Old Harbor Hydroelectric Road

As a new season of IRT missions begins, the chronicles of FY 2021 training from across the United States and its territories continue to pour in. This month, we highlight a recurring partnership with the City of Old Harbor, Alaska. Led by the Army Reserve, the mission scope included roadway construction as part of the city’s ongoing hydroelectric dam project. From August 1st to September 7th, horizontal construction activities of soldiers supported this critical infrastructure asset, enabling access to a clean, renewable source of electricity to sustain the local village’s energy needs.

With support from the active duty component, soldiers cleared debris and improved unpaved roads while training in plumbing, carpentry, and electrical skills. All units gained valuable operational time with heavy equipment, increasing proficiency. Land survey crews received training on their newly acquired geolocation equipment, ensuring accuracy in engineering location and design. The crews laid down 3,500 linear feet of roadway with a subbase course layer along with an annex structure to connect the water tower to the main road. This training activity supplied an estimated $2,300,000 in no-cost construction and engineering services to the community.

Soldiers completed their tasks with a renewed readiness posture and real-world experience applicable to their military and civilian careers. Though faced with challenges related to harsh weather and complex transportation logistics, Service Members accomplished their work within schedule. A celebration of civil-military partnership and training value commenced on August 23rd during the mission’s Distinguished Visitor Day.

Training through partnerships such as this is unique in DoD. It is hands on, simulates real tasks for exercises, and offers leadership opportunities for junior officers and enlisted personnel in a joint environment. Want to learn more about our missions and the training value they deliver? Visit our website at irt.defense.gov.
OSD Staff Highlight

Maj Christopher Brown
Office of the Secretary of Defense
IRT Operations Officer

Please join the Office of the Secretary of Defense and IRT Leadership in welcoming newly promoted Maj Chris Brown as the new IRT Operations Officer. In his new role, Maj Brown will support the IRT Director in fulfilling the program’s strategic objectives while carrying out day-to-day activities that support successful execution of civil-military partnerships across the United States and its territories. He will liaise between OSD and the Joint Service IRT Program Managers; providing the tools and resources they need to deliver unparalleled military training value unique to the DoD. A medical officer by trade, he joins us from his previous AFRC assignment in the A1, Warner Robins, Georgia. IRT Director Col Jackie Chatwick and the entire OSD staff are thrilled to have him on the team!

OSD Staff Spotlight

Maj Timothy Salvino
Marine Corps Reserve
IRT Program Manager

“As the IRT Program Manager for the Marine Corps, I most look forward to facilitating training for marines and other Service Members to ready them to defend our nation.”

IRT Events & Missions

Oct 9: Birchwood Cares IPM
Oct 18: Ability Works IPM
Nov 2: Blackfeet Heart Butte Senior Center IPM
Nov 9: Cyber Shield IPM
Nov 16: IRT Program Quarterly Working Group

More information on missions at:

FY 2022 IRT Program Managers

Major Daniel LaVorgna
Army Reserve | Army Active Duty
Captain Jason Schwartz
Army National Guard

Major Timothy Salvino
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 Kenneth Joseph
Air Force Reserve