



INNOVATIVE READINESS TRAINING

Premier Military Training for a
Secure and Prosperous America



JANUARY 2021 | NEWSLETTER

Year in Review—FY 2020

The new year brings a sense of optimism for Innovative Readiness Training (IRT). As joint IRT participants prepare for missions across the nation, many reflect on the value of training and partnerships forged in FY 2020. Despite challenges of COVID-19, a snapshot of accomplishments in IRT's 28th year reveals a commitment to providing mission-ready forces through military training to deliver key services for American communities.

Last year IRT trained 1,768 Service Members and completed 12 missions across communities in 10 states. All Active, Reserve, and Guard components in the Army, Navy, and Air Force participated in the mission-planning process. Safety concerns due to the ongoing pandemic required the cancellation of some missions while sanitation measures and social distancing enabled successful completion of others.

Mission planners and participants managed to log an impressive 1,882 qualified training accomplishments over 21,995 training days. These contributions delivered a mission portfolio of diverse training scopes: demolition, land clearing, cybersecurity, aerial spray, transportation, salvage diving, and construction. Notable examples of community partnership opportunities highlight this diversity:

- The Air National Guard partnered with the state of Michigan in Operation Resilience, a cybersecurity training exercise to conduct vulnerability assessments of state transportation operations centers.
- The Army Reserve and the city of Vallejo, California, performed erosion control and infrastructure restoration of Mare Island Cemetery, the oldest naval cemetery on the West Coast.
- In New Mexico, Marine Corps and Navy Reserve units partnered with the Southwest Indian Foundation and other entities in Operation Footprint. This multi-year civil engineering partnership constructs residential dwellings for peoples of the Navajo Nation who would not otherwise have access to housing.

As FY 2020 drew nearer to close, the IRT Annual Workshop for Operational Mission Planners convened in September 2020 a virtual forum of 110 participants to share strategies, lessons learned, and other resources. This event equipped participants supporting more than 25 missions across 17 states in the months ahead. New and repeat civil-military partnerships in FY 2021 will build upon IRT's 2020 successes.



In FY 2020, IRT missions delivered \$2.1 million in Civil Engineering value to communities across the United States.

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

Training Value
Civil Engineering
Cybersecurity
Joint Opportunities

IRT Leadership Team

Colonel Jaclyn Chatwick, Director
Colonel George Koklanaris, Deputy Director
Captain Jennifer Ryan, Operations Officer
Captain Kelly Machado, Public Affairs Officer
Senior Master Sergeant Alexander Wilson, Superintendent

Message From IRT Leadership

COL George Koklanaris
Deputy Director
Civil-Military Engagement, IRT



“What makes IRT such a special program is its unique ability to bring real-world training to our Service Members, while simultaneously bringing real-world solutions to America’s communities.”

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 2021 missions. Please check irt.defense.gov regularly for the latest information on the IRT program.



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OSD STAFF HIGHLIGHT

CDR KENT BUBEL

NAVY RESERVE
IRT NAVY PROGRAM MANAGER



"I think this program is one of the best kept secrets within the DoD. It creates a win-win scenario between the military and civilian communities. There are only so many opportunities for our Seabees to build roads, buildings, etc as part of their training pipeline. IRT allows us to get that valuable real-world and hands-on training they might not otherwise receive, and the community receives services they would not otherwise have access to."

SERVICE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

MSGT BRAD WILSON

AIR NATIONAL GUARD
CIVIL ENGINEERING PROJECT MANAGER



"My goals are to seek out diverse sets of projects that improve the community, build equity, and enhance resiliency to deployment-like obstacles while providing unique training opportunities that enhance readiness and skill levels of military members through those projects throughout our states and territories. Knowing that the work we do will enhance the lives of everyone in the community ten to twenty years from now keeps me motivated and focused."

IRT EVENTS & MISSIONS

- Jan 18: Cherokee Veteran's Housing Initiative MPM
- Jan 27: Camp Kamassa FPM
- Feb 02: 9 Health Fair Mission
- Feb 08: Kodiak Arctic Care MPM
- Feb 22: Operation Healthy Delta MPM
- Feb 23–25: Quarterly PM Meeting
- Feb 24: Rooster Crow Park MPM
- Mar 1: Camp Kamassa Mission Start
- Mar 8: Central Delaware Partnership for Hope MPM

FY 2021 IRT PROGRAM MANAGERS

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