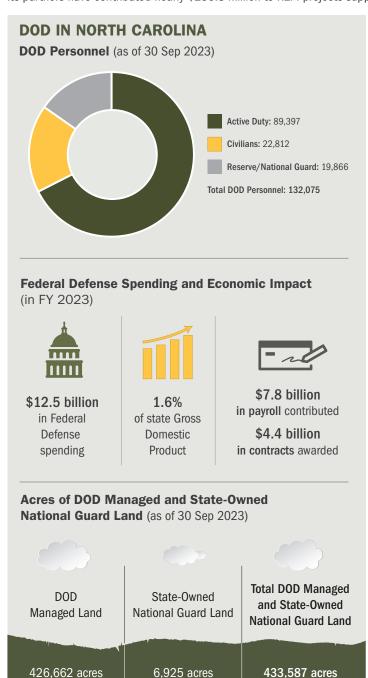
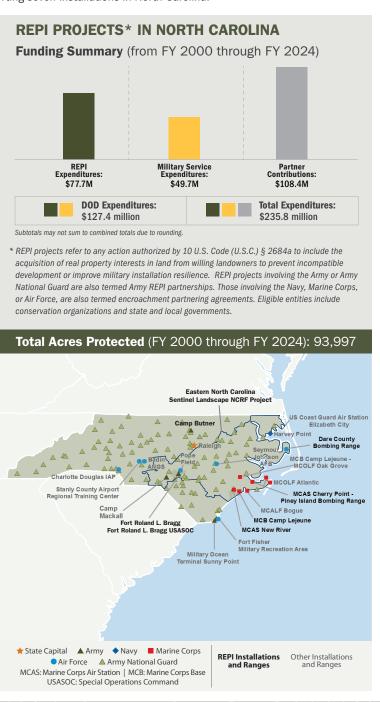


## **OVERVIEW**

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, the state of North Carolina received \$12.5 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 2000 through FY 2024, DOD and its partners have contributed nearly \$235.8 million to REPI projects supporting seven installations in North Carolina.





#### **MILITARY PRESENCE**

- MCAS Cherry Point is the largest Marine Corps Air Station, occupying over 29,000 acres.
- Seymour Johnson Air Force Base houses the 4th Fighter Wing, the multi-role, allweather F-15E Strike Eagle, and the 916th Air Refueling Wing.
- Camp Lejeune MCB is home to II Marine Expeditionary Force and the U.S. Marine **Corps Forces Special Operations** Command.
- Fort Roland L. Bragg hosts the only U.S. airborne corps and airborne division, the "Green Berets" of the Special Operations Command, and the Army's largest support command, with nearly 48,000 active duty personnel.

- As the only East Coast rotary wing installation, MCAS New River and tenant commands are vital to the training, readiness, and deployment of worldwide Marine Corps aviation forces.
- North Carolina is home to approximately 775,000 veterans who collectively represent every county in the state.
- Behind agriculture, the military is the second largest economic driver in the state.
- North Carolina is home to more than half of all U.S. special operations forces.
- North Carolina is home to more than 11,000 Air National Guard and Army National Guard personnel, including the Army National Guard's 30th Armored Brigade Combat Team.

## REPI PROJECTS

Installation	County	Congressional District
Camp Butner	Granville	4th
Dare County Range	Dale	3rd
Eastern North Carolina Sentinel Landscape	Multiple	Multiple
Fort Roland L. Bragg	Cumberland, Hoke, Harnett, Moore	9th
Fort Roland L. Bragg USASOC	Cumberland	8th, 9th
MCAS Cherry Point-Piney Island Bombing Range	Craven	3rd
MCB Camp Lejeune (with MCAS New River)	Onslow	3rd

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



Development adjacent to the Fort Liberty perimeter.



Landowner Julian Johnson values the protection of longleaf pine on his property.

## **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 resourceuse decisions, and improve coordination among regions, states, communities, and military services.
- North Carolina is a member of SERPPAS along with the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and South Carolina. For more information, visit www.serppas.org.

