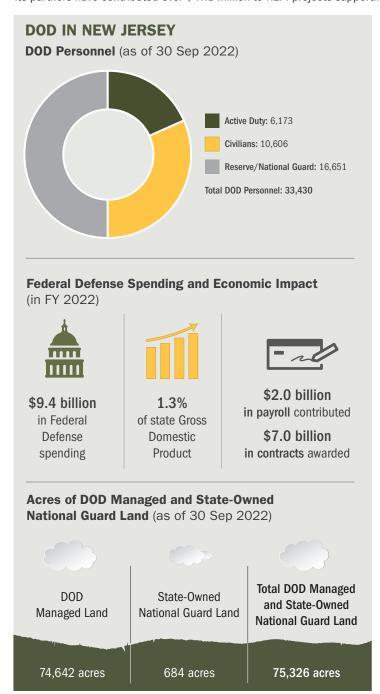
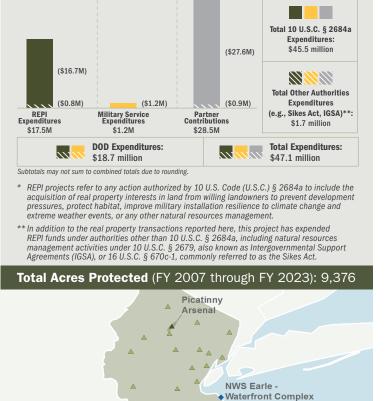


### **OVERVIEW**

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, the state of New Jersey received \$9.4 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 2007 through FY 2023, DOD and its partners have contributed over \$47.1 million to REPI projects supporting three installations in New Jersey.





NWS Earle

**War**ren Grove Range

RFPI Installations

and Ranges

Other Installations

Atlantic City ANGB

Trenton

Joint Base Guire-Dix-Lakehurst

★ State Capital ▲ Army ◆ Navy ■ Marine Corps

● Air Force Army National Guard

**REPI PROJECTS\* IN NEW JERSEY** 

**Funding Summary** (from FY 2007 through FY 2023)

## **MILITARY PRESENCE**

- Military installations in New Jersey are strategic in developing opportunities for the State's workforce to address the military and defense industry's current and future needs. According to the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, New Jersey bases employ 70,000 residents every year and brings more than \$6 billion in economic benefit to the state.
- New Jersey is home to Joint Base
   McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, the nation's only
   tri-Service military base and the second
   largest employer in New Jersey, after the
   state itself.
- Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst houses the largest and most advanced unit in the world for aircraft-launching missions, and is the world's only base equipped to handle the entire spectrum of operations related to aircraft recovery and launch.
- Warren Grove Range is one of the most heavily utilized Air National Guard training ranges in the U.S. and is a key Northeast training asset for all four Services, with its remote location providing unique operational capabilities.

## **REPI PROJECTS**

Installation	County	Congressional District
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst	Burlington, Ocean	3rd
Naval Weapons Station Earle	Monmouth	4th
Warren Grove Range	Ocean	2nd

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



Controlled burns help prevent wildfires, which reduce visibility for air exercises. Photo credit: Dr. Walter Bien, Laboratory of Pinelands Research

## **Key REPI Partners**

- Burlington County
- Burlington County Farmland Protection Program
- Monmouth Conservation Fund
- Monmouth County
- New Jersey Conservation Foundation
- New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
- New Jersey Green Acres Program
- New Jersey Pinelands Commission
- Ocean County
- State of New Jersey

#### **Data Sources**

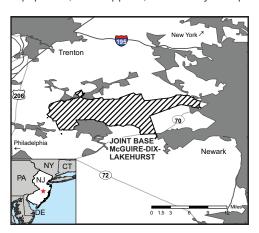
- For Economic Impact Information: New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs: www.nj.gov/military/
- For Land Information: Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment, Real Property, Business Systems & Information Directorate: "Base Structure Report — FY23 Baseline" (as of 30 Sept 2022)
- For Federal Spending and Personnel Information:
  Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation:
  "Defense Spending by State Fiscal Year 2022":
  www.oldcc.gov/dsbs-fy2022
- For REPI Projects Information:
  "2024 REPI Report to Congress": www.repi.mil/ Portals/44/Documents/Reports\_to\_Congress/ REPI2024RTC.pdf



# JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST

Located in central New Jersey's pinelands, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst is a tri-Service installation that combines McGuire Air Force Base, Fort Dix, and Naval Air Engineering Station Lakehurst.

However, outward growth from the greater New York and Philadelphia regions could impact air operations and training across the Joint Base. This includes training on the Assault Landing Zone site for transport aircraft, air transportation of troops, equipment, and supplies, and other joint operations and training exercises.



To ensure compatible land uses around the base, plans call for protecting a two-mile buffer that will preserve remaining open space and agricultural lands. Burlington and Ocean Counties and the state of New Jersey are helping to conserve lands that would threaten the military mission if developed, particularly within and around the Accident Potential Zones of the base's runways. These lands will also expand a nearby wildlife area, providing habitat for a state-listed

snake species while preventing light pollution. Preserving a dark night sky for transport aircraft pilots to train at landing in assault zones with night-vision goggles is vital for replicating combat conditions.

Of note in this project was one property that contains a cranberry bog and its highly valued natural resources. Additionally, protection of nearby lands helps preserve working farmlands, freshwater tributaries to the Toms River, and recreational uses in the area, while also maintaining the pinelands ecosystem.

# **BENEFIT SUMMARY**

### COMMUNITY

- Preserves working lands
- Supports existing regional planning objectives
- Provides habitat for wildlife

### **MILITARY**

- Preserves off-installation night flying capability through the buffering of high-noise areas
- Improves operational safety
- Provides for multi-Service missions and future mission growth





Airmen set up security measures at the Air Mobility Warfare Center (top). The first C-17 lands on a new Short Takeoff and Landing (STOL) runway protected by buffering (bottom).

### **KEY PARTNERS**

- Burlington County
- Burlington County Farmland Protection Program
- New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
- New Jersey Pinelands Commission
- Ocean County
- State of New Jersey

#### CONTACT

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE:** (609) 754-2104

FAST FACTS FROM FY 2007 THROUGH FY 2023 | Project Status: In Progress

Authority	Transactions	Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
10 U.S.C. § 2684a	60	9,196	\$45.0 million

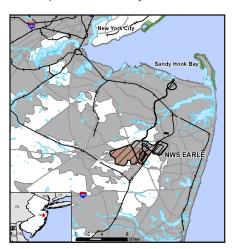
Subtotals may not sum to combined totals due to rounding



# **NAVAL WEAPONS STATION EARLE**

Naval Weapons Station Earle (NWSE), located in Monmouth County, New Jersey, houses the Navy's longest pier and largest explosive capacity, making it irreplaceable for the Navy's ammunition supply capabilities.

The installation's Mainside primarily serves as an ammunition staging area, supplying an average of 20 ammunition ship-loading evolutions per year, providing ordnance for all Atlantic Fleet Carrier and Expeditionary Strike Groups. Ammunition is transported from Mainside to the Pier Complex, which has three piers capable of berthing four 800-foot ships simultaneously. The Mainside area is also equipped with an explosives range



that is used weekly for explosive ordnance disposal proficiency training, as well as periodic joint trainings with the FBI and Transportation Security Administration.

Development pressures pose three main threats to NWSE: safety and security along the ammunition transportation route from Mainside to the Pier Complex, crowding and safety concerns resulting from increased use of waters in close proximity to the Pier Complex, and an increase in impervious surfaces leading to more severe flooding and potential damage during storm events. The Navy is working with Monmouth County to prevent development pressures,

preserve farmland and wetlands, and add to existing parks, which will allow NWSE to maintain operations security and decrease potential risk to the public.

