



DSI Priority Topics

Military Mission Line

Sustainment of Moratorium Protection

Eglin Gulf Test & Training Range

Gulf Range Enhancement Plan
Electronic Warfare Infrastructure Assets

Hypersonic Development

Test Facilities and Range Infrastructure

Eglin Test & Training Complex

NexGen Facility Repair by Replacement
Weapons Technology Integration Center

BOEM Gulf of Mexico OCS Region Blocks and
Active Leases by Planning Area
January 3 2017



The GRE enables enhanced instrumentation capabilities for current and future generations of aircraft and munitions' testing and training—securing our military superiority.



DSI Committee Members

Tri-County Military Affairs Committees
Retired Military Personnel
Defense Contractors
Tri-County Commissioners
Eglin Complex Ex Officio
Okaloosa EDC Management



Sponsored by

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Defense Support Initiatives

2020 Legislative Summary

The complexity of future warfare drives the need for more advanced weapon systems that can operate at the speed necessary; adapt to situations in a complex, multi-domain environment; and, perform multiple roles while executing its primary mission.

Santa Rosa – Okaloosa – Walton Counties, Florida



Defense Support Initiatives

The Economic Development Council of Okaloosa County (EDC) originated the Defense Support Initiatives (DSI) committee in 1996 to support local military installations and missions, and their resultant economic impact. The DSI leverages community leadership and expertise from across a three-county region of Northwest Florida; Okaloosa – Santa Rosa – Walton Counties housing Eglin Air Force Base.

Major Range & Test Facility Base

The Major Range and Test Facility Base (MRTFB) is a designated set of Department of Defense (DoD) facilities, ranges, and their associated workforce that provide the foundation, or base, for the Nation's Test and Evaluation (T&E) capabilities deemed critical to maintaining our Nation's military superiority. Concurrently, the MRTFB supports the development of rapid response solutions to technology related issues experienced by warfighters engaged in conflict. The MRTFB is regarded as a "national asset" consisting of Army, Navy, and Air Force test ranges—one of which is managed by the 96th Test Wing at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida; the Eglin Gulf Test & Training Range (EGTTR; aka Eastern Gulf Test & Training Range).

Eglin Air Force Base



Assigned under the 96th Test Wing and Air Force Materiel Command, Eglin AFB is the test and evaluation center for Air Force air-delivered weapons, navigation systems, and Command and Control systems. The Eglin complex supports Air Force, Army and Navy combat ready forces while delivering full spectrum support to DoD. The largest military base in the Department of Defense, Eglin hosts the Eastern Gulf Test & Training Range.

Hurlburt Field



Hurlburt Field is headquarters for Air Force Special Operations Command. The command's special operations forces (SOF) are highly trained, rapidly deployable Airmen, conducting global special operations missions. Air Warfare Center 505th Command & Control Wing is dedicated to improving readiness for command & control of Air, Space & Cyberspace.

Tri-County Economic Impact

Santa Rosa Okaloosa Walton



With seven military installations in Northwest Florida, the annual economic impact of the military presence in the region is over \$22.5 Billion, according to the 2020 Florida Defense Factbook. The tri-county area of Okaloosa, Santa Rosa and Walton Counties offers over \$11.3 Billion in economic impact.



Economic Impact	\$11.3 Billion
Total Defense Spending	\$4.4 Billion
Jobs	99,000
<i>Source: Florida Defense Fact Book January 2020</i>	

Eglin Gulf Test & Training Range

The EGTR provides military range capabilities across the eastern Gulf; from NW FL to Key West. It includes 180,000 square miles of DoD controlled air-space, 724 square miles of adjacent land ranges, 3,200 square miles of airspace over adjacent land, 17 miles of Gulf shoreline, inter-connected radars to track test/training assets, and designated launch areas. Due to its tremendous capabilities, it is an integral part of DoD's MRTFB and Training Resources Strategy.

Multi-service basing and test and training utilization are of paramount importance in mission capabilities. Air, land and sea test and training areas associated with the EGTR can host large and complex joint exercises simultaneously.

Eglin AFB, in northwestern Florida, is one of ten Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC) host bases. As a critical part of the MRTFB, Eglin's primary functions are to support research, development, testing, and evaluation of conventional weapons and electronic systems and warfare, and to support multi-service air and ground training of operational units. Protection and enhancement of the EGTR is necessary to ensure these capabilities.

Duke Field



Duke Field is home to the 919th Special Operations Wing (SOW), the only special operations unit in the Air Force Reserve. The 919th SOW reports to the Air Force Reserve Command's Tenth Air Force in peacetime, and becomes part of AFSOC at Hurlburt Field if mobilized for conflict.

Naval Air Station Whiting Field



Whiting Field is home to Training Air Wing Five consisting of 2 primary airfields and 12 Outlying Landing Fields. NASWF trains Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and international aviators in primary and intermediate phases of fixed wing aviation, and advanced helicopter training. NASWF is the busiest Naval air complex in the world.