REPI READINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION INTEGRATION PROGRAM
STATE PROFILE | LOUISIANA

LOUISIANA

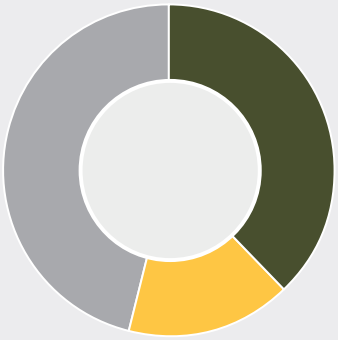
OVERVIEW

Louisiana received $2.9 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 $12 million on REPI projects at 2 installations in Louisiana.

DOD IN LOUISIANA

DoD Personnel (as of 30 Sep 2018)



Active Duty: 14,415

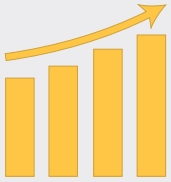
Civilians: 6,109

Reserve/National Guard: 17,074

Total DoD Personnel: 37,598

Federal Defense Spending and Economic Impact (in FY 2018)

$2.9 billion in Federal Defense spending



1.1% of state GDP

$1.6 billion in payroll contributed
$1.3 billion in contracts awarded

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

DoD Managed Land	State-Owned National Guard Land	Total DoD Managed and State-Owned National Guard Land
272,357	31,376	**303,733**

REPI PROJECTS* IN LOUISIANA

Funding Summary (through FY 2019)

REPI Expenditures: $7,529,100

Military Service Expenditures: $1,980,004

Partner Expenditures: $2,822,614

Total Expenditures: $12,331,718

** 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): 1,757

MILITARY PRESENCE

- The Louisiana Governor's Office reported that in Louisiana military-related activity provides more than **77,000 jobs** and pays almost $280 million in state and local taxes.
- Other than the state government, the **first, fourth, and fifth largest employers** respectively are Fort Polk, Barksdale Air Force Base, and the Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base-New Orleans.
- The Marine Corps Support Facility-New Orleans, home of the Marine Forces Reserve and Marine Forces North Commands, which combined are the **largest commands in the United States Marine Corps**.
- Barksdale Air Force Base is home to the 2nd Bomb Wing which is the **largest bomb wing in the Air Force**.
- Global Strike Command is **one of two bases that have B-52s** currently assigned.
- **Fort Polk is supporting the war on terrorism** by providing contingency training for the Army's light infantry and special operations forces and by deploying home station and reserve component forces in support of Operations Enduring Freedom, Noble Eagle, and Iraqi Freedom.
- **More than 4,000 Army, Navy and Air Force personnel receive combat training** at the Joint Readiness Training Center each month.

REPI PROJECTS

Project Installation	County	Congressional District
Fort Polk	Vernon Parish	4th
NAS JRB New Orleans	Plaquemines Parish	1st

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

Facilities at NAS JRB New Orleans provide the Navy with a diverse array of training venues (left and top).

Key REPI Partners

- Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
- Plaquemines Parish
- State of Louisiana
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Trust for Public Land
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Data Sources

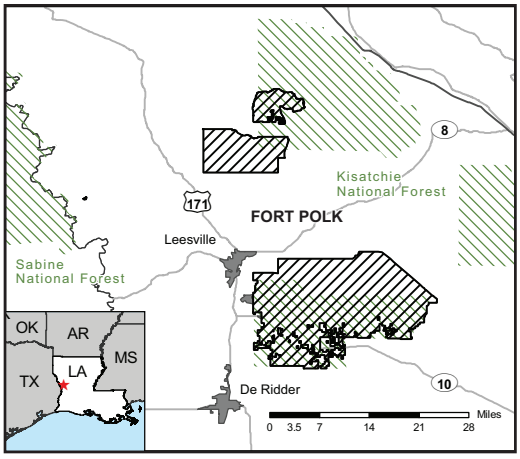
- **For Economic Impact Information:** Louisiana Office of the Governor, Jan 2018, "Military's Economic Impact in Louisiana": http://gov.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/newsroom/detail/1237
- **For Federal Spending and personnel Information:** Office of Economic Adjustment: "Defense Spending By State Fiscal 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

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

U.S. ARMY :

FORT POLK : LOUISIANA

Home of the Army's Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC), Fort Polk is located mostly in Louisiana's Kisatchie National Forest in a special use agreement with the U.S. Forest Service. The post supports training for deploying units, including special operations forces, in contingency missions. The JRTC provides highly realistic and stressful joint operations exercises that are extremely important for supporting forces in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other theaters.