## **Key REPI Partners**

- Carteret County
- City of Havelock
- City of Raleigh
- Coastal Conservation
- Conservation Resources
- **Ducks Unlimited**
- **Durham County**
- Durham County Soil and Water Conservation District
- Eastern North Carolina Sentinel Landscape
- Granville County
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- National Wild Turkey Federation
- North Carolina Agricultural Development and Farmland **Preservation Trust**
- North Carolina Attorney General Wetlands Grant
- North Carolina Coastal Federation
- North Carolina Coastal Land Trust
- North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
- North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- North Carolina Department of Justice Environmental **Enhancement Grant**

- North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
- North Carolina Division of Coastal Management
- North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation
- North Carolina Forest Service
- North Carolina Land and Water Fund
- North Carolina Sandhills Conservation Partnership
- North Carolina Wildlife **Resources Commission**
- Onslow County
- Sandhills Area Land Trust
- Sandhills Ecological Institute
- State of North Carolina
- Tar River Land Conservancy The Conservation Forestry
- Partners ■ The Conservation Fund
- The Nature Conservancy The Working Lands Trust
- Three Rivers Land Trust
- Tobacco Trust Fund
- Triangle Land Conservancy
- U.S. Department of Agriculture - Natural **Resources Conservation** Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service

#### **Data Sources**

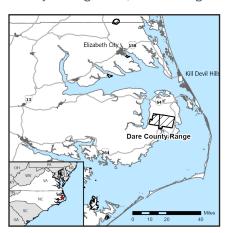
- For Economic Impact Information:
- North Carolina Department of Commerce, "Military Economic Impact on North Carolina: October 2022 Report": www.ourncmilitary.nc.gov/media/678/open
- For Land Information: Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment, Real Property, Business Systems & 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



## DARE COUNTY RANGE

Located in Eastern North Carolina, the Dare County Range is the primary training range for F-15E aircraft crews from Seymour Johnson Air Force Base and the primary backyard range for all Atlantic fleet F/A-18 fighter-attack squadrons operating out of Naval Air Station Oceana.

The range is an electronic combat, day-night, and air-to-ground weapons training site critical to both installations and Joint Service special operations teams. Together, the Air Force and Navy are working to protect land near and under special use airspace, military training routes, and bombing run flight tracks near this essential training range.



Easements acquired with project partners will prevent incompatible uses such as wind energy development in areas near the facility identified by range and air installation compatible use zone studies. The protected land includes habitat important for numerous species such as the red-cockaded woodpecker, red wolf, and area-sensitive songbirds. Keeping the range buffered and in its natural state ensures that aircrews special operations teams and combat ground elements can continue their weapons training and Joint Tactical Air Control exercises.

Buffering the range also allows the Services to expand on current training tactics, techniques, and procedures, as well as support new training areas being planned and developed to continually enhance training adapted to the war fighting efforts throughout the world. Sustaining these capabilities is only possible through partnership with The Nature Conservancy to protect Dare County's significant undeveloped wetlands and forest landscape.

## BENEFIT SUMMARY

### **COMMUNITY**

- Protects working lands
- Brings together new partners in support
  Supports multiple Service missions
- Preserves limited and significant habitat
- Brings together new partners

### **MILITARY**

- Increases operational safety
- of coordinated regional planning efforts Reduces incompatible land uses under military airspace
  - Promotes effective training areas and capabilities
  - Encourages training improvements through secured working parameters
  - Allows for interagency developments designed to support the public





F-15E dropping inert ordnance (top). The range includes forested wetlands and other habitat (bottom).

#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- Coastal Conservation League
- Eastern North Carolina Sentinel Landscape
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- North Carolina Coastal Federation
- North Carolina Coastal Land Trust
- North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
- North Carolina Department of Natural and **Cultural Resources**
- The Nature Conservancy
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Working Lands Trust, Inc.

## CONTACT

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE** SEYMOUR JOHNSON AIR FORCE BASE: (919) 722-0027

FAST FACTS FROM FY 2013 THROUGH FY 2024 | Project Status: In Progress

Authority		Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
10 U.S.C. § 2684a	28	23,733	\$33 million

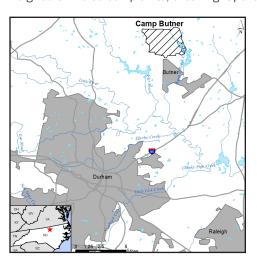


## **CAMP BUTNER**

Camp Butner Training Center (CBTC) contains 98% of the North Carolina Army National Guard (NCARNG)'s field training acreage and all of its small arms ranges.

