REPI READINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION INTEGRATION PROGRAM
STATE PROFILE | ALASKA

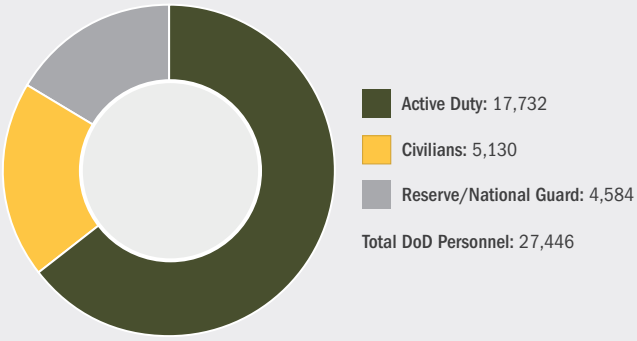
OVERVIEW

Alaska received $3.5 billion in Defense spending in Fiscal Year (FY) 2018, which provides direct funding for DoD personnel salaries, defense contracts, and construction of military facilities in the state. This spending by DoD personnel, contractors, and their families creates significant economic activity, attracts related industries and investment, and generates important state and local government tax revenues.

The Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program is a key tool used by DoD and its partners to protect the military's ability to train, test, and operate in the state. DoD created the REPI Program in response to the development of lands and loss of habitat in the vicinity of or affecting its installations, ranges, and airspace that can lead to restrictions or costly and inadequate training and testing alternatives. Through REPI, DoD works with state and local governments, conservation organizations, and willing private landowners to address these challenges to the military mission and the viability of DoD installations and ranges. The REPI Program has enjoyed broad bipartisan support both in the U.S. Congress and among groups representing state and local officials. As of FY 2019, DoD and its partners have spent over $3.8 million on REPI projects at 2 installations in Alaska.

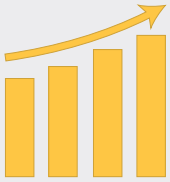
DOD IN ALASKA

DoD Personnel (data as of 30 Sep 2018)



Federal Defense Spending and Economic Impact
(in FY 2018)

$3.5 billion in Federal Defense spending



6.4% of state GDP

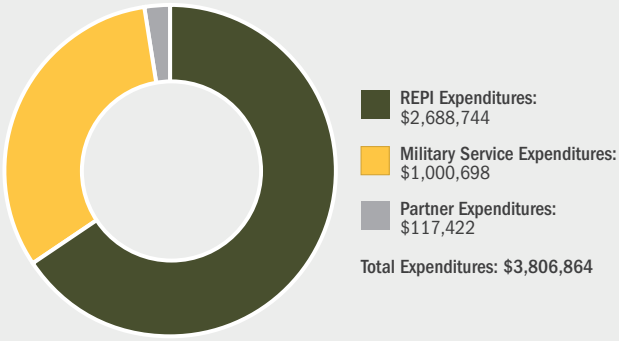
$1.7 billion in payroll contributed
$1.8 billion in contracts awarded

Acres of DoD and National Guard Managed Land
(data as of 30 Sep 2017)

DoD Managed Land	State Owned National Guard Land	Total DoD and National Guard Managed Land
2,057,351	45,911	2,103,262

REPI PROJECTS* IN ALASKA

Funding Summary (through FY 2019)



** REPI projects refer to any action authorized by 10 USC §2684(a) to include the acquisition of interests in land from willing landowners to prevent incompatible development and protect habitat or any other natural resources management. REPI projects involving the Army or Army National Guard are also termed Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) partnerships. Those involving the Navy, Marine Corps, or Air Force, are also termed encroachment partnering agreements. Eligible partners include conservation organizations and state and local governments.*

