OVERVIEW

Florida received $24.1 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. Through FY 2019, DoD and its partners have spent over $178 million on REPI projects at 9 installations in Florida.

Federal Defense Spending and Economic Impact (in FY 2018)

- $24.1 billion in Federal Defense spending (2.3% of state GDP)
- $7.2 billion in payroll contributed
- $16.9 billion in contracts awarded

Acres of DoD Managed and State-Owned National Guard Land (as of 30 Sep 2017)

- DoD Managed Land: 690,994 acres
- State-Owned National Guard Land: 72,504 acres
- Total DoD Managed and State-Owned National Guard Land: 763,498 acres

REPI PROJECTS* IN FLORIDA

Funding Summary (through FY 2019)

- RePI Expenditures: $38,753,406
- Military Service Expenditures: $31,433,647
- Partner Expenditures: $108,536,361
- Total Expenditures: $178,723,414

* 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.
MILITARY PRESENCE

- Enterprise Florida reported that military related activities directly or indirectly generated over 800,000 jobs and $84.9 billion in total economic impact in 2017.
- All counties benefit from defense activities in Florida.
- Home to 20 major installations, 3 of 10 unified combatant commands, and the military’s only east coast space launch facility.
- Hosts 2 of only 4 Navy deep water ports in the country with adjacent airfields.
- Includes the Marine Corps’ only maritime prepositioning force facility.

- Hosts 1 of only 3 Navy Fleet Readiness Centers.
- Joint Gulf Range Complex connects test and training ranges that extend from Key West to Northwest Florida and across the eastern Gulf of Mexico.
- Jacksonville Range Complex (JRC) includes 150,000 square miles of air, surface, and subsurface operational area, strategically located in Florida’s near coastal waters, supporting all Military Services and integrating six instrumented ranges. Warm waters, temperate climate, lower sea states, and shore proximity make JRC the ideal training venue.

REPI PROJECTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Installation</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Congressional District</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Avon Park AFB</td>
<td>Polk, Highlands</td>
<td>17th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cape Canaveral AFS</td>
<td>Brevard</td>
<td>8th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp Blanding</td>
<td>Clay</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eglin AFB</td>
<td>Okaloosa</td>
<td>1st</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAS Pensacola</td>
<td>Escambia</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAS Whiting Field</td>
<td>Santa Rosa</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NS Mayport</td>
<td>Duval</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLF Whitehouse</td>
<td>Duval</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyndall AFB</td>
<td>Bay</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Eglin AFB is slated to become the new home of the Joint Strike Fighter, requiring open space for low-altitude maneuvers (top). REPI projects support Longleaf Pine forests, an important ecosystem that provides buffer lands around military bases and habitat for 29 endemic threatened and endangered species (left).

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

Southeast Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPPAS)

- The REPI Program supports regional partnerships such as SERPPAS to identify common issues and solutions for mutual benefit.
- SERPPAS partners work to prevent encroachment around military lands, encourage compatible resource-use decisions, and improve coordination among regions, states, communities, and military services. For more information, visit www.serppas.org.
- Florida is a member of SERPPAS, along with the states of Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

Key REPI Partners

- Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program
- Central Florida Regional Planning Council
- City and Preservation Law Group, Inc.
- City of Jacksonville
- City of Niceville
- Escambia County
- Florida Communities Trust
- Florida Defense Alliance
- Florida Defense Support Task Force
- Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
- Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Florida Division of Forestry
- Florida Division of Recreation and Parks
- Florida Division of State Lands
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission
- Florida Forest Service
- Florida Office of Greenways and Trails
- Highlands County
- Highlands County Economic Development Commission
- Monroe County
- National Fish and Wildlife Federation
- North Florida Land Trust
- Okaloosa County
- Okaloosa County Water and Sewer Department
- Polk County
- Preservation Law Group
- Santa Rosa County
- South Florida Water Management District
- St. Johns River Water Management District
- State of Florida
- Suwanee River Water Management District
- The Nature Conservancy
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service

Data Sources

Avon Park Air Force Range (AFR) is a 106,000-acre bombing and gunnery range located near the center of the state of Florida. The primary training range for Homestead Air Reserve Base, Avon Park AFR is used extensively by all four Services. The range hosts numerous squadron and unit-level deployments from across the country in addition to nearby Air Force bases with its large restricted airspace and operating area offering a critical training space. The range’s importance may increase with future missions, possibly including F-35 training.

