2020
IRT Summary

INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING
Manpower & Reserve Affairs | Department of Defense

irt.defense.gov | osd.irt@mail.mil
2020 IRT Summary

This summary was prepared for the Office of Manpower & Reserve Affairs. Approved for public release; distribution not limited.

Cover photo credit:

TINIAN, Northern Mariana Islands (Oct. 20, 2020)
Construction Mechanic 3rd Class Brandon Block, deployed as the Seabee expeditionary construction and engineering capability of Task Force 75, conducts a final inspection on the 120M motor grader in support of Marpo Heights Road G construction in Tinian.

Photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Cole Pielop.
“IF IT WASN’T FOR IRT, THESE PATIENTS COULD HAVE GONE UNDIAGNOSED AND, AT SOME POINT, THE RESULTS COULD HAVE BEEN CATASTROPHIC. IF THOSE WERE THE ONLY TWO PATIENTS WE SAW, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN WORTH IT BUT WE ALSO PROVIDE CARE FOR AN ADDITIONAL 5,000 OTHER FOLKS.”
IRT is a collaborative program that leverages military contributions and community resources to multiply value and cost savings for participants. Communities typically provide materials and basic services (e.g., facilities), while military units contribute personnel and training resources. IRT missions produce mission-ready forces, civil-military partnerships, and stronger communities.
MISSION

To produce mission-ready forces through military training opportunities that provide key services for American communities.

VISION

A secure and prosperous America supported by strong civil-military relations.

GOALS

Restored Military Readiness
Provide hands-on, real-world training to improve readiness and survivability in contingency environments.

Strengthened Partnerships
Strengthen and build new partnerships with culturally complex populations, including in remote areas.

Innovative Resource Management
Leverage military contributions and community resources to multiply value and cost savings for participants.
2D LT ERIC ARNOLD,
AIR NATIONAL GUARD
172D CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON
IRT CAMP KAMASSA

“LT ARNOLD DISPLAYED OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP DURING THE CAMP KAMASSA IRT MISSION. HE LED CRITICAL TRAINING FOR A JOINT FORCE OF 99 SERVICE MEMBERS THROUGH TIMELY COMPLETION OF CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY DURING THE MISSION. LT ARNOLD ALSO LED A LARGE EFFORT TO REPURPOSE 6,000 N95 FACE MASKS TO MEDICAL FACILITIES ACROSS THE COMMUNITY DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC. LT ARNOLD’S UNRIValed LEADERSHIP LED TO OVER $150,000 IN COST SAVINGS TO THE COMMUNITY PARTNER.”

FY20 IRT Leader of the Year
September 2020

Photo | 2d Lt Arnold
IMPACT IN 2020

The Services led **12** IRT missions in communities across the United States. This included **6** OSD-funded missions and **6** non-OSD-funded missions.
Looking Back

IRT IN THE AGE OF COVID

We all know that last year has been different in so many ways because of the coronavirus. Amidst the challenges of a global health pandemic in FY 2020, IRT and its participants reflect on the value of training and partnerships forged during this time.

IRT and its community partners faced tough decisions in the interest of safety measures driven by mandatory social distancing and restrictions on travel and gatherings. Some missions were cut short, delayed, or canceled—a reality unlike any other in IRT’s nearly 28-year history. Yet, several missions endured when safety measures were possible and practical. The pages that follow highlight successful outcomes that IRT achieved despite the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. Service Members across all Guard, Reserve, and Active duty components of the departments of the Army, Navy, and Air Force gained invaluable training through planning meetings, site surveys, mission execution, and lessons-learned activities.

Another highlight of FY 2020 was IRT’s ability to help prevent the spread of the virus. The IRT Medical Consumables Site based out of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in New Jersey stepped up to the plate by repurposing more than 4 tons of medical supplies to help address the nation’s critical shortfall. “This has been the most profoundly rewarding assignment in my 31-year career,” said Master Sgt. Janice Johnson, Senior Medical NCO. As IRT steps into the months ahead with a renewed sense of optimism, IRT continues to exercise caution and require adherence to established health guidelines for the safety and success of all mission participants and partners.