Total Acres Protected (through FY 2019): 629

MILITARY PRESENCE

- Fort Wainwright is the home of the United States Army Garrison and units of the United States Army Alaska, also known as the **Arctic Warriors**.
- Alaska is home to Coast Guard Air Station Kodiak, **the first permanent Coast Guard aviation resource in Alaska**.
- Fort Greely is a U.S. Army **launch site for anti-ballistic missiles** and is also home to Cold Regions Test Center.
- Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, adjacent to Anchorage, is the **largest installation in Alaska** and home of the Air Force's Headquarters, Alaskan Command (ALCOM); Alaskan NORAD Region (ANR); Eleventh Air Force (11 AF); and the 3rd Wing (3 WG), as well as the Army's U.S. Army Alaska (USARAK); the 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division (4-25th ABCT); and the 2d Engineer Brigade (2nd EngBde).
- Ten percent of all construction spending in 2019 was tied to national defense, up 13 percent and $80 million from the previous year. This increase was largely due to the military investment in reconstruction at Eielson Air Force Base to accommodate the two full squadrons of F-35s that will arrive in 2020.

REPI PROJECTS

Project Installation	County	Congressional District
Fort Wainwright	Fairbanks North Star Borough	At-large
JB Elmendorf-Richardson	Anchorage Municipality	At-large

For all REPI Project Profiles visit: http://www.repi.mil/BufferProjects/ProjectList.aspx

Soldiers test their physical endurances and perform basic Arctic warrior tasks such as an Ahkio sled pull at Fort Wainwright.

For more information about the REPI Program, visit ***www.repi.mil***

Key REPI Partners

- Alaska Department of Fish and Game
- Ducks Unlimited
- Interior Alaska Land Trust
- Salcha-Delta Soil and Water Conservation District
- The Conservation Fund

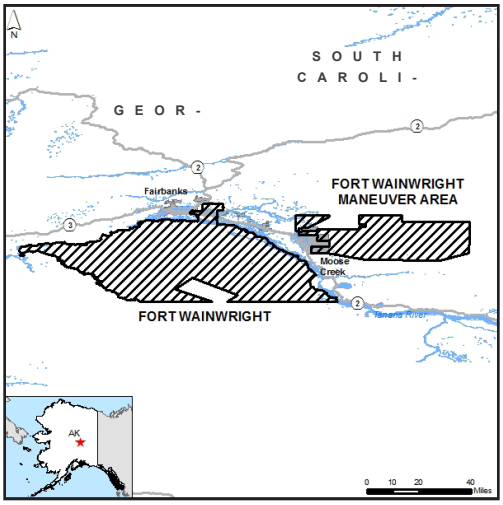
Data Sources

- **For Economic Impact Information:** Alaska Economic Trends Report, December 2019:http://www.labor.alaska.gov/trends/dec19.pdf
- **For Federal Spending and personnel Information:** Office of Economic Adjustment: "Defense Spending By State Fiscal Year 2018": https://www.oea.gov/sites/default/files/defense-spending-rpts/FY2018-Defense-Spending-by-State-Report_0_0.pdf
- **For Land Information:** Department of Defense: "Base Structure Report – Fiscal Year 2018 Baseline": https://www.acq.osd.mil/eie/Downloads/BSI/Base%20Structure%20Report%20FY18.pdf
- **For REPI Projects Information:** "2020 REPI Report to Congress": https://www.repi.mil/Portals/44/Documents/Reports_to_Congress/REPI2020RTC.pdf

U.S. ARMY :

FORT WAINWRIGHT : ALASKA

Fort Wainwright is the home of the United States Army Alaska, known as the "Arctic Warriors," including the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division. Located in Fairbanks, temperatures can reach minus 50 degrees in winter, but during warmer months nearly 80% of the post becomes wetlands. This presents additional regulatory pressures on the use of installation training lands on top of encroachment from nearby development.



Preserving compatible land uses of properties along and near the installation fence line will avoid noise restrictions on live-fire training in the Fort Wainwright Small Arms Complex and benefit maneuver capabilities of the Stryker Brigade Combat Team. The Small Arms Complex, which is used for small arms training, explosive demolition training, and artillery firing from permanent firing points, is critical to the success of the Stryker Brigade and other Army Alaska units, as it is the only location on Fort Wainwright where weapons qualification is possible.

