



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Baltimore District

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UPDATED INTEGRATED CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN FORT GEORGE G. MEADE

**Fort George G. Meade
Anne Arundel County, Maryland**

December 2006

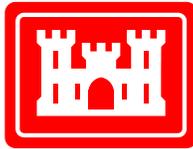
Prepared for: **Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division
239 Ross Road
Fort Meade, Maryland 20755-5115**

Prepared by: **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District
P.O. Box 1715
Baltimore, Maryland 21203-1715**

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FORT GEORGE G. MEADE**

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**FORT MEADE
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND**



Prepared by:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District
P.O. Box 1715
Baltimore, Maryland 21203

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FORT GEORGE G. MEADE

Reviewed and
Recommended for Approval By:

MICHAEL P. BUTLER
Chief, Environmental Division
Directorate of Public Works

Recommended for Approval By:

CLYDE W. REYNOLDS
Director of Public Works
Fort George G. Meade, Maryland

Approved By:

KENNETH O. McCREEDY
Colonel, Military Intelligence
Commanding

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The Department of the Army requires all Army installations to prepare an Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan (ICRMP) in accordance with Army Regulation (AR) 200-4 (*Cultural Resources Management*). The ICRMP outlines U.S. Department of Army policies, procedures, and responsibilities for meeting cultural resources compliance and management requirements at Fort Meade. Additionally, the ICRMP is designed to ensure that Fort Meade makes informed decisions regarding the cultural resources under its control, is in compliance with public laws, supports the military mission, and operates using sound principles of cultural resources management.

On behalf of Fort Meade, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has prepared this Environmental Assessment (EA) for the implementation of the ICRMP for Fort Meade. The ICRMP covered by this EA is entitled *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, Fort George G. Meade, December 2006*. This EA evaluates the potential environmental effects that would occur as a result of implementing the updated ICRMP.

PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed action is the implementation of an updated ICRMP by Fort Meade to provide an integrated and comprehensive method for managing cultural resources on the installation. The proposed action defines roles and responsibilities for cultural resource management within the installation and provides a basis for addressing all applicable legal requirements and best management practices consistent with achievement of the needs, goals, and objectives of the installation's military mission.

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

The "No Action Alternative" is the only alternative to the proposed action considered in detail in this EA. The No Action Alternative reflects the status quo and serves as a benchmark against which federal actions can be evaluated. For this analysis, the status quo involves the management of cultural resources at Fort Meade under existing procedures of the *Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, Fort George G. Meade, July 2001*.

ALTERNATIVES ELIMINATED FROM DETAILED STUDY

Preparation of and full implementation of the ICRMP is an Army regulatory requirement (AR 200-4), so other alternatives, such as partial implementation of the ICRMP, were considered but were excluded from further study because they would not comply with AR 200-4, and thus would not meet the purpose and need for the proposed action.

CONCLUSION

Based upon the analyses contained in this EA, it has been determined that any known and potential impacts of the proposed action on the physical, natural, and cultural environment would be of a beneficial nature. Implementation of the updated installation ICRMP would result in the efficient management of cultural resources at the installation. The ICRMP establishes procedures and long-range goals for managing cultural resources on installation lands in compliance with all applicable federal laws, regulations, and installation guidelines. The cultural resource management, in coordination with other elements of the installation, will serve to preclude significant impacts that may result from cultural resources management actions. Therefore, cultural, natural, and human resources under the management of Fort Meade will receive more consideration and protection than previously afforded. Implementation of the proposed action would, therefore, not result in significant environmental effects.

Based upon the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Finding of No Significant Impact is appropriate under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended.

Table ES-1**Compliance with Federal Environmental Statutes and Executive Orders***

Acts	Compliance
Clean Air Act, as amended (Public Law 88-206)	FULL
Clean Water Act, as amended (Public Law 95-217)	FULL
Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986	FULL
Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Public Law 93-205)	FULL
Farmland Protection Policy Act	FULL
Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, as amended (16 United States Code [U.S.C.] 661, et seq.)	FULL
National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Public Law 91-190)	FULL
National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (Public Law 89-665)	FULL
Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended	FULL
Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (Public Law 94-580)	FULL
Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended (Public Law 93-523)	FULL
Solid Waste Disposal Act of 1965, as amended	FULL
Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976 (Public Law 94-469)	FULL
Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954 (16 U.S.C. 1101, et seq.)	FULL
Wetlands Conservation Act (Public Law 101-233)	FULL
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act	FULL
Floodplain Management (Executive Order 11988)	FULL
Protection of Wetlands (Executive Order 11990)	FULL
Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations (Executive Order 12898)	FULL

* The proposed action is the implementation of an updated ICRMP. As a result of implementing the ICRMP, the cultural resource manager will coordinate with the other installation elements, including the natural resource manager, thereby considering all applicable executive orders in implementing specific actions under the ICRMP.

