

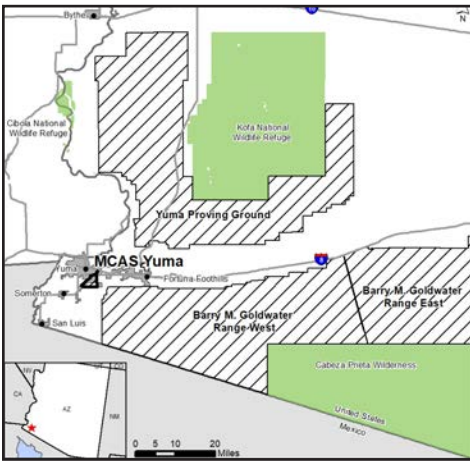


U.S. MARINE CORPS :

# MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA - BARRY M. GOLDWATER RANGE-WEST: ARIZONA



**M**arine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Yuma is the United States Marine Corps' busiest air station, providing aviation ranges, support facilities, and services that enable flying squadron tenants to enhance their mission capabilities and achieve combat readiness in support of DoD's National Defense Strategy. MCAS Yuma supports over 200,000 airfield operations annually, including 80 percent of the Marine Corps' air-to-ground aviation training. Barry M. Goldwater Range-West (BMGR-W) is one DoD's premier aviation training ranges, supporting multiple simultaneous training missions and realistic, situational military training



capabilities.

Both MCAS Yuma and BMGR-W are threatened by increased development pressure in the surrounding communities. Encroachment from incompatible development exacerbates current operational limitations, and conflicts with flight corridors into BMGR-W, reducing the quality and opportunity for training. MCAS Yuma is initiating a long-term strategy to

build partnerships that will act to mitigate encroachment threats and promote mission sustainability. This project aims buffer high-noise areas, prevent changes in area land use, protect habitat for threatened and endangered species, and support the biodiversity of the region.

Proactive habitat protection achieved through this project on the land surrounding the installations will help prevent MCAS Yuma and BMGR-W from becoming havens for species, such as the federally listed Sonoran Pronghorn or sensitive species Flat-Tailed Horned Lizard, fleeing development and potentially restricting operations. The project will also protect valuable cultural resources and recreational opportunities in the surrounding area.

## BENEFIT SUMMARY

### COMMUNITY

- Protects habitat for endangered and threatened species
- Provides recreational activities
- Enhances existing regional conservation planning efforts

### MILITARY

- Avoids or reduces operational work arounds that limit training capacity
- Protects operations in existing airspace
- Increases operational safety



This project will protect MCAS Yuma's diverse mission capabilities including aerial refueling with a KC-130J refueling an F/A-18 Hornet (top) and live burn training shown with U.S. Marines and Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron (bottom).

## KEY PARTNERS

- Arizona Game and Fish Department
- Arizona Land and Water Trust
- Compatible Lands Foundation
- Mojave Desert Land Trust
- The Conservation Fund
- Yuma County

## FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2020

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

## CONTACT

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