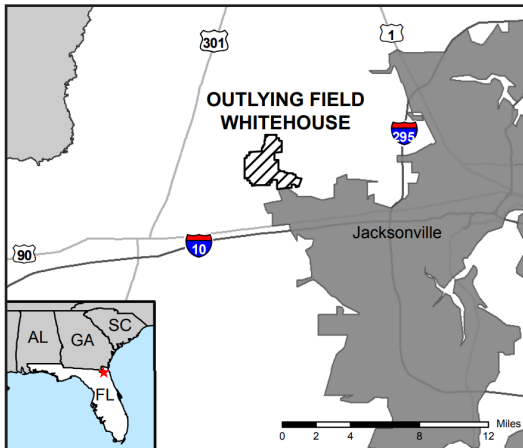




OUTLYING FIELD WHITEHOUSE WITH NAVAL AIR STATION JACKSONVILLE

Outlying Field (OLF) Whitehouse is a critical asset for Navy air training prior to carrier deployment, serving Naval Air Station (NAS) Jacksonville, which provides support, training, and maintenance facilities and services to more than 100 tenant units.



OLF Whitehouse provides the necessary dark-night environment that simulates at-sea carrier landings, allowing air crews to replicate the exact landing patterns used on the carrier. Its close proximity to oceanic carrier-operating areas reduces transit time and operating costs for fixed-wing jet, helicopter, and special warfare training.

The Navy has been unable to replicate the important training capabilities provided by OLF Whitehouse anywhere else along the East Coast. However, incompatible residential development from the city of Jacksonville threatens to alter training realism and impact flight routes and landing patterns at both OLF Whitehouse and NAS Jacksonville. Therefore the Navy is working with the city to protect this valuable asset and the environmentally sensitive lands that surround the installations.

Easements—including a donation from the city of Jacksonville—on lands within and next to high noise contours and safety zones are preserving working lands that also provide habitat for notable species and recreational opportunities. Many of the parcels fall within a greenway that includes wetlands and land suitable for longleaf pine habitat that supports species like the gopher tortoise. The easements not only provide an ecological benefit, but also prevent incompatible land uses, ensure a dark-night sky, and prevent conflicts with neighbors from training noise.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Protects working lands that benefit the economy
- Provides habitat for notable species
- Provides recreational benefits for area residents

MILITARY

- Preserves maneuver, helicopter, and night flying training that produces significant noise or requires minimal light pollution
- Prevents workarounds that would have otherwise limited training capacity



This project contributes to a larger plan to protect OLF Whitehouse (below) and NAS Jacksonville (above) and link natural resource corridors and create a greenway between state parks.

KEY PARTNERS

- City of Jacksonville
- Florida Defense Alliance
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- North Florida Land Trust
- Preservation Law Group
- State of Florida Division of State Lands
- The Nature Conservancy

FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2022

- ACRES PRESERVED:
3,210
- TRANSACTIONS CONDUCTED:
32
- TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED:
\$33.6 million
- PROJECT STATUS:
In Progress

CONTACT

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