



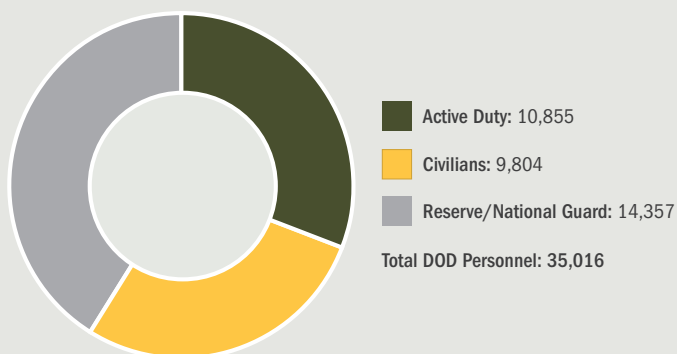
OVERVIEW

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, the state of Mississippi received \$8.9 billion in Defense spending, which provides direct funding for the Department of Defense (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 investments, 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. The Department 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 the REPI Program, 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 benefited from broad bipartisan support both in the U.S. Congress and among groups representing state and local officials. From FY 2009 through FY 2024, DOD and its partners have contributed nearly \$14.9 million to REPI projects supporting five installations in Mississippi.

DOD IN MISSISSIPPI

DOD Personnel (as of 30 Sep 2023)



Federal Defense Spending and Economic Impact (in FY 2023)



\$8.9 billion
in Federal
Defense
spending



6.1%
of state Gross
Domestic
Product



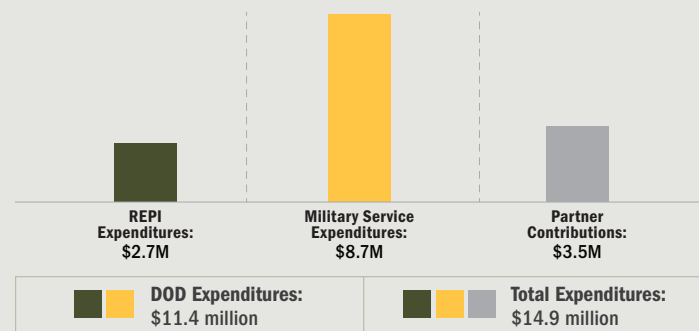
\$1.8 billion
in payroll contributed
\$7.0 billion
in contracts awarded

Acres of DOD Managed and State-Owned National Guard Land (as of 30 Sep 2023)



REPI PROJECTS* IN MISSISSIPPI

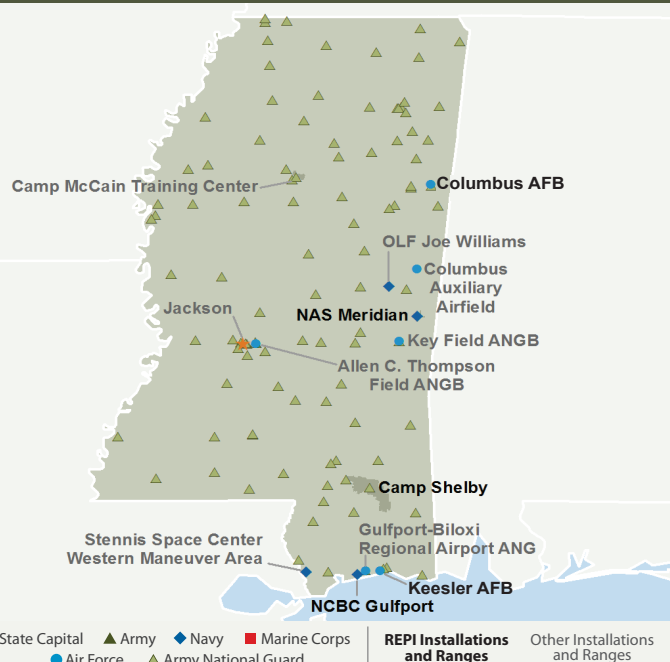
Funding Summary (from FY 2009 through FY 2024)



Subtotals may not sum to combined totals due to rounding.

