



U.S. AIR FORCE :

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE : ILLINOIS



Located just outside of St. Louis, Missouri, Scott Air Force Base (AFB) is home to the 375th Air Mobility Wing and serves as headquarters to several commands and operational units. Working alongside the National Guard and Reserve personnel of the 932nd Airlift Wing and the 126th Air Refueling Wing, the 375th Air Mobility Wing carries out air mobility operations and aircraft maintenance of its fleet of C-21A, KC-135, and C-40 aircraft. As part of this mission, Scott Air Force Base executes all three of Air Mobility Command’s core capabilities: airlift, air refueling, and aeromedical evacuation through operational support of C-21A aircraft; however, this



mission is severely impacted during recurring flooding events.

During flooding events, stormwater runoff flows through Scott AFB, forcing the installation to cease its air mobility mission and evacuate non-essential personnel for the duration of the flood. These flooding events threaten mission capabilities, future construction potential, and training

operations, in addition to attracting waterfowl that create safety hazards for aircraft operations. Increased severity and frequency of stormwater runoff and flooding will increase the area and duration of time that waterfowl inhabit the installation, exacerbate safety concerns, and jeopardize the integrity of a primary taxiway between Scott AFB and MidAmerica Airport due to erosion. Together with its partners, Scott AFB will create conservation easements off-installation to increase stormwater storage capacity thereby promoting installation resilience and protecting the mission from encroachment threats.

Along with reducing the mission impacts from flooding events, this project will promote an improved ecosystem. Flood storage and improved water quality in the area will benefit the health and safety of the habitats for native fish, invertebrate plants, and animal species in the floodplain of the Silver Creek watershed and surrounding areas. This project will protect multiple federally listed threatened and endangered species.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Conserves watershed and floodplain ecosystems
- Improves water quality
- Protects threatened and endangered species

MILITARY

- Reduces the risk of mission interruptions
- Protects training capabilities
- Increases reliability of support for national mobility requirement



Protecting Scott Air Force Base from encroachment will also protect the Air Mobility Command’s key capabilities including refueling operations seen here. The Air National Guard’s 126th Air Refueling Wing at Scott Air Force Base uses a KC-135R Stratotanker to refuel F-16C Fighting Falcons, (above; Tech. Sgt. Jonathon LaDue). Scott Air Force Base Airmen also receive training for “hot refueling”, which is carried out while the helicopter is still running (below; Senior Airman Tristin English).

KEY PARTNERS

- Heartlands Conservancy

FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2020

- » Acres preserved: **0**
- » Transactions conducted: **0**
- » Total funds expended: **0**
- » Project status: **Initiated**

CONTACT

Public Affairs Office
(618) 256-4241