



# *Department of Natural Resources Fact Sheet*



## **2009 POLICY FACT SHEET ACUB Easement Formula**

### **OVERVIEW**

The purpose of the requested legislation is to give the Commissioner of Natural Resources authority to use a formula (prescribed in law) to purchase conservation easements from willing sellers within the Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) area around Camp Ripley.

This allows the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to work with the National Guard Bureau in the prevention of development around the camp. This provides a buffer for noise and conservation of habitat.

Under the ACUB program, the Department of the Army works through the Minnesota National Guard Bureau to provide funding for the purchase of development rights. Priorities are established within the defined area by combining the DNR interest in the protection of natural land and the National Guards interest in creating a buffer particularly in noise corridors emanating from weapon discharge areas. DNR further reviews land for its ecological or habitat value.

### **IT IS NEEDED BECAUSE**

The Department's current easement acquisition process requires two complete appraisals, one for the land without the easement and another for the land with the easement.

The difference in the appraisals represents the appraised value of the easement. This process is time consuming and frustrating to the landowner and the National Guard.

The formula would allow DNR to operate in a manner similar to that used by the National Guards other partner, the Board of Water and Soil Resources.

### **PROJECT LOCATIONS**

This authority is only for the area geographically defined as a three-mile zone surrounding Camp Ripley.

### **IMPACT ON OPERATING BUDGET**

The DNR and the National Guard will be responsible for the ongoing monitoring of the easements.

### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Joe Kurcinka, Regional Director

Central Region

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

500 Lafayette Rd, St. Paul, MN 55155

651-259-5635

[Joe.Kurcinka@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:Joe.Kurcinka@dnr.state.mn.us)