Table ES-2**Summary of Effects of the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative**

Resource	Proposed Action	No Action Alternative
Land Use	No effect to very minor effect	No effect to very minor effect
Geology*	No effect	No effect
Soils	No effect to very minor effect	No effect to very minor effect
Surface Water Resources	No effect to very minor effect	No effect to very minor effect
Climate*	No Effect	No Effect
Air Quality*	No Effect	No Effect
Groundwater*	No Effect	No Effect
Noise*	No Effect	No Effect
Biological Resources	No effect to very minor effect	No effect to very minor effect
Socioeconomic Resources*	No Effect	No Effect
Archaeological Resources	Potential Beneficial Effect	Potential Adverse Effect
Architectural Resources	Potential Beneficial Effect	Potential Adverse Effect
Infrastructure*	No Effect	No Effect
Hazardous, Toxic and Radioactive Substances*	No Effect	No Effect
Environmental Justice	No Effect	No Effect

* These resources were not further analyzed because no measurable changes would result from implementation of the ICRMP document.

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Appendix A – Regional Area Map

1.0 PURPOSE, NEED AND SCOPE

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Fort Meade consists of approximately 5,506 acres of land located in northern Anne Arundel County, Maryland, southeast of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and west of I-97 (Figure 1-1). Fort Meade was established as Camp Meade after America's entry into the First World War in 1917. Camp Meade was designated a permanent installation and renamed Fort George G. Meade in 1928. The installation has conducted a variety of functions including mobilization, soldier training, family housing, troop support, administrative, troop replacement, separation center for troops being discharged from the military, and interment camp for German and Italian prisoners of war (POWs). Fort Meade currently accommodates an administrative intelligence operation, an instructional institution, family housing, and support facilities. Fort Meade's mission is to provide Post operations support for facilities and infrastructure, quality of life, and protective services in support of Department of Defense activities and Federal agencies.

There are several tenants located on Fort Meade whose operations on Fort Meade are not covered by this document. These tenants are responsible for conducting their own Section 106 consultation with the Maryland Historical Trust. The majority of the tenants on the installation are covered by this ICRMP. The independent tenants are:

- Environmental Protection Agency
- National Security Agency (NSA)
- Picerne Military Housing

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has prepared this Environmental Assessment (EA) on behalf of Fort Meade in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended, and in accordance with 32 CFR 651, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, *Environmental Analysis of Army Actions; Final Rule* (Army Regulation 200-2).

The Department of the Army requires all Army installations to prepare an Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan (ICRMP) in accordance with Army Regulation (AR) 200-4 (*Cultural Resources Management*). An ICRMP is an internal Army compliance and management plan that integrates the entirety of an installation's cultural resource requirements with ongoing mission activities, and identifies compliance actions necessary to maintain the availability of mission-essential properties and acreage. ICRMPs are to receive an internal review annually and be updated at least every five years.

1.2 PURPOSE AND NEED

In order to be in compliance with Army regulatory requirement AR 200-4, Fort Meade has a need to prepare and implement a current management plan that will outline an integrated approach to identify and comprehensively manage cultural resources under its control.

The purpose of the proposed action is to implement an updated ICRMP for the management of cultural resources located on Fort Meade, Anne Arundel County, Maryland, that ensures

compliance with all applicable cultural resource management legal requirements, including federal statutes, regulations, and U.S. Army guidelines. The ICRMP sets procedures to integrate these legal compliance requirements into the day-to-day operational procedures of Fort Meade. The ICRMP is intended to identify both internal and coordination procedures to deal with cultural resource issues and the appropriate roles and responsibilities of Fort Meade personnel in the management of cultural resources. The ICRMP covered by this EA is entitled “*Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, Fort George G. Meade*” (December 2006).

1.3 SCOPE

This EA assesses the environmental impacts of implementing an updated ICRMP for Fort Meade. The EA does not analyze site-specific impacts associated with individual projects that will be implemented during the five-year period covered by the ICRMP. Consideration of site specific impacts will be undertaken by subsequent NEPA analysis specific to those future individual projects.

