



REPI

READINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION INTEGRATION PROGRAM



REPI Program 2026 REPI Challenge Request for Proposals

Goal:

The Department of Defense's (DOD) Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program may provide up to \$20 million in 2026 REPI Challenge funding for activities in the vicinity of DOD installations and ranges that support the 10 U.S. Code (U.S.C.) § 2684a, 10 U.S.C. § 2679, and 16 U.S.C. § 670c-1 statutory authorities by preventing land use conflicts (including unwanted foreign investment), preserving habitat, or enhancing military installation resilience. Additional consideration will be given to those projects that leverage multiple authorities to accomplish project goals. Selected projects must demonstrate their ability to preserve and/or enhance key mission capabilities of strategic importance to DOD. The 2026 REPI Challenge is designed to safeguard strategic missions across the United States and territories to restore trust in the military, rebuild our military, and reestablish deterrence. To this end, the REPI Challenge application should demonstrate how the project will preserve readiness and defense capabilities, protect our warriors' access to open testing and training areas, and reduce risks to critical infrastructure across defense communities. State and local governments, corporations, and private organizations that leverage significant cost share and contributions are encouraged to apply.

Background:

Established in 2002, as part of the Fiscal Year 2003 NDAA, the REPI Program supports funding cost-sharing partnerships between the Military Services, private organizations, and state and local governments to avoid land use conflicts in the vicinity of DOD installations and ranges; enhance military installation resilience; or relieve current or anticipated environmental regulatory restrictions on military testing, training, or operations in areas of strategic importance. The REPI Program has a long-standing history of promoting mutually beneficial partnerships around the country. From its pilot project in 2012, the REPI Challenge has provided an opportunity for partners, in coordination with installations, to cultivate innovative projects that harness creativity and protect critical testing and training capabilities. Since its inception, the REPI Program has leveraged more than \$512 million in partner contributions in support of REPI Challenge projects in 69 locations.

The REPI Program is a cost-effective tool available to DOD and our partners to protect the significant investments funded by taxpayer resources to ensure the viability of these key mission capabilities for decades into the future. **Key mission capabilities may include one or more of the following:**

- Hypersonic
- Next-generation aircraft training and development
- Nuclear modernization
- Space, including space launch
- Cyberspace
- Artificial Intelligence
- Intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance
- Missile defense



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- Advanced autonomous systems (e.g., testing of deployment of unmanned aerial and underwater vehicles)
- Capabilities hosted within or supporting missions across the Pacific region (e.g., Hawai'i, Guam, Alaska, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands)

REPI Challenge projects can leverage the following authorities:

- **Section 2684a of title 10, United States Code (10 U.S.C. § 2684a)**, authorizes the Military Departments to enter into agreements with eligible entities to address the use or development of real property in the vicinity of, or ecologically related to, a military installation or military airspace for purposes of-
 - (1) limiting any development or use of the property that would be incompatible with the mission of the installation;
 - (2) preserving habitat on the property in a manner that-
 - (A) is compatible with environmental requirements; and
 - (B) may eliminate or relieve current or anticipated environmental restrictions that would or might otherwise restrict, impede, or otherwise interfere, whether directly or indirectly, with current or anticipated military training, testing, or operations on the installation; or
 - (3) maintaining or improving military installation resilience.
- **Section 670c-1 of title 16, United States Code (16 U.S.C. § 670c-1)**, the Sikes Act authority, authorizes the Military Departments to enter in cooperative agreements or interagency agreements to provide for the maintenance or improvement of natural resources. This authority may be leveraged to manage off-base natural resources to mitigate or remove current or anticipated challenges that could impact military activities or maintain or improve natural infrastructure in support of military installation resilience.
- **Section 2679 of title 10, United States Code (10 U.S.C. § 2679)**, the Intergovernmental Support Agreement authority, authorizes the Military Departments to enter into agreements with eligible entities to provide, receive, or share installation-support services. Under REPI, this authority may be leveraged to fund state and local governments to conduct off-installation natural resource management or military installation resilience improvements that enhance mission effectiveness or create efficiencies.