CBTC also supports training for the North Carolina Air National Guard, U.S. Army Reserve, Reserve Officer Training Corps, and active units from Fort Bragg and Camp LeJeune. Located about 15 miles north of two of North Carolina's largest and fastest-growing cities, Raleigh and Durham, and in the heart of those cities' watersheds, CBTC is at risk of having its training capabilities limited due to looming encroachment challenges.

CBTC seeks to protect 80% of the land within a 1-mile radius of the installation together with its partners. By limiting incompatible development in this area, the installation can continue its operations without disturbing its rural agricultural and low-density residential neighbors. Noise complaints, urban light pollution degrading nighttime training, and



civilian trespassing and the resulting safety issues have steadily increased over the past two decades at other military bases in in the state as its population has grown. These problems have not significantly affected CBTC yet; however, NCARNG is being proactive to prevent these issues in the future.

CBTC's location within the watersheds of Raleigh and Durham, and those cities' interest in permanently protecting their clean water sources, have forged a partnership to benefit everyone. By cooperating to preserve the lands within a mile of CBTC's boundary, CBTC maintains its training capabilities while

the local governments protect over 10,000 acres of prime watershed, an increasingly critical resource. The action also preserves a local timber rattlesnake habitat, a species which has almost disappeared from the State's Piedmont region. Protecting the 1-mile buffer minimizes the remaining rattlesnake populations dispersing within CBTC's boundary and affecting its mission.

#### BENEFIT SUMMARY

## COMMUNITY

- Preserves water resources
- Protects working lands
- Preserves habitat for threatened species
- Supports local coordinated planning efforts

#### **MILITARY**

- Preserves live-fire and helicopter training capacity
- Ensures the ability to conduct training or testing activities that generate noise
- Prevents the loss of training days and the use of less-realistic workarounds





Soldiers compete in annual Sniper Match at Camp Butner (top). Spc. Lucas Johnson assembles a M249 light machine gun while completing a mystery event during the National Guard Region III Best Warrior Competition at the Camp Butner Training Site (bottom).

## **KEY PARTNERS**

- Tar River Land Conservancy
- Triangle Land Conservancy
- NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund
- North Carolina Land and Water Fund
- City of Raleigh (Watershed Protection Program)
- Durham County
- Granville County
- Durham Soil and Water Conservation District

### CONTACT

NCNG PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE: (984) 664-6829

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

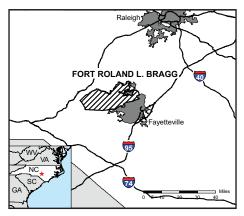
Authority		Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
10 U.S.C. § 2684a	16	1,849	\$7.9 million



## **FORT BRAGG**

Fort Bragg is one of the Army's premier installations and among the most actively used military complexes in the world, home to the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne and U.S. Army Special Operations Forces.

Fort Bragg is also home to rare, mature longleaf pine habitat for the federally threatened red-cockaded woodpecker (RCW). Meanwhile, the 2005 Base



Realignment and Closure realigned up to 40,000 troops and their families to the post, increasing the challenges of managing growth in the North Carolina Sandhills area.

When residential development occurred immediately adjacent to Fort Bragg's training areas, particularly along the southern installation border, the Army set aside training land exclusively to protect dwindling RCW habitat to avoid additional regulatory requirements and training restrictions.

Fort Bragg's efforts with local, state, and non-governmental stakeholders helped achieve the recovery target for the sandhills RCW population segment, the first such documented recovery of a RCW sub-population. Restrictions related to RCW placed on training at Fort Bragg are being virtually eliminated as the population recovers. The preserved habitat has provided other additional benefits including expanding Cumberland County's only state park. Other ongoing projects target lands that protect additional RCW habitat and focus on limiting development incompatible in the rapidly expanding areas adjacent to the installation.

## **BENEFIT SUMMARY**

## **COMMUNITY**

- Preserves working lands for forestry, benefiting the local economy
- Provides habitat for endangered species
- Helps preserve water quality
- Augments regional planning objectives

### **MILITARY**

- Preserves live-fire and maneuver training capacity
- Prevents workarounds that would reduce training realism or effectiveness



Development adjacent to the installation perimeter.

