



2024 SENTINEL LANDSCAPES ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT

Cover photo credits: (clockwise from top right)

A UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter sits under the Milky Way galaxy in the Mojave Desert at the National Training Center (NTC), Fort Irwin, California. The photo was taken with a 25-second exposure as the moon was setting, lighting up the clouds on one side of the horizon. Soldiers of Company C, 1st Battalion, 106th Aviation Regiment, are at NTC conducting combat training to strengthen their individual and combat readiness skills. (Mississippi National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Tim Morgan, 102^d Public Affairs Detachment)

Soldiers run through a small river while training on an obstacle course at Fort Gordon, Georgia. (U.S. Army photo by 1st Lt. Angeline Tritschler)

U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Maj. Jonathan Wyble, Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Beaufort, fishes with his son during the Semi-Annual MCAS Beaufort Fishing Derby at Scout Pond, MCAS Beaufort, South Carolina. The fishing derby is a recreational event that tests Marines, and their dependents' fishing skills over the course of two days. Events like these boost unit morale and give Marines a chance to get outside, be competitive and meet new people. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Hernan Rodriguez)

A U.S. Army Reserve Officer Training Corps Cadet, student of Pacific Lutheran University, opens a meal-ready-to-eat on the university campus in Tacoma, Washington. Cadets participated in Lute Paratus, a multi-day field training exercise, to fulfill requirements within the program. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Elijah Magaña)

U.S. Army Paratroopers assigned to the 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) prepare to complete the proper landing procedures to prevent the risk of injuries during an Airborne jump near Camp Williams. (Utah National Guard photo by SPC Christopher Hall)

U.S. Army Sgt. Shelby Lewis, a flight engineer assigned to Company B, 2nd Battalion, 211th Aviation Regiment, 103rd Troop Command, Hawai'i Army National Guard (HIARNG), conducts flight operations during a CH-47 Chinook flight for Recruit Sustainment Program (RSP) training at the Regional Training Institute, Waimanalo, Hawai'i. The HIARNG RSP training primarily focuses on ensuring the RSP warrior is mentally prepared, administratively correct and physically ready to ship and complete basic training. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Lianne M. Hirano)

Chapter photo credits:

Page 1 (top): A soldier fires a rifle during a night M4 qualification at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. The training keeps soldiers proficient in marksmanship. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Benjamin D. Castro)

Page 4 (top): U.S. Army recruits with the Recruit Sustainment Program (RSP), Recruiting and Retention Battalion, Hawai'i Army National Guard (HIARNG), prepare for flight on a CH-47 Chinook during RSP training at the Regional Training Institute, Waimanalo, Hawai'i. The HIARNG RSP training primarily focuses on ensuring the RSP warrior is mentally prepared, administratively correct, and physically ready to ship and complete basic training. (Photo by Sgt. Lianne M. Hirano)

Page 6 (inset): The U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, the Blue Angels, C-130 pilots and crew arrive at Naval Air Station Pensacola with the team's new C-130J Super Hercules, alongside the Blue Angel delta formation. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Cody Hendrix)

Page 7 (top): Soldiers assigned to the 75th Ranger Regiment conduct an airfield seizure training exercise at Fort Benning, Georgia. (U.S. Army photo by Maj. Justin Wright)

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



PROTECTING CRITICAL MILITARY MISSIONS

Authorized by 10 U.S. Code §2693, the Sentinel Landscapes Partnership is a coalition of Federal agencies, state and local governments, and private organizations that work with willing landowners and land managers to advance mutually beneficial land-use goals that support military readiness in sentinel landscapes. Today, the partnership spans 19 designated landscapes across 17 states and one insular territory (Figure 1), encompassing more than 60 military installations and ranges (Figure 2).

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Department of Defense (DOD), and the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) established the partnership in 2013. The partnership's shared strategic goals are to strengthen military readiness, conserve natural resources, bolster agricultural and forestry economies, increase public access to outdoor recreation, and enhance landscape resilience. Sentinel landscapes directly support farmers, ranchers, and forest managers by sustaining rural economies and promoting voluntary land stewardship practices.

The DOD requires undeveloped natural landscapes such as forests, grasslands, deserts, and coasts to conduct realistic live-fire training, weapons system testing, and essential operations. These landscapes are crucial for preparing a more lethal and resilient force for combat.

