REPI READINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION INTEGRATION PROGRAM
STATE PROFILE | MONTANA

MONTANA

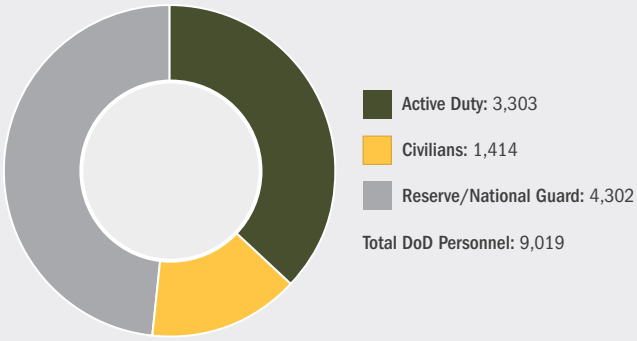
OVERVIEW

Montana received approximately $543 million 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.

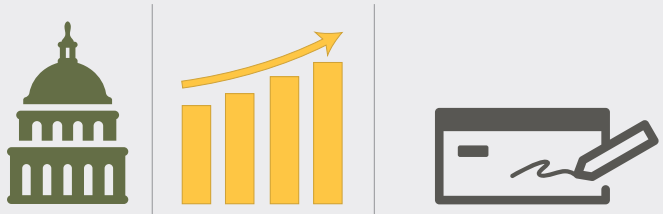
The Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program is a key tool used by DoD and its partners to protect the military's ability to train, test, and operate in the state. DoD created the REPI Program in response to the development of lands and loss of habitat in the vicinity of or affecting 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 nearly $4 million on REPI projects at 2 installation in Montana.

DOD IN MONTANA

DoD Personnel (as of 30 Sep 2018)



Federal Defense Spending and Economic Impact (in FY 2018)



$543 million in Federal Defense spending

1.1% of state GDP

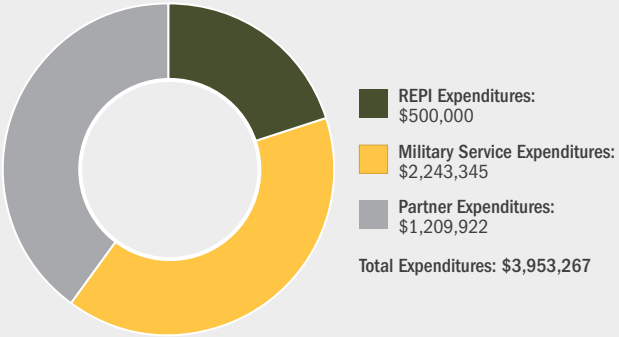
$300 million in payroll contributed
$200 million in contracts awarded

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
56,998	407	57,405

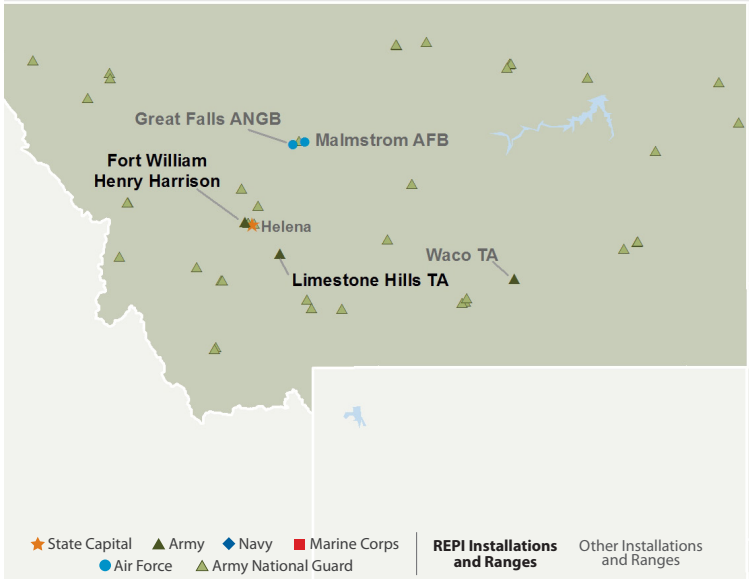
REPI PROJECTS* IN MONTANA

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): 630



MILITARY PRESENCE

- Helena County Commissioners recently combined the Fort Harrison Joint Land Use Study with the Helena Vally Area plan to minimize conflicts between Fort Harrison and the cities of Helena, Townsend, and Broadwater counties. Combining the plans will allow each county to accomplish their individual housing, land use, and economic goals while protecting Fort Harrison's future training operations and economic growth.
- Fort Harrison provides facilities and ranges for the National Guard, Reserve, and active duty personnel supporting training for several types of helicopter flights and gunnery, maneuver, demolition, and live firing of weapons from small arms to tanks.
- **Approximately 556 acres around Fort Harrison are currently being restored** as open space in order to mitigate encroachment and provide access to the Ten Mile Creek in Helena through the Prickly Pear Land Trust and The Conservation Fund.
- Surrounding Fort Harrison is a pristine landscape within the Yellowstone-to-Yukon region where several animal species migrate between the U.S. and Canada.

