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U.S. ARMY MANEUVER SUPPORT CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FT. LEONARD WOOD, MISSOURI



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Fort Leonard Wood welcomes new leader of U.S. Army CBRN School, Chemical Regiment**

**FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo.** – Brig. Gen. Maria Gervais assumed duties as the 28th chief of Chemical and commandant of the U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear School during a ceremony today at Fort Leonard Wood.

Gervais, who has previously served at Fort Leonard Wood as the 82<sup>nd</sup> Chemical Battalion commander and the USACBRN School's chief of staff, said she was thrilled to be back at Fort Leonard Wood.

“I will tell you that from my previous experience here, there is no better installation or community than this one right here,” Gervais said. “This community goes above the call of duty to take care of the Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, civilians and family members. We can't thank you enough for all you do.”

Maneuver Support Center of Excellence and Fort Leonard Wood commanding general, Maj. Gen. Leslie Smith, who presided over the ceremony, said Gervais' experience and character make her the perfect fit for this position.

“The Army carefully chooses its commanders and leaders,” Smith said. “You are the very best in the Army for this position and will be valuable to the regiment and center as we continue transitioning our Army.”

Prior to this assignment, Gervais served as the U.S. Army Cadet Command's deputy commanding general. Col. Jeffrey Brodeur, USACBRNS assistant commandant, served as the acting commandant in Gervais' absence. Gervais replaces Brig. Gen. Peggy Combs.

For more information, please contact the Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office at (573) 563-4145.

### *About Fort Leonard Wood*

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*Fort Leonard Wood is a thriving and prosperous installation that has evolved from a small basic training post 70 years ago to a premier Army Center of Excellence that trains more than 80,000 military and civilians each year.*

*Home to the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence, Fort Leonard Wood now trains and educates service members and develops doctrine and capabilities for the Training and Doctrine Command's U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear School, U.S. Army Engineer School, and U.S. Army Military Police School, three gender integrated Initial Military Training brigades, one of only five reception stations in the Army, and the Army's largest Noncommissioned Officers Academy.*

*Over the past several years, Fort Leonard Wood has received numerous additional responsibilities to include supporting the 4th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, a large Forces Command unit that is responsible for all deployable capabilities at Fort Leonard Wood. A colonel-commanded Marine Corps Detachment and an Air Force Detachment, which are both the largest on any Army installation, are located on Fort Leonard Wood; a large Navy Seabee Detachment and elements of the Coast Guard train here as well.*

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