* REPI projects refer to any action authorized by 10 U.S. Code (U.S.C.) § 2684a to include the acquisition of real property interests in land from willing landowners to prevent incompatible development or improve military installation resilience. REPI projects involving the Army or Army National Guard are also termed Army REPI partnerships. Those involving the Navy, Marine Corps, or Air Force, are also termed encroachment partnering agreements. Eligible entities include conservation organizations and state and local governments.

Total Acres Protected (FY 2009 through FY 2024): 7,287



MILITARY PRESENCE

- The 14th Flying Training Wing, under Air Education Training Command at Columbus Air Force Base is responsible for an intensive **52-week Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training** program.
- Keesler Air Force Base is a **lead joint training installation**, training over 30,000 military and civilian government personnel annually.
- Camp Shelby is the largest training site owned by a state in the US. It's one of the largest mobilization stations of the US Army Forces Command (FORSCOM), and it's also the biggest reserve training facility.

REPI PROJECTS

Installation	County	Congressional District
Camp Shelby	Perry, Forrest	4th
Columbus Air Force Base	Lowndes	1st
Keesler Air Force Base	Harrison	4th
Naval Air Station Meridian	Lauderdale, Kemper	3rd
Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport	Harrison	4th

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



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

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.
- Mississippi is a member of SERPPAS, along with the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina. For more information, visit www.serppas.org.

Key REPI Partners

- Coastal Conservation League
- Compatible Lands Foundation
- EKO Asset Management Partners
- Kemper County
- Kings 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 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- National Wild Turkey Federation
- North Carolina Coastal Federation
- Northern Arizona University
- Sequoia River Lands Trust
- State of Mississippi
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Trust for Public Land
- Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners
- U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service
- West Hills Community College District
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- Wildlife Mississippi

Data Sources

- **For Installation-Specific Information:**
 - Camp Shelby information: www.ms.ng.mil/installations/shelby/
 - Gulfport Seabee base: www.sunherald.com/news/business/article160701694.html
 - Keesler Air Force Base: "Fiscal Year 2017 Economic Impact Analysis": www.keesler.af.mil/Portals/14/documents/EIA%202017%20for%20web.pdf?ver=2018-05-01-155348-127
 - www.installations.militaryonesource.mil/in-depth-overview/naval-construction-battalion-center-gulfport
 - Naval Air Station Meridian: 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 Report, 2023": www.ng.ms.gov/sites/msng/files/documents/staff_depts/special_staff/pao/annual_reports/pdfs/Annual%20Report%20%28Jul%201%2C%202022%20-%20Jun%2030%2C%202023%29.pdf
- **For Land Information:** Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment, Real Property, Business Systems & Information Directorate: "Base Structure Report – FY24 Baseline" (as of 30 Sept 2023)
- **For Federal Spending and Personnel Information:** Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation: "Defense Spending by State – Fiscal Year 2023": www.oldcc.gov/dsbs-fy2023
- **For REPI Projects Information:** "2025 REPI Report to Congress": www.repi.mil/Portals/44/Documents/Reports_to_Congress/REPI2025RTC.pdf



REPI

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
READINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION INTEGRATION PROGRAM

PROJECT PROFILES

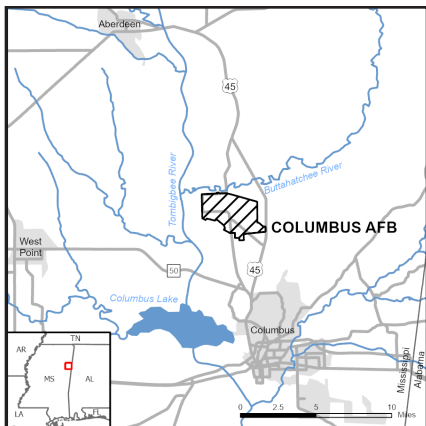
U.S. AIR FORCE | MISSISSIPPI



COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE

Columbus Air Force Base (AFB) is home to the 14th Flying Training Wing and is one of three Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training bases.

