



# Compatible Use: A Marine Corps Perspective North Carolina Prototype

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Commanding General  
Marine Corps Installations East (MCIEAST)  
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# Marine Corps Installations East



**Basic Mission: Support Marine Corps Operating Forces and their Families**



# The Forces of Fragmentation

- Military bases, working lands, ecosystems and their advocates face development-related “fragmentation” challenges:
  - Farmland fragmentation
  - Habitat fragmentation
  - Political fragmentation
  - Training fragmentation
  - Program fragmentation
- Fighting these fragmentation forces requires a new, united effort by all land use stakeholders



# Compatible Resource Use Goals

- Challenge all to work together for mutual benefit
- Identify and engage all compatible resource use stakeholders
  - Make all aware of our presence, needs and current thinking
  - Identify ways to integrate and leverage each other's programs
- Establish organizational framework and develop partnering initiatives



# Compatible Resource Use in North Carolina

- MCIEAST's military training operations cover 25 counties in eastern North Carolina (ENC) and include such things as: low-altitude aircraft training routes, special use airspace, land, water, radio frequency
- Compatible land use planning initiatives must be designed to cover this entire region
- Our regional strategy seeks to develop/add/leverage stakeholder partnerships to augment existing conservation efforts and facilitate continued military training
- Our focus area is too large to address through encroachment partnering (EP) projects alone (air/land/sea)

