

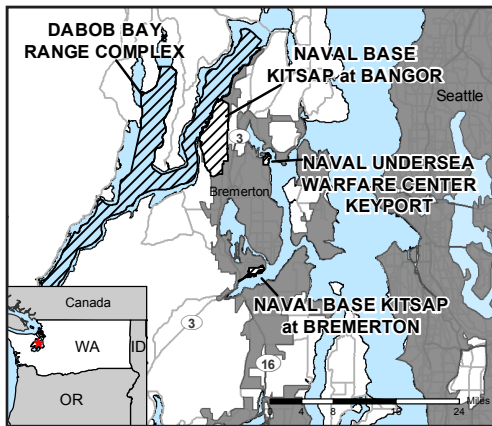


U.S. NAVY :

# NB KITSAP : WASHINGTON



**T**he Dabob Bay Range Complex is a critical research, development, test and evaluation (RDT&E) site for underwater systems such as torpedoes, unmanned undersea vehicles, and ship systems. Located in the Hood Canal on the Puget Sound, the range complex is part of the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Keyport, a component of Naval Base (NB) Kitsap. The pristine and undeveloped deep water nature of Dabob Bay and Hood Canal allows the Navy to perform sensitive acoustical testing. As technology and military equipment advance



and become quieter, an undisturbed environment becomes more important to the RDT&E mission.

The Navy is partnering with the Washington Department of Natural Resources, The Nature Conservancy, and The Trust for Public Land to preserve areas of Hood Canal and protect the Navy’s RDT&E mission and military operating areas (MOAs).

The partners will acquire lands and the Navy will purchase an easement to preserve undeveloped shoreline beaches and other habitat within the Dabob Bay Natural Area and throughout Hood Canal for mission protection and conservation. The partnership will prevent incompatible development and increased boating to protect the Navy’s sensitive acoustical testing and operations in Hood Canal MOAs.

As one of the least developed and most ecologically important estuaries in the Puget Sound, this area is vital for productive and diverse salmonids, native Olympia oyster beds, and other keystone fish and mammal species. Through REPI, Dabob Bay and Hood Canal will remain compatible with the Navy’s mission while minimizing coastal impacts and protecting water quality. Washington state will also transfer timberlands into natural area management.

## BENEFIT SUMMARY

### COMMUNITY

- Supports a green corridor and provides habitat for notable species
- Supports regional planning efforts and provides economic benefits
- Protects resources important to indigenous tribes

### MILITARY

- Preserves sensitive test capacity through the buffering of noise-sensitive areas
- Protects important MOAs and ranges and enhances security
- Reduces electromagnetic interference



NB Kitsap tests new generation of weapons, sensors and undersea vehicles (top). The base also uses goats for an environmentally-friendly method of clearing brush (bottom).

## KEY PARTNERS

- Jefferson Land Trust
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- State of Washington
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Trust for Public Land
- Washington Department of Natural Resources
- Washington State Parks
- Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
- Washington State Salmon Recovery Board

## FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2019

- » Acres preserved: **13,469**
- » Transactions conducted: **136**
- » Total funds expended: **\$46.7 million**
- » Project status: **In Progress**

## CONTACT

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