The Wing is responsible for an intensive 54-week Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training program, aimed at substantially increasing the number of pilot trainees for the Air Force. Columbus AFB is also one of just two installations that conduct the Air Education and Training Aviation Leadership Program for the Chief of Staff of the Air Force and will be one of the few bases housing the T-X aircraft.



These critical Air Force training missions at Columbus AFB are at risk due to increased encroachment from development pressures created by planned highway expansion and local mine buyouts. Existing incompatible residential development in proximity to aircraft takeoff and landing areas is already creating public safety hazards and mission hindrances at the installation. Additionally, mine development is linked to increased bird concentrations which would pose wildlife collision hazards to aircraft operations. New mining activity would also likely transfer substantial amounts

of sediment into the Buttahatchee River which could also increase the occurrence of flooding in the area. Columbus AFB is aiming to acquire land around the installation through restrictive use easements to reduce incompatible residential and commercial development, including new mine development, around the installation.

The protected area around the installation would also provide ecosystem services such as water purification, carbon sequestration, and wildlife habitat. Most notably, these lands contain important habitat for the northern Long-Eared Bat, Red-Cockaded Woodpecker, and other threatened and endangered species and protecting it will limit the likelihood that these species seek refuge within installation boundaries.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Preserves habitat for threatened and endangered species
- Protects from environmental degradation associated with mine development
- Supports and enhances current ecosystem services

MILITARY

- Limits lost training days and physical hazards for student pilots
- Protects training capabilities
- Increases ability to support the growth of pilot trainees

FAST FACTS THROUGH FY 2024 | Project Status: Initiated

Transactions	Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
—	—	—

Subtotals may not sum to combined totals due to rounding. | This project has an established and funded REPI partnership but has not completed any transactions through FY 2023.



The 14th Flying Training Wing at Columbus AFB is focused on training world class pilots and providing specialized training in the T-6 Texan II (top), T-38C Talon (bottom), and T-1A Jayhawk aircraft.

KEY PARTNERS

- Wildlife Mississippi

CONTACT

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE:
(862) 434-7068

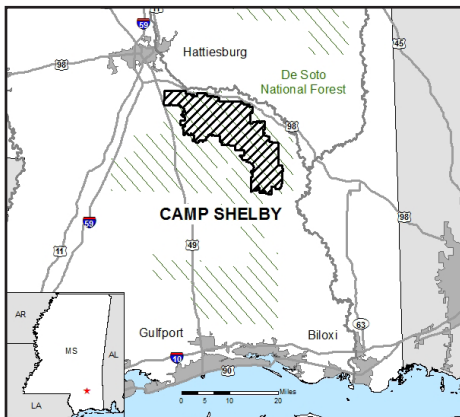


CAMP SHELBY

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 Mississippi Reserve Component.

The installation is primarily located in the DeSoto National Forest, and 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 mission readiness. 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 to preserve surrounding land. Preventing incompatible development also helps the installation avoid potential conflicts with airspace, safety, noise and smoke.

Under the partnership to protect Camp Shelby's operations, 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. Together, the partnership is working as part of a broader effort across the region to preserve this imperiled ecosystem and benefit military readiness.

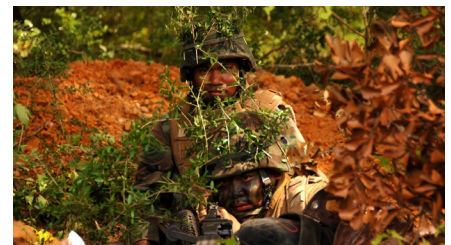
BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Protects working lands and 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

CONTACT

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE:
(601) 558-2827

FAST FACTS FROM FY 2009 THROUGH FY 2024 | Project Status: In Progress

Authority	Transactions	Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
10 U.S.C. § 2684a	20	4,667	\$12.8 million

