

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY OFFICE OF THE GARRISON COMMANDER 15000 HIGHWAY 115, CAMP RIPLEY LITTLE FALLS, MINNESOTA 56345-4173

April 14, 2017

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. State Office Building, Room 95 St. Paul, MN 55155-5555

Dear Members and Staff of the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council:

Camp Ripley would like to host a retreat for members and staff of the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) on June 6-7, 2017, at Camp Ripley Training Center, Little Falls MN.

We value your long time support of Camp Ripley Training Center and the work that has been done to protect the Camp's mission through the Army Compatible Use Buffer Program (ACUB). As you may know, the ACUB program is turning a new page as it transitions into the Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape Program (CRSL). The federal designation as a Sentinel Landscape is a testament to the success of the ACUB program and is directly attributed to support and funding through the LSOHC. The ACUB program has assisted with the conservation and protection of more than 22,000 acres of important wildlife habitat that also ensure the compatibility of Camp Ripley's training mission. This includes the development, expansion, and buffering of the Little Nokassippi Wildlife Management Area, which is designated as one of the highest biodiversity landscapes in the State.

To celebrate the ACUB success and to discuss the future of the CRSL, we invite members and staff of the LSOHC to Camp Ripley to learn more about our mission as well as the importance of protecting resources within the CRSL. This visit will provide members an opportunity to see the type of training activities that are conducted at Camp Ripley as well as showcase the success from previous LSOHC funding that was used for conservation efforts surrounding Camp Ripley.

Members and staff are welcome to stay overnight. Overnight lodging and dining facilities are available at Camp Ripley for a small fee.

If you have any questions or to discuss this opportunity further, please contact Mr. Josh Pennington at phone: 320-616-2720 or email: joshua.a.pennington4.nfg@mail.mil.

Very Respectfully

Colonel, U.S. Army

Garrison Commander