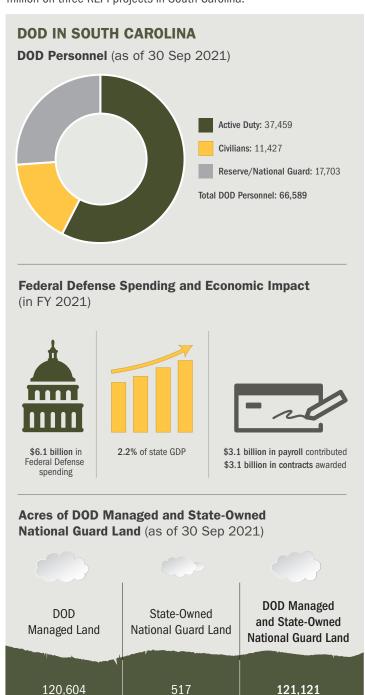
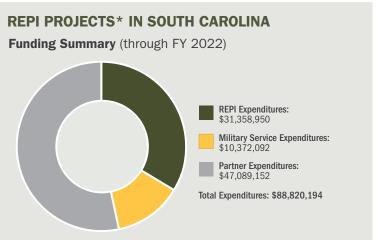


### **OVERVIEW**

South Carolina received \$6.1 billion in Defense spending in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021, 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.

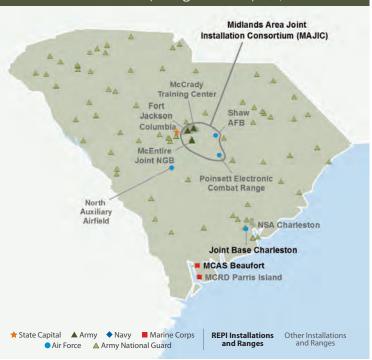
The Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program is a key tool used by DOD and its partners to protect the military's ability to train, test, and operate in the state. DOD created the REPI Program in response to the development of lands and loss of habitat in the vicinity of or affecting 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 2022, DOD and its partners have spent nearly \$89 million on three REPI projects in South Carolina.





\* 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 2022): 29,644



#### MILITARY PRESENCE

- The South Carolina Military Base Task
   Force reported that military-related activities accounted for 191,519 jobs and \$25.3 billion in economic activity in FY 2019.
- Shaw Air Force Base is home to the 20<sup>th</sup>
   Fighter Wing, the largest F-16 combat
   wing in the Air Force and the largest
   suppression wing in the continental U.S.
- Fort Jackson is the Army's largest and most active Initial Entry Training Center, training 50% of the Army's Basic Combat Training load and 70% of the women entering the Army.
- Located on 8,095 acres in Beaufort County, including more than 4,000 acres of salt marsh and tidal streams, Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island is the Marine Corps' second oldest post and one of the most visited military facilities in the world.
- The annual South Carolina state tax revenue generated by the military community is approximately
   \$1 billion, as of FY 2021.

#### **REPI PROJECTS**

Project Installation	County	Congressional District
Joint Base Charleston	Charleston	6th
MCAS Beaufort	Beaufort	1st
Midlands Area Joint Installation Consortium (MAJIC)	Kershaw, Richland, Sumter	2nd, 5th, 6th

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





MCAS Beaufort hosts training on aircraft such as the F/A-18 Hornet (left). Preserved wetlands near the installation help to protect area water quality (top).

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

## **Key REPI Partners**

- Beaufort County
- Beaufort County Open Land Trust
- Beaufort County Rural and Critical Land Preservation Program
- Charleston County
- City of Beaufort
- City of Columbia
- City of Sumter
- CoWaSee
- Ducks Unlimited
- Governor's Military Task Force
- Kershaw County
- Palmetto Conservation Foundation
- Richland County
- Rural and Critical Land Preservation Program
- South Carolina Department of Commerce

- South Carolina
   Department of Health and
   Environmental Control
- South Carolina Department of Natural Resources
- South Conservation Bank
- Sumter County
- The Central Midlands Council of Governments
- The Compatible Lands Foundation
- The Congaree Land Trust
- The Conservation Fund
- The Nature Conservancy of South Carolina
- The Trust for Public Land
- U.S. Department of Agriculture — Natural Resources Conservation Service

