OVERVIEW

Colorado received $8.7 billion in Defense spending in Fiscal Year (FY) 2015, 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 2016, DoD and its partners have spent over $46 million on REPI projects at 2 installations in Colorado.

Federal Defense Spending and Economic Impact (in FY 2015)

- $9.7 billion in Federal Defense spending
- 2.8% of state GDP
- $3.3 billion in payroll contributed
- $5.5 billion in contracts awarded

Acres of DoD Managed and State-Owned National Guard Land (as of 30 Sep 2014)

- DoD Managed Land: 240,186
- State-Owned National Guard Land: 153
- Total DoD Managed and State-Owned National Guard Land: 240,339

REPI PROJECTS* IN COLORADO

Funding Summary (through FY 2016)

- REPI Expenditures: $20,598,776
- Military Service Expenditures: $23,549,793
- Partner Expenditures: $2,474,767
- Total Expenditures: $46,623,336

* 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 2016): 25,831
The Office of the Governor of Colorado reported that military related activities directly or indirectly generated nearly 170,000 jobs in 2014.

Contains a one-of-a-kind high altitude training facility in Gypsum, Colorado, that allows National Guard instructors to train helicopter pilots from around the world to safely operate their aircraft at very high altitudes, in extreme weather conditions, and with heavy loads.

Home to the 10th Air Base Wing, which is the host wing for the Air Force Academy and provides quality support to enhance the education and development of future Air Force leaders.

Fort Carson comprises about 138,500 acres that are used for mounted and dismounted maneuver training, airborne training, and weapons training (small arms, tank, artillery, and helicopters).

Comprising about 237,000 acres, the Pinon Canyon training site can support a full range of training, including brigade-level, force-on-force maneuvers. It provides a unique training resource, with the arid, high desert climate allowing for year round training.

Home to five strategic commands, including U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM), and North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD, and Air Force Space Command).

REPI PROJECTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Installation</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Congressional District</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Buckley Air Force Base</td>
<td>Arapahoe</td>
<td>6th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Carson</td>
<td>El Paso</td>
<td>3rd, 5th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Ranch lands near Fort Carson protect training by shielding noise from the CH-47 heavy-lift helicopter.

For more information about the REPI Program, visit [www.repi.mil](http://www.repi.mil)
Buckley Air Force Base (AFB) is located in Aurora, Colorado, just east of Denver, and is home to multiple aviation alert, training, and refueling missions. With access to 11.1 million acres of associated airspace across five adjacent states, Buckley AFB supports training and operations for various fixed-wing and helicopter tenant units, as well as serving as a refueling location for DoD aircraft on cross-country flights, often including Air Force One. The 460th Space Wing is Buckley AFB’s home unit, with a mission to provide unencumbered “look angles” for antennae to ensure constant communication with space surveillance and missile tracking satellites.

To sustain the base’s diverse set of missions, Buckley AFB, the Trust for Public Land, and local governmental partners are working to protect agricultural, recreational, and other compatibly used lands, particularly along the E-470 highway corridor extending south from Denver International Airport toward the base’s eastern boundary. Development on Buckley AFB’s western boundary already forced the base to close one of its two runways. As more land is developed in proximity to the fence line, noise complaints increase, airspace becomes congested from changes in flight patterns, and light pollution impacts night vision training.

Accomplishing the partnership’s goals of protecting the military missions and providing recreational opportunities, wildlife corridors, and water resources will require creative action in an area of high property values. One example of this creative action is the partnership’s proposal to make multiple land trades that will complete full ownership of the base’s Clear Zone and add to the perimeter buffer, while providing a conservation benefit to a local creek and recreational area.

**BENEFIT SUMMARY**

**COMMUNITY**
- Protects agricultural and recreational lands
- Preserves wildlife corridors
- Supports new and existing regional planning objectives

**MILITARY**
- Preserves training and operations for various tenant units
- Protects the 460th Space Wing’s unique mission
- Ensures that existing compatible areas remain compatible

For more information about REPI, please see http://www.repi.mil.
Fort Carson is a key Army installation that supports a range of training and deploy units abroad by air and rail. The post’s 137,000 acres are suited to training soldiers with large-caliber weapons on landscape and terrain comparable to current conflict areas. These training lands allow units to simultaneously prepare for the full spectrum of land-based operations, combining offense, defense, stability, and civil support operations. The post’s ability to support this range of training will become even more important with the stationing of new troops.

To protect Fort Carson’s mission, a large buffer is being completed to guard against extreme residential growth pressures from Colorado Springs to the north and Pueblo to the southeast. The post’s close relationship with local ranchers and The Nature Conservancy has enabled it to save valuable working ranch lands. Of note already, a single, large-scale rancher has been willing and eager to protect his land to help aid Fort Carson in meeting its training land protection and sustainability goals.

This partnership effort is providing multiple valuable benefits to Fort Carson and a variety of stakeholders. Conservation easements have eliminated potential encroachment conflicts from development that would impact the installation’s southern and eastern training ranges and impact areas. Meanwhile, the buffer zone protects critical wildlife and plant species, and it allows local ranchers to continue their traditional way of life.

**BENEFIT SUMMARY**

**COMMUNITY**
- Preserves working ranch lands and local character
- Supports existing regional planning objectives

**MILITARY**
- Preserves live-fire, helicopter, and maneuver on-installation training capacity through the buffering of high-noise areas
- Improves operational safety

**KEY PARTNERS**
- Colorado Department of Transportation
- Colorado Division of Wildlife
- El Paso County
- Great Outdoors Colorado
- The Nature Conservancy
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2016**
- Acres preserved: 25,661
- Transactions conducted: 18
- Total funds expended: $41.7 million
- Project status: In Progress

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For more information about REPI, please see [http://www.repi.mil](http://www.repi.mil).