# A Classic Example of Airspace Encroachment

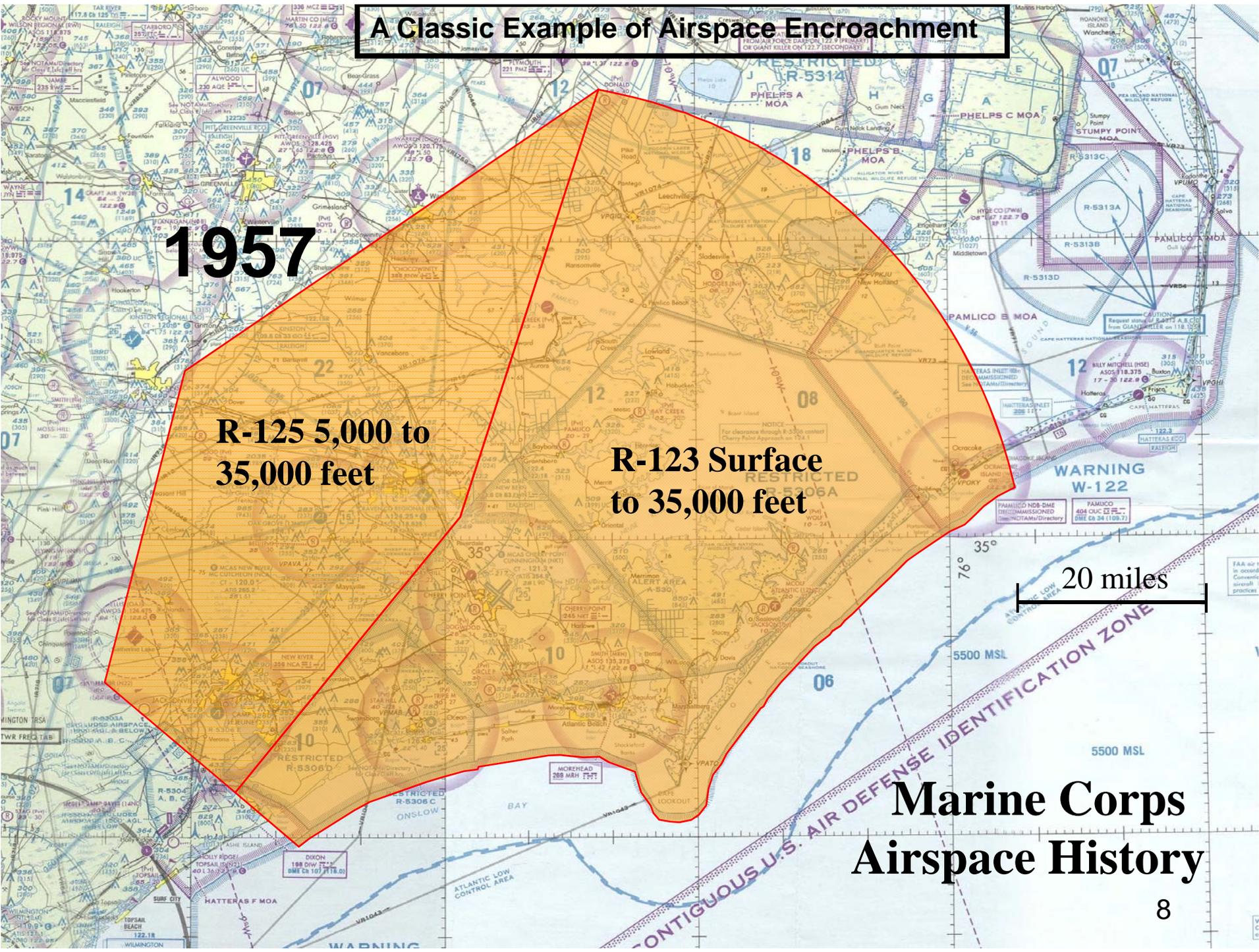
**1957**

**R-125 5,000 to 35,000 feet**

**R-123 Surface to 35,000 feet**

**20 miles**

**Marine Corps  
Airspace History**

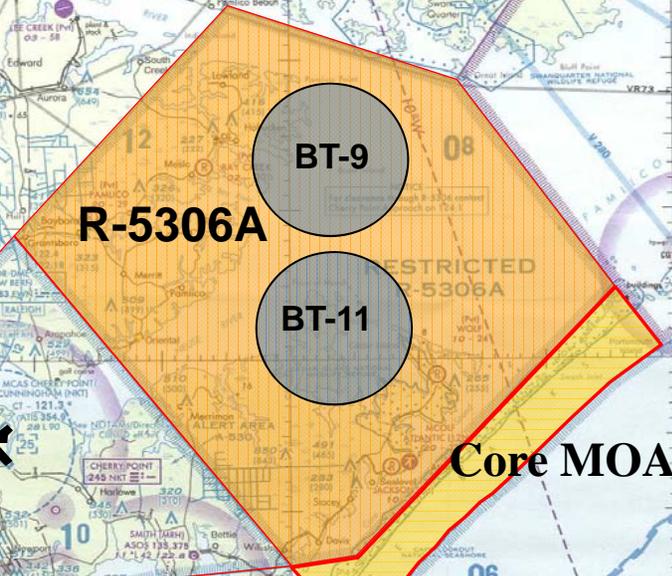


# A Classic Example of Airspace Encroachment

2009

80% reduction

• Remaining training space must be protected from further erosion



20 miles

Core MOA

R-5306E  
R-5306C  
R-5303  
R-5304  
R-5306D

Hat Fox MOA

Marine Corps  
Airspace History

**Compatible  
Land Use  
Potential**

**Working Lands/  
Green Space**

**Working Lands/  
Green Space**

**Great White Route**

**Hofmann Forest**

**Croatan National Forest**

**Working Lands/  
Green Space**

**Angola Bay**

**Bear Gardens**

**Lejeune West**

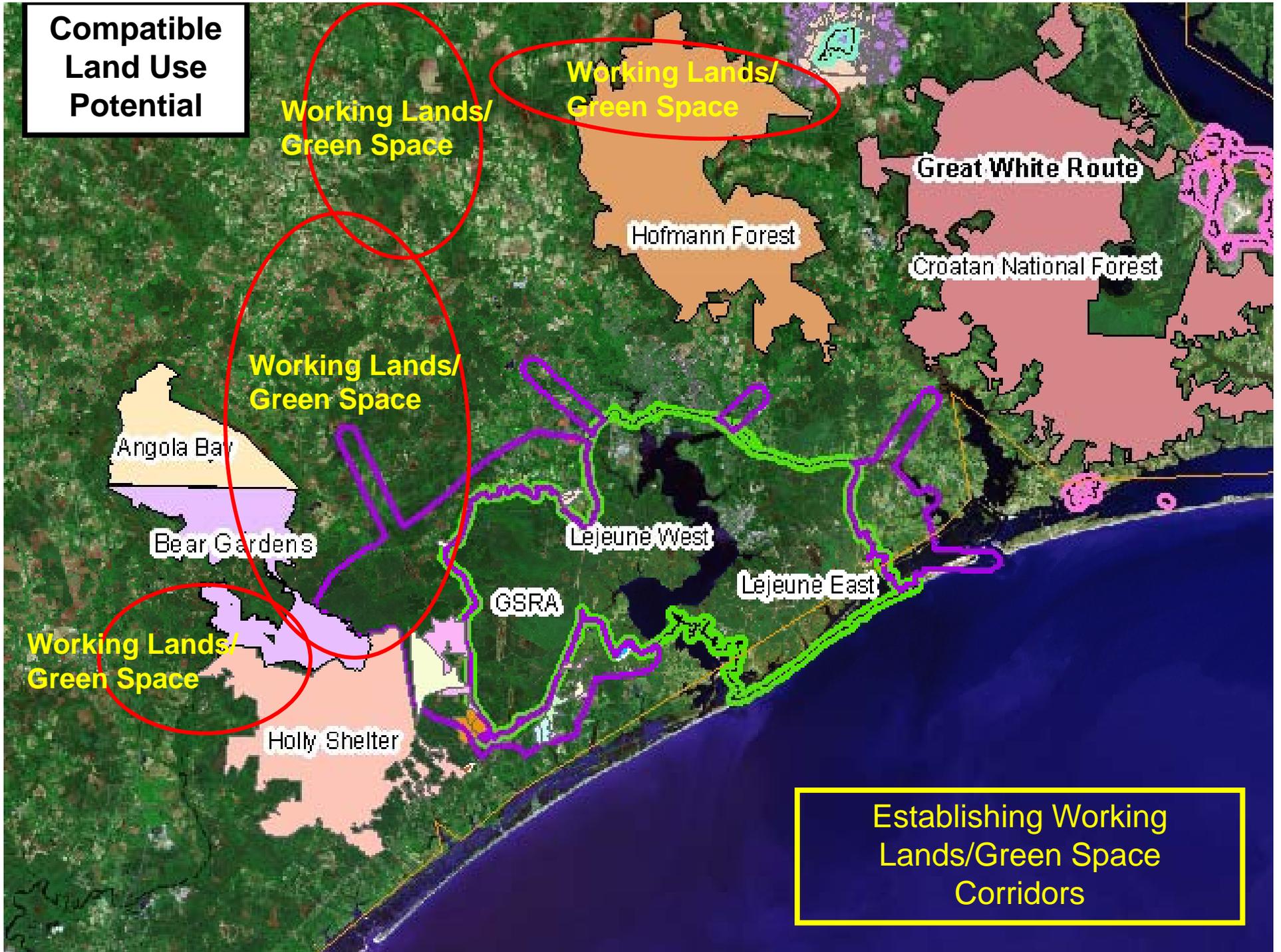
**Lejeune East**

**GSRA**

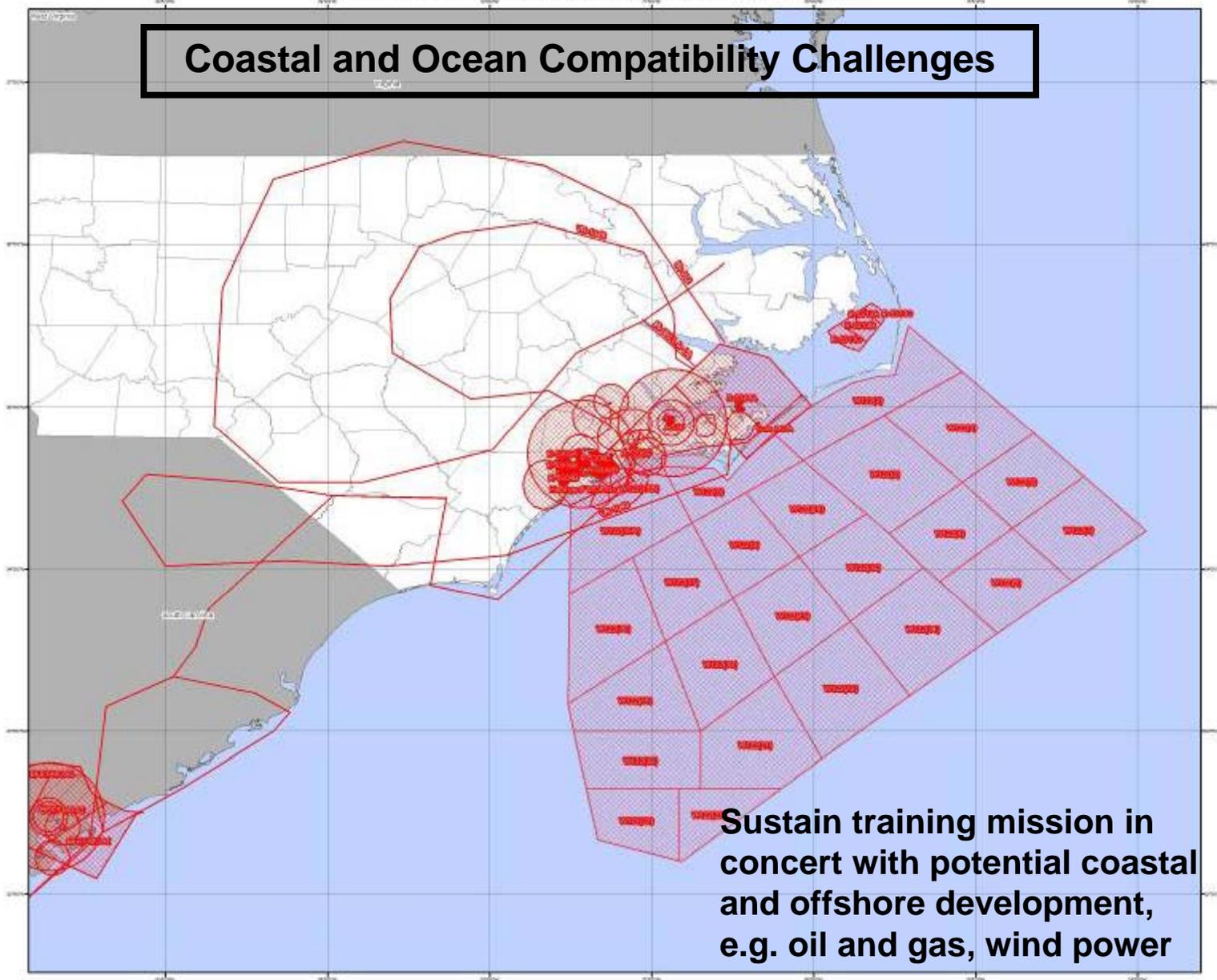
**Working Lands/  
Green Space**

**Holly Shelter**

**Establishing Working  
Lands/Green Space  
Corridors**



## Coastal and Ocean Compatibility Challenges





# Land Use Characteristics in Eastern North Carolina

- Farming and forestry are the largest industries in eastern North Carolina