#### **Data Sources**

- For Economic Impact Information: South Carolina Military Base Task Force
  - "Economic Impact of Military Presence in S.C. Reaches \$24.1 billion": https://www.sccommerce. com/news/economic-impact-military-presence-sc-reaches-241-billion
  - "The Economic Impact of South Carolina's Military Community: A Statewide and Regional Analysis, June 2022": https://scdva.sc.gov/sites/scdva/ files/Documents/Economic%20Impact%20 Final%20June%202022.pdf
  - The Economic Impact of the S.C. Military Community: 2019 Update": https://scdva.sc.gov/sites/default/files/ Documents/2019%20economic%20impact%20 of%20the%20military%20on%20SC.pdf
- For Installation-Specific Information: Shaw Air Force
  Base: http://www.shaw.af.mil/; Fort Jackson: https://
  home.army.mil/jackson/index.php; Marine Corps Air
  Station Beaufort: http://www.beaufort.marines.mil/
- For Land Information: Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment, Real Property, Business Systems & Information Directorate: "Base Structure Report — FY22 Baseline" (as of 30 Sept 2021)
- For Federal Spending and Personnel Information:
   Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation:
   "Defense Spending by State Fiscal Year 2021":
   https://oldcc.gov/dsbs-fy2021
- For REPI Projects Information:

  "2023 REPI Report to Congress": https://www.repi.
  mil/Portals/44/Documents/Reports\_to\_Congress/
  REPI2023RTC.pdf



# JOINT BASE CHARLESTON

Located about 65 miles northwest of Joint Base Charleston near the rural Town of North, South Carolina, North Auxiliary Air Field (NAAF) houses one of the only airstrips with adequate darkness to support night assault training operations.

These operations include assault landing as well as personnel and cargo airdrop exercises essential to the training of C-17, C-5, and C-130 pilots. Although NAAF



is remotely located, its proximity to Columbia and Charleston subjects it to encroachment pressures caused by sprawling development.

With the help of its partners,
NAAF will acquire conservation
and restrictive use easements
surrounding the installation to
ensure that agricultural and lowdensity residential properties
remain compatible. This project will
safeguard night vision and military
drop operations by reducing the
potential for light pollution. These

easements will also help landowners maintain their livelihood at a time when agriculture is declining in the area.

NAAF has partnered with Ducks Unlimited for this project to participate in the Southeast Wetlands Initiative. The goal of this initiative is to restore and enhance lands containing key waterfowl habitat including grasslands, managed coastal wetlands, bottomland hardwood forests, and freshwater marshes. The land surrounding NAAF's airfield is predominantly open space, some containing rivers and marshes — ideal habitats for local bird species — making it a well-suited addition to this initiative.

# **BENEFIT SUMMARY**

#### **COMMUNITY**

- Preserves open space and agricultural land
- Provides habitat for local species
- Provides recreational opportunities

#### **MILITARY**

- Prevents flight operations from additional noise complaints
- Mitigates noise concerns and improves operational safety
- Preserves aviation maneuver and night flying training that produce significant noise or require minimal light pollution





Globemaster III from the 437th Airlift Wing at Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., performs a combat landing during an incentive flight recently (top). Airmen volunteer to cleanup the marsh at Waterfront Park for trash and debris carried in from the ocean (bottom).

#### **KEY PARTNERS**

- Ducks Unlimited
- Charleston County

## FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2022

- ACRES PRESERVED: 363
- TRANSACTIONS CONDUCTED:2
- TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED: \$390 Thousand
- PROJECT STATUS: In Progress

#### CONTACT

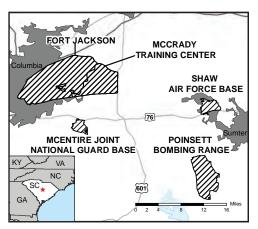
**PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE:** (843) 963-5608



# MIDLANDS AREA JOINT INSTALLATION CONSORTIUM

Comprised of five military installations, the Midlands Area Joint Installation Consortium (MAJIC) formed in 2007 in response to a pressing need to protect training resources at Fort Jackson, Shaw Air Force Base, McEntire Joint National Guard Base, Poinsett Bombing Range, and McCrady Training Center.

The area between the installations in the Midlands area of central South Carolina creates a 670-square-mile focus area for military operations, and the installations are used by personnel from all four Services for an array of training purposes.



