



INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING



The Premier Military Training Platform for a Secure and Prosperous America

AUGUST 2020 | NEWSLETTER

IRT Partnerships Begin with Communities

How do IRT partnerships between the military and communities work? How does the experience differ?

Through his work on the Pima County Roadway IRT mission over the past 2 years, Sergeant Michael Wood has gained a unique perspective—first with the U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) Reserve and now with the community partner: the Pima County Department of Transportation (DOT).

As a USMC mechanic, his IRT experience was invaluable: “I used everything I learned from IRT throughout my deployment.” Not only did the mission activities supply unmatched training but the planning process offered valuable lessons for the deployment environment. “The planning process provides a huge amount of training.”

When he joined the Pima County DOT, Sgt Wood learned the equal importance of the mission for community partners. The community receives continuous value as the Marines make repairs in the field while training on heavy equipment. “With Pima County, they get...tractors and...to say ‘hey, let’s go make something.’” When a community need corresponds with a military training requirement—as it does in Pima County—an IRT mission is born.

The application and planning process take time and effort. DOT staff go above and beyond, working nights and weekends to plan IRT activities, but that effort pays off. Pima County benefits from the hard work of the military and the participants receive training to prepare them for deployments. This brings intrinsic satisfaction and pride to everyone.

Interested communities are encouraged to explore the IRT website and apply. Visit irt.defense.gov. Access the IRT Application Portal by going to the Community menu item and clicking the Apply Now button.



Innovative Readiness Training Marine Corps leadership and John Felix (DOT), the earth group supervisor for Pima County, Aug. 9, 2020. (USMC photo by Lance Cpl. Christopher W. England)

ENHANCE MILITARY READINESS

IRT provides hands-on, real world training to improve readiness and survivability in contingency environments

STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS

IRT builds and strengthens civil-military partnerships, often in remote areas

BRING BUSINESS REFORM

IRT is a collaborative program that leverages military contributions and community resources to multiply value and cost savings for participants

IRT TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

- Mission Planning
- Contingency Operations
- Heavy Equipment Operations

COMMUNITY MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Sgt Michael Wood, USMC

Equipment Operator Level 1
Pima County Department of Transportation



“For us, it’s very cool and unique. Most of the Pima County staff participants are veterans and many of them are Marines. We’ve got a lot of veteran support.”

IRT leaders and staff are closely monitoring the COVID-19 public health situation. We provide updated information on our website concerning its effect on our FY 2020 missions. Please check irt.defense.gov regularly for the latest information on the IRT program.



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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE UPDATE

WELCOMING NEW IRT DIRECTOR, COLONEL JACLYN CHATWICK

This month, the IRT team welcomes Colonel Jaclyn A. Chatwick as the IRT Director! She has tremendous depth and breadth of experience for this important position on our team. Col Chatwick grew up in Philadelphia and enlisted in the Air Force in 1986, completing 4 years of active duty before joining the Air Force Reserve. Col Chatwick has served on numerous operational assignments and staff positions, and she deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Prior to this assignment, Col Chatwick acted as Deputy Legislative Assistant in the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.



**COLONEL
JACLYN A. CHATWICK**
U.S. AIR FORCE RESERVE
IRT DIRECTOR

SERVICEMEMBER

SPOTLIGHT

CAPTAIN LAWRENCE HILL, USMC

BULK FUEL CO A, 6TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION
IRT PIMA COUNTY LEAD PLANNER



"The IRT program is a unique opportunity for Marines to gain new skills, learn in-depth applications and context for their military operational specialty, and give back to the local community with a real-world project. Thanks to the outstanding support from our community partners with the Pima County DOT, we are growing the Pima mission into a large-scale project, leveraging capabilities from Marines across the 6th Engineer Support Battalion and the country."

IRT EVENTS & MISSIONS

- Jun 15-Sep 15: Deep Water Derelict Net Removal Dive, Mission, WA
- Jul 2-Sep 26: Operation Footprint, NM
- Jul 21-present: Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska
- Aug 31: IRT PM Quarterly Workshop IV
- Sep 1-3: Annual IRT Workshop for Operational Mission Planners (Virtual)
- Sep 1-30: Mare Island Cemetery Mission, CA
- TBD: Unalaska Qawalangin Tribe Civil Affairs Mission, AK (Summer 2020, Dates Pending)
- TBD: Tinian CE Mission, CNMI (Summer 2020, Dates Pending)

2020 IRT PROGRAM MANAGERS

- First Lieutenant Jessica Campbell, Army Reserve
- Captain Jason Schwartz, Army National Guard
- Major Andrew Chrestman, Marine Corps Reserve
- Commander Kent Bubel, Navy Reserve
- Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Adamich, Air National Guard
- Lieutenant Colonel Joshua Furby, Air Force Reserve