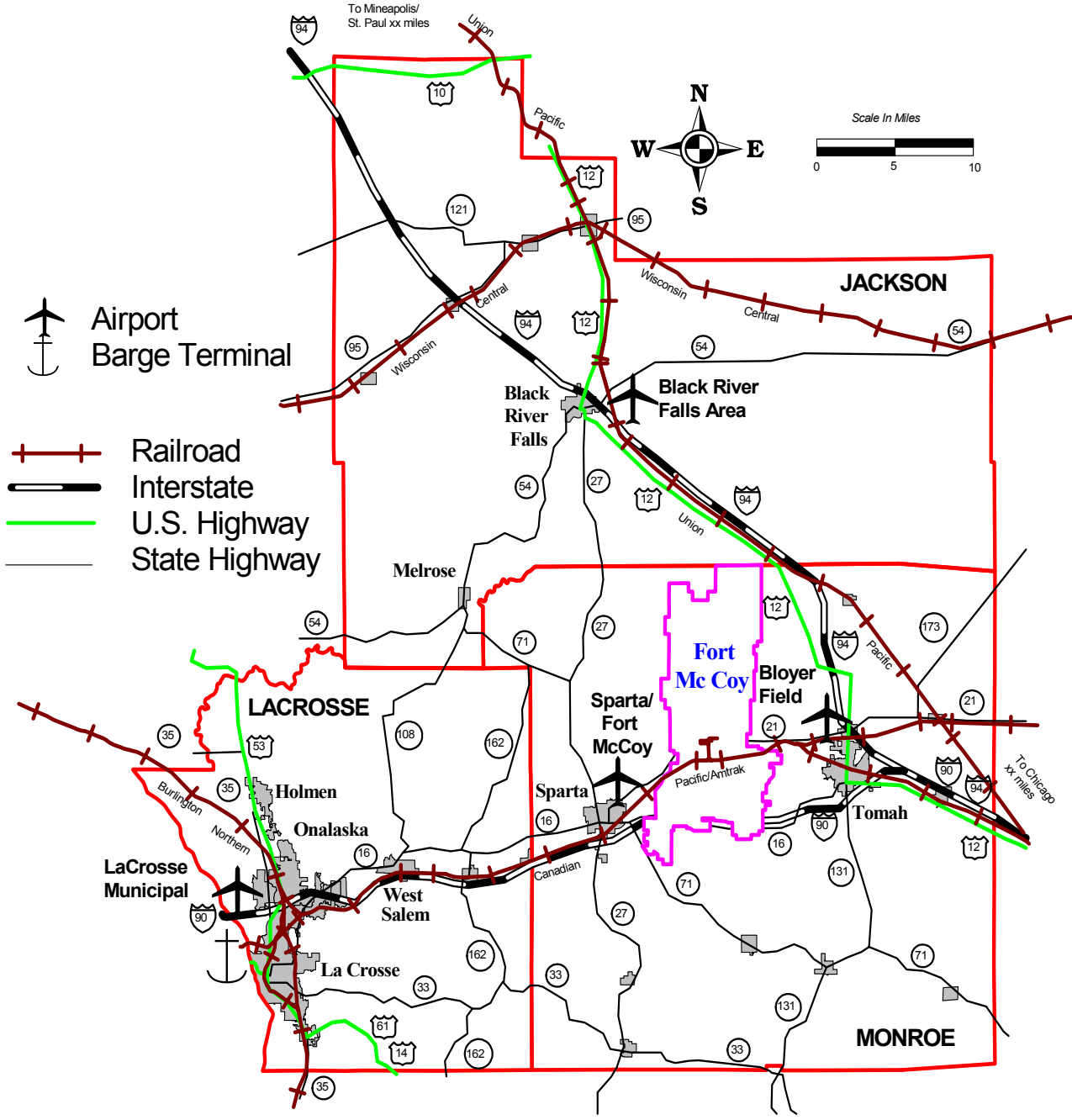
The Port of La Crosse Handles One Million tons of Cargo Annually.

A variety of commodities such as coal, petroleum, crude materials, farm products, manufacturing goods are

shipped on the Upper Mississippi River. The primary commodity transported by barge to/through La Crosse on the Mississippi River is ag products; corn, etc. (approximately 70 % of all down stream barges ship ag products). The majority of farm products are shipped down river to the Lower Mississippi and gulf ports for export. After ag products, fuels such as coal and petroleum are commonly transported to/through La Crosse.

Barge transport is one of the least expensive modes of transporting freight and could serve as an alternative cost saving service to Fort McCoy due to its close proximity to the Port of La Crosse on the Mississippi River.

Map 9-1 FORT MCCOY REGION TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM



Amtrak Service is provided at Tomah and LaCrosse