REPI PROJECTS

Project Installation	County	Congressional District
Fort Harrison, Limestone Hills	Lewis and Clark County	At-large

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

A Special Forces Operator assigned to 3rd Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) fires a round at a target hundreds of meters away during sniper training Feb. 8, 2017 at Limestone Hills Training Area at Fort Harrison, Montana. In addition to sharpening precision fire skills, soldiers with 10th SFG (A) honed their operational skills in ski and snowshoe movement across cold-weather terrain, and maintaining sustainment operations in an unimproved, austere environment.

Battalion Support Company, 3rd Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) Soldiers climb a hill during snowmobile training at the Cherry Creek Training Area at Fort Harrison, Montana Feb. 8, 2017. Soldiers honed their skills in a variety of cold weather activities from this snowmobile training to live fire sniper and automatic weapon ranges.

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

Key REPI Partners

- Lewis and Clark County
- Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, Parks
- Montana Fish and Wildlife Conservation Trust
- Prickly Pear Land Trust
- The Conservation Fund
- U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service

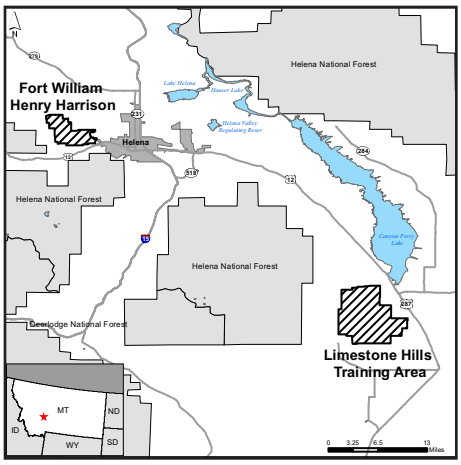
Data Sources

- **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 Fort Harrison Information:**
  - General Information: http://helenair.com/news/natural-resources/something-for-everyone-acres-near-fort-harrison-secured-as-open/article_2246644d-fa15-59af-98e5-13bc710c428a.html
  - JLUS information: http://www.fortharrisonjlus.com/
- **For Malmstrom AFB Information:** "Malmstrom Economic Impact Profile 2016": http://www.malmstrom.af.mil/Portals/43/documents/Commander's%20Data%20Card%20FY16.pdf?ver=2016-09-28-120657-060

U.S. ARMY :

FORT HARRISON AND LIMESTONE HILLS TRAINING AREA : MONTANA

Fort Harrison is a designated Maneuver Training Center-Light installation that provides training facilities and ranges for National Guard, Reserve, and active duty personnel from all four Services. Much of the post's infrastructure, including ranges and training areas, has been specifically designed to support individual and collective training for Special Forces units up to Battalion in size. This has resulted in special operations units becoming a mainstay among Fort Harrison users. Fort Harrison and the Limestone Hills Training Area, 41 miles southeast of the main post, support training for several types of helicopter flights and gunnery, maneuver, demolition, and live firing of weapons from small arms to tanks.



Fort Harrison is located just three miles west of the capital city of Helena, and is under constant pressure of development moving closer to its fence line. Urban encroachment already causes conflicts and complaints from noise, vibrations, and dust from training activities. However, Fort Harrison's location also presents a conservation opportunity to its partners. The area west and southwest of Fort Harrison is part of the Yellowstone-to-Yukon Initiative's Crown of the Continent ecosystem, the largest intact ecosystem in the U.S.

This pristine landscape is one of only two remaining areas within the Yellowstone-to-Yukon region where grizzly bears, wolverines, and other wide-ranging species can migrate between the U.S. and Canada. Conserving the rangelands and watershed around Fort Harrison and Limestone Hills serves to protect the Crown of the Continent from becoming an island ecosystem isolated from other conserved regions while helping to sustain national defense capabilities.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Preserves the largest intact ecosystem in the United States
- Supports existing regional planning efforts
- Preserves working lands and local character

MILITARY

- Preserves maneuver and live-fire training capabilities through the buffering of high-noise areas.
- Increases operational safety
- Prevents workarounds that would otherwise limit training capacity

Marines provide security as their teams beach their Zodiac reconnaissance crafts during a patrol operation at Limestone Hills (top). REPI-protected lands will add to a local network of parks and trails that links to Glacier National Park and the rest of the Crown of the Continent ecosystem located along Fort Harrison's western boundary (bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- Lewis and Clark County
- Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, Parks
- Montana Fish and Wildlife Conservation Trust
- Prickly Pear Land Trust
- The Conservation Fund
- U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service

FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2019

» Acres preserved:
630

» Transactions conducted:
3

» Total funds expended:
$4.0 million

» Project status:
In Progress

CONTACT

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