



Department of Defense Legacy Resource Management Program

Program Background:

The Department of Defense (DoD) is steward of an estimated 29 million acres of land in the United States that contains both invaluable cultural and natural resources. In order to support military readiness while preserving the nation's natural and cultural heritage, the DoD Legacy Resource Management Program (Legacy) was established by Congress in 1990. The goal of the Legacy Program is to protect, enhance, and conserve natural and cultural resources using the three principles of stewardship, leadership, and partnership. The program is focused on ecosystem management, regional wide-spread conservation, partnerships, multidisciplinary integrated conservation efforts, and technological implementation.

In 1997 Legislation for National Defense Authorization Act was established, giving more definition to the Legacy Program. Funded projects must have regional or DoD-wide significance, meet legal requirements, and be effectively managed at the DoD level.

Legacy Goals:

The DoD Legacy Program's overall goal is to conserve and protect resources on military installations while preserving DoD's primary mission of military readiness. This is accomplished through the funding of projects that meet requirements upholding the Legacy goals in the defined areas of emphasis.



Petroglyphs, China Lake Air Warfare Center, CA

Areas of Emphasis:

The Legacy Program supports 12 areas of emphasis in order to preserve natural and cultural resources:

- Readiness and range sustainment,
- Cooperative conservation,
- Integrated natural resource management,
- Regional ecosystem management initiatives,
- National and international initiatives,
- Invasive species control,
- Monitoring and predicting migratory patterns of birds and animals,
- Cultural resource management,
- Historic preservation and force protection,

- Native American issues,
- Curation of archaeological collections, associated records and documents and management of archaeological sites, and
- Program management.

While similar, the Legacy Program is not a grant program and projects must meet certain criteria and review approval before funding is recommended. Funding of projects requires a contract between the project applicants and DoD, outlining expected results and deadlines for their work. Expected final products vary and may include (but are not limited to) items such as management plans, fact sheets, hardcopy or electronic reports, GIS data, and audio or visual representation of the completed project.



Least Turn (*Sterna Antillarum*) – Photo from Gulf Coastal Plain Ecosystem Partnership

Legacy Project Proposal Process:

In order for a project to be considered for funding, it must meet the 1997 legislations four criteria. Projects must:

- have regional or DoD-wide significance and involve more than one military department,
- be necessary to meet legal requirements *or* support military operations,
- be more effectively managed at the DoD level, and
- not be an Executive Agent responsibility.
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Legacy Resource Management Program funding is also only applicable to projects including:

- development of ecosystem wide land management plans,
- wildlife studies ensuring the safety of military operations,
- identification of Native American human remains and cultural items in the possession or control of the DoD, or discovered on land under the jurisdiction of the Department, to the appropriate Native American tribes,
- control of invasive species that may hinder military activities or degrade military training ranges, or

- establishment of a regional curation system for artifacts found on military installations.

Military Interdepartmental Pay Requests (MIPR), or Project Order.

Registration and Pre-proposals:

To begin the process, applicants must register online for a Legacy Tracker account (www.dodlegacy.org). Applicants will be notified electronically with 24 hours of acceptance. The Tracker allows accepted users to electronically submit proposals, access to search engines, help links, description of the tracker system, and access to all proposals and projects on record.

Pre-proposals are entered into the tracker with the basic information required. Pre-proposal submission must meet the posted DoD Legacy Program deadline along with military deadlines that may precede the Legacy deadline in order to be reviewed for funding. After submission, each pre-proposal goes through a review process in which the pre-proposal is reviewed by a chain of individuals starting at the installation level and ending at the DoD level. Tips for successful pre-proposals can be found at www.dodlegacy.org, under Legacy Guidebook.

Performance and Expected Projects:

Funding for Legacy Program projects is for a 12-month period. Continuation projects are possible but must reapply at each year and subsequent funding can not be guaranteed. At the end of a fiscal year each project must produce stand-alone results not dependent upon additional funding. Drafts and final expected products being delivered are submitted to Legacy. Final products will only be accepted when Legacy staff have reviewed the products and deems them satisfactory. Standardization of Legacy Product Presentation can be found on the Legacy website in the Legacy Guidebook. Acceptable final product types and descriptions are also found in the Legacy Guidebook.

Benefit:

The Legacy Program is able to utilize public and military resources for the promotion of conserving natural and cultural resources on DoD lands. This program provides benefits for the military through the management of its land by maintaining suitable training areas while preserving the natural environments being used. So that as many may benefit from the information resulting from this program. Many final products from Legacy-funded projects are posted on the Defense Environmental Network and Information Exchange website (www.Denix.osd.mil) and are available to all.

Image of Pre-Proposal Screen on the Legacy Tracker

Proposal Process:

Once a pre-proposal has passed review, the Legacy Program will then invite the author to submit a full detailed proposal. Through each stage of project proposals, project authors will be notified of the progression of their proposal, either to the next level or of project rejection. Successful project proposal tips are also found at www.dodlegacy.org, in the Legacy Guidebook.

Project Approval:

Once a project proposal has been accepted by all members of the review chain, the status of the project in the Legacy Tracker is updated to the designation of a “project.” Advance Technology Branch Office, Huntsville Engineering & Support Center (Huntsville) is in charge of the disbursement of Legacy Program funds. Disbursement of funding is done through cooperative agreements,

Accomplishments:

As a result of Legacy projects historical sites, landmarks, and other objects of cultural significance are preserved for future generations to learn from and enjoy. Endangered species, sensitive habitats, migratory animals and other natural resources are conserved and protected to maintain diversity and sustainable use. Final products provide the Legacy Program with documentation that can be used to inform the public about the accomplishments of military installations in upholding the preservation of the natural and cultural resources found on their lands.

For More Information Contact

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