

Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program 2020 REPI CHALLENGE AWARDS

The Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program fosters multi-agency initiatives and collaboration to preserve compatible land uses near military installations and ranges. These efforts preserve and enhance Department of Defense (DoD) assets and capabilities in support of military readiness through the creation of unique cost-sharing partnerships with state and local governments and private conservation organizations. The REPI Program designed the REPI Challenge to help meet its ambitious goals while also aiming to:



Cultivate projects that conserve land at a greater scale and test promising ways to finance land protection.



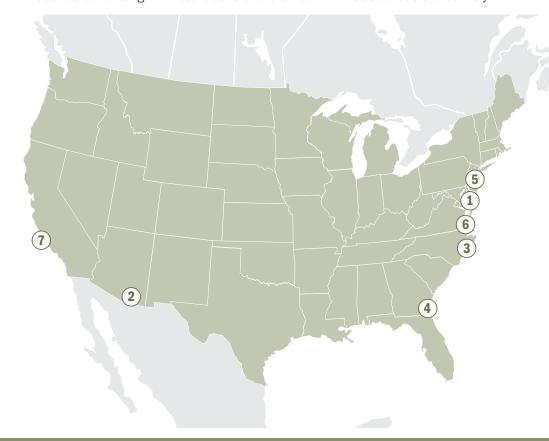
Achieve benefits not obtainable by typical REPI projects in order to protect critically important military missions.



Harness the creativity of the private sector to access and leverage unconventional sources of funding and market-based approaches.

2020 REPI Challenge Highlights Innovative Solutions to Preserve and Enhance Readiness in Support of the National Defense Strategy

This year, the REPI Challenge will award **\$17.1 million** in program funds to be coupled with almost **\$142 million** in partner contributions to implement seven projects that limit incompatible development, enhance military installation resilience, and relieve current and anticipated environmental restrictions at locations that host key capabilities identified in the National Defense Strategy. By spreading funding across seven projects, the 2020 REPI Challenge will be able to contribute to initiatives benefitting 11 installations and their communities across the country.



LEGEND INFORMATION

- 1. Atlantic Test Ranges Naval Air Station Patuxent River, MD. 4,000 acres protected. \$3.0M.
- **2.** Fort Huachuca, AZ. 2,191 acres protected. **\$2.1M.**
- **3.** Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, NC. 2,100 linear feet of living shoreline created. **\$1.0M.**
- **4.** Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, GA. 16,082 acres protected. **\$5.0M.**
- 5. Naval Weapons Station Earle, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, AEGIS Technical Representative, NJ National Guard, Sea Girt, Warren Grove Gunnery Range, NJ. 1,600 acres restored. \$1.9M.
- **6.** Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, VA. 3.5 acres of shoreline restoration and stabilization. **\$1.0M.**
- **7.** Vandenberg Air Force Base, CA. 24,247 acres protected. **\$3.0M.**

Atlantic Test Ranges - Naval Air Station Patuxent RiverMaryland

- This project will benefit Atlantic Test Range and Naval Air Station Patuxent River, which are both located within the Middle Chesapeake Sentinel Landscape. These installations are critical to the research testing, and development of manned and unmanned aircraft that form the basis of the joint force and sustain military advantages.
- The growth of the surrounding communities and the increase in frequency of extreme storm events create public safety threats, interference issues, infrastructure damage, and energy instability.
- This project aims to conserve **4,000 acres** of compatible land beneath the Atlantic Test Ranges' Special Use Airspace to limit potential incompatible development. Conservation of this land will protect resilient and connected **marsh migration corridors** that will safeguard ecologically significant habitat, improve the water quality of the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and provide communities a defense against coastal hazards.

NOMINATING PARTNER





Search and rescue training and jump exercises at Naval Air Station Patuxent River.



Fort Huachuca

Arizona

- This project will expand the footprint of permanently protected lands within the Fort Huachuca Sentinel Landscape. Fort Huachuca is located in a perfect area for its unmanned aerial systems testing and training mission.
- The rapid growth and expansion of nearby towns threaten the current electronically quiet environment that is necessary for effective operations at Fort Huachuca.
- This project will protect over **2,000 acres** of working ranches within the Fort Huachuca Sentinel Landscape. Protecting these compatible lands will help maintain the low levels of electromagnetic and signals interference, which are necessary for operations at Fort Huachuca. Additionally, portions of this land would contribute to natural resources management projects occurring in adjacent forests, decreasing the threat of **dangerous wildfires** in the area.

NOMINATING PARTNER





Soldiers conduct unmanned aerial system training for readiness-level progression at Fort Huachuca.



*\$1.03M will be funded in FY21 subject to the availability of funds

Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point

North Carolina

- This project will protect the missions of Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS)
 Cherry Point, which is within the Eastern North Carolina Sentinel

 Landscape. This installation supports carrier landing practice, unmanned aerial systems, and ground maneuver training.
- Increased commercial and residential development, coupled with sea-level rise and coastal erosion, has created significant encroachment threats to the installations' operations, infrastructure, and mission.
- This project will allow MCAS Cherry Point to create **2,100 linear feet of living shoreline** along the Neuse River's shoreline, which is rapidly eroding. Subsequently, the goal is to extend that living shoreline an additional 5,600 linear feet, which would significantly curtail erosion, promote ecosystem health, provide water quality benefits to the surrounding communities, and protect the installation from the threat of sea-level rise, thereby **enhancing the resilience** of MCAS Cherry Point.





