REPI READINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION INTEGRATION PROGRAM
STATE PROFILE | MISSISSIPPI

MISSISSIPPI

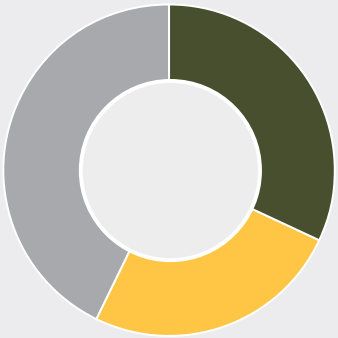
OVERVIEW

Mississippi received $8.3 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 more than $13 million on REPI projects at 3 installations in Mississippi.

DOD IN MISSISSIPPI

DoD Personnel (as of 30 Sep 2018)



Active Duty: 12,052

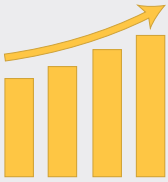
Civilians: 9,458

Reserve/National Guard: 16,336

Total DoD Personnel: 37,846

Federal Defense Spending and Economic Impact (in FY 2018)

$8.3 billion in Federal Defense spending



7.2% of state GDP

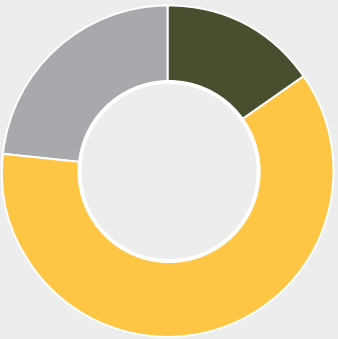
$1.7 billion in payroll contributed
$6.6 billion in contracts awarded

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
176,745	163	176,908

REPI PROJECTS* IN MISSISSIPPI

Funding Summary (through FY 2019)



REPI Expenditures: $2,177,252

Military Service Expenditures: $8,666,551

Partner Expenditures: $3,024,885

Total Expenditures: $13,868,688

** 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): 5,789

MILITARY PRESENCE

- Gulfport Seabee base, in partnership with Mississippi Power, **developed a $7 million, 15-acre solar facility** at the Naval Construction Battalion Center in July 2017. The facility is the first of its kind and is expected to power 450 homes across Southern Mississippi while meeting the Navy's gigawatt goal. The base also replaced the outdoor lighting with alternative energy sources to save more than $120,000 a year and reduce its energy consumption by 30%.
- The Federal appropriations for the Mississippi Army and Air National Guard during FY 2018 were approximately **$622 million**, and the state appropriations were approximately $7.9 million.
- In September 2017, NCBC Gulfport **developed strategic training exercises** at Camp Shelby to prepare and deploy military personnel Hurricane Harvey relief efforts in Texas.
- The military constantly strives to improve Mississippi's energy resiliency and energy security. Beginning in 2017, NAS Meridian **leased 38 acres of land for solar energy projects** and to diversify energy sources through local partnerships.
- Keesler AFB is a **lead joint training installation**, training over 30,000 military and civilian government personnel annually.
- Camp Shelby is the largest state-owned and operated field training site in the United States.

REPI PROJECTS

Project Installation	County	Congressional District
Camp Shelby	Perry, Forrest	4th
NAS Meridian	Lauderdale, Kemper	3rd
NCBC Gulfport	Harrison	4th

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

Camp Shelby offers a variety of training, including practice medical evacuations.

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.
- Mississippi is a member of SERPPAS, along with the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

Key REPI Partners

- Compatible Lands Foundation
- EKO Asset Management Partners
- Kemper County
- Lauderdale County
- Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks
- Mississippi Development Authority
- Mississippi Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- Mississippi Land Trust
- Mississippi State University Foundation
- National Wild Turkey Federation
- Northern Arizona University
- State of Mississippi
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Trust for Public Land
- U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- Wildlife Mississippi