New and recurring civil-military partnerships in FY 2021 will build upon IRT’s 2020 successes. (see FY 2021 mission map on page 18). These opportunities will continue to create lasting value, remaining true to IRT’s commitment: to supply mission-ready forces through military training to deliver key services within American communities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summary of Class VIII Supplies Contributed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contents</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>330,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>17,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>7,770</td>
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<tr>
<td>900</td>
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<tr>
<td>550</td>
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<tr>
<td>244</td>
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<tr>
<td>192</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8,765 lbs. of medical supplies</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 pallets worth of delivery</td>
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</table>
Looking Back
SNAPSHOT OF THE SERVICES

Department of the Army

OSD INVESTMENT: $2.7 MILLION

U.S. ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
- Program Manager: CPT Jason Schwartz
- Funds Invested by Army National Guard: None
- Missions Fully Completed: 0
- Missions Partially Completed due to COVID-19: 8

U.S. ARMY RESERVE
- Program Manager: CPT Jessica Campbell
- Funds Invested by Army Reserve: $289,000
- Missions Fully Completed: 1
- Missions Partially Completed due to COVID-19: 7

U.S. ARMY
- Program Manager: CPT Jessica Campbell
- Funds Invested by U.S. Army: None
- Missions Fully Completed: 1
- Missions Partially Completed due to COVID-19: 0
Looking Back
SNAPSHOT OF THE SERVICES

Department of the Navy
OSD INVESTMENT: $5.8 MILLION

U.S. MARINE CORPS FORCES RESERVE
- Program Manager: Maj Andrew Chrestman
- Funds Invested by Marine Corps Reserve: $293,683
- Missions Fully Completed: 2
- Missions Partially Completed due to COVID-19: 4

U.S. MARINE CORPS
- Program Manager: Maj Andrew Chrestman
- Funds Invested by U.S. Marine Corps: $209,267
- Missions Fully Completed: 2
- Missions Partially Completed due to COVID-19: 0

U.S. NAVY RESERVE
- Program Manager: CDR Kent Bubel
- Funds Invested by Navy Reserve: None
- Missions Fully Completed: 1
- Missions Partially Completed due to COVID-19: 4

U.S. NAVY
- Program Manager: CDR Kent Bubel
- Funds Invested by Navy Reserve: $1,792,074
- Missions Fully Completed: 0
- Missions Partially Completed due to COVID-19: 6

Photo | Petty Officer First Class Cole Pielop
Looking Back
SNAPSHOT OF THE SERVICES

Department of the Air Force

OSD INVESTMENT: $10.7 MILLION

Photo | SSgt Daniel Martinez

U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD
• Program Manager: Lt Col Andrew Adamich
• Funds Invested by Air National Guard: $75,516
• Missions Fully Completed: 4
• Missions Partially Completed due to COVID-19: 8

U.S. AIR FORCE RESERVE
• Program Manager: Lt Col Joshua Furby
• Funds Invested by Air Force Reserve: $506,068
• Missions Fully Completed: 2
• Missions Partially Completed due to COVID-19: 9

U.S. AIR FORCE
• Program Manager: Lt Col Andrew Adamich
• Funds Invested by U.S. Air Force: None
• Missions Fully Completed: 0
• Missions Partially Completed due to COVID-19: 4
"I FIRST GOT INVOLVED WITH INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING (IRT) MISSIONS AT CAMP HINDS IN 2016 SUPPORTING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A BOY SCOUT CAMP IN MAINE. I HAVE SINCE TRIED TO SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE A PART OF EVERY IRT MISSION THAT IS PRESENTED TO THE MARINE CORPS. I BELIEVE THAT THE IRT PROGRAM IS AN INVALUABLE ASSET AND TOOL TO BUILD RELATIONS AND PROVIDE RESOURCES TO THE COMMUNITY WHILE PROVIDING VALUABLE TRAINING WITH A PURPOSE TO THE MARINES."

