



BEALE AIR FORCE BASE

Beale Air Force Base (AFB), located 40 miles north of the Sacramento metro area, is home to the PAVE Phased Array Warning System (PAWS), one of only three such systems in the United States.

PAVE PAWS is used primarily to detect and track sea-launched and intercontinental ballistic missiles. The system also has a secondary mission of detecting and tracking Earth-orbiting satellites. Beale AFB also supports live-fire M-60 machine gun training to the benefit of all four Services.

Beale AFB's missions are particularly vulnerable to development pressures because of PAVE PAWS' sensitivity to electromagnetic interference, while loud bursts from machine gun training can lead to noise complaints. Growth from surrounding Yuba County

presents a threat to these high-level missions and other operations and training, such as surveillance and reconnaissance missions using the U-2 and MC-12 aircraft.

Easements acquired by the Trust for Public Land and the state as part of the Beale AFB REPI project will prohibit development pressures adjacent to the installation boundary, thereby limiting potential electromagnetic interference with PAVE PAWS. Buffers for high noise areas and safety zones protect the installation and the public and

support warfighter training while allowing continued grazing on open space owned by ranchers. The preserved land also benefits nearby natural resources, including vernal pools and other water resources, habitat for rare species, woodlands, and rangelands.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Preserves habitat for threatened species
- Protects water resources
- Maintains regional agricultural economy

MILITARY

- Preserves live-fire training that produces significant noise
- Reduces lost training days
- Supports multiple Service missions
- Reduces electromagnetic interference for sensitive training and operations



A dedicated crew provides maintenance for the RQ-4 Global Hawk, an unmanned aircraft (top). The preserved open space around PAVE PAWS allows local ranchers to use the land for grazing (bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- Bear Yuba Land Trust
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- California Department of Resources
- California Department of Transportation
- Sutter Buttes Regional Land Trust
- The Trust for Public Land
- Yuba County

CONTACT

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE:
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FAST FACTS FROM FY 2012 THROUGH FY 2024 | Project Status: In Progress

Authority	Transactions	Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
10 U.S.C. § 2684a	7	8,679	\$24 million

Subtotals may not sum to combined totals due to rounding