#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- Coastal Conservation League
- Eastern North Carolina Sentinel Landscape
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- North Carolina Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust
- North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund
- North Carolina Coastal Federation
- North Carolina Department of Agriculture
- North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation
- North Carolina Land and Water Fund
- North Carolina Sandhills Conservation Partnership
- North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
- Sandhills Area Land Trust
- Sandhills Ecological Institute
- The Nature Conservancy
- Three Rivers Land Trust
- U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service

## CONTACT

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE: (910) 643-2741

FAST FACTS FROM FY 2000 THROUGH FY 2024 | Project Status: In Progress

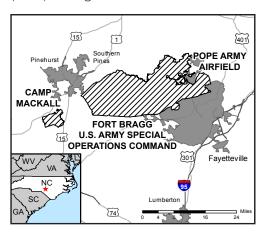
Authority	Transactions	Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
10 U.S.C. § 2684a	78	24,327	\$83.1 million



## FORT BRAGG U.S. ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMANDS

As the home of the Joint and U.S. Army Special Operations Commands (USASOC), Fort Bragg supports essential training for some of the nation's most elite warfighters.

Fort Bragg, Pope Army Airfield, and Camp Mackall, located 25 miles southwest of Fort Bragg, provide rural terrain where Special Forces can train for their highly classified activities. It is here that soldiers conduct Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape (SERE) training.



Any development of the area surrounding Fort Bragg and Camp Mackall would threaten SERE field training exercises, which require students to forage on the land and evade the general public. The Army performs its exercises on these lands under agreement with landowners. To protect the required isolation and vegetative cover, the Army is working with the Sandhills Area Land Trust to keep agricultural and forested lands undeveloped throughout the training area.

In addition to enabling Special Forces to learn and train in survival field craft, evasion techniques, resistance to interrogation, and escape, this REPI project is a priority for local and state agriculturalists. Keeping this historically rural area in agricultural production contributes to the area's economy, providing jobs and food for the region.

## **BENEFIT SUMMARY**

## COMMUNITY

- Protects working lands that benefit the economy
- Preserves habitat for rare and notable species

### **MILITARY**

- Protects the ability to perform sensitive special operations training
- Protects operational security





A soldier covers a helicopter's landing during a training exercise (top). Fort Roland L. Bragg USASOC holds an annual sniper competition where soldiers are tested in realistic combat environments (bottom).

### **KEY PARTNERS**

- Coastal Conservation League
- Eastern North Carolina Sentinel Landscape
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- North Carolina Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust
- North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund
- North Carolina Coastal Federation
- North Carolina Department of Agriculture
- North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation
- North Carolina Land and Water Fund
- North Carolina Sandhills Conservation Partnership
- North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
- Sandhills Area Land Trust
- The Conservation Fund
- The Nature Conservancy
- Three Rivers Land Trust (TRLT)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

#### CONTACT

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE: (910) 643-2741

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

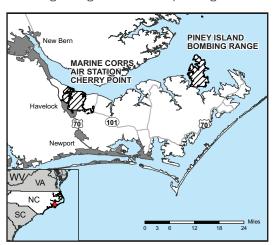
Authority		Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
10 U.S.C. § 2684a	16	3,242	\$14.7 million



## MARINE CORPS AIR STATION CHERRY POINT WITH PINEY ISLAND BOMBING RANGE

A critical asset for its combined training and operational capabilities and the largest air station in the Marine Corps, Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Cherry Point supports carrier landing practice, unmanned aerial systems, and ground maneuver training.

Its range complex includes Piney Island Bombing Range, whose land and water ranges provide electronic and special warfare training. There are no other water-based ranges in the United States so close to nearby stationed aircraft along with ground-based units within flight range to off-shore operating areas. This proximity allows those aircraft



and ground units to effectively conduct joint operations.

Located along the Neuse River, large tracts of forest and farm land with water access near the installation are both desirable for residential development as well as susceptible to hurricanes and coastal flooding. Together with their partners, MCAS is working to limit encroachment and conserve 25,000 acres around the Cherry Point Range Complex, keeping that land in a compatible agricultural use. The installation

is also working with partners to construct 2,100 linear feet of living shoreline to curb erosion and control flooding near the installation.

The Marine Corps has also implemented an innovative regional approach to its installations in Eastern North Carolina by creating REPI's first multi-installation agreement, facilitating collective projects with state and non-profit partners at MCAS Cherry Point, MCAS New River, and Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune.