However, increased commercial and residential development around military installations and ranges can lead to light pollution, noise, and airspace restrictions. These encroachment concerns impede testing and training while also reducing the landscape's resilience to weather-related risks like drought and wildfires. This poses further threats to military personnel, warfighting equipment, and physical and natural infrastructure.

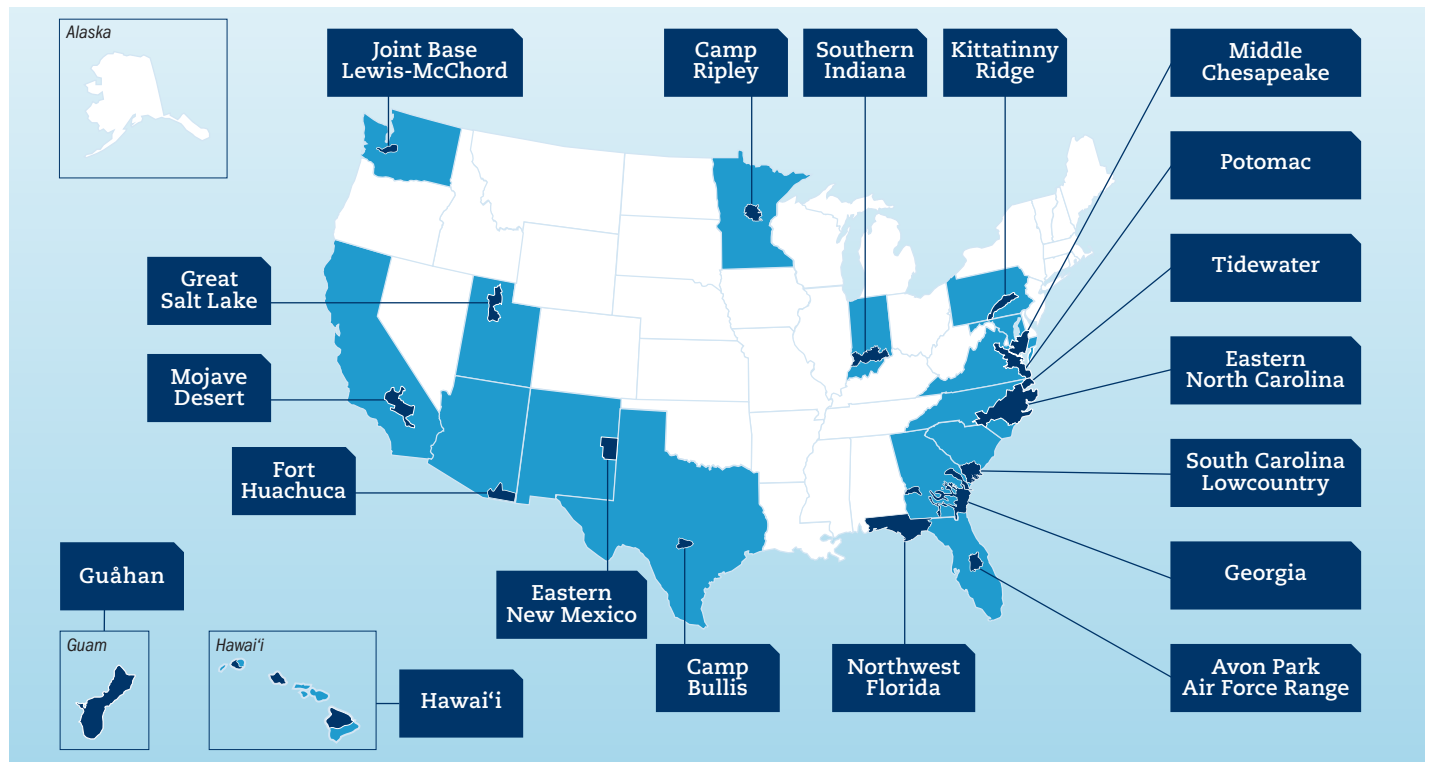
Sentinel landscapes support compatible land use around military installations and ranges, ensuring alignment with military testing and training needs. Through developing local partnerships within sentinel landscapes, DOD maintains mission requirements and advances projects while using fewer Federal resources.

