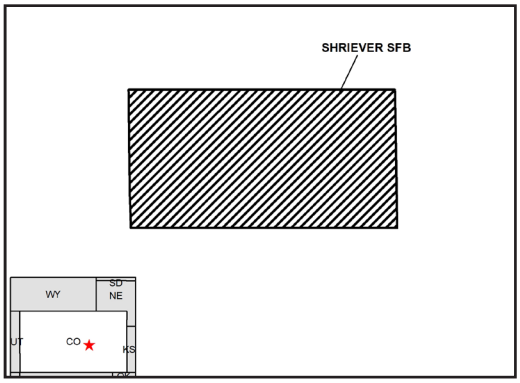
SCHRIEVER SPACE FORCE BASE

Situated in rural El Paso County, Schriever Space Force Base (SSFB) plays a crucial role in supporting diverse space missions.

Facilitating unobstructed communication between ground terminal antennas and satellites, SSFB hosts over 20 space and cyberspace mission partners. Prioritized in the 2022 National Defense Strategy, SSFB's mission ensures information advantage, preserves command and control systems, and supports vital detection and targeting operations.



Since 1998, El Paso County has experienced a 60% population increase, and the development of the eastern plains, where SSFB is located, poses direct mission risks. These risks include interference with satellite communications, potential damage to critical data/communications lines, and the potential of adversaries monitoring telemetry and commanding signals. Additionally, development north of the base may increase stormwater flow onto SSFB, impacting its core operations area and adversely impact climate resilience with soil compaction, flooding, erosion, and sedimentation downstream.

SSFB and its partners are collaborating to establish a two-mile buffer around the installation to prevent spectrum interference and promote compatible land uses to maintain satellite communications observability. By partnering with eligible entities, landowners, and government jurisdictions, the project will establish easements and land use restrictions to prevent future development pressures. This initiative safeguards critical military infrastructure and brings additional benefits, including conserving unique shortgrass prairie ecosystems, preserving rural farming and ranch lands, and enhancing resilience against wildfires and potential flooding. Parcels targeted for acquisition are intended to be affordable for local ranchers, avoiding land uses that could impair SSFB's mission.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Preserves rural farm and ranch lands
- Protects unique shortgrass prairie ecosystems
- Increases resilience against stormwater flow, soil compaction, and flooding

MILITARY

- Sustains satellite communications command and control operations
- Improves installation resilience from the effects of wildfires and flooding
- Prevents spectrum interference

A Space Operator from the 4th Space Operations Squadron conducts security during a routine training exercise at SSFB (top). The squadron's primary responsibility is to operate the U.S. Space Force's protected and wideband Military Satellite Communications systems, ensuring global, secure, survivable, strategic, and tactical communication capabilities for warfighters across all levels of conflict, including peacetime (bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- The Nature Conservancy
- Palmer Land Conservancy
- Trust for Public Land
- El Paso County
- Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments

CONTACT

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(719) 567-5040

FAST FACTS THROUGH FY 2023 | Project Status: Initiated

Transactions	Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
–	–	–

This project has an established and funded REPI partnership but has not completed any transactions through FY 2023.