REPI READINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION INTEGRATION PROGRAM
STATE PROFILE | NEW MEXICO

NEW MEXICO

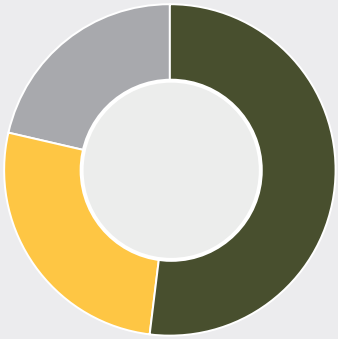
OVERVIEW

New Mexico received $4.1 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. As of FY 2019, DoD and its partners have spent nearly $5.5 million on REPI projects at two installations in New Mexico.

DOD IN NEW MEXICO

DoD Personnel (as of 30 Sep 2018)



Active Duty: 12,520

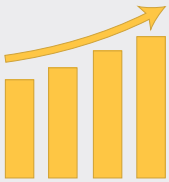
Civilians: 6,443

Reserve/National Guard: 5,026

Total DoD Personnel: 23,989

Federal Defense Spending and Economic Impact (in FY 2018)

$4.1 billion in Federal Defense spending



4.0% of state GDP

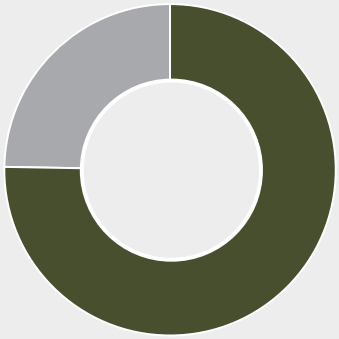
$1.3 billion in payroll contributed
$2.8 billion in contracts awarded

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
3,889,638	1,007	3,890,645

REPI PROJECTS* IN NEW MEXICO

Funding Summary (through FY 2019)