In addition to providing a noise buffer along the eastern boundary of the Small Arms Complex, the Fort Wainwright project will protect and enhance wetlands. Lands preserved by Fort Wainwright's partners will provide compensatory mitigation credits, which the Army can use to allow maneuver exercises or construct new ranges elsewhere on-post. For those parcels that do not contain wetlands, Fort Wainwright will work with the city to ensure the properties are zoned to preclude residential development, providing additional protection to the mission.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Protects and enhances sensitive wetlands
- Provides ecological corridors for wetland species
- Supports low impact recreational activities (i.e., hiking, dog mushing, berry picking) for area residents

MILITARY

- Protects live-fire training, including small arms and artillery firing
- Supports maneuver capabilities of the 1/25 Stryker Brigade Combat Team

Soldiers test their physical endurances and perform basic Arctic warrior tasks such as an Ahkio sled pull (top). A Stryker Mobile Gun System fires a high explosive round at simulated targets during nighttime qualifying maneuvers (bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- Alaska Department of Fish and Game
- Ducks Unlimited
- Interior Alaska Land Trust
- Salcha-Delta Soil and Water Conservation District
- The Conservation Fund

FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2019

» Acres preserved:
629

» Transactions conducted:
20

» Total funds expended:
$3.8 million

» Project status:
In Progress

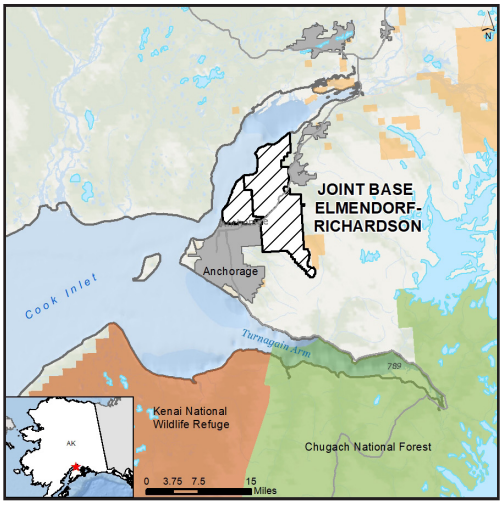
CONTACT

Public Affairs Office
(907) 353-6700

U.S. AIR FORCE - U.S. ARMY :

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON: ALASKA

The strategic location of Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) allows the installation to support several unique mission capabilities, including air superiority, global precision attack, agile combat support, and combat engineering. In addition, JBER's mountainous, rugged terrain allows Soldiers to conduct training activities in an environment that is similar to that of a modern battlefield. With over 55 tenant units, three Air Force wings, and one Army Brigade, JBER supports crucial land and air operations for both the Air Force and the Army.



In recent years, encroachment pressure on JBER has grown significantly as the greater Anchorage area continues to grapple with population growth and urban sprawl. Incompatible development along the northeastern border of the installation has resulted in noise complaints and trespassing challenges, which in turn have caused delays of training and testing activities on base. To protect its mission and mitigate future restrictions, JBER is working with partners to acquire restrictive use easements on properties that lie adjacent to the installation's training and maneuver ranges.

Much of the undeveloped land surrounding JBER has a diverse makeup of parks, wetlands, streams, lakes, and forests that provide habitat for avian, aquatic, and mammalian species—most notably bears and moose. These large mammals need adequate undeveloped space to thrive unhindered by human interference. Therefore, protecting this land ensures that military training capabilities, community recreation, and natural habitats are all preserved.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Provides recreational activities
- Preserves habitat for species
- Protects water resources

MILITARY

- Improves operational safety
- Reduces lost training days
- Prevents workarounds that would have otherwise limited training capacity

Soldiers from 1st Squadron (Airborne), 40th Cavalry Regiment train in preparation for deployment at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

KEY PARTNERS

- Compatible Lands Foundation
- DOI – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2019

» Acres preserved:
0

» Transactions conducted:
0

» Total funds expended:
$0

» Project status:
Initiated

CONTACT

Public Affairs Office
(907) 552-8151