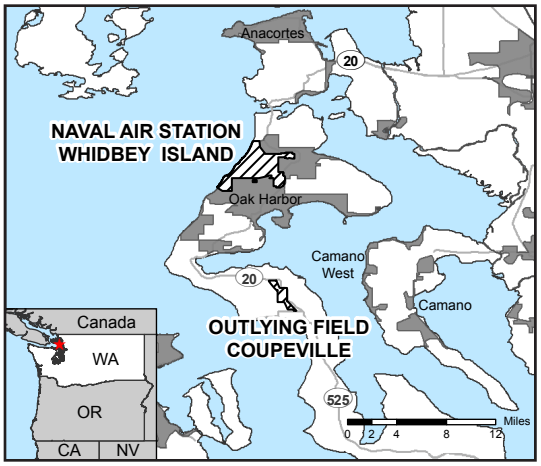
U.S. NAVY :

NAS WHIDBEY ISLAND : WASHINGTON

WITH OLF COUPEVILLE

Home to electronic warfare aircraft such as the EA-18G Growler, EA-6B, and P-3C Orion, Naval Air Station (NAS) Whidbey Island is located along the Puget Sound in Washington. Aircrews train for anti-submarine warfare, maritime surveillance, and electronic warfare missions that protect fleet surface units by gathering radio intelligence and jamming enemy radar systems. The air station also maintains a search and rescue unit, providing 24/7 rescue support for the Pacific Northwest region. The air station's Outlying Field (OLF) Coupeville is located just a few miles south and is used for fleet carrier landing practice.



To ensure military training capability is protected, the air station's partners took advantage of funding from the Washington Military Sustainability Program, a state public-private partnership that supports projects to protect the military mission and the environment. Additionally, the local government adopted new accident potential zones in the local zoning code to protect public safety and promote compatible land uses.

NAS Whidbey Island's partnership with Island County, the state of Washington, and the city of Oak Harbor has already prevented a proposed shopping pavilion from being developed in an accident potential zone. Partners acquired a restrictive easement on commercially zoned land that lies near the installation's runway. Another effort is protecting farm land within a National Historic Reserve near OLF Coupeville and is leading to other REPI projects in the same area. By reducing further development threats to the mission, the Navy is successfully protecting the ability to train with new electronic warfare aircraft.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Supports existing regional planning objectives
- Improves operational safety

MILITARY

- Preserves the ability to conduct off-installation night flying training that generates a significant amount of noise and requires minimal light pollution
- Allows for future mission growth

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

The EA-6B, which jams enemy radar, conducts maneuvers above NAS Whidbey Island (top). A Sea King helicopter conducting search and rescue exercises (bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- City of Oak Harbor
- Island County
- State of Washington
- U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Washington Department of Ecology
- Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
- Whidbey Camano Land Trust

FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2015

» Acres preserved:
368

» Transactions conducted:
12

» Total funds expended:
$5.4 million

» Project status:
In Progress

CONTACT

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