Marines and Sailors with Marine Transport Squadron 1 conduct repelling and live hoisting for rescue swimmer under instruction training at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point.



*Congressional disaster relief funds appropriated to the Military Service.

Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay

Georgia

- Naval Submarine Base (NSB) Kings Bay is located within the Georgia
 Sentinel Landscape and is essential to the maintenance and operation of the Atlantic fleet of Ohio Class ballistic missile and guided missile submarines.
- Located on Georgia's coastline, NSB Kings Bay is threatened by the potential incompatible development of the surrounding waterfront areas.
- This project will allow the Navy to acquire a restrictive use easement on over 16,000 acres of land adjacent to Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay. By protecting this land and carrying out wildfire management and restoration activities this project will not only protect the installation from incompatible development and improve its resilience to dangerous wildfires, but also contribute to conserving and restoring habitat for threatened, endangered, and at-risk species such as the gopher tortoise, eastern indigo snake, and woodstork.



The Ohio-class ballistic-missile submarine USS Rhode Island (SSBN 740) returning to its homeport at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay.



NOMINATING PARTNER



Naval Weapons Station Earle; Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst; AEGIS Technical Representative, NJ National Guard; New Jersey National Guard Sea Girt; Warren Grove Gunnery Range

New Jersey

- This project will contribute to a variety of resiliency initiatives across
 1.6 million acres of New Jersey, benefitting six strategic, Department of Defense facilities across the state.
- These installations are all threatened by incompatible development pressures and encroachment which could result in electromagnetic interference, public safety issues, and overall mission hinderance.
- Project initiatives include beach nourishment, living shoreline establishment, storm surge protection, stormwater management and storage capacity enhancement, and wildfire mitigation. By improving and maintaining these coastal and inland waterways, this project will **enhance the resilience** of the five installations and minimize the overall impacts from flooding events.







This 2.9-mile-long ammunition loading Pier Complex at Naval Weapons Station Earle is capable of berthing four 800-foot ships simultaneously.



Total: \$64,151,752

*\$1,216,187.39 was contributed by the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Environment)'s Installation Resilience Program

Vandenberg Air Force Base

California

- Vandenberg Air Force Base is one of the primary west coast tactical Air Force locations and is the only military installation in the United States that conducts operational and test launches of land-based intercontinental ballistic missiles, ground-based mid-course missile defense interceptors, and polar-orbit space launches.
- These valuable test and training missions are expected to grow exponentially in the future to meet national security and commercial space launch needs, which will require a large area of restricted use airspace for space and missile launches.
- Nearby incompatible development and public access create safety concerns that could affect launch schedules or prevent launches from occurring altogether.
- This project will protect over **24,000 acres** that border 4.5 miles of Vandenberg to the south. Establishing a conservation easement on this land and therefore limiting public access, will help protect the public from the hazards of space and missile launches. Preventing development of this land would enhance Vandenberg's ability to protect the **18 threatened and endangered species** identified on base.



An unarmed Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile launches during an operational test at Vandenberg Air Force Base.



Note: This project will be executed in phases

NOMINATING PARTNER



Naval Weapons Station Yorktown

Virginia

- Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Yorktown is a premier receipt, storage, segregation, and issue ordnance facility supporting the Atlantic Fleet and Joint Commands by facilitating ordnance management, research development, expeditionary warfare training, and industrial and inert storage.
- NWS Yorktown is bounded and protected by a critical fringe of shoreline, wetlands, and piers, which are all degrading significantly, threatening installation operations and maintenance.
- This project will incorporate natural and artificial oyster reefs to stabilize over 900 feet of shoreline within nearshore areas critical to NWS Yorktown's mission and restore 3.45 acres of Navy land. Restoring and protecting this shoreline from erosion complements ongoing habitat and oyster restoration efforts by other federal and state agencies in the York River, while also improving installation resilience and fortifying multiple federal Superfund sites.



Sailors aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS Ross (DDG 71) slack lines prior to departing Naval Weapons Station Yorktown.



NOMINATING PARTNER



REPI CHALLENGE ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

Nine years of the REPI Challenge have resulted in the following benefits:

\$73.3M

in REPI funds invested to protect key military missions

\$300.1M

in partner contributions attracted to leverage DoD funds over 4:1 532,000+

protected acres of mission compatible working lands, habitat, and open spaces 22

locations addressing incompatible development, habitat protection, and installation resilience

REPI Challenge Advances Sentinel Landscapes

Of the 11 installations receiving REPI Challenge funds this year, seven are located within sentinel landscapes and will contribute directly to the strategic goals of the Eastern North Carolina, Georgia, and Middle Chesapeake Sentinel Landscapes. More information on DoD's partnership with the Departments of Agriculture and Interior can be found at www.sentinellandscapes.org.