

## FACT SHEET

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PUBLIC OUTREACH SERIES

This project is a collaborative effort of the Nebraska Army National Guard (NE ARNG) and the Center for Advanced Land Management Information Technologies (CALMIT) and is funded by NE ARNG.

# Nebraska Army National Guard Training Sites Planning Level Survey for Integrated Natural Resources Management

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### Introduction

The Nebraska Army National Guard (NE ARNG) recognizes the importance of managing the nation's natural resources to prevent environmental degradation and to create a sustainable training environment that facilitates the military mission. Collecting accurate natural resource information is vital for the foundation and implementation of an Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM) Program and the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP). It is also important that information is collected on pest and invasive species for use as the foundation for the INRMP Pest and Invasive Species Management Plan (PISMP). The NE ARNG is cooperatively working with CALMIT to execute a survey of flora and fauna located in three training sites.

Protection and management of natural resources is an ongoing goal for the environmental planners of the NE ARNG. Information derived from these studies will be used to enhance habitat quality while sustaining the first priority of its mission to train Nebraska citizen soldiers.

The major tasks of this work include:

- 1) Field surveys of the vertebrate and invertebrate species of fauna and flora of the forests, grasslands and wetlands.
- 2) Collecting and recording relevant field data describing the biodiversity and relative abundance of flora and fauna at the study sites.
- 3) Develop a GIS database that includes:
  - Checklists of species present.
  - Relative species abundance by ecoregion.
  - Methodologies used for the data collections.
  - Proposed monitoring protocols and methods that support the NE ARNG training mission and management of selected habitat.
  - Map products for enhancing strategic management decisions.



There are many Wild Turkeys like these in the forests of NE ARNG.  
Photograph by Bob Grier, Nebraskaland



An example of the mixed vegetation types at NE ARNG training sites. Photograph by Rob Rothwell, CALMIT



Bird trapping at a NE ARNG training site.  
Photograph by Rob Rothwell, CALMIT



An Eastern Hognose snake photographed at a NEARNG site.  
Photograph by Dan Fogell, Prairie Herpetologist