This EA considers, compares, and evaluates two alternatives. The first alternative, which serves as the Army’s preferred alternative, is the adoption and implementation of an updated ICRMP for Fort Meade. The second alternative is the “No Action Alternative” which would continue the status quo: continued management of cultural resources under the existing Fort Meade ICRMP dated July 2001. Another alternative, consisting of only a partial implementation of the ICRMP, was considered but was excluded from further study because this incomplete action would not comply with AR 200-4, and thus not meet the purpose and need for the proposed action.

2.0 PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed action is the implementation of an updated ICRMP entitled “*Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, Fort George G. Meade*” (December 2006) by Fort Meade to provide for the formal continuation of an integrated and comprehensive method for managing cultural resources on the installation.

An ICRMP is a decision document used by Army installations to guide their cultural resource actions and procedures. An ICRMP is an internal Army compliance and management plan that serves to integrate an installation’s cultural resource programs with ongoing mission activities. ICRMPs typically include the following information regarding an Army installation: the legal requirements for cultural resource management; a list of proposed actions over a five-year period that will require cultural resource compliance and; a planning-level survey of existing information on cultural resources including historic contexts, archaeological sensitivity, and Native American tribes with a potential interest in the installation. Other components of an ICRMP include: the development and implementation of a “cultural landscape” approach to cultural resource management, which considers cultural resources in the context of natural resources, structures, and land uses; procedures for consultation, inventory, evaluation, and treatment of cultural resources, and; an economic analysis of the alternate use of historic properties.

In accordance with AR 200-4, all Army installations are required to prepare an ICRMP. A variance to this requirement is granted only when comprehensive survey efforts have found that a facility possesses no or only limited cultural resources, and that preparation of an ICRMP would be of little or no value; or if the existing plan was prepared less than three years prior to the effective date of AR 200-4, October 1998. A Cultural Resource Management Plan was last prepared for Fort Meade in July 2001. Therefore, Fort Meade must prepare an updated ICRMP for the management of cultural resources.

3.0 ALTERNATIVES

3.1 INTRODUCTION

The proposed action presented in Section 2.0 is the preferred alternative. The only other action alternative, consisting of only a partial implementation of the ICRMP, was considered but was excluded from further study because this incomplete action would not comply with AR 200-4, and thus not meet the purpose and need for the proposed action.

3.2 ALTERNATIVES EVALUATED

3.2.1 Proposed Action

The proposed action as presented in Section 2.0 is the implementation of the ICRMP to establish a uniform policy for comprehensive management of cultural resources located on Fort Meade.

3.2.2 No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative reflects the status quo and serves as a benchmark against which federal actions can be evaluated. For this analysis, the status quo involves the continuation of management of cultural resources at Fort Meade under existing procedures of the ICRMP prepared in 2001.

4.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

This section describes the existing environmental and operational baseline conditions that exist at Fort Meade without implementation of the ICRMP.

As a result of examination for applicability to the proposed action, implementation of the ICRMP has been determined not to bear on certain resource areas that frequently receive attention in NEPA analyses. Resource areas considered, but thus excluded from further analysis in this EA include: geology, climate, air quality, groundwater, noise, socioeconomics, infrastructure, and hazardous waste site contamination and cleanup. Implementation of ICRMP procedures to identify and manage cultural resources will have no effect on these resources.

Physical measures carried out to identify, evaluate, or protect potential cultural resources, such as historic buildings and archeological sites, have the potential to impact land use, soils, surface water, biological resources, and environmental justice due to the nature of cultural resources and the locations in which they are generally found. Conversely, activities carried out to manage natural resource areas have the potential to impact cultural resources. The following is an overview of natural and cultural resource areas at Fort Meade.

4.1 LAND USE

Fort George G. Meade, MD, comprising 5,506 acres, is located almost midway between Baltimore, MD, and Washington, D.C., approximately 4 miles east of Interstate 95 and, at its closest boundary, one-half mile east of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway (MD-295). The Post is accessed via Maryland State Routes 175 and 32. Current land use at Fort Meade include: housing, administrative, recreational, open space, troop housing, and industrial. Similar to other large military installations, Fort Meade has distinct zones based on prominent use. The northern section of Fort Meade consists primarily of military family housing with public schools. The southern section consists primarily of the administrative, unaccompanied housing, and industrial operations of the Post. A golf course and retail center is located in the center of the Post, between the northern and southern sections. On the western edge of Fort Meade is the NSA complex, which conducts industrial and administrative functions (Fort Meade, 2005a).