FY20 IRT Champion of the Year

September 2020
IRT Mission:
Cleveland National Forest
Spring 2020 | California

Active duty marines from the 7th Engineer Support Battalion from Camp Pendleton, California, participated in the Cleveland National Forest IRT mission on June 1–5. This mission partnered with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to demolish 11 man-made dams. With leadership from First Lieutenant Sean Cooper, the 25 Service Members form a specialized detachment as a crisis response task force under the Special Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force. The austere conditions and unknown environment of this mission simulated real operations, contributing to their certification for deployment across the globe. These conditions presented a unique opportunity to train in an unfamiliar location, without the benefit of known range design and layout, while doubling the number of demolition certifications held by the participating unit. Other bolstered skill sets included engineer reconnaissance, area clearing operations, and lane creation through obstacles. Through this training, the marines gained an accurate assessment of their abilities, unit confidence was bolstered, and deployment readiness increased while the USFS saved an estimated $200,000 in demolition expenses. The long-term positive effect of this training activity is the restoration of natural hydrological patterns to the region, resulting in a more natural migration pattern for the southern steelhead trout.

HIGHLIGHTS

Lead Service:
Active Duty Marine Corps

Community Partner: U.S. Forest Service

200+ training hours accomplished by 25 Service Members demolishing 11 dams in 5 days

Julie Donnell
Fish Biologist
U.S. Forest Service

“It’s been an honor to partner with these incredibly skilled and talented men and women on a project that has such a meaningful impact to the forest and downstream ecosystems.”
IRT Mission: Mare Island Cemetery
Fall 2020 | California

Soldiers from the 801st Engineer Construction Company, Vallejo, California, and the 322nd Engineer Vertical Construction Company, Sloan, Nevada, and senior leaders from the 416th Theater Engineer Command staff in Darien, Illinois, partnered with the City of Vallejo for an IRT mission to restore the Mare Island Naval Cemetery after nearly 30 years of disrepair.

The challenging restoration of this 2.5 acre cemetery enabled varied civil engineering training for the Soldiers, including cutting down trees and overgrowth, restoring and cleaning of headstones, repairing the drainage system, and fixing the perimeter retaining wall. These efforts enabled restoration of hallowed grounds not otherwise eligible for such repair due to local budgetary constraints.

This historic cemetery is the final resting place for three Medal of Honor recipients and the daughter of Francis Scott Key, lyricist of the Star-Spangled Banner. The cemetery may be designated a National Historic Landmark, with members of both the House and Senate introduced to turn the cemetery over to the National Cemetery Administration, part of the Department of Veterans Affairs, for perpetual care and maintenance.

Lead Service: Army Reserve

Community Partner: City of Vallejo

3,020 training days accomplished by 153 Service Members restoring 2.5 acres of overgrown and heavily eroded cemetery grounds

Bob Sampayan
Mayor
City of Vallejo

“Where it is today is a definite change and a respectful change for those who have been buried here.”

Photo | Source: Vallejo Times-Herald Online, Accessed March 2021
IRT Mission: Deep Water Derelict Net Removal
Summer 2020 | Washington

On July 6–24, Puget Sound hosted 18 divers from the U.S. Army’s 86th Engineer Detachment to continue the great work of the 569th Engineer Detachment from the previous year’s IRT mission. This recurring partnership with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources made the success of this second iteration of the Deep Water Derelict Net Removal IRT mission possible despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The temperate, current patterns, water depth, and rocky geography simulated the essential condition types for the progression of individual divers, supervisors, master divers, and diving officers. This training is difficult to replicate elsewhere. This single mission was equivalent to dive detachment rotations required for deployment and operational conduct to meet multiple mission essential tasks. The 195 deep water derelict fishing net remnants throughout Puget Sound date to as far back as the 1950s. Across 53 target sites, the divers from the 86th Engineer Detachment braved the 50-degree water, plunging to depths of more than 100 feet to recover netting from the aquatic moonscape of the seafloor. They successfully recovered four gill nets totaling 3,562 square feet of rocky habitat and two lines measuring 1,543 feet.

Lead Service: Active U.S. Army
Community Partner: Washington State Department of Natural Resources

2,592 training hours accomplished by 17 Service Members removing derelict fishing net from Puget Sound in 18 days

Sergeant First Class Brandon Laspe
86th Engineer Dive Detachment

“Our peacetime and wartime mission is essentially the same. Every mission we execute benefits local populations, military populations, or the environment; this provides a level of dedication and fulfillment you aren’t likely to find anywhere else.”
IRT Mission: Operational Resilience
Summer 2020 | Michigan

Last summer, 21 Michigan Air National Guard airmen from the 272nd Cyber Operations Squadron (COS) partnered with the State of Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB) to perform intelligence-driven hunt operations on the critical host and network devices that run the Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS) throughout Michigan. The ATMS supplies real-time video traffic information for major roadways, controls, and highways, enabling rapid response in the case of emergencies for 9.8 million Michigan travelers on their daily commutes.

