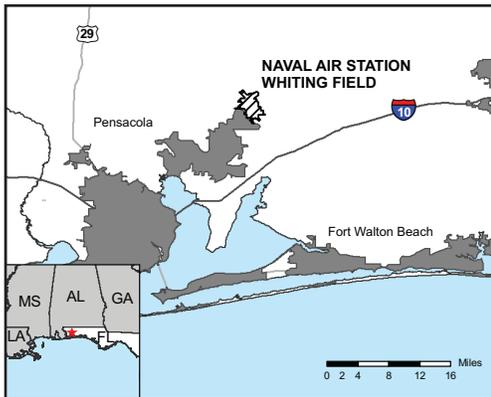




## NAVAL AIR STATION WHITING FIELD

**Part of a strong military presence in Florida's Northwest Panhandle, Naval Air Station (NAS) Whiting Field's mission is to train nearly 2,000 students annually to safely fly helicopters and airplanes.**

The air station provides 100% of the helicopter pilot training for the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard, and South Fields, which are directly buffered through REPI efforts, more than 400 flights are launched per day, with an aircraft taking off or landing every eight seconds during normal flight operations.



A majority of the land surrounding NAS Whiting Field is used for agriculture, forestry, or other open spaces, which are all compatible with the installation's operational integrity. Strong support from Santa Rosa County, the state of Florida, The Nature Conservancy, and Trust for Public Lands led to the acquisition of protective easements within designated high-priority Accident Potential Zones and high-noise areas extending directly from the runways.

REPI easements help safeguard the air station from noise complaints and ease community safety concerns while also protecting working lands and boosting the local economy. The military presence in Santa Rosa County provides an additional 16,000 direct and indirect jobs and a total economic impact of approximately \$1.64 billion. Additionally, recently executed \$1.5M to protect 429-acres against incompatible development which included coordinated efforts to establish a new Cooperative Agreement with USFW to manage \$6.4M in safeguarding a 1,500-acre Environmental Resiliency project. Projects ensure readiness, flexibility and mission support of the T-6B, TH-57 and TH-73. The protected land will also provide valuable habitat for a number of rare species.

### BENEFIT SUMMARY

#### COMMUNITY

- Brings together new partners to coordinate with existing regional planning efforts, including a Joint Land Use Study
- Preserves working lands and recreational opportunities

#### MILITARY

- Protects off-installation air operations, helicopter training, and night flying capability that generates noise or requires minimal light pollution
- Prevents lost training days and reduces the need for less-realistic workarounds
- Provides for future mission growth



NAS Whiting Field is ideally situated for the Navy's offshore TH-73 (top) and T-6B missions (bottom).

### KEY PARTNERS

- Coastal Conservation League
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Florida Division of State Lands
- Florida Office of Greenways and Trails
- National Fish and Wildlife foundation
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- North Carolina Coastal Federation
- Santa Rosa County
- The Longleaf Alliance
- The Nature Conservancy
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

### CONTACT

COMMUNITY PLANS & LIAISON OFFICER:  
 (850) 665-6132

### FAST FACTS FROM FY 2009 THROUGH FY 2024 | Project Status: In Progress

Authority	Transactions	Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
10 U.S.C. § 2684a	73	12,879	\$40.8 million

Subtotals may not sum to combined totals due to rounding