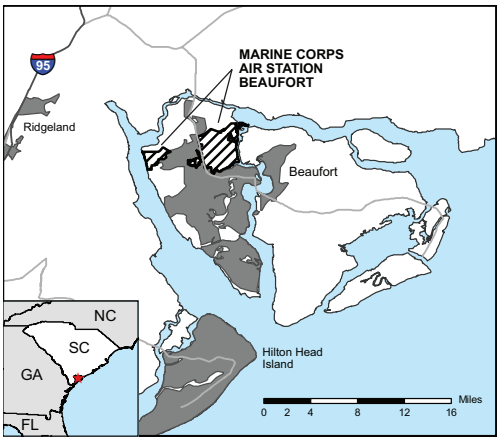
U.S. MARINE CORPS :

MCAS BEAUFORT : SOUTH CAROLINA

With its land and water ranges supporting a valuable mix of scenarios for training military aviators, Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Beaufort sits strategically along the Atlantic Ocean. With the only East Coast Marine F/A-18 squadrons, the base relies on adequate land and air space to sustain its training capabilities. The base's mission will take on even more importance in the future given the planned stand-up of MCAS Beaufort as a Joint Strike Fighter Integrated Training Center.



MCAS Beaufort has partnered with Beaufort County and the Beaufort County Open Land Trust to ease significant encroachment pressures, particularly within the Air Installation Compatible Use Zone, which helps define noise and safety considerations around the installation. In addition to safeguarding the mission, such as by preventing a residential subdivision from being built in an Accident Potential Zone, REPI funds are helping to protect an endangered plant species and improving water quality and wildlife habitat.

MCAS Beaufort also established the first multi-partner REPI agreement in the Marine Corps, building on a positive relationship with conservation groups, local landowners, and local government. The Air Station has worked to combine its REPI efforts with a suite of tools to sustain its mission, including using the 10 U.S.C. § 2869 land exchange authority and working with local government to initiate a Transfer of Development Rights program.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Protects working lands, benefitting the local economy
- Supports regional planning objectives, including a Joint Land Use Study
- Alleviates safety concerns
- Provides habitat for threatened and endangered species
- Protects water quality
- Preserves local character

MILITARY

- Preserves training capacity for fixed-wing aircraft and night flying
- Prevents workarounds that would reduce training realism or effectiveness
- Allows for future mission growth

For more information about REPI, please see <http://www.repi.mil>.

MCAS Beaufort hosts training on aircraft such as the F/A-18 Hornet (top). Preserved wetlands near the installation help to protect area water quality (bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- Beaufort County
- Beaufort County Open Land Trust
- City of Beaufort
- The Trust for Public Land
- South Carolina Department of Natural Resources

FAST FACTS AS OF 30 SEP 12

» Acres preserved:
3,127

» Transactions conducted:
14

» Partner cost share:
50%

» Project status:
In Progress

CONTACT

Community Plans & Liaison Officer
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