



# U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, ARMY – FORT BRAGG

Fort Bragg (located near Fayetteville, NC) is one of the larger U.S. Army installations (163,000 acres) in the eastern U.S. Fort Bragg has recognized the need for and continues to update their stand-level forest/vegetation inventory data. As with many other large landowners, Fort Bragg utilizes a “rolling inventory”, whereby a portion of the landbase is sampled/inventoried each year for a period of 5-10 years. Data and information derived from F4 Tech’s current multi-year project at Fort Bragg is supporting their training mission, endangered species habitat management, strategic planning, fire management, forest management, and timber sales.

F4 Tech has been a subcontractor on this project from 2018 – 2021. In this role, we have leveraged the SilvAssist Suite and been solely responsible for all tasks associated with collecting, managing, auditing, and reporting forest/vegetation inventory data and information. Specific F4 Tech tasks are described below.

Developed data collection specifications that meet Fort Bragg’s management objectives. Prepared forest inventory methods, including all data required to support analysis through the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Red-cockaded Woodpecker (RCW) Matrix application. Systematically and objectively allocated sample plots via GIS. Collected forest stand data using a fixed-area plot sampling approach across designated areas (approximately 19,000 plots inventoried over four years). Audited approximately 3% of the inventoried plots and generated periodic audit reports.

Conducted a training session at Fort Bragg for all field personnel working on the project that addressed safety, access, communications, and data collection protocols. F4 Tech monitored field crew progress to ensure the timely completion of the project. Data was reviewed and checked for errors following its daily synchronization from the field. F4 Tech coordinated with field crews and Fort Bragg staff to ensure and maintain safe access to military ranges.

Provided and maintained a SilvAssist Dashboard that contained project status maps and charts, raw data collected in tabular views, timber stand stock reports, and RCW matrix stand summary maps. This afforded Fort Bragg staff the ability to: 1) continuously monitor project status, 2) review collected field data in near-real time, 3) summarize forest inventory statistics, and 4) create a stands layer in the appropriate format for easy import into the USFWS RCW Matrix application.



## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Client since 2018

- Inventoried all forest resources via 19,000 plots representing 113,000 forested acres.
- Delivered a personal geodatabase with updated stands data, inventory data, and calculations/ data summaries as a final deliverable that was compatible with Fort Bragg’s existing SilvAssist toolbar.
- SilvAssist Dashboard