2026 Funding Criteria:

The 2026 REPI Challenge will seek projects that support the 10 U.S.C. § 2684a, 10 U.S.C. § 2679, and 16 U.S.C. § 670c-1 statutory authorities. Additional consideration will be given to those projects that leverage greater economies of scale by protecting large parcels of land or are in established sentinel landscapes.

New, innovative efforts to maximize results will be most competitive in the 2026 REPI Challenge. Projects that have previously received REPI Challenge funding will not be as competitive; instead, these projects should coordinate with the installation to pursue follow-on funding through their Military Service's annual REPI request or other Federal funding opportunities. Proposals seeking funding to improve military readiness at an installation not currently part of the REPI Program are required to coordinate with the respective Military Service lead *prior* to submission of their proposal. Contact information is provided on page 7 of this RFP.



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Other Considerations: All proposals will also be evaluated based on the following REPI Challenge criteria:

- Competitive proposals will demonstrate actions that improve military readiness in support of one or more of **the key mission capabilities referenced on page 1 of this RFP**, as well as to proposals contributing to identified goals and outcomes within the Pacific region and designated Sentinel Landscapes. More information on Sentinel Landscapes can be found at: <https://sentinellandscapes.org/>. Early and close coordination with your local installation/range is critical to ensure alignment of project objectives and strategic mission benefits. If you need additional information or suggestions about suitable locations, refer to the contacts listed on page 7.
- Have a minimum of 50 percent partner cost share. In other words, partner contributions should be at least equal to or greater than the REPI funding request (i.e., if a project requests \$500,000 in REPI funding, the project is expected to have matching partner contributions of at least \$500,000. Service or other contributions that include current or prior year REPI funds are not considered eligible partner contributions. Funding older than three years (2023 or earlier) will not count towards partner contributions. Proposals that include anticipated future funding towards partner contributions must attach a letter of commitment in their proposal submission detailing the funding amount and source. Refer to Appendix A for a representative list of activities eligible and ineligible to receive REPI funding. The Military Services or eligible entity must provide for REPI ineligible costs from other funding streams in accordance with the Military Services' applicable policies and procedures unless the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment expressly approves or provides funds for these activities by exception to policy. Ineligible costs will not be counted as partner share. Additional questions about matching partner contributions should be directed to the contacts listed on page 7.
- Preference will be given to projects with higher partner cost share ratios, to include other Federal, state, local, or private funds, in-kind contributions, bargain sales, technical assistance, land management and restoration activities, outreach and engagement, planning, etc. In-kind services are services rendered by a non-DOD partner that advance the goals of a project and otherwise would not have occurred in the absence of the project. Examples include, but are not limited to, appraisals, title searches, easement or other document drafting, other real estate transaction services or real property, baseline resource assessments, real property interests, legal services, volunteer hours, or other land improvement activities.
- Attract multiple and diverse partners who bring financial support and an increased constituency for REPI, including Federal and state resources and assistance programs.
- Coordinate with multiple levels of government to foster effective delivery of local, state, and Federal initiatives or programs focused on maintaining compatible land use, sustainable management of working lands, or other such interests.
- Model promising strategies to finance conservation, including market-based incentives, revolving funds, and partnerships with private investors and landowners that could be extended to other locations.
- Leverage land protection or conservation programs managed by other Federal programs such as the Departments of Agriculture (primarily the Natural Resources Conservation Service and U.S. Forest Service) and the Interior (primarily U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)) to achieve large-scale land protection with significant conservation and working lands benefits to support the goals and objectives of the Sentinel Landscapes Partnership.



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- Leverage multiple DOD authorities to address encroachment impacts on military training, testing, and operations.
- Prioritize actions that help preserve compatible land uses from unwanted foreign investments, including protecting United States farmland and real estate near sensitive DOD facilities.

Process:

The first step in the 2026 REPI Challenge application process is to complete a pre-proposal. The purpose of the pre-proposal is to allow the REPI Challenge review team the opportunity to evaluate viable project concepts and provide feedback to applicants earlier in the application process. Applicants submitting the most promising projects in their pre-proposals will be invited to complete full proposals.