MAJIC combines these installations' efforts to prevent increasing urban encroachment that could result in complaints about noise, dust, and smoke from military exercises. By reducing duplicative efforts and sharing lessons learned, MAJIC is working to ease development pressures and possibly receive credits for red-cockaded woodpecker recovery in order to alleviate current pressures on training.

These coordinated efforts are preventing houses from being developed in several areas that feed directly into the Wateree River basin. Maintaining undeveloped areas ensures the basin can capture and detain stormwater runoff, reducing the likelihood of recurrent flooding and roadway damage. Additionally, the project preserves several areas important for military operations: under flight approach or helicopter routes, in locations that would result in noise complaints from live-fire artillery and vehicle maneuver training, and where light would affect night vision equipment for air-to-ground range operations.

#### **BENEFIT SUMMARY**

#### COMMUNITY

- Protects working lands and local character that benefit the economy
- Supports existing regional planning efforts, including a Joint Use Land Study and "green corridors" for wildlife migration
- Protects endangered species

#### **MILITARY**

- Protects on-installation live-fire artillery/bombing, vehicle maneuver, and helicopter training that produces significant amounts of noise
- Supports the ability to train for multi-Service missions





Preserved buffer land benefits vehicle maneuver exercises (top) and F-16 training (bottom).

## **KEY PARTNERS**

- Central Midlands Council of Governments
- City of Columbia
- City of Sumter
- CoWaSee
- Governor's Military Task Force
- Kershaw County
- Palmetto Conservation Foundation
- Richland County
- South Carolina Conservation Bank
- South Carolina Department of Commerce
- South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
- South Carolina Department of Natural Resources
- Sumter County
- The Central Midlands Council of Governments
- The Congaree Land Trust
- The Conservation Fund
- U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service

#### FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2022

- ACRES PRESERVED:22,751
- TRANSACTIONS CONDUCTED:
   42
- TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED: \$24.7 million
- PROJECT STATUS: In Progress

# **CONTACT**

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE AT FORT JACKSON: (803) 751-5272



# MARINE CORPS AIR STATION BEAUFORT

With its land and water ranges supporting a valuable mix of scenarios for training military aviators, Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Beaufort sits strategically along the Atlantic Ocean.

With the only East Coast Marine F/A-18 squadrons, the base relies on adequate land and air space to sustain its training capabilities. The base's mission will take on even more importance in the future given the planned stand-up of MCAS

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION BEAUFORT

Beaufort as a Joint Strike Fighter Integrated Training Center.

MCAS Beaufort has partnered with Beaufort County and the Beaufort County Open Land Trust to ease significant encroachment pressures, particularly within the Air Installation Compatible Use Zone, which helps define noise and safety considerations around the installation. In addition to safeguarding the mission, such as by

preventing a residential subdivision from being built in an Accident Potential Zone, REPI funds are helping to protect an endangered plant species and improving water quality and wildlife habitat.

MCAS Beaufort also established the first multi-partner REPI agreement in the Marine Corps, building on a positive relationship with conservation groups, local landowners, and local government. The Air Station has worked to combine its REPI efforts with a suite of tools to sustain its mission, including using the 10 U.S.C. § 2869 land exchange authority and working with local government to initiate a Transfer of Development Rights program.

#### **BENEFIT SUMMARY**

## **COMMUNITY**

- Protects working lands, benefitting the local economy
- Supports regional planning objectives,
   Prevents workarounds that including a Joint Land Use Study
- Alleviates safety concerns
- Provides habitat for threatened and endangered species
- Protects water quality
- Preserves local character

## **MILITARY**

- Preserves training capacity for fixedwing aircraft and night flying
- would reduce training realism or effectiveness
- Allows for future mission growth





MCAS Beaufort hosts training on aircraft such as the F/A-18 Hornet (top). Preserved wetlands near the installation help to protect area water quality (bottom).

## **KEY PARTNERS**

- Beaufort County
- Beaufort County Open Land Trust
- Beaufort County Rural and Critical Land Preservation Program
- City of Beaufort
- South Carolina Department of Natural Resources
- The Nature Conservancy of South Carolina
- The Trust for Public Land

#### FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2022

- ACRES PRESERVED: 6.530
- TRANSACTIONS CONDUCTED: 21
- TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED: \$63.7 million
- PROJECT STATUS: In Progress

## CONTACT

COMMUNITY PLANS AND LIAISON OFFICE: (843) 228-7119