Approximately 800 acres on Fort Meade are available for future development. Additional areas are expected to become available as older facilities are replaced or removed, and flat parking surfaces are replaced by parking structures. Future development at Fort Meade will be in compliance with the current Comprehensive Expansion Master Plan (Fort Meade 2006).

4.2 SOILS

There are 39 known soil types on Fort Meade. Most of the soils are part of an Evesboro complex. These soils are very deep, excessively drained, sandy loam upland soils. Fort Meade is underlain by a wedge-shaped mass of unconsolidated sediments that thickens to the southeast. The sediments overlay crystalline rock of Precambrian to early Cambrian age. The topography of Fort Meade is almost level to gently rolling. Slopes exceeding ten percent are rare and occur primarily in pockets in the central and north-central parts of the installation and along stream

corridors. The average elevation on Post is typically between 140-180 feet above mean sea level (Fort Meade 2001).

4.3 WATER RESOURCES

Most of Fort Meade is located in the Little Patuxent drainage of the Atlantic Coastal Plain Physiographic Province. Only the extreme northeastern corner of the Post drains to the Severn River. There are three primary tributaries to the Little Patuxent within Fort Meade: Midway Branch, Franklin Branch, and an unnamed tributary composed of two smaller tributaries.

Midway Branch and Franklin Branch drain the western and eastern portions of Fort Meade, and eventually join and enter Allen Lake south of Route 32. The unnamed tributary is composed of two small, unnamed branches that merge before entering the Little Patuxent River. This tributary drains the NSA facility area and the southwest portion of Fort Meade. Burba Lake is the only enclosed water body on the Post, with the exception of several stormwater management ponds. The Patuxent River is not a Federal- or State-listed Wild or Scenic River; however, approximately one mile south of the Route 198 bridge, the Little Patuxent River and its tributaries are designated "Use I-P" waters. Use I-P waters are protected for water contact recreation, protection of aquatic life and public water supply. This designated use does not include Franklin Branch and Midway Branch; however, it does include the reach of the Little Patuxent River passing through Fort Meade, as well as the two unnamed tributaries (Fort Meade 2005b).

4.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

4.4.1 Vegetation

Previous development at Fort Meade has been extensive and few areas currently retain their native vegetation. Most of these areas are associated with stream corridors. Plans for future development on the Post call for the preservation of most of the wooded areas. There are no agricultural operations on or adjacent to Fort Meade.

The largest wooded area on the Post is in the southwest corner and is associated with the Little Patuxent River. The dominant vegetation in this area is red maple (*Acer rubrum*), sweet gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*), northern arrowwood (*Viburnum recognitum*), Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*), greenbriar (*Smilax rotundifolia*), and poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*).

Smaller wooded areas are scattered throughout the Post, in the uplands. They are dominated by white, red, and chestnut oak (*Quercus prinus*); mockernut and pignut hickory (*Carya tomentosa* and *Carya glabra*); flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*); blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*); greenbriar; loblolly and pitch pine (*Pinus taeda* and *Pinus rigida*); and poison ivy.

Most of the developed portions of Fort Meade have been landscaped using a combination of turfgrasses interspersed with native and exotic trees and shrubs, including elm (*Ulmus* sp.), maple (*Acer* sp.), flowering cherry (*Prunus* sp.), black willow (*Salix nigra*), flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*), and an assortment of holly cultivars (*Ilex* sp.) (Fort Meade, 1999).

4.4.2 Wildlife

Wildlife species found on Fort Meade include species adapted to urban-suburban conditions. Although a current comprehensive species list for Fort Meade does not exist, examples of species known to inhabit the installation include: white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), gray squirrel (*Sciotootolo grigio*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), Eastern chipmunk (*Tamias striatus*), field mouse (*Apodemus sylvaticus*), red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*).

Birds common to Fort Meade are also limited to those that have adapted to an urban-suburban existence, such as American robin (*Zenaida macroura*), catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*), mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), Carolina chickadee (*Poecile carolinensis*), Carolina wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*), house wren (*Troglodytes aedon*), downy woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*), common flicker (*Colaptes auratus*), European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris* L.), house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), rock dove (*Columba livia*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), and song sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*). Although other species, including warblers and raptors, may be found on the installation during migration, they are not likely breeding on the installation due to limited habitat (Fort Meade 1999).