An essential part of the pre-proposal process is for the applicant to coordinate with the appropriate Military Services contact for the installation(s) or range(s) associated with your proposed project (see Military Service contacts on page 7). The contacts may provide installation-specific information regarding mission capabilities, priority lands, and incompatible development concerns needs to better inform partners for potential projects. Applicants should clearly explain any support needed by the lead Military Service to assist with completing all necessary permitting, legal compliance, and cultural and historic property consultations. For the pre-proposal, applicants should provide the contact information (name, organization, email, and phone number) of the installation personnel who are part of the project team and support the proposed project efforts. Pre-proposals that present projects not coordinated with the appropriate Military Service contact will not be considered.

If a project is invited to submit a full REPI Challenge proposal, the applicant will be required to submit an endorsement letter from the Military Service with the existing or new cooperative agreement or similar arrangement with the partner that affirms support for the proposed activities. Submittals should come from the installation commander or senior leader with authority to commit installation resources to supporting the project. The endorsement letter from the Military Service with the cooperative agreement or similar arrangement should affirm support for proposed project activities and should clearly state the value of the project in two or three short paragraphs. The endorsement letter must be submitted through the REPI Challenge Online Portal along with the proposal submission.

The Military Services, where they are serving as the Action Proponent, are responsible for ensuring timely compliance with applicable environmental planning and conservation law requirements, including, but not limited to, those under the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, and the Endangered Species Act. The Military Services should refer to DOD, Military Department, and Service specific policies in carrying out environmental planning and compliance requirements. Military Services should coordinate with their partners to ensure they have identified the full scope of planning and compliance requirements that may affect the project execution timeline. The Military Services should work with partners to adjust timelines and budget to account for these requirements.

All applicants must provide a PDF map and shapefiles of the parcel(s) of land in their proposal submission. Concise and relevant geospatial data will help the REPI Program Staff evaluate proposal submissions. Examples of relevant geospatial data that should be included with your proposal include target parcel(s) or site boundaries and/or relevant ecological data for the area immediately surrounding target parcels or sites.



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Interested applicants are required to request an account to complete their 2026 REPI Challenge pre-proposal in the program's REPI Challenge Online Portal, available at: <https://repi.osd.mil>. Existing users are not required to request a new account in the Online Portal. A user guide is available in the REPI Challenge Online Portal to navigate the proposal process. In addition, applications can find a REPI Challenge Frequently Asked Questions document in the Online Portal that provides answers to common questions. For substantive proposal questions and technical issues in the Online Portal, users may request office hours with the REPI Contract Support staff in the following time slots:

- Tuesday, May 27: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM ET
- Thursday, May 29: 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM ET
- Tuesday, June 3: 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM ET
- Thursday, June 5: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM ET
- Wednesday, June 11: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM ET
- Thursday, June 12: 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM ET

To request a 30-minute time slot, email osd.repi@mail.mil with your name, partner organization, requested time, and a brief explanation of your request.

Timing:

For interested partners, the following estimated milestones apply:

- July 3, 2025: Pre-proposals are due by 8:00 PM ET. All applicants must submit pre-proposals via the REPI Challenge Online Portal.
- July 28, 2025: DOD notifies all applicants via email regarding the status of their pre-proposal.
- September 1, 2025: Full proposals are due by 8:00 PM ET. All applicants must submit full proposals via the REPI Challenge Online Portal.
- December 2025-January 2026: DOD notifies partner organizations via email of final decisions on REPI Challenge full proposals.
- February-March 2026: DOD announces REPI Challenge funding recipients via the REPI website (REPI.mil) and begins to process obligations subject to annual Congressional appropriations and the availability of funding.

DOD reserves the right to change this schedule at any time. Ideally, selected projects will be initiated within six months after funds are obligated to the successful applicant and expended within 2-3 years.