  - Supports a long-established rural culture
- DoD is the third-largest economic activity in the region
  - Source of well-paid jobs and demand for services that support the regional economy
  - Potential to become a growing market for locally-grown food and bio-fuels
- ENC working lands face growing challenges
  - Fluctuating commodity prices
  - Increasing property taxes and operating expenses
  - Declining health of rural communities
  - Pressures to sell working lands
- Economic development is good; but where it takes place is a shared challenge
- Supporting one-another is in our mutual interest



# Compatible Resource Use (NC Formula)

- In addition to conservation forums (traditional partnering), we engaged “working lands” stakeholders i.e. farming and forestry as compatible resource use partners
- Established organizational structure and engaged existing groups for mutual/multiple benefits:
  - Federal and Regional SERPPAS construct
  - State Cabinet and Commanders Councils
  - Conservation Forums and Working Lands Group
  - South Atlantic Alliance, Growth Task Forces
- Initiated Projects including:
  - Military Mission Footprint
  - State of North Carolina Conservation/Working Lands Footprint
  - Ecosystem Services (e.g. carbon, wetlands, threatened and endangered species)
  - Land Cover Change Modeling
  - Landowner Preferences Survey



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# Compatible Resource Use (NC Formula)

MCIEAST developed an Eastern North Carolina Land Use Strategy (ENCLUS) that identified working lands stakeholders

## FEDERAL

- NRCS: Wetlands and Healthy Forests Reserves, Farmland Protection
- USDA “Farm Bill” Programs: Biorefinery Assistance, Forest Biomass for Energy
- NOAA: Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program, Estuary Habitat Preservation
- USFWS: Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund Grants, Red-Cockaded Woodpecker Translocation

## STATE

- NCDA: Conservation easements and Voluntary Agricultural Districts
- North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund
- NC DENR: North Carolina Working Lands Partnership

Also included the BRAC Regional Task Force and the Eastern NC Economic Development Region and associated Military Growth Task Force



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## Bringing Stakeholders Together: ENCLUS Workshop

