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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
READINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION INTEGRATION PROGRAM

PROJECT PROFILES

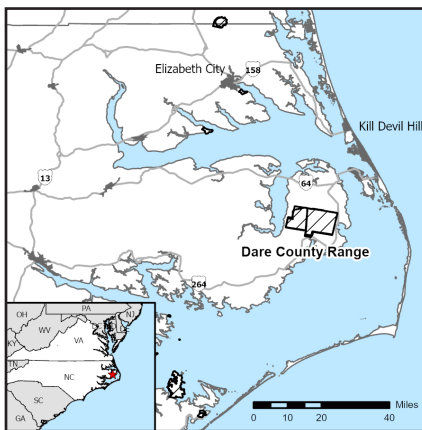
U.S. AIR FORCE | NORTH CAROLINA



DARE COUNTY RANGE

Located in Eastern North Carolina, the Dare County Range is the primary training range for F-15E aircraft crews from Seymour Johnson Air Force Base and the primary backyard range for all Atlantic fleet F/A-18 fighter-attack squadrons operating out of Naval Air Station Oceana.

The range is an electronic combat, day-night, and air-to-ground weapons training site critical to both installations and Joint Service special operations teams. Together, the Air Force and Navy are working to protect land near and under special use airspace, military training routes, and bombing run flight tracks near this essential training range.



Easements acquired with project partners will prevent incompatible uses such as wind energy development in areas near the facility identified by range and air installation compatible use zone studies. The protected land includes habitat important for numerous species such as the red-cockaded woodpecker, red wolf, and area-sensitive songbirds. Keeping the range buffered and in its natural state ensures that aircrews special operations teams and combat ground elements can continue their weapons training and Joint Tactical Air Control exercises.

Buffering the range also allows the Services to expand on current training tactics, techniques, and procedures, as well as support new training areas being planned and developed to continually enhance training adapted to the war fighting efforts throughout the world. Sustaining these capabilities is only possible through partnership with The Nature Conservancy to protect Dare County's significant undeveloped wetlands and forest landscape.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Protects working lands
- Brings together new partners in support of coordinated regional planning efforts
- Preserves limited and significant habitat
- Brings together new partners

MILITARY

- Increases operational safety
- Supports multiple Service missions
- Reduces incompatible land uses under military airspace
- Promotes effective training areas and capabilities
- Encourages training improvements through secured working parameters
- Allows for interagency developments designed to support the public



F-15E dropping inert ordnance (top). The range includes forested wetlands and other habitat (bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- Coastal Conservation League
- Eastern North Carolina Sentinel Landscape
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- North Carolina Coastal Federation
- North Carolina Coastal Land Trust
- North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
- North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
- The Nature Conservancy
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Working Lands Trust, Inc.

CONTACT

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
SEYMOUR JOHNSON AIR FORCE BASE:**
(919) 722-0027

FAST FACTS FROM FY 2013 THROUGH FY 2024 | Project Status: In Progress

Authority	Transactions	Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
10 U.S.C. § 2684a	28	23,733	\$33 million

Subtotals may not sum to combined totals due to rounding