Eligibility:

The 2026 REPI Challenge is open to any state or local government, political subdivision of a state, or private entity whose organizational purpose or goal is conservation, restoration or preservation of land and natural resources. Eligible entities vary depending on the authority being leveraged for a REPI project:

- Eligible entities under 10 U.S.C. § 2684a may include a state or political subdivision of a state, including state-owned universities; or a private entity that has as its stated principal organizational purpose or goal the conservation, restoration, or preservation of land and natural resources, or a similar purpose or goal.



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- Eligible entities under 16 U.S.C. § 670c-1 may include states, local governments, federally recognized Indian tribes, private organizations, and individuals through cooperative agreements, as well as heads of Federal departments and agencies through interagency agreements.
- Eligible entities under 10 U.S.C. § 2679 may include a state or local government through an intergovernmental support agreement.

Eligible entities that are not currently REPI Program partners should be aware that if you are selected to submit a full proposal, you must begin negotiations with the appropriate Military Service to become a REPI Program partner while your full proposal is being reviewed. This will include negotiating a cooperative agreement or similar arrangement once you are selected to submit a full proposal. You will begin this negotiation without knowing the outcome of your 2026 REPI Challenge application. An agreement must be in place before May 2026 for a proposal to receive REPI funding. If an agreement is not expected to be in place before May 2026, the REPI Program may defer project funding to future fiscal years.

DOD may ask 2026 REPI Challenge funding recipients to provide the information listed below to assist with the funding obligation process and project announcement. Funding recipients must be prepared to submit the following information in a timely manner if requested:

- Timeline to obligate funding on the agreement, including interim milestones and status updates;
- Confirmation of System for Award Management (SAM) registration (www.sam.gov);
- Valid Unique Entity ID, which is assigned upon registration in SAM;
- Valid Commercial and Government Entity code;
- Proof of non-profit status as determined by the Internal Revenue Service, proof of authority to transact in the applicable state where work will be performed, and a certificate of good standing from the applicable state (for private entities);
- Your organization's operational standards and practices for land conservation efforts (e.g., Land Trust Alliance accreditation), project management capacity and capability, longevity and financial stability, internal risk management controls, and monitoring and enforcement plans;
- Documentation of compliance with applicable environmental laws; and
- Review of draft fact sheets and press releases in support of public announcement.

After funding has been provided and obligated on the agreement, DOD may ask REPI Challenge funding recipients to periodically provide the information and updates listed below. Funding recipients must be prepared to submit this information in a timely manner if requested:

- Timeline to complete project and progress toward desired outcomes, including interim milestones and status updates;
- Status of funding expended, unliquidated obligations, and partner cost share contributed;
- Documentation of compliance with applicable state and Federal environmental laws;
- Briefing or webinar on the project's goals and objectives, status of work completed, best practices, and lessons learned;
- Review of draft fact sheets and reports on REPI Challenge projects to program stakeholders; and Updated geospatial data.



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Funding:

The REPI Challenge attempts to fund projects up to a total of \$20 million. Funding is contingent upon the availability of appropriations. Funds will be consistent with existing partnership agreements and support the purchase of conservation or other restrictive easements, fee interests in land, and/or land management solutions where such actions can be shown to benefit military mission activities. All projects must comply with Executive Orders, Federal and state laws and regulations, and DOD policies. Interested applicants are encouraged to refer to Appendix A for a list of activities that are eligible and ineligible for REPI Program funding. If appropriate projects are not forthcoming, potential funding will be redirected to other priorities.

Contacts:

Installation-specific questions on mission capabilities, priority lands, agreement areas, incompatible development concerns, and land conservation needs should be directed to the appropriate Military Service contact below:

- Army: Eric Beckley and Candace Grimes (eric.r.beckley.civ@army.mil, candace.j.grimes.ctr@army.mil)
- Navy: Tony Danesi, Girair Simon, and Jennifer Oelke-Farley (anthony.j.danesi.civ@us.navy.mil, girair.l.simon.civ@us.navy.mil, jennifer.l.oelkefarley.civ@us.navy.mil)
- Marine Corps: Ryan Catlett (ryan.w.catlett@usmc.mil)
- Air Force: Shawn Rose (shawn.rose.2@us.af.mil)

