



FALLON RANGE TRAINING COMPLEX

NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

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The Fallon Range Training Complex provides important habitat for many species. The Navy manages the natural resources found on more than 241,000 acres of land, including Naval Air Station (NAS) Fallon. The Navy actively seeks to avoid or minimize impacts on the environment, and implements numerous programs to ensure compliance with applicable environmental laws and regulations. Maintaining the health of habitats and wildlife ensures the preservation of native landscapes and allows for military training in a realistic setting.

NATURAL RESOURCES PLANS, SURVEYS, AND AGREEMENTS

The Navy develops and implements natural resources plans, surveys, and agreements. Some of these efforts include:

- ▶ Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan:
 - Goals:**
 - Sustainability of species and habitat
 - Balance between natural resources management and military training
 - No net loss of military capabilities
- ▶ Agricultural Outlease Land Management Plan
- ▶ Grazing, Vegetation, and Water Resource Management Plan for the Dixie Valley Settlement Area
- ▶ Ongoing ecological surveys
- ▶ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between NAS Fallon and the Bureau of Land Management Carson City District Office for the Management of Natural Resources on Navy Administered and Withdrawn Public Lands
- ▶ MOU between the Department of Defense, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies for Cooperative Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan on Military Installations



ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Environmental conservation efforts have been a part of Navy activities for decades, and the Navy is proud of its successful stewardship programs. The Navy incorporates measures that are protective of the environment into all of its activities. The Navy is committed to conserving the environment while training.

To reduce the potential environmental impacts of training on natural resources, the Navy implements protective measures including best management practices, standard operating procedures, and conservation measures.

The Navy partners with the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Nevada Department of Wildlife to manage natural resources present on the Fallon Ranges.



INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN

The overall goal of the Navy's Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) is to provide good stewardship to protect, manage, and enhance the land, water, and wildlife resources of NAS Fallon while fulfilling the military mission. Natural resource goals of conservation, restoration, and enhancement are consistent with regional ecosystem management goals for these lands and waters, and strive to ensure that there is no reduction or loss to the military mission of NAS Fallon.

Key objectives for natural resources management on NAS Fallon include:

- ▶ Ensure no net loss in the capability of the land and natural resources at NAS Fallon to support its current and future military mission;
- ▶ Ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations as they pertain to natural resources;
- ▶ Maintain and enhance the level of biodiversity within the constraints of the military mission;
- ▶ Outlease lands that are suitable and available for agricultural production and grazing;
- ▶ Implement adaptive management techniques to provide flexible and responsive management strategies based on scientific data gathered from monitoring programs, literature, and resource experts;
- ▶ Provide for public access wherever possible in areas not exposed to military hazards;
- ▶ Protect the quality of wildlife habitat, where feasible; and
- ▶ Maintain sufficient professionally trained natural resources personnel to implement, manage, and monitor the management strategies of the INRMP.



NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The INRMP emphasizes an ecosystem management approach to natural resources management. Ecosystem management supports the use of natural resources on NAS Fallon for both military and other human-related values and purposes. The goal of ecosystem management is to protect the properties and functions of natural ecosystems. Programs described in the NAS Fallon INRMP include the management of:

- ▶ Soils
- ▶ Water
- ▶ Wetlands
- ▶ Vegetation
- ▶ Invasive species and pests
- ▶ Fish and wildlife
- ▶ Special-status species
- ▶ Migratory bird and birds of conservation concern
- ▶ Sensitive species of regional concern
- ▶ Bird/animal aircraft strike hazards
- ▶ Agricultural outleasing and grazing
- ▶ Outdoor recreation
- ▶ Wildland fire
- ▶ Data
- ▶ Climate change and regional growth
- ▶ Conservation law enforcement

Naval Air Station Fallon has received the Chief of Naval Operations Environmental Award for Natural Resource Management in 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2013, and 2016.



COLLABORATING AND PARTNERING TO PRESERVE THE ENVIRONMENT

The Fallon Ranges cover a vast area of land and airspace within the jurisdiction of multiple federal and state agencies. The Federal Aviation Administration manages the airspace, and the Bureau of Land Management manages most of the land underlying this airspace. Other major landholders and management agencies include the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Native American tribes. The Navy partners with agencies, tribes, and other entities to proactively identify potential impacts from training activities and takes steps to minimize those impacts on the environment.