Avon Park AFR hosts exercises that simulate close air support targeting under real urban area conditions (top), and integrated air-ground battle tactics for all Department of Defense Services (bottom).

The Avon Park AFR REPI project benefits stakeholders and industries important to the Florida economy, such as agriculture, recreation, and ecotourism. Protected lands will preserve water resources and wetlands, including lands important to the Everglades—one of only three designated wetland areas of global importance—and the entire southern Florida water supply. Large landscape-scale protection in this region provides opportunities to better align federal resources and strengthen locally-led conservation initiatives.

**BENEFIT SUMMARY**

**COMMUNITY**

- Protects working lands
- Supports existing regional planning efforts, including a Joint Land Use Study
- Protects water resources

**MILITARY**

- Preserves aviation maneuver and night flying training that produce significant noise or require minimal light pollution
- Provides for future mission growth

**Contact**

AFCEC Public Affairs
(210) 925-0956
As the Joint Training Center home to Florida’s Army National Guard and Air National Guard, Camp Blanding also provides live-fire and maneuver training for Active and Reserve forces from around the country. The post is also home to a civil engineering squadron that can rapidly deploy to repair heavy damage to runways, facilities, and utilities of the Air Force worldwide. Additionally, Camp Blanding is an important ecological hub that is home to 40 federal and state listed animal and plant species.

The importance of habitat on and around Camp Blanding enabled the post to establish the first partnership to use the REPI authority to acquire conservation lands and easements, primarily through the state’s Florida Forever program. The installation is also part of the Camp Blanding-Osceola Greenway initiative, which aims to preserve 153,000 acres between Camp Blanding and Osceola National Forest.

With over $60 million already spent to protect habitat, the partnership is restoring damaged ecosystems and water resources. These efforts, which include the long-term goal of restoring longleaf pine habitats, help sustain species that have the potential to cause severe restrictions to be placed on training lands. Precluding incompatible development also prevents noise, dust, and smoke complaints caused by training exercises. Also benefiting the public, the lands provide a variety of recreational opportunities and the county school board receives 15% of the proceeds from all timber sales from the state-managed forest lands in lieu of taxes.

**BENEFIT SUMMARY**

**COMMUNITY**
- Supports existing regional planning efforts
- Provides habitat for endangered species and connects to a wildlife corridor
- Protects water supply

**MILITARY**
- Preserves on-installation live-fire, maneuver, helicopter, and night flying training that produces significant noise or requires minimal light pollution
- Allows for multi-Service missions

For more information about REPI, please see [http://www.repi.mil](http://www.repi.mil).
The only space launch site capable of placing satellites into geosynchronous orbit, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station (AFS) is a unique resource relied upon by both government and commercial space operations. However, loss of scrub habitat and concomitant impacts to the threatened Florida scrub-jay pose a significant threat to current and future launch programs.

Current launch programs are constrained within their existing footprint on base, and the only available land for any new “heavy” launch vehicle or processing facilities is mostly scrub habitat. All activities at Cape Canaveral AFS that impact scrub habitat incur a 4-to-1 mitigation requirement to offset the habitat loss. But since the base is only 15,800 acres and is surrounded by water on three sides, land is limited.

To protect its mission and preserve this endangered habitat, Cape Canaveral AFS has partnered with Brevard County and its voter-approved Environmentally Endangered Lands Program to preserve nearby undeveloped scrub habitat. This project helps protect survival of the Florida scrub-jay and provides the Cape with opportunities to reduce its mitigation ratio, allowing additional lands to be put to mission use. The project alleviates threats to future missions and allows continued access to space—including access for GPS, communications, and weather satellites—that benefits the entire nation.

**BENEFIT SUMMARY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMMUNITY</th>
<th>MILITARY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Coordinates with existing regional planning efforts</td>
<td>• Preserves launch capabilities and supports government and commercial space programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Preserves habitat for threatened and endangered species</td>
<td>• Provides for future mission growth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Protects local character</td>
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</tbody>
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For more information about REPI, please see http://www.repi.mil.
Located in the Florida Panhandle, Eglin Air Force Base (AFB) is the Air Force’s largest installation and also includes extensive special use airspace to allow the base to carry out its test and evaluation mission. That mission is increasing in importance as the base will host Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) training that will require the Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps to fly at low level into the Eglin range from a distance of 90 miles away.