Fort Polk's location and surrounding ecosystem are critical to a host of species, especially the Louisiana pine snake, one of the rarest snake species in North America, and the red-cockaded woodpecker. The loss of longleaf pine habitat across the Gulf coastal plains of the Southeast has put increased pressure on the installation to act as one of the last bastions of viable habitat. Protecting this habitat—and managing acquired REPI lands to meet conditions desired for the species—can help prevent the listing of the pine snake under the Endangered Species Act. Listing the pine snake has the potential to impose significant restrictions on land use and off-road vehicle movement on-post.

Partnering with Fort Polk, with the support of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is The Nature Conservancy, who will acquire easements that will protect and expand the pine snake's habitat. The project also aims to sustain working forest lands and allow continued flexibility in the use and development of Fort Polk's land to meet its important national defense mission.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Preserves working lands and local character
- Provides habitat for rare and endangered species

MILITARY

- Preserves on-installation live-fire and maneuver training capacity
- Reduces lost training days and the need for workarounds that would reduce training realism or effectiveness
- Provides for future mission growth

A Chinook helicopter performing an exercise (top) and a Stryker vehicle firing a missile (bottom) at the Joint Readiness Training Center.

KEY PARTNERS

- Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
- The Nature Conservancy
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2019

» Acres preserved:
1,555

» Transactions conducted:
5

» Total funds expended:
$5.0 million

» Project status:
In Progress

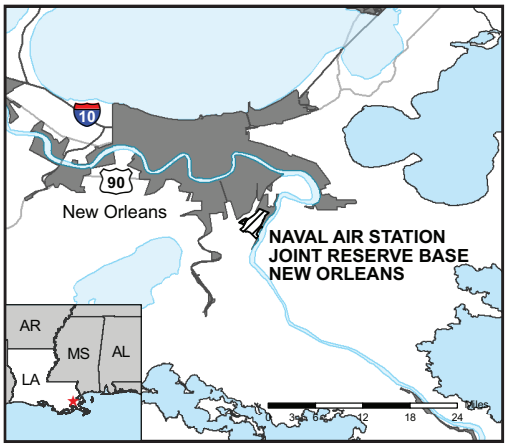
CONTACT

Public Affairs Office
(337) 531-1344

U.S. NAVY :

NAS JRB NEW ORLEANS : LOUISIANA

Providing critical access to Gulf of Mexico air ranges, Naval Air Station (NAS) Joint Reserve Base (JRB) New Orleans' multiple readiness missions require training pilots on several aircraft, including helicopters, from multiple Services. The air station also maintains readiness 24 hours a day, seven days a week to launch in support of the Department of Homeland Security and coastal rescue operations. The base allows for overwater operations, live weapon firings and urban close-air-support environments. Its proximity to the Gulf also reduces time to get to critical oil production facilities and saves precious minutes for search and rescue operations.



As part of its efforts, NAS JRB New Orleans partnered with the Trust for Public Land and Plaquemines Parish, to protect one of its most active runways from a planned 600-home subdivision nearby. Investment in infrastructure to support land development and hurricane evacuation is making nearby land more valuable and therefore desirable. Developing the subdivision would have threatened to curtail aviation training at the base because of noise and safety concerns, thereby threatening its viability.

With flight operations expected to remain level or increase in coming years, the installation is protecting an essential economic driver for a New Orleans region still looking to recover from hurricane devastation. Not only does the project protect the base, itself a community asset, but the land will also provide an opportunity for a new Parish-managed park for the public to enjoy.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Protects working lands and local character that benefit the economy
- Supports existing regional planning efforts, including the development of a Joint Use Land Study to better coordinate planning efforts among various government entities

MILITARY

- Protects live-fire artillery, maneuver, helicopter, and night flying training that produces significant amounts of noise or requires minimal light pollution
- Prevents the loss of training days and the use of less-realistic workarounds
- Provides for future mission growth and mutli-Service missions

Facilities at NAS JRB New Orleans provide the Navy with a diverse array of training venues (top and bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- Plaquemines Parish
- State of Louisiana
- The Trust for Public Land

FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2019

» Acres preserved:
202

» Transactions conducted:
1

» Total funds expended:
$7.3 million

» Project status:
In Progress

CONTACT

Community Plans & Liaison Officer
(504) 678-9941