



# REPI

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
READINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION INTEGRATION PROGRAM

## PROJECT PROFILES

U.S. AIR FORCE | NORTH CAROLINA



### DARE COUNTY RANGE

**Located in Eastern North Carolina, the Dare County Range is the primary training range for F-15E aircraft crews from Seymour Johnson Air Force Base and the primary backyard range for all Atlantic fleet F/A-18 fighter-attack squadrons operating out of Naval Air Station Oceana.**

The range is an electronic combat, day-night, and air-to-ground weapons training site critical to both installations and Joint Service special operations teams.



Together, the Air Force and Navy are working to protect land near and under special use airspace, military training routes, and bombing run flight tracks near this essential training range.

Easements acquired with project partners will prevent incompatible uses such as wind energy development in areas near the facility identified by range and air installation compatible use zone studies. The protected land includes habitat important for numerous species

such as the red-cockaded woodpecker, red wolf, and area-sensitive songbirds. Keeping the range buffered and in its natural state ensures that aircrews special operations teams and combat ground elements can continue their weapons training and Joint Tactical Air Control exercises.

Buffering the range also allows the Services to expand on current training tactics, techniques, and procedures, as well as support new training areas being planned and developed to continually enhance training adapted to the war fighting efforts throughout the world. Sustaining these capabilities is only possible through partnership with The Nature Conservancy to protect Dare County's significant undeveloped wetlands and forest landscape.

### BENEFIT SUMMARY

#### COMMUNITY

- Protects working lands
- Brings together new partners in support of coordinated regional planning efforts
- Preserves limited and significant habitat
- Brings together new partners

#### MILITARY

- Increases operational safety
- Supports multiple Service missions
- Reduces incompatible land uses under military airspace
- Promotes effective training areas and capabilities
- Encourages training improvements through secured working parameters
- Allows for interagency developments designed to support the public



*F-15E dropping inert ordnance (top). The range includes forested wetlands and other habitat (bottom).*

### KEY PARTNERS

- North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Working Lands Trust, Inc.

### FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2022

- ACRES PRESERVED:  
21,618
- TRANSACTIONS CONDUCTED:  
24
- TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED:  
\$26.9 million
- PROJECT STATUS:  
In Progress

### CONTACT

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