To guard against incompatible development near future critical JSF operating areas, Eglin AFB’s partners are conserving large tracts of land located near and under the installation’s airspace, as well as within important wildlife corridors. Part of an unprecedented partnership, the base is protecting land within the Northwest Florida Greenway, a 100-mile habitat corridor between the base and the Apalachicola National Forest to the southeast. The base is also creating buffers between its boundaries and the Blackwater River State Forest to the north.

With strong support from the state’s Florida Forever program, the partnership’s dedication to the military mission allows Eglin AFB to continue to conduct its testing and training activities. While protecting a major regional economic driver, the partnership is also conserving one of the most biologically diverse regions in the country.

**BENEFIT SUMMARY**

**COMMUNITY**
- Supports a designated green corridor to enable wildlife to travel safely between habitats
- Supports existing regional planning objectives, including the implementation of a Joint Land Use Study
- Protects habitat for wildlife

**MILITARY**
- Protects off-installation maneuver test and evaluation capability
- Provides for future mission growth and multi-Service missions

For more information about REPI, please see [http://www.repi.mil](http://www.repi.mil).
NAVAL AIR STATION (NAS) Pensacola is the initial training base for all Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard aviators and Naval Flight Officers. It is also the advanced training location for most Naval Flight Officers and home of the famous Blue Angels demonstration squadron. This “Cradle of Naval Aviation” sits along the Gulf Coast, providing access to overwater ranges. But its location just southwest of Pensacola city limits also leaves it susceptible to expanding urban growth.

As one of the earliest REPI projects, NAS Pensacola partnered with Escambia County for the Navy’s first transaction using the REPI authority. The county acquired a plantation adjacent to the installation’s airfield, with the Navy receiving a restrictive easement to permanently prevent incompatible land uses. The plantation is within the airfield accident potential zone, where planned residential development would have severely impacted NAS Pensacola’s important aviator training mission.

This project highlights the partnership’s concerted coordinated planning efforts, while the preservation of the plantation meets the goals of a Joint Land Use Study among the county, air station, and the county’s comprehensive plan. The county also passed an Airfield Environ Overlay ordinance to ensure that any future development applications are reviewed for compatibility with NAS Pensacola’s safety zones and buffers. The buffered land can now be used for public recreation and open space, benefiting the military and public alike.

**BENEFIT SUMMARY**

**COMMUNITY**
- Brings together new partners to coordinate with existing regional planning efforts, including a Joint Land Use Study
- Maintains local character
- Provides recreational opportunities

**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
- Reduces lost training days

For more information about REPI, please see [http://www.repi.mil](http://www.repi.mil).
Part of a strong military presence in Florida’s Northwest Panhandle, Naval Air Station (NAS) Whiting Field’s mission is to train nearly 2,000 students annually to safely fly helicopters and airplanes. The air station provides all helicopter pilot training for the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard and 60% of all primary pilot fixed-wing training. At the North and South Fields, which are being directly buffered through REPI efforts, more than 400 flights are launched a day with an aircraft taking off or landing every eight seconds during normal flight operations.

A majority of the land surrounding NAS Whiting Field is used for agriculture, forestry, or other open spaces, which are all compatible with the installation’s operational integrity. Strong support from Santa Rosa County, the state of Florida, and The Nature Conservancy led to the acquisition of protective easements within designated high-priority Accident Potential Zones and high-noise areas extending directly from the runways.

REPI easements help shield the air station from noise complaints and ease community safety concerns, while also protecting working lands and boosting the local economy. The military presence in Santa Rosa County provides an additional 15,000 direct and indirect jobs and a total economic impact of approximately $856 million. Additionally, recent acquisitions will be used for off-road recreation, with a long-term aim of connecting over nine miles of public non-motorized paved trails. Parts of the land will also provide valuable habitat for a number of rare species.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY
- Brings together new partners to coordinate with existing regional planning efforts, including a Joint Land Use Study
- Preserves working lands, local character, and recreational opportunities

MILITARY
- Protects off-installation air operations, helicopter, and night flying capability that generates noise or requires minimal light pollution
- Prevents lost training days and reduces the need for less-realistic workarounds
- Provides for future mission growth

For more information about REPI, please see http://www.repi.mil.
Naval Station (NS) Mayport is strategically located at the confluence of the St. Johns River and Atlantic Ocean. The installation is the headquarters of the U.S. Fourth Fleet, and the primary support, maintenance, and training for Naval, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard operations in the Southeast. In addition to operating over 84,000 annual sorties and 2,100 annual ship movements, the installation serves as the primary emergency support installation for offshore amphibious and air operations in northeastern Florida. Home to over 11,000 active duty, reserve, and civilian personnel, NS Mayport is also being considered to host additional future intelligence and reconnaissance missions that would create more jobs and increase the installation’s local economic impact.