4.4.3 Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species

Except for occasional transient individuals, no federally listed or proposed endangered or threatened species are known to occur on Fort Meade (*pending USFWS response*). Previous coordination with the Maryland Natural Heritage Program reports occurrences of a state-endangered fish, the glassy darter (*Etheostoma vitreum*), within the Patuxent River (MD DNR, 1993). Additionally, the Fort Meade Integrated Pest Management Plan lists nine plant species of state importance that may occur in or around Fort Meade. These include: shaved sedge (*Carex tonsa*), Asa Gray's cyperus (*Cyperus grayi*), Leavenworth's sedge (*Carex leavenworthii*), downy bushclover (*Lespedeza stuevei*), Eastern sedge (*Carex atlantica*), dwarf azalea (*Rhododendron atlanticum*), small's ragwort (*Senecio anonymous*), purple chokeberry (*Aronia prunifolia*), and weak stellate sedge (*Carex seorsa*) (Fort Meade 2004a). Army installations must be sensitive to those species that are listed as endangered or threatened under State law, but that are not federally listed (Army Regulation 200-3). State-listed species are not protected under the Endangered Species Act; however, whenever feasible, the Post cooperates with state authorities in an effort to identify and conserve State-listed species (Fort Meade, 1999).

4.4.4 Wetlands

Relatively few wetland areas exist on Fort Meade since it is mostly developed. These are primarily Palustrine and Riverine wetlands associated with the Little Patuxent River and tributaries (Fort Meade 2005b).

4.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

Comprehensive surveys of archeological and architectural resources at Fort Meade have been conducted since 1994. All of the known resources at Fort Meade that are fifty years old or older,

have been evaluated for National Register eligibility. Fort Meade has one archeological site and 17 architectural resources that are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

4.5.1 Archaeological Resources

Forty prehistoric and/or historic archaeological sites identified at Fort Meade have been evaluated for National Register eligibility. Of the 40 sites, only one site, 18AN1240, was found eligible.

4.5.2 Architectural Resources

All of the pre-1960 architectural resources at Fort Meade have been evaluated for NRHP eligibility. There are a total of 17 historic properties in Fort Meade's inventory that are eligible for listing in the NRHP. Previous cultural investigations identified one historic district and one individual building as historic properties. Thirteen buildings in the historic district remain in Fort Meade's building inventory, along with the Water Treatment plant, (Building 8688) which is individually eligible for listing in the National Register.

As part of the 2006 ICRMP update, three additional resources on Fort Meade were found to be eligible for listing in the National Register. These properties are three bridges that were constructed on Fort Meade by German POWs during the Second World War.

4.6 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

On February 11, 1994, President Clinton issued Executive Order 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority and Low-Income Populations*. The Executive Order is designed to focus the attention of Federal agencies on the human health and environmental conditions in minority communities and low-income communities. Environmental justice analyses are performed to identify disproportionately high and adverse impacts to these target populations from proposed Federal actions, and to identify alternatives that might mitigate these impacts.

The Region of Influence (ROI) for this action is considered to be located solely within the boundaries of properties controlled by Fort Meade. The ICRMP for Fort Meade pertains only to the management of cultural resources located within the installation boundaries, and has no applicability to cultural resources that are located on lands outside the installation boundaries.

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

Fort Meade proposes to implement an updated ICRMP for the management of cultural resources on the installation. This action is not associated with any specific construction activities. Its effect would be realized as the installation cultural resource manager implements the procedures for internal coordination, consultation with non-Army parties, and cultural resource inventory recommendations. Following implementation of the ICRMP, a subsequent NEPA analysis would be conducted as appropriate to consider on-the-ground impacts to the natural or human environments of future projects as they are identified.

As stated in Section 4.0, resource areas determined not applicable to the implementation of the ICRMP update are not discussed in this EA. These resources include: geology, climate, air quality, groundwater, noise, socioeconomics, infrastructure, and hazardous waste site contamination and cleanup.