REPI Expenditures: $4,136,864

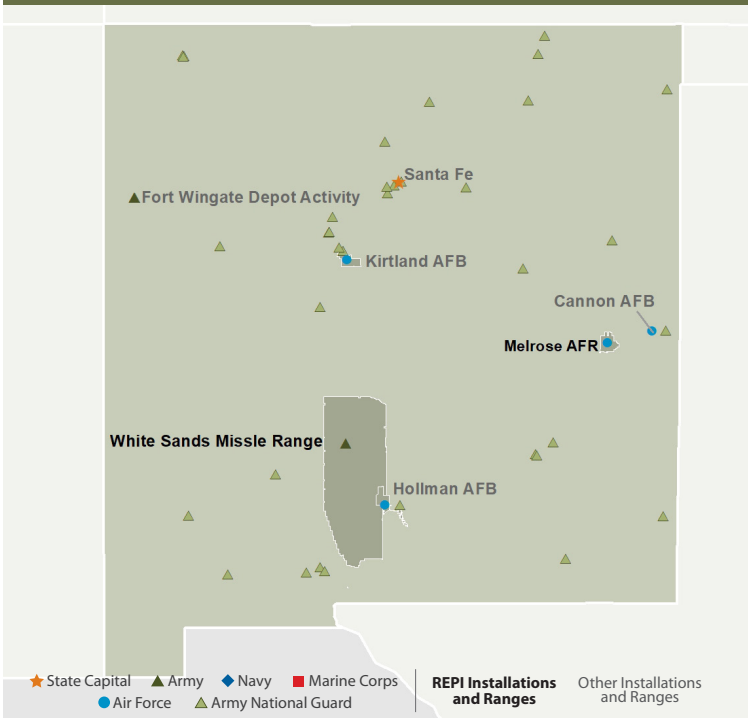
Military Service Expenditures: $0

Partner Expenditures: $1,346,874

Total Expenditures: $5,483,738

** 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): 55,017



MILITARY PRESENCE

- White Sands Missile Range is the DoD's largest Test and Evaluation Range, encompassing roughly 2.3 million acres, 8,500 miles of DoD restricted airspace, and military training routes that are critical to the training communities of the Army, Air Force, and Navy.
- Melrose Air Force Range (AFR), associated with Cannon Air Force Base, has been in operation since 1952 and functions as the 27th Special Operation Wing's primary training range. In total, the range provides more than 4,500 annual training hours for U.S. and coalition Special Operations forces.
- The 49th Wing, located at Holloman Air Force Base, trains F-22 Raptor, MQ-1 Predator, and MQ-9 Reaper pilots that are deployed worldwide.
- In May of 2019, Cannon Air Force Base and The Conservation Fund placed a conservation easement on 30,653 acres of land adjacent to Melrose AFR, protecting the range and the 27th Special Operations Wing from the effects of encroachment. This was the largest single transaction in the history of the REPI program.
- Located in Albuquerque, Kirtland Air Force Base occupies over 51,000 acres and houses the Air Force Research Lab New Mexico, which offers a myriad of innovative science, technology, engineering, and mathematics opportunities.

REPI PROJECTS

Project Installation	County	Congressional District
Melrose Air Force Range	Roosevelt	2nd
White Sands Missile Range	Doña Ana, Otero, Socorro, Sierra, Lincoln	2nd

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

Helicopters leave White Sands Space Harbor after picking up Soldiers during air assault training. The training event allowed the pilots and support units to practice forward refueling and operating in a large group.

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

Key REPI Partners

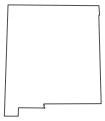
- Compatible Lands Foundation
- New Mexico State Lands Office
- New Mexico Military Base Planning Commission
- The Conservation Fund
- The Nature Conservancy
- The New Mexico Land Conservancy
- Socorro Agricultural Land Trust
- State of New Mexico
- U.S. Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Department of Interior – Bureau of Land Management

Data Sources

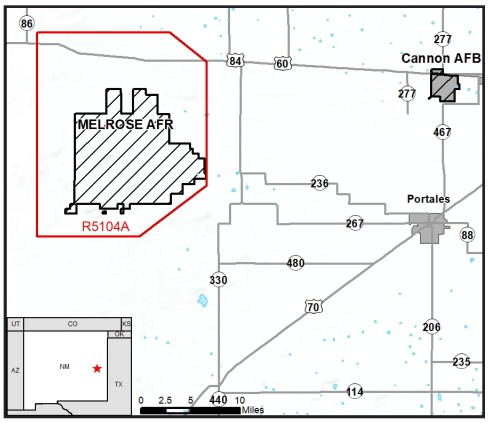
- **For Federal Spending and personnel Information:** Office of Economic Adjustment: "Defense Spending By State Fiscal Year 2018": https://www.oea.gov/sites/default/files/defense-spending-rpts/FY2018-Defense-Spending-by-State-Report_0_0.pdf
- **For Land Information:** Department of Defense: "Base Structure 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": http://www.repi.mil/Portals/44/Documents/Reports_to_Congress/REPI2020RTC.pdf
- **For Economic Impact Information:**
  - The Conservation Fund: www.conservationfund.org
  - https://www.holloman.af.mil/Portals/101/documents/AFD-130910-061.pdf
  - https://militarybases.com/new-mexico/
  - https://nmpartnership.com/industry-sectors/aerospace-defense/

U.S. AIR FORCE :

MELROSE AIR FORCE RANGE : NEW MEXICO



Melrose Air Force Range (MAFR) provides more than 4,500 training hours for Special Operations Forces each year. These hours consist of strike, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, mobility, battlefield support, special tactics, and ground force mission training for Special Operations Forces. In addition, the integrated nature of this range allows for combined air and ground training operations in settings very similar to those found in current areas of conflict, yielding greater success on the battlefield.



Although MAFR is located in rural eastern New Mexico, the elevation of the surrounding topography is very appealing to wind energy developers. MAFR is a relatively small range, therefore construction of turbines in the area would create vertical hazards and light-pollution capable of rendering 50% of training activities impracticable. With the support of the state, partner and REPI funding, this project will secure restrictive use easements to provide buffer protection at MAFR to mitigate the impacts of potential incompatible development.