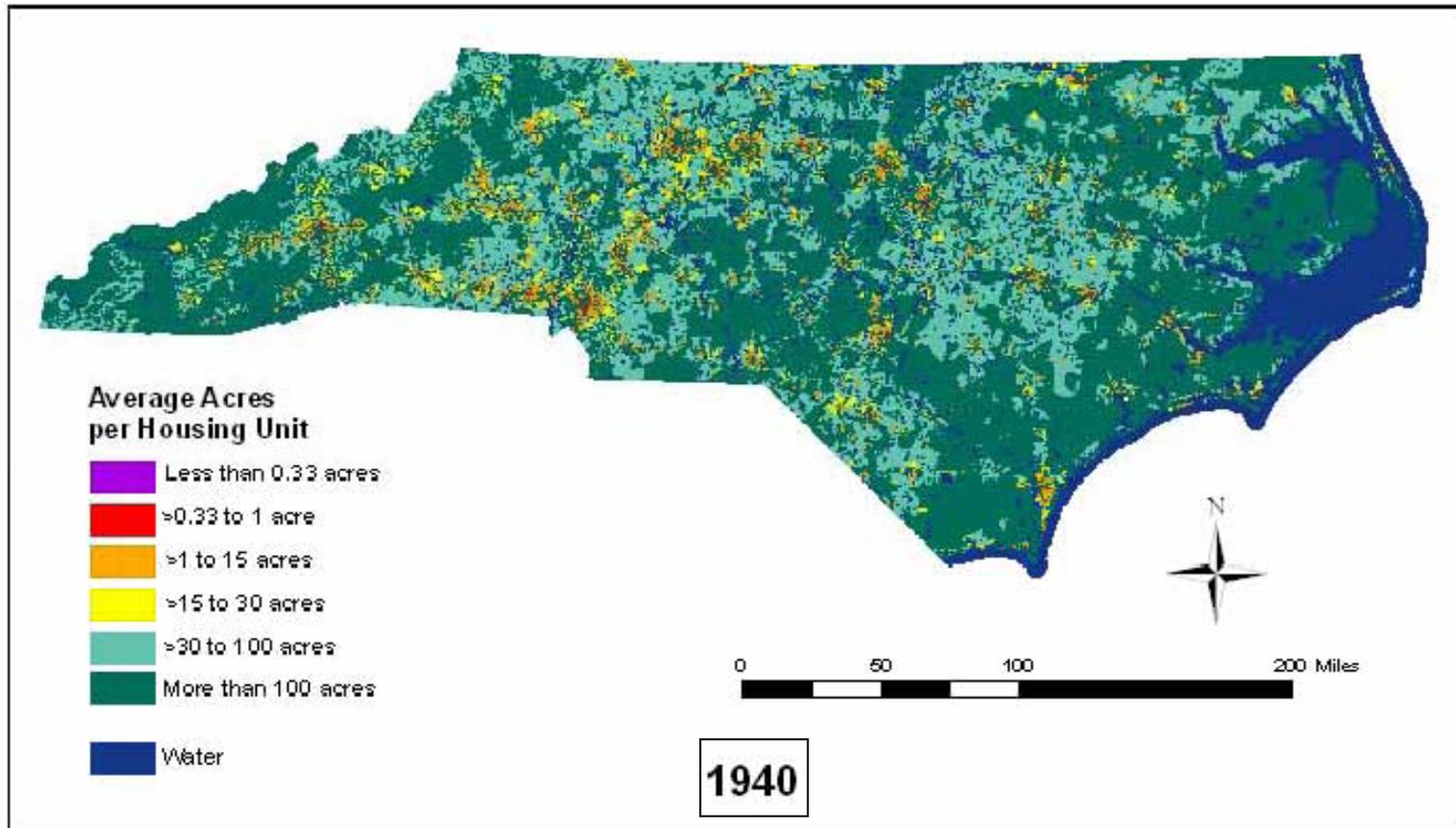
- MCIEAST-organized; held Aug 2009 in Kinston, NC; NCDENR and NCDA provided support
  - Land and other resource use officials invited from 25 counties within MCIEAST's training footprint
    - Federal/state/local govt's, planners, all military Services
  - Addressed the need for all working lands and conservation stakeholders in the ENC region to work together to leverage resources to achieve common land and resource use goals



