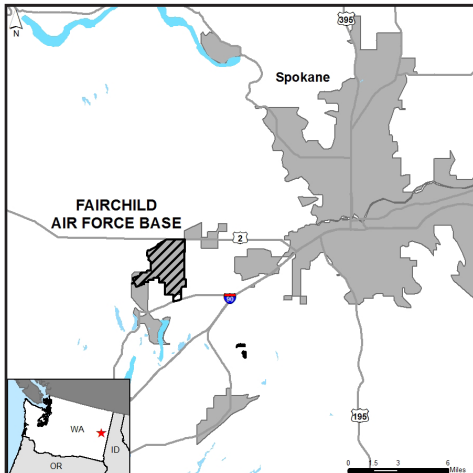




FAIRCHILD AIR FORCE BASE

Fairchild Air Force Base (AFB), located just west of Spokane, Washington, hosts the 92nd Air Refueling Wing (which is assigned to support the Air Mobility Command's 15th Expeditionary Mobility Task Force) and the 141st Air Refueling Wing.



The base's missions involve providing air refueling as well as passenger and cargo airlift and aero-medical evacuation missions supporting U.S. and coalition conventional operations.

The completed Fairchild AFB REPI project resulted in Spokane County purchasing a restrictive use easement on land adjacent to the eastern boundary of the installation, lying within safety zones for one of the base's runways. The property

will now remain as rural open space rather than being used for mining, which would create retention ponds, dust, and light hazards. The county also rezoned the easement property from mining to rural traditional. The easement keeps the property free of structures, allows tree removal, and prevents agriculture that could attract birds or other wildlife that would contribute to a bird aircraft strike hazard. The land will also be used to relocate a rail line that currently runs through the base.

As part of the REPI project, the easement allows Fairchild AFB to move a security fence located around the runway approach to another location away from the runway, thus eliminating the base's need to obtain an Airfield Waiver as required by Federal Aviation Administration regulations. Spokane County recognized the economic importance of protecting the Air Force mission and provided funding for this REPI project. The purchase of this land by Spokane County and the subsequent rezoning to a compatible land use will eliminate a possible encroachment in the future.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Preserves habitat

MILITARY

- Protects aviation maneuver capabilities
- Increases operational safety



A survival, evasion, resistance and escape specialist performs a static line parachute jump above Fairchild AFB (top). This project prevents retention ponds (bottom) that can attract birds or wildlife that present a bird aircraft strike hazard.

KEY PARTNERS

- Compatible Lands Foundation
- Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Spokane County
- The Conservation Fund
- Washington State Department of Commerce

FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2022

- ACRES PRESERVED: 150
- TRANSACTIONS CONDUCTED: 1
- TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED: \$600 thousand
- PROJECT STATUS: Completed

CONTACT

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