The land surrounding MAFR is currently used compatibly as rangeland, farmland, and grasslands. The grassland environment also serves as habitat to the critically endangered lesser prairie chicken and other ground nesting species. By protecting this land from development, historical agricultural operations will be sustained, and rangelands and grasslands will be preserved, benefitting the local wildlife and the military mission.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Protects working lands
- Maintains existing land use patterns
- Preserves habitat for endangered species
- Maintains local character

MILITARY

- Ensures that existing compatible areas remain compatible
- Ensures the ability to conduct operations and training activities

A conservation easement adjacent to Melrose Air Force Range consists of 30,493 acres (top). An AC-130W Stinger II fires its weapon over Melrose Air Force Range, N.M (bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- The Conservation Fund
- The New Mexico Land Conservancy
- State of New Mexico
- Surrounding land owners

FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2019

» Acres preserved:
30,493

» Transactions conducted:
0

» Total funds expended:
$1.7 Million

» Project status:
In Progress

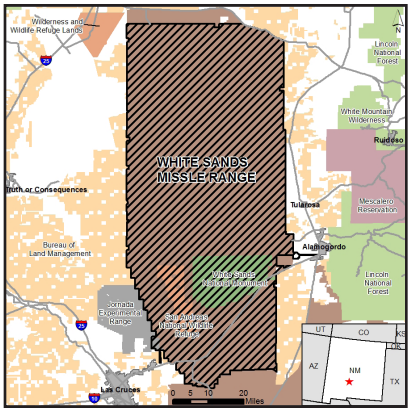
CONTACT

Public Affairs Office
(575) 784-4131

U.S. ARMY :

WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE : NEW MEXICO

In addition to being the largest military installation in the United States, White Sands Missile Range (WSMR) is the DoD's largest fully instrumented open-air range and was named the 2nd most important all-overland test range in the United States by the 2005 BRAC Commission. WSMR hosts 100% of the military's Remote Pilot Aircraft training (RPA), 70% of F-22 and F-16 pilot training, and most training for nearby Holloman Air Force Base. The northernmost part of WSMR, called the "Northern Call-Up Area" (NCUA), provides invaluable airspace for the DoD and its partners.



Encroachment is of critical concern to the NCUA, as it presents risks to low-flying missile operations and may affect the use and choice of radar locations. Development along NCUA's borders would lead to issues related to radiation, noise, air quality degradation, and dust. Projected population growth and recent land sales indicate that the likelihood of this threat will only increase with time. WSMR has partnered with local stakeholders and hopes to purchase easements near the NCUA to mitigate encroachment. Purchasing easements will allow training to continue in a realistic manner and also benefit local ranching communities that are also vulnerable to development. Ranching is an important and long-standing tradition in southern New Mexico, and its preservation is a high priority for WSMR.

WSMR's partnerships with local stakeholders will generate benefits that extend far beyond military readiness. Purchasing easements surrounding NCUA will give WSMR the opportunity to become a leader in archeological preservation and an ally who supports the surrounding area's economic and recreational interests. The land adjacent to NCUA has a high density of prehistoric archeological sites. WSMR's partnerships will reduce incompatible development on those sites and encourage traditional rural use of the land that will generate local revenue through ranching and hunting.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Preserves working lands and local charter
- Protects water supply
- Provides recreational activities

MILITARY

- Reduces electromagnetic interference
- Provides for mission growth
- Reduces lost training days and the need for workarounds that would reduce training realism or effectiveness

Soldiers conduct sling-load operations by loading an M777 Howitzer using cables attached to the underside of a CH47 Chinook helicopter, which transported the weapon to another location (top). Soldier monitors input from the Tactical Operations Center (bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- Bureau of Land Management
- Compatible Lands Foundation
- U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service
- New Mexico Land Conservancy
- New Mexico Military Base Planning Commission
- New Mexico State Lands Office
- Socorro Agricultural Land Trust
- The Nature Conservancy

FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2019

» Acres preserved:
24,524

» Transactions conducted:
2

» Total funds expended:
$3.7 million

» Project status:
In Progress

CONTACT

Public Affairs Office
(575) 678-1134