# Workshop Results

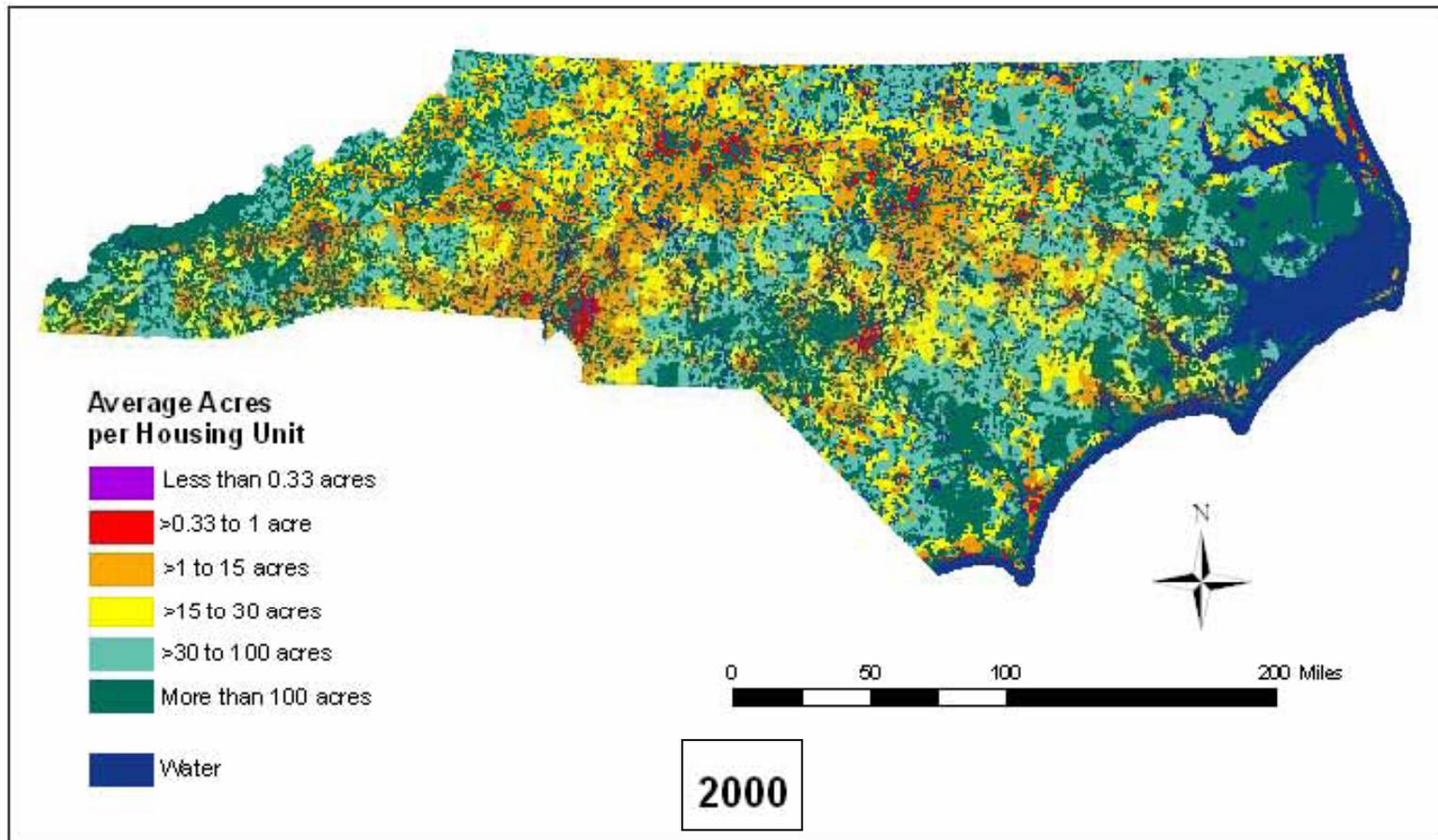
- BRAC Regional Task Force described new “Feed the Force Program” to support local agriculture by buying commissary produce from local farmers
  - Creates economic bonds between the post and the community
  - NC EAST and Military Growth Task Force are investigating similar program
- Strong interest in promoting biofuels and wood waste as energy sources
- Recognition that farmland conservation easements and military support for local farm and forest products can help support compatible land use - even in the absence of zoning
- State officials continue to evolve a more structured federal-military-state working lands program