The 13 cyber threat hunts assessed the advanced persistent threats of industry-defined tactics, techniques, and procedures. Operators discovered eight medium-to-high risk vulnerabilities and recommended mitigation for each. Operation Resilience resulted in the creation of numerous new processes, procedures, and an official memorandum of understanding between the 272nd COS and DTMB. The partnership with and services of the 21 airmen resulted in an estimated $420,000 benefit to the State of Michigan.

Capt Rick Frantz
Officer in Charge
272 Cyber Operations Squadron

"Operation Resilience proved to be a high-value IRT engagement with State of Michigan partners that set the foundation for future training engagements."
“WE REALLY APPRECIATE THE TEAM BEING HERE AND ALL THE HARD WORK. WE ARE SUPER EXCITED TO HAVE THE IRT TEAM IN OUR COMMUNITY AND LOOK FORWARD TO A GREAT [CONTINUED] PARTNERSHIP.”

- MR. CHRIS PIERCE

FY20 IRT Civil-Military Partnership of the Year

September 2020
This past September IRT brought together 110 mission planners and key personnel from 75 units across all Services and the community for the fifth annual Joint Workshop for Operational Mission Planners. Individuals from 27 states and territories attended the first 100% virtual workshop, which offered training to FY 2021 mission participants and planners. Attendees met with their program managers, networked across service components, and gained invaluable knowledge as they built their teams in preparation for upcoming missions throughout the United States and its territories. During the 3-day workshop, participants celebrated a successful FY 2020 mission year despite the COVID-19 pandemic while learning about tools and resources to further operational excellence in FY 2021. Training activities comprised 19.5 hours distributed across more than 35 unique sessions, which included breakout sessions, lessons-learned panels, planning briefings, and team-building exercises.

Final: What was your overall impression of the workshop?

Overall feedback from the 110 Workshop participants
## 2020 Highlights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Branch</th>
<th>Active Duty</th>
<th>Reserve</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>U.S. Army</strong></td>
<td>17 Service Members trained</td>
<td>153 Service Members trained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17 training requirements accomplished</td>
<td>5 training requirements accomplished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>493 training days</td>
<td>3,020 training days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$876,000</strong> total Continuing Education (CE) value</td>
<td><strong>1M+</strong> total square feet of grounds restoration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>U.S. Marine Corps</strong></td>
<td>73 Service Members trained</td>
<td>9 Service Members trained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 training requirements accomplished</td>
<td>8 training requirements accomplished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2,285 training days</td>
<td>63 training days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$270,000</strong> total CE value</td>
<td><strong>$50,000</strong> total CE value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>U.S. Air Force</strong></td>
<td>37 Service Members trained</td>
<td>34 Service Members trained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>434 training requirements accomplished</td>
<td>246 training requirements accomplished</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>307 training days</td>
<td>265 training days</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$420,000</strong> total cybersecurity value</td>
<td><strong>$135,000</strong> total CE value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Air National Guard</strong></td>
<td>95 Service Members trained</td>
<td>34 Service Members trained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9 Service Members trained</td>
<td>246 training requirements accomplished</td>
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<td>265 training days</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>63 training days</td>
<td><strong>$50,000</strong> total CE value</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>$135,000</strong> total CE value</td>
<td><strong>$135,000</strong> total CE value</td>
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Looking Forward

IMPACT IN 2021

The Services are leading 33 IRT missions in communities across the United States.

Current as of April 26, 2021
Get Social with IRT

Connect with IRT on social media to follow our FY2021 journey and learn more about amazing military training taking place across the country. We hope you will join us in future years!

https://irt.defense.gov/

IRTsWin @IRTsWin irtswin IRTs Win @irtswin

Coming in 2021:

Photo | 1st Lt Andrew Layton

Photo | Staff Sgt. Bethany Rizor

Photo | Sgt. Maximiliano Rosas

Photo | Mass Communications Specialist 1st Class David Crawford