

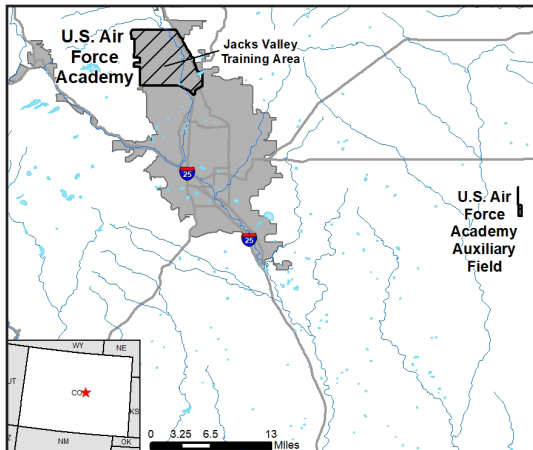


U.S. AIR FORCE :

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY : COLORADO



The U.S. Air Force Academy (USAFA) provides an immersive Air Force experience for its Cadets. USAFA is the only commissioning source that provides the day-to-day fundamentals of flight and military training. On-site military field training is conducted in Jacks Valley Training Area, 5,000 acres of training land that is shared with Peterson AFB and other federal, state, and local



organizations. Using the 1,100-acre USAFA Airfield and 155,187 acres of airspace, approximately 600 Cadets complete Powered Flight Training, 1,200 complete Soaring Training, and 750 complete Parachute Training annually.

Ground training in Jacks Valley is at risk due to increased residential development north of the installation. In addition to noise

complaints, development along the base’s fenceline allows for observation of military training exercises and potential conflicts with unmanned aircraft system training. USAFA is working with the Trust for Public Land to acquire restrictive-use easements on over 1,360 acres of land adjacent to Jacks Valley. This buffer will allow training activities to proceed without adversely affecting neighboring communities. This REPI project will not only strengthen military readiness, but also provide critical habitat for the Preble’s Meadow Jumping Mouse, a Federally-listed threatened species. It will also help protect nearly \$1 billion in annual economic contributions USAFA makes to the community.

Flight training is also at risk due to increased urban higher-rise development and increased demand for wind turbines under flight training areas to the east of USAFA. In addition to pursuing REPI projects for these priority areas, USAFA will continue to engage local developers and community leaders to increase awareness on encroachment impacts to the installation’s mission.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Brings together new partners
- Preserves threatened species habitat
- Protects land that provide economic benefit

MILITARY

- Prevents workarounds that would reduce test and training capacity
- Increases operational safety
- Reduces lost training days and the need for workarounds



U.S. Air Force Academy Chapel (top). The T-53 represents the backbone of the Academy’s Powered Flight training program in which over 600 cadets participate annually (bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- Trust for Public Land
- El Paso County
- City of Colorado Springs

FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2019

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

CONTACT

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