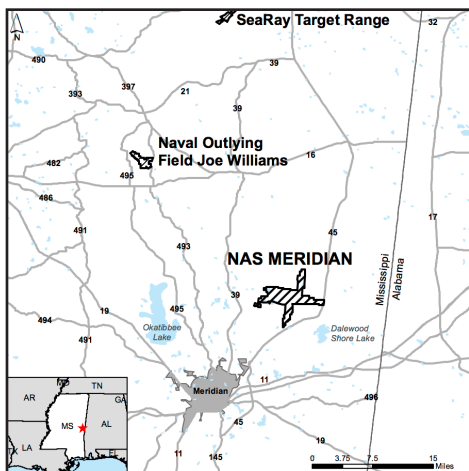
Subtotals may not sum to combined totals due to rounding



NAVAL AIR STATION MERIDIAN

Naval Air Station (NAS) Meridian is one of the Navy's two newest premier 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, NAS Meridian 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 minimal noise conflicts 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. To further protect the military mission, the installation is developing a Joint Land Use Study with the aforementioned counties, the city of Meridian, and the town of Marion. Together, these partnerships will ensure the viability of a key economic driver in the Meridian and Lauderdale county regions.

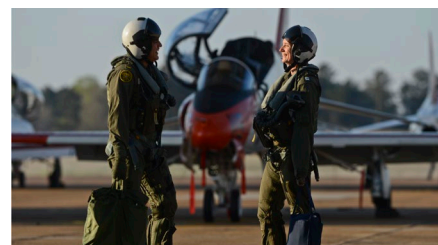
BENEFIT SUMMARY

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
- Kings County
- Lauderdale County
- Mississippi Development Authority
- State of Mississippi
- Sequoia River Lands Trust
- Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners
- West Hills Community College District

CONTACT

COMMUNITY PLANS AND LIAISON OFFICE:
(601) 679-2482

FAST FACTS FROM FY 2018 THROUGH FY 2024 | Project Status: In Progress

Authority	Transactions	Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
10 U.S.C. § 2684a	31	2,620	\$2.0 million

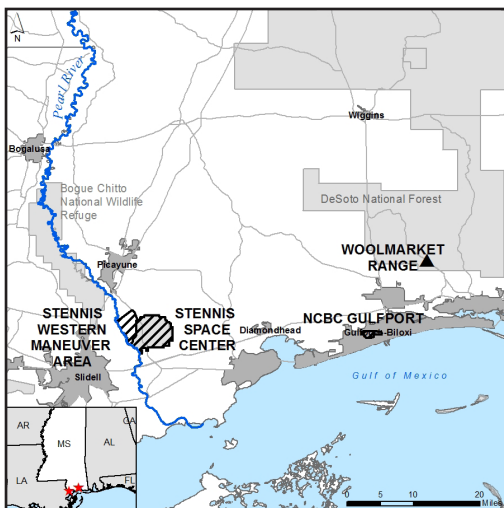
Subtotals may not sum to combined totals due to rounding



NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION CENTER GULFPORT WITH STENNIS WESTERN MANEUVER AREA

Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport is the industrial complex home to 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). Stennis WMA provides riverine training for Navy Special Forces in a jungle training environment adjacent to NASA's Stennis Space Center. 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 development pressures. 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, protective buffers will prevent development north of NCBC Gulfport in areas subject to noise from engineering and construction training, field exercises, and land navigation activities.

These protected environments 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, other Navy Special Forces, and military units from other nations use the riverine training environment at the Stennis WMA (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
- Mississippi Wildlife Fisheries and Parks Foundation
- State of Mississippi
- The Trust for Public Land
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Wildlife Mississippi

CONTACT

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND LIAISON OFFICE:
(228) 871-2157

FAST FACTS FROM FY 2019 THROUGH FY 2024 | Project Status: Initiated

Authority	Transactions	Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
10 U.S.C. § 2684a	—	—	\$9,500

Subtotals may not sum to combined totals due to rounding. | This project has expended REPI funds to support the ongoing management or improvement of lands outside the installation.