



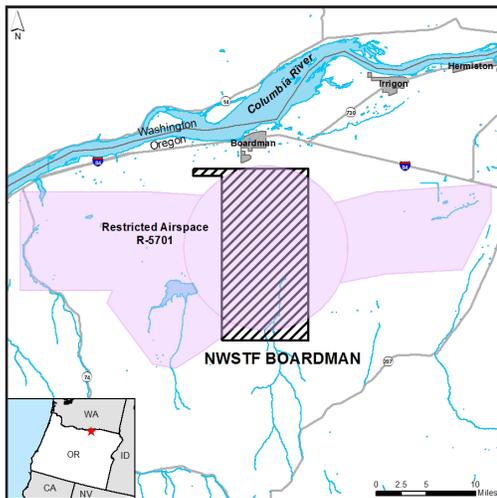
U.S. NAVY :

# NWSTF BOARDMAN : OREGON



**The 47,000-acre Naval Weapons Systems Training Facility (NWSTF) Boardman vital training range and its larger area of restricted airspace, military operations area, and military training routes are located amid open farmland just south of the Columbia River in Morrow County, Oregon.**

This combination of land and airspace provides a strategically important venue for training with the EA-6B and EA-18G airborne electronic attack aircraft. With



the airspace extending vertically from the ground up, it is the only safe training area available for junior naval aviators from Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington, to come train to fly low and fast with these aircraft.

However, development of tall structures, particularly wind turbines and transmission lines, under the restricted airspace presents a significant threat to the safety

and combat readiness of airborne electronic attack crews. Therefore, the Navy’s goal is to protect working farmlands and ranches adjacent to NWSTF Boardman and under the restricted airspace from development to sustain the low altitude tactical training mission.

Additionally, lands in this area are bisected by the Oregon Trail, a valuable historic resource, and support habitat for the Washington ground squirrel, a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. By providing habitat for the ground squirrel, this project can in turn help alleviate restrictions on ground training by the Oregon National Guard at NWSTF Boardman. Protecting existing agricultural land uses provides critical wildlife habitat, preserves significant cultural and historic resources, and protects the military training mission.

## BENEFIT SUMMARY

### COMMUNITY

- Preserves open space and agricultural land
- Provides habitat for at-risk species
- Protects historic resources

### MILITARY

- Improves operational safety by reducing obstructions to low level flights
- Supports multiple Service missions



EA-6B and EA-18G aircraft from NAS Whidbey Island require unobstructed, flat terrain for low-altitude airborne electronic attack training (top). Wind energy turbines as tall as 500 feet present a significant threat to that training mission (bottom).

## KEY PARTNERS

- Oregon Rangeland Trust
- Trust for Public Lands
- U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

## FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2015

- » Acres preserved: **0**
- » Transactions conducted: **0**
- » Total funds expended: **\$0**
- » Project status: **Initiated**

## CONTACT

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