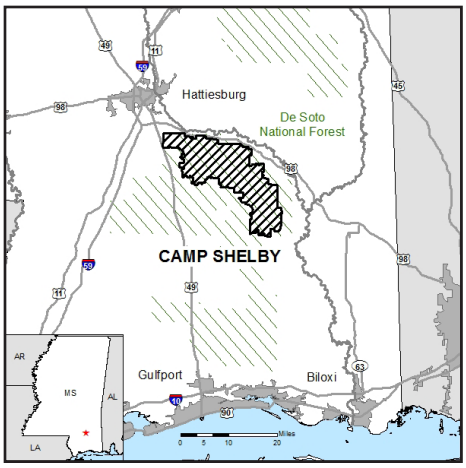
Data Sources

- **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 Installation-Specific Information:**
  - Camp Shelby Web Site, April 2015: http://www.campshelby.org/
  - Gulfport Seabee base: http://www.sunherald.com/news/business/article160701694.html
  - Keesler Air Force Base: "Fiscal Year 2017 Economic Impact Analysis": https://www.keesler.af.mil/Portals/14/documents/EIA%202017%20for%20web.pdf?ver=2018-05-01-155348-127
  - NAS Gulfport: http://www.sunherald.com/news/local/military/article171126452.html
  - NAS Meridian: http://www.meridianstar.com/news/local_news/nas-meridian-announces-groundbreaking-for-solar-power-facility/article_d9c48e95-9080-5837-8a46-2bb6476583c4.html
- **For Military Impact Information:**
  - Mississippi Military Department: "Mississippi National Guard Annual July 2018 - June 2018": https://ms.ng.mil/resources/specialstaff/pa/AnnualReports/Annual%20Report%20(Jul%201,%202017%20-%20Jun%2030,%202018).pdf

U.S. ARMY :

CAMP SHELBY : MISSISSIPPI

Camp Shelby is the largest state-owned and operated field training site in the U.S. at 134,000 acres and is currently used as a mobilization center for the Reserve Component. The camp is located largely in the DeSoto National Forest, while the U.S. Forest Service manages a special use permit for military activities. Camp Shelby hosts the Joint Forces Training Center, Navy Seabee construction battalion field training exercises, and training for other Services.



Located near two highways, the city of Hattiesburg's primary industrial park, and a municipal airport, Camp Shelby is threatened by development that would impact its readiness mission. To protect an assault landing airstrip, tank range maneuver sites, and artillery and other weapons firing ranges, the post has a unique partnership with The Nature Conservancy, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Mississippi State University Foundation. Protecting surrounding land addresses potential conflicts with airspace, safety, noise and smoke, while supporting an important forest ecosystem.

Under the partnership to protect Camp Shelby, the U.S. Forest Service will own and manage the acquired properties as part of the DeSoto National Forest, one of the largest complexes of longleaf pine in the southeast. This habitat also supports numerous notable and rare species, such as the gopher tortoise and other flora and fauna. Together, the partnership is working as part of a broader effort across the region to preserve this imperiled ecosystem and benefit military readiness.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Protects working lands and maintains local character
- Supports coordinated planning efforts, including implementation of a Joint Land Use Study
- Protects water resources

MILITARY

- Protects live-fire and maneuver training that produces significant amounts of noise
- Prevents workarounds that would have otherwise limited training capacity

Camp Shelby offers a variety of training, including practice medical evacuations (top) and defensive operations in a tactical environment (bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- Compatible Lands Foundation
- EKO Asset Management Partners
- Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks
- Mississippi State University Foundation
- National Wild Turkey Federation
- Northern Arizona University
- The Nature Conservancy
- U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Forest Service

FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2019

» Acres preserved:
4,679

» Transactions conducted:
18

» Total funds expended:
$12.8 million

» Project status:
In Progress

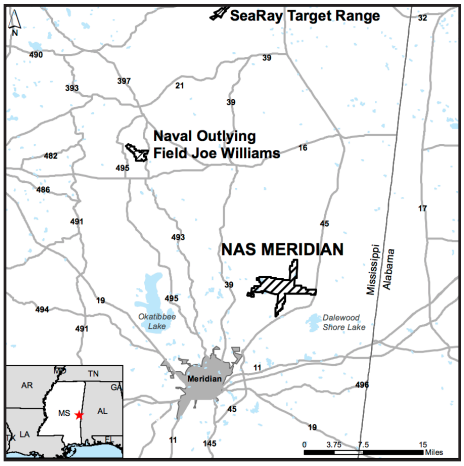
CONTACT

Public Affairs Office
(601) 558-2827

U.S. NAVY :

NAS MERIDIAN : MISSISSIPPI

Naval Air Station (NAS) Meridian is one of the Navy's premier two newest air installations and one of just two DoD locations providing intermediate and advanced jet training for carrier operations. As the Navy's largest air station, it was specifically designed for jet aircraft rather than propeller planes. The main station is located a short distance from the Meridian Complex's military operations area airspace, target range, and outlying field to maximize training time and fuel efficiency.