The 2024 Sentinel Landscapes Accomplishments Report highlights the partnership's role in safeguarding military installations and ranges from encroachment, strengthening resource-sharing across partners, and protecting landscapes for the dual-benefit of realistic training and landscape conservation.



A U.S. Army Reserve paratrooper assigned to the 450th Civil Affairs Battalion, 360th Civil Affairs Brigade, 352nd Civil Affairs Command, practices exiting an aircraft during airborne training at Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia. (U.S. Army Reserve photo by Sgt. Dominique Cox)

Figure 1: Sentinel Landscapes Map



STRENGTHENING FEDERAL SUPPORT: CODIFICATION OF THE SENTINEL LANDSCAPES PARTNERSHIP

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) formalized and elevated the Sentinel Landscapes Partnership structure in law by enacting a new Section 2693 under Title 10 of the U.S. Code. This builds on the foundational legislation from the 2018 NDAA, which first recognized the partnership in statute.

Section 2693 expands the scope of collaboration by encouraging additional Federal agencies to become full partners in the Sentinel Landscapes Partnership. Under Section 2693, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of the Interior, and the heads of other Federal agencies that become full partners are encouraged to give any landowners and managers within designated sentinel landscapes “priority consideration for participation in any easement, grant, or assistance program administered by that Secretary.”¹

In addition, Section 2693 expands coordination authority within sentinel landscapes, allowing Federal, state, and local agencies, as well as private and tribal entities, to facilitate more comprehensive land management activities. This enhanced

cooperation supports military installations and advances participating agency and partner missions within the landscape. The codification supports Federal agencies’ commitment to supporting sustainable land management practices that benefit both military readiness and conservation.

THE FEDERAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

The Sentinel Landscapes Partnership is coordinated at the national level by the Federal Coordinating Committee (FCC), which carries out the authorities granted by the NDAA. The FCC comprises representatives from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and U.S. Forest Service, the DOD Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program, and the DOI U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The FCC designates new sentinel landscapes that deliver opportunities for the FCC member agencies to collaborate on national defense, natural resource conservation, and land management. It also connects partners within sentinel landscapes to voluntary Federal and state assistance programs, considering each landscape’s unique military readiness needs, geography, and economic drivers.

¹ 10 U.S. Code Section 2693. <https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=granuleid:USC-prelim-title10-section2693&num=0&edition=prelim>

Figure 2: Sentinel Landscapes Locations and Anchor Installations

From 2013 through 2025, the FCC designated **19 sentinel landscapes across the United States:**

Avon Park Air Force Range | Florida (est. 2016)

- Avon Park Air Force Range

Camp Bullis | Texas (est. 2022)

- Joint Base San Antonio

Camp Ripley | Minnesota (est. 2015)

- Camp Ripley

Eastern New Mexico | New Mexico (est. 2024)

- Cannon Air Force Base
- Melrose Air Force Base

Eastern North Carolina | North Carolina (est. 2016)

- Camp Mackall
- Dare County Range
- Fort Bragg
- Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point
- Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune/Marine Corps Air Station New River
- Seymour Johnson Air Force Base

Fort Huachuca | Arizona (est. 2015)

- Fort Huachuca

Georgia | Georgia (est. 2018)

- Fort Benning
- Fort Gordon
- Fort Stewart
- Hunter Army Airfield
- Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany
- Moody Air Force Base
- Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay
- Robins Air Force Base
- Townsend Bombing Range

Great Salt Lake | Utah (est. 2024)

- Air Force Little Mountain Test Facility
- Camp Williams
- Hill Air Force Base
- Tooele Army Depot

Guåhan | Guam (est. 2025)

- Andersen Air Force Base
- Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz
- Naval Base Guam

Hawai'i | Hawai'i, Kaua'i, and O'ahu Islands (est. 2024)

- Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam
- Marine Corps Base Hawai'i
- Pacific Missile Range Facility
- Pōhakuloa Training Area
- U.S. Army Garrison Hawai'i

Joint Base Lewis-McChord | Washington (est. 2013)

- Joint Base Lewis-McChord

Kittatinny Ridge | Pennsylvania (est. 2024)

- Fort Indiantown Gap
- Letterkenny Army Depot

Middle Chesapeake | Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia (est. 2015)

- Naval Air Station Patuxent River—Atlantic Test Ranges

Mojave Desert | California (est. 2024)

- Edwards Air Force Base
- Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center
- Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow
- National Training Center Fort Irwin
- Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake

Northwest Florida | Florida (est. 2022)

- Eglin Air Force Base
- Hurlburt Field
- Naval Air Station Pensacola
- Naval Air Station Whiting Field
- Naval Support Activity Panama City
- Tyndall Air Force Base

Potomac | Virginia (est. 2023)

- Fort A.P. Hill
- Fort Lee
- Marine Corps Base Quantico

South Carolina Lowcountry | South Carolina (est. 2023)

- Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort
- Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island
- Naval Support Facility Beaufort

Southern Indiana | Indiana (est. 2022)

- Atterbury-Muscatatuck Training Center
- Indiana Air Range Complex
- Lake Glendora Test Facility
- Naval Support Activity Crane

Tidewater | Virginia (est. 2023)

- Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story
- Joint Base Langley-Eustis
- Naval Air Station Oceana
- Naval Station Norfolk
- Naval Weapons Station Yorktown

FY 2023 BY THE NUMBERS: SUPPORTING READINESS AND CONSERVATION

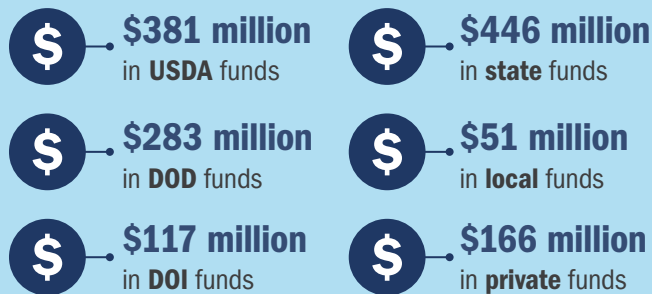


Through FY 2023, projects in sentinel landscapes received over \$1.4 billion in funding, with \$263 million committed in FY 2023 alone, as shown in Figure 3. The partnership also saw a 73,000-acre increase in protected acres, bringing the total number of acres permanently protected to 751,000 acres, as depicted in Figure 4.

In FY 2023 alone, the number of acres enrolled in financial and technical assistance programs totaled more than 2.5 million acres. These increases illustrate the sustained growth of the Sentinel Landscapes Partnership's impact.

Investments:

Through FY 2023, projects across sentinel landscapes have attracted approximately:



Protected Areas:

These contributions have **permanently protected**:



751,000
acres of land through FY 2023

Total **enrolled** acres:



Over **2.5 million**
acres of land in financial and technical assistance programs in FY 2023 alone

