

# Caring for the Environment Partnering for a Greener Future



## Caring for our shared Cultural Resources



Camp Foster: the 200-year-old Chibuga Spring was restored to pristine condition in 2004 using DoD funds.

- We conduct cultural asset surveys and testing which include archival research, field verification, and reconnaissance of remote areas that have only recently been explored by archaeologists.
- We recently completed a large-scale, installation-wide cultural resources survey at Ie Shima Training Facility, marking the first time a systematic archeological survey and testing had ever taken place.
- We developed a Cultural Resources Database, allowing for more efficient, responsive, and comprehensive management of cultural resources on bases in Okinawa.
- Because the base borders local municipalities, our Cultural Resources Management Team coordinates with twelve individual Boards of Education, in order to safeguard cultural sites that are important to Okinawan residents.
- Through extensive review of all Marine Corps projects, we ensure that potential impacts to cultural resources aboard the bases are responsibly addressed and mitigated.
- **Restoration** - Chibuga Spring, used for drinking water and irrigation as well as a sacred site for religious ceremonies, was restored in 2004 with the help of DoD Legacy Funds.
- Due to our careful and conscientious management, the archaeological sites aboard the bases remain some of the best preserved sites on Okinawa, as they are generally more protected from development than sites found off-base.

## Protecting our Natural Resources

### Elimination of the Cane Toad

- In 2011, we successfully suppressed populations of cane toads on Camp Kinser. Cane toads are an invasive species, which, if left unchecked, can have a devastating effect on local ecology. The Cane Toad Awareness Campaign included frequent, ongoing meetings with local stakeholders such as the Ministry of the Environment, Okinawa Prefectural Government, Urasoe City and local university researchers.

### Mongoose Trapping

- Through a collaborative partnership with the Okinawa Prefecture Government and the Japanese Ministry of the Environment, we have successfully suppressed populations of the mongoose in the Jungle Warfare Training Center, contributing to Okinawa's Mongoose Control Program.

### Protecting Endangered Species

- We protect numerous threatened and endangered species inside the JWTC rainforest, which contains some of the most pristine habitats in Okinawa. These species include the Okinawa Woodpecker (*Sapheopipo noguchii*), Okinawa Rail (*Gallirallus okinawae*), and Jamber Long-armed Beetle (*Cheirotonus jamber*).

### Natural Resources Conservation

- Our Aerial Hydroseeding Program and slope stabilization projects allows the rainwater to flow cleanly to the ocean and prevents redsoil run-off from reaching Okinawa's beautiful and sensitive coral reef systems, which sustain more than 340 coral species - three times more than the recorded species at the Australian Great Barrier Reef.



We protect approx. 20 threatened and endangered species on Marine camps in Okinawa.

## Preventing Pollution



### Antifreeze Recycling Program

- This program significantly reduces waste and cost by reusing, conserving and eliminating off-base disposal.

### Battery Reuse Program

- 70% of our waste batteries turned in are restored and reused. The system has been so successful that since the program started in FY13, no restored battery has made its way back through the waste disposal process.

### Spill Response Program

- Our program incorporates rag recycling to clean up small spills instead of using absorbant materials, which has resulted in an 18.5% reduction in waste disposal.

### Recycling Program

- Our recycling program reclaims materials and costs from plastics, metals and other materials which can be reused. Our recycling program reduces our waste by 70% a year.

### Wind Energy

- In 2013 we installed a wind energy turbine at MCIPAC headquarters, capable of producing 10 kilowatts of power per hour, further reducing our energy costs and increasing self-sufficiency.

**Cleanups** - We conduct regular perimeter, city and beach cleanups, removing thousands of pounds of trash and debris.

## Our Environmental Team

**Size and Capability** - With approx. 70 Japanese and U.S. employees, we have the second largest environmental staff on Okinawa, second only to the Okinawa Prefectural Government.

**Archaeologists** - We employ DoD archaeologists (one U.S., one Japanese) to conduct in-house cultural monitoring and excavations.

**Training** - We have the premier DoD environmental training program in Asia, offering courses in English and Japanese. We train more than 18,000 U.S. and Japanese personnel annually.

**Our innovative environmental programs promote collaborative environmental stewardship with the community, the Marines and the Okinawan and Japanese governments.**

For information on the Marine Corps environmental programs in Okinawa, visit: [www.okinawa.usmc.mil](http://www.okinawa.usmc.mil)