Environmental consequences of implementation of the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative on other resources considered in Section 4.0 including land use, soils, surface water, biological resources, and environmental justice will not be discussed in detail in Section 5.0 because the Proposed Action to implement the ICRMP update is expected to have no adverse impacts to these resources. Future projects will be coordinated with Fort Meade's Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan and other current installation procedures in place to minimize impacts to land use, surface water, biological resources, and environmental justice. The procedures in the proposed ICRMP include compliance with AR 200-4 and AR 200-2. The ICRMP sets up procedures whereby all land use activities that have the potential to adversely affect cultural resources will be coordinated with the Fort Meade's cultural resource POC before such actions are undertaken. Conversely, the cultural resource point of contact should coordinate with the land managers before permitting any archeological activities that might have the potential to affect land use activities.

5.1 CULTURAL RESOURCES

Preferred Alternative. Implementation of the updated ICRMP is expected to have a beneficial effect on the management of cultural resources at Fort Meade as the ICRMP contains updated information concerning all known cultural resources including archaeological and architectural resources at Fort Meade. This additional information will allow Fort Meade to better manage its cultural resources and will assist with the documentation of environmental compliance necessary for implementation of future projects. By implementing the updated ICRMP, Fort Meade will be in compliance with the Army's latest NEPA provisions in 32 CFR 651, and with AR 200-4. As a result of implementing the ICRMP update, Fort Meade will continue to have a well-defined and efficient plan for managing its cultural resources over the next five years. No adverse impacts would result from implementation of the Preferred Alternative.

No Action Alternative. The No Action Alternative would maintain existing conditions and methodologies for the management of cultural resources. Continuation of existing practices could have an adverse effect upon cultural resources as future decisions concerning the

investigation and preservation of cultural resources would not be based upon the recent updates regarding cultural resources that would be included in an updated ICRMP.

5.2 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

A cumulative impact is defined as an effect on the environment that results from the incremental effect of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency or person undertakes such actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor, but collectively significant, actions taking place over a period of time.

No significant impacts are expected as a result of implementing the ICRMP when considered in combination with other known past, present, or future actions at Fort Meade.

Short-term, minor, adverse impacts to land use, soils, surface water, and biological resources may potentially occur from future actions taken in accordance with the updated ICRMP. Beneficial impacts to archaeological and architectural resources may be expected as a result of implementing future cultural resource studies, as outlined in the updated ICRMP.

6.0 CONCLUSION

Based upon this Environmental Analysis, it has been determined that the known and potential impacts of the Proposed Action on the physical, natural, and cultural environment would be of a beneficial nature. Implementation of the updated ICRMP would result in the efficient management of cultural resources at Fort Meade. The ICRMP establishes procedures and long-range goals for managing cultural resources compliance with all applicable federal laws, regulations and installation guidelines. The cultural resource manager, in coordination with other elements of the installation, will serve to preclude any significant impacts that may result from cultural resources management actions. Therefore, cultural, natural, and human resources will receive increased consideration and protection than previously afforded. Implementation of the Proposed Action would not result in significant environmental effects.

Based upon this conclusion, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required prior to implementation of the Proposed Action.

Table 6-1**Compliance with Federal Environmental Statutes and Executive Orders***

Acts	Compliance
Clean Air Act, as amended (Public Law 88-206)	FULL
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Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986	FULL
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Wild and Scenic Rivers Act	FULL
Floodplain Management (Executive Order 11988)	FULL
Protection of Wetlands (Executive Order 11990)	FULL
Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations (Executive Order 12898)	FULL

* The proposed action is the implementation of the ICRMP. As a result of implementing the ICRMP, the cultural resource manager will coordinate with the other installation elements including the natural resource manager thereby considering all applicable executive orders, in implementing specific actions under the ICRMP.

Table 6-2**Summary of Effects of the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative**

Resource	Proposed Action	No Action Alternative
Land Use	No effect to very minor effect	No effect to very minor effect
Geology*	No effect	No effect
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Groundwater*	No Effect	No Effect
Noise*	No Effect	No Effect
Biological Resources	No effect to very minor effect	No effect to very minor effect
Socioeconomic Resources*	No Effect	No Effect
Archaeological Resources	Potential Beneficial Effect	Potential Adverse Effect
Architectural Resources	Potential Beneficial Effect	Potential Adverse Effect
Infrastructure*	No Effect	No Effect
Hazardous, Toxic and Radioactive Substances*	No Effect	No Effect
Environmental Justice	No Effect	No Effect

* These resources were not further analyzed because no measurable changes would result from implementation of the ICRMP document.

7.0 REFERENCES

- National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. 2006. Wild and Scenic Rivers by State. Website: <http://www.nps.gov/rivers/wildriverslist.html>.
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APPENDIX A

Regional Area Map