# Housing Density North Carolina 1940



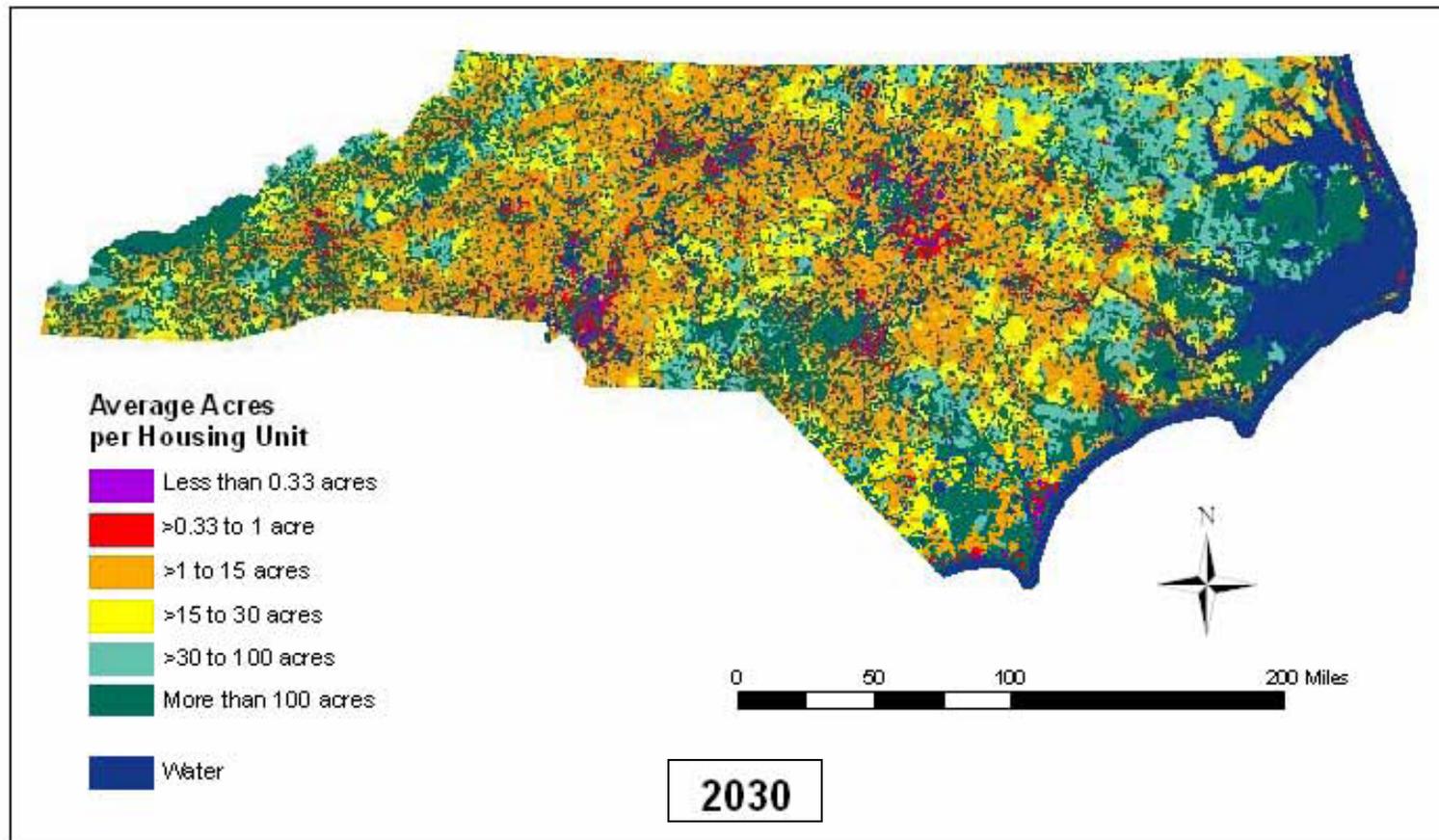
Conservation Trust of NC

# Housing Density North Carolina 2000



Conservation Trust of NC

# Housing Density North Carolina 2030 (4 Million More People than 2000)



Conservation Trust of NC



# Military Perspective Summary

- Understand competing interests and forces of fragmentation
- Establish and share Compatible Resource Use goals
- Create organizational framework and identify programs
- Leverage traditional and non-traditional stakeholders
- Embrace Federal and State partners and programs
- Implement prototypes and apply elsewhere to achieve mutual/multiple benefits