Additionally, NWSE is working with other DOD agencies and state, county, and academic partners on several resiliency efforts, including beach nourishment, living shoreline establishment, wildfire mitigation, stormwater capacity enhancement, and pursuing a designation under the Sentinel Landscape Initiative. These efforts will benefit NWSE, other nearby installations, and the local communities into the future. Protecting communities and natural resources from climate threats is a priority for Monmouth Conservation Fund which will work with the County and Navy to expand upon existing protected areas.

### **BENEFIT SUMMARY**

#### COMMUNITY

- Protected water supply
- Conserved farmlands
- Increase in recreational areas

#### **MILITARY**

- Security along Normandy Road
- Decreased risk of public harm
- Decreased likelihood of flood damage





Constructed wetland green infrastructure project at NWS Earle to increase stormwater capacity (top). USS Iwo Jima loading ordnance before deployment (bottom).

#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- Monmouth County
- Monmouth Conservation Foundation
- Monmouth Conservation Fund
- New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
- New Jersey Department of Agriculture
- The Nature Conservancy

#### CONTACT

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE: (888) 743-4662

FAST FACTS FROM FY 2022 THROUGH FY 2023 | Project Status: Initiated

Authority	Transactions	Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
10 U.S.C. § 2684a	-	-	\$15,940
Other (e.g., Sikes Act, IGSA)	_	_	\$1.7 million
TOTAL	-	_	\$1.7 million

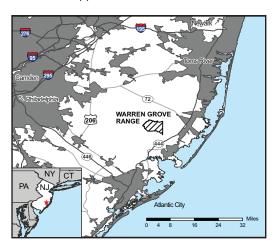
Subtotals may not sum to combined totals due to rounding. | This project has expended REPI funds to support the ongoing management or improvement of lands outside the installation.



## WARREN GROVE RANGE

One of the most heavily utilized Air National Guard training ranges in the U.S., Warren Grove Range is a key Northeast training asset for all four Services, with its remote location providing unique operational capabilities.

However, its location in the New Jersey Pinelands is also one of the most flammable areas in the country. Every year training activities ignite one fire every 10-14 days, which are suppressed on-site.



When wildfires occur, the range must be totally shut down until the fires are suppressed. To reduce the wildfire danger, controlled burns are necessary to manage forest undergrowth. Without buffer lands to properly address undergrowth and fire concerns, the military mission at the range is endangered. In May 2007, the range shut down entirely for more than a year. Now, REPI efforts to establish buffer lands surrounding the range are protecting the viability of continued training

missions, including use of conventional freefall bombs and munitions and future weapon systems training.

Targeting the acquisition of thousands of acres of forest, the New Jersey Conservation Foundation will help the Air Force protect surrounding residents from the constant threat of wildfire and conduct prescribed fire management. Additionally, better forest management will support the many federally and state-listed animal and vegetative species found in the Pinelands area. Altogether, this project allows the continued operation of Warren Grove Range and maintains a quality training environment.

## **BENEFIT SUMMARY**

#### COMMUNITY

- Coordinates with existing regional planning efforts, including a Joint Land Use Study
- Protects habitat for notable species
- Provides recreational benefits for area residents

#### **MILITARY**

- Protects on-installation training capacity
- Prevents the loss of available training days





Controlled burns help prevent wildfires, which reduce visibility for air exercises (top and bottom).Bottom photo credit: Dr. Walter Bien, Laboratory of Pinelands Research

#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- New Jersey Conservation Foundation
- New Jersey Green Acres Program
- New Jersey Pinelands Commission

### CONTACT

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE:** (609) 761-6259

FAST FACTS FROM FY 2010 THROUGH FY 2023 | Project Status: Completed

Authority		Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
10 U.S.C. § 2684a	5	179	\$0.4 million

Subtotals may not sum to combined totals due to rounding