Supporting NAS Meridian's mission is an unconstrained training environment where only minimal conflicts related to noise allow jets to practice intensive carrier landings until midnight during frequent carrier qualification training. The rural lands around the air station allow NAS Meridian to support over 191,000 flight operations a year while training 150 student aviators. Easements on these rural lands along the installation boundary and in high noise areas will permanently protect this important Navy capability.

Meanwhile, NAS Meridian is working with Lauderdale and Kemper Counties to develop new airport zoning ordinances and with the counties, city of Meridian, and town of Marion on a Joint Land Use Study to further protect the military mission. Together with community outreach and education efforts, strengthening military-community partnerships will ensure the viability of a key economic driver in the Meridian and Lauderdale County region.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Preserves forest land and water resources
- Sustains the economic viability of local communities
- Supports local coordinated planning efforts

MILITARY

- Protects initial aviation training that generates significant amounts of noise
- Improves operational safety
- Avoids the use of less realistic workarounds or restrictions on training

As one of two Navy jet strike pilot training facilities, NAS Meridian hosts Training Air Wing-1 and the T-45 Goshawk (top), used to train Navy and Marine Corps student aviators (bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- Kemper County
- Lauderdale County
- Mississippi Development Authority
- State of Mississippi

FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2019

» Acres preserved:
1,110

» Transactions conducted:
20

» Total funds expended:
$1.0 million

» Project status:
In Progress

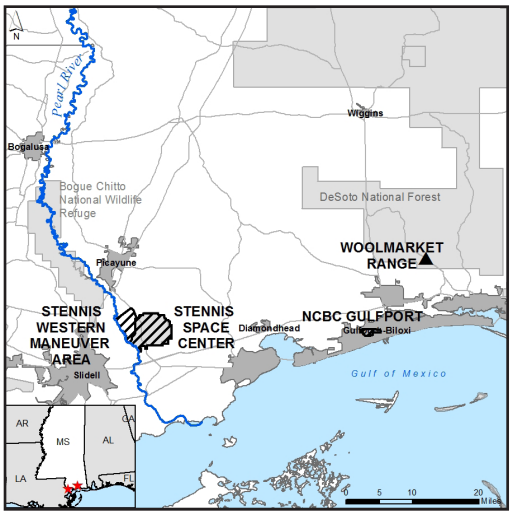
CONTACT

Community Plans and Liaison Office
(601) 679-2482

U.S. NAVY :

NCBC GULFPORT : MISSISSIPPI
WITH STENNIS WESTERN MANEUVER AREA

Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport is the industrial complex home of the Atlantic Fleet Seabees, which are the Navy's construction battalions. Also associated with NCBC Gulfport is Woolmarket Range, where Seabees can practice rifle and handgun marksmanship. Located some 40 miles east of NCBC Gulfport is one of DoD's relatively new range areas, the Stennis Western Maneuver Area (WMA). Located adjacent to NASA's Stennis Space Center, Stennis WMA provides riverine training for Navy Special Forces in a jungle training environment. There is no other live-fire range in similar habitat for Navy Special Forces.



The unique type of training at Stennis WMA requires a specifically tailored approach to preventing incompatible development. Lands protected by the Mississippi Land Trust provide the necessary buffers to reduce accident potential and decrease riverine traffic, while also expanding the live-fire training options at Stennis WMA. Meanwhile, at the main installation, buffers will prevent development north of Gulfport in areas subject to noise from engineering and construction training, field exercises, and land navigation activities.

The buffers protected by NCBC Gulfport's REPI project also provide opportunities for the Navy's partners to restore native bottomland hardwood forests and upland longleaf pine forests. Long-term management of these habitats will support three threatened species, the ringed map turtle, gulf sturgeon, and the western range populations of the gopher tortoise.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Provides habitat for threatened species
- Protects water resources
- Brings together new partners

MILITARY

- Protects live-fire and maneuver training, including air operations
- Improves operational security and reduces trespassing on military lands
- Provides for future mission growth

Members of Special Boat Team-22 and other Navy Special Forces and military units from other nations use the riverine training environment at the Stennis Western Maneuver Area (top). The surrounding habitat is also home to threatened species like the ringed map turtle (bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- Mississippi Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- Mississippi Land Trust
- State of Mississippi
- The Trust for Public Land
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Wildlife Mississippi

FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2019

» Acres preserved:
0

» Transactions conducted:
0

» Total funds expended:
$9.5 thousand

» Project status:
Initiated

CONTACT

Community Planning and Liaison Office
(228) 871-2157