Questions on the REPI Challenge proposal process should be directed to:

- Andy Porth, Director of REPI Projects and Resources (andrew.m.porth.civ@mail.mil)
- [REPI inbox \(osd.repi@mail.mil\)](mailto:osd.repi@mail.mil)

Resources:

- REPI Program website: www.repi.mil
- REPI Challenge Online Portal: <https://repi.osd.mil>
- REPI Challenge historical fact sheets: www.repi.mil/Buffer-Projects/REPI-Challenge/
- Sentinel Landscapes Partnership website: <https://sentinellandscapes.org/>
- REPI webinar recordings archive: www.repi.mil/Resources/Webinars.aspx



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APPENDIX A: REPI Program Funding Eligibility

Table 1. Activities Eligible for REPI Program funding

| REPI PROGRAM FUNDING ELIGIBLE |
|--|
| Due diligence (e.g., appraisals, surveys, title searches, insurance, and reviews of mineral and water rights) and easement monitoring and enforcement activities performed by partners |
| Direct costs for partners, to include contacts with landowners to generate interest (outreach), landowner negotiations, mapping, preliminary natural resource planning, and direct labor that the partner would not incur in the absence of the project |
| Capacity and planning in support of installation resilience projects, including goals and deliverables (e.g., community outreach, landowner contacts, meetings attended), technical assistance (e.g., workshops, support hours), planning and organization, or grant writing assistance |
| Natural resources management, restoration, enforcement, or maintenance beyond the installation boundary (e.g., invasive species control, exclusive devices such as signs and fences, equipment to directly support natural resource management, education in support of natural resource management, species monitoring, species translocation or reintroduction, necessary reports, future updates to adaptive management plans) |
| Management accounts to pay for future costs of natural resources management as a lump sum and with the ability to earn interest, including any post-transaction fees associated with third party management of the funds |
| Establishment of a voluntary pre-compliance wetland mitigation or habitat conservation bank or voluntary pre-compliance acquisition of credits from an existing bank |
| Planning, permitting, approvals and authorizations required for the REPI project (e.g., compliance with National Environmental Policy Act, completing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, consultations with the USFWS required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in support of discretionary conservation measures, consultations for compliance requirements under the Clean Water Act (CWA) in support of discretionary conservation measures, and Tribal Consultations) |
| Implementing activities (e.g., wetland or oyster reef restoration and maintenance, fuel load management and reduction to reduce the risk of wildfires, water rights lease agreements) that will maintain or improve installation resilience through discretionary nature-based solutions and in doing so protect testing, training, and operations |
| Conservation or restoration activities on privately owned land within a Coastal Barrier Resources Act/Coastal Barrier Resources System zone |



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APPENDIX A: REPI Program Funding Eligibility

Table 2. Activities Ineligible for REPI Program funding

| REPI PROGRAM FUNDING INELIGIBLE |
|---|
| Due diligence and easement monitoring and enforcement activities performed by DOD personnel |
| Administrative costs that are not directly tied to actions/deliverables of the agreement or REPI Program (e.g., overhead, office space, rentals, utilities, enterprise-level support staff time [e.g., human resources, payroll, billing], and similar indirect costs) |
| Natural resources management or nature-based solutions within the installation boundary |
| Landowner relocation expenses |
| Compliance activities associated with environmental cleanup requirements or other emergency environmental response and monitoring requirements (e.g., CWA, Safe Drinking Water Act; Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act; Resource Conservation and Recovery Act) or other similar state requirements) |
| Built infrastructure planning, construction, and improvements not directly in support of nature-based solutions (e.g., pipelines, buildings, roads, utilities) |
| Public use facilities (e.g., public bathrooms, picnic areas) |
| Land within the boundaries of airfield Clear Zones |
| Costs to comply with any non-discretionary conservation measures or terms and conditions of an ESA biological opinion, per Section 7(A)(2) of the ESA (title 16, U.S.C. § 1536(a)(2)) |
| Land to be acquired for the primary purpose of training or testing |