## **BENEFIT SUMMARY**

#### COMMUNITY

- Supports existing regional planning, including a Joint Land Use Study
- Protects habitat for wildlife and builds coastal resiliency
- Contributes to the strategic goals of the Eastern North Carolina Sentinel Landscape

#### **MILITARY**

- Preserves live-fire, maneuver, and helicopter training capacity through the buffering of high-noise areas
- Preserves night flying training capacity that requires minimal light pollution
- Improves operational safety
- Enhances military installation resilience





MCAS Cherry Point provides training on the SuperCobra attack helicopter (bottom) and bombing runs on nearby Piney Island (top).

### **KEY PARTNERS**

- Carteret County
- City of Havelock
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- North Carolina Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust
- North Carolina Attorney General Ecosystem Enhancement Grant
- North Carolina Attorney General Wetlands Grant
- North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund
- North Carolina Coastal Federation
- North Carolina Coastal Land Trust
- North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
- North Carolina Department of Justice Environmental Enhancement Grant
- North Carolina Land and Water Fund
- State of North Carolina
- The Conservation Fund
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Working Lands Trust
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

### CONTACT

COMMUNITY PLANS & LIAISON OFFICER: (252) 466-4197

FAST FACTS FROM FY 2007 THROUGH FY 2024 | Project Status: In Progress

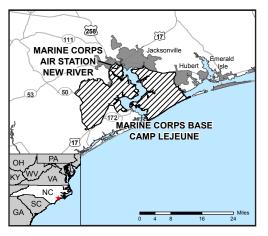
Authority	Transactions	Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
10 U.S.C. § 2684a	24	15,606	\$46.0 million
Other (e.g., Sikes Act, IGSA)	_	_	\$32,724
TOTAL	24	15,606	\$46.0 million

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.



# MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP LEJEUNE WITH MARINE CORPS AIR STATION NEW RIVER

The Department of Defense's largest amphibious training facility, Marine Corps Base (MCB) Camp Lejeune comprises 156,000 acres along the Atlantic Ocean, including 98 maneuver areas, 34 gun positions, 50 tactical landing zones, a state-of-the-art urban terrain facility, 78 live-fire ranges, and 11 miles of beach capable of amphibious operations.



Units based here include the II Marine Expeditionary Force and the Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command. Adjacent to Camp Lejeune and part of this base complex is Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) New River, which supports aviation combat units of fixed-wing, rotary, and tiltrotor aircraft.

Areas near the base complex are rich in habitat and working lands, but also attract commercial and residential development. Camp Lejeune has worked with a variety

of partners within the Onslow Bight Conservation Forum to preserve buffer land near the base. The preservation of this land helps to safeguard the base's invaluable training lands, ranges, and training routes, while sustaining the North Carolina coastal plain and assisting red-cockaded woodpecker recovery.

The Marine Corps has also implemented an innovative regional approach to buffering activities for all Marine Corps installations in eastern North Carolina by creating REPI's first multi-installation agreement. The agreement facilitates collective projects with state and non-profit partners at MCAS Cherry Point, MCAS New River, and MCB Camp Lejeune.

## **BENEFIT SUMMARY**

### **COMMUNITY**

- Supports regional planning objectives through innovative partnering and a Joint Land Use Study
- Preserves land within established conservation corridors
- Provides habitat for species
- Protects water quality and supply

### **MILITARY**

- Preserves on-installation live-fire and maneuver training
- Ensures the ability to conduct helicopter training and other activities that generate significant noise





Amphibious training at MCB Camp Lejeune (top). Projects help preserve the longleaf pine ecosystem (bottom), which aids red-cockaded woodpecker recovery and sustainment.

### **KEY PARTNERS**

- Conservation Forestry
- National Fish and Wildlife Federation
- North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund
- North Carolina Coastal Land Trust
- North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation
- North Carolina Natural Heritage Trust Fund
- Onslow County
- State of North Carolina
- The Conservation Forestry Partners
- The Nature Conservancy
- Tobacco Trust Fund
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

#### CONTACT

**COMMUNITY PLANS & LIAISON OFFICER:** (910) 451-7645

FAST FACTS FROM FY 2005 THROUGH FY 2024 | Project Status: In Progress

Authority		Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
10 U.S.C. § 2684a	22	25,240	\$51.0 million