In order to protect NS Mayport’s current and future capabilities, the City of Jacksonville, Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Preservation Law Group, Inc. are working together with the installation to place restrictive easements on critical pieces of St. Johns River waterfront that abut NS Mayport’s high noise and Accident Potential Zones. These protections will allow additional small commercial and recreational development along the river while preventing incompatible development, like proposed high-density residential communities, which may restrict operations. By doing so, the REPI partnership aims to preserve NS Mayport’s critical role in ensuring national security, support future mission growth, and protect the installation’s contribution to the billions of dollars of annual impact created by Naval installations in northeastern Florida.

**BENEFIT SUMMARY**

**COMMUNITY**
- Mitigates safety issues by preventing potentially dangerous development adjacent to aircraft Accident Potential Zones
- Supports existing regional planning efforts
- Protects an important local economic driver and facilitates additional compatible commercial development

**MILITARY**
- Protects Anti-Air, Anti-Surface, Anti-Submarine, and Electronic Combat Warfare training that produces significant amounts of noise
- Protects electromagnetic frequency spectrum for military testing, training, and operational use
- Protects future opportunities for mission growth

**KEY PARTNERS**
- City of Jacksonville
- Florida Defense Alliance
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Preservation Law Group, Inc.

**FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2019**
- Acres preserved: 16
- Transactions conducted: 11
- Total funds expended: $1.3 million
- Project status: In Progress

**CONTACT**
Community Plans and Liaison Office
(904) 542-3737

For more information about REPI, please see [http://www.repi.mil](http://www.repi.mil).
Outlying Field (OLF) Whitehouse is a critical asset for Navy air training prior to carrier deployment, serving Naval Air Station Jacksonville, as well as visiting units from other installations in the region. 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. Therefore the Navy is working with the city to protect this valuable asset and the environmentally sensitive lands that surround the outlying field.

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

For more information about REPI, please see [http://www.repi.mil](http://www.repi.mil).
Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB) is part of a complex of installations, ranges, military operating areas, and airspace in Northwest Florida and the Gulf of Mexico and is essential to maintaining U.S. air dominance with its contingent of F-22 Raptors, the largest in the Department. The Tyndall AFB airspace will also see an increase in operations by F-35s, including those stationed at nearby Eglin AFB. This airspace connects to the vast Gulf of Mexico Water Ranges that span from Tyndall to Key West and overlays mostly undeveloped lands, offering a unique locational asset.

Given Tyndall’s easy access to range assets and its heavy use, with 250 training days a year, the Air Force is working to protect and maintain the unencumbered nature of its mission footprint. This includes protecting agricultural land, wetlands, and other coastal areas within high noise zones, the runway approach-departure corridor, and the base boundary, along with preventing tall structures in sections of Tyndall’s operating area used for low-level flights.

Protecting these areas allows Tyndall to fully utilize unique training capabilities, such as a Precision Approach Radar system for pilots to train to land in bad weather or with a damaged aircraft, or testing air-to-air missile capabilities.

The REPI partnership at Tyndall AFB has numerous mission benefits as well as environmental benefits. Tyndall AFB’s partners are adding to the Northwest Florida Greenway, a wildlife corridor of conservations lands stretching from Eglin AFB through the Apalachicola National Forest to the Gulf of Mexico. This regional effort will also leverage a variety of federal and state funding sources, including the Longleaf Stewardship Fund, Gulf RESTORE Act, and Florida Forever.

**KEY PARTNERS**
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- The Nature Conservancy

**FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2019**
- Acres preserved: 0
- Transactions conducted: 0
- Total funds expended: $0
- Project status: Initiated

**CONTACT**
Public Affairs Office
(850) 283-4500

For more information about REPI, please see [http://www.repi.mil](http://www.repi.mil).