Figure 3: Funding Committed to Sentinel Landscapes Through FY 2023 in Millions

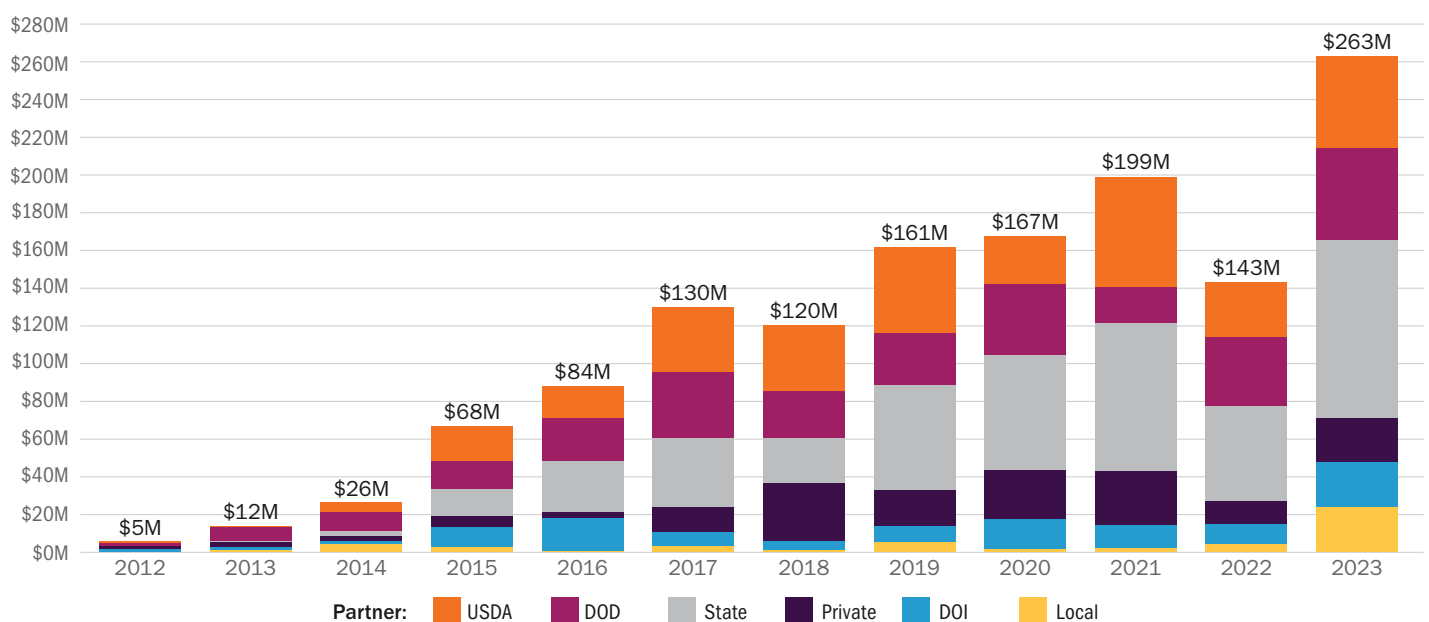
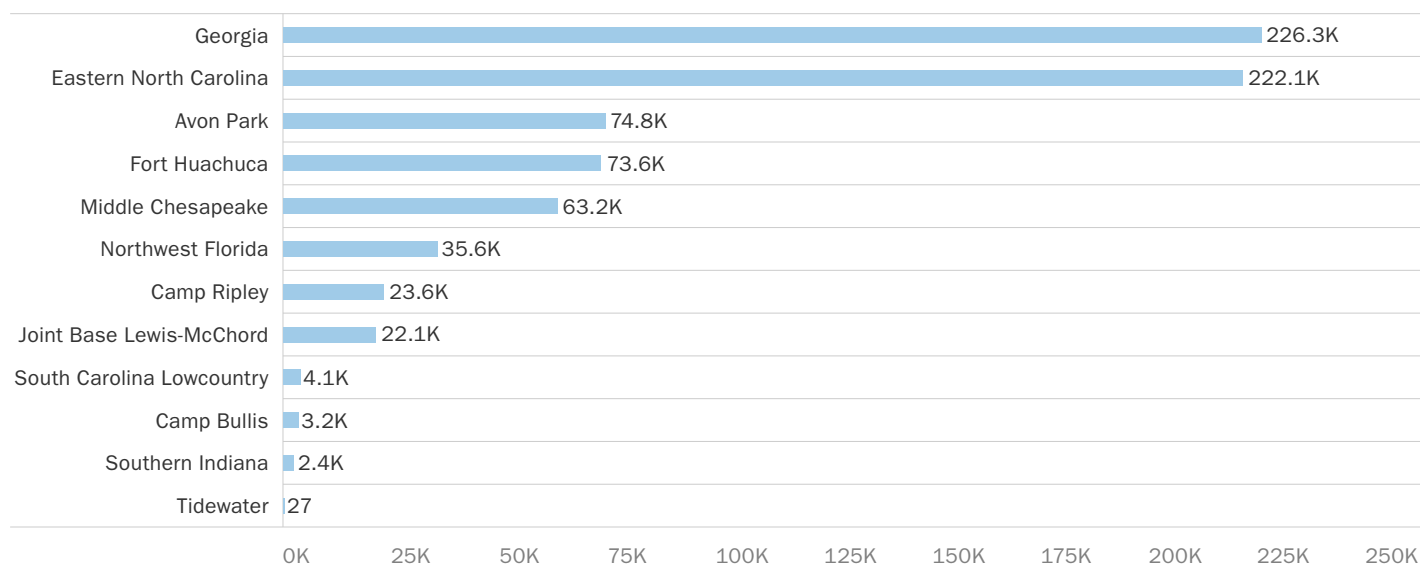


Figure 3 (Continued): Funding Committed to Sentinel Landscapes Through FY 2023 in Millions

Partner	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	Total
DOD	\$1.5M	\$6.5M	\$9.6M	\$15.0M	\$21.7M	\$35.3M	\$25.0M	\$26.6M	\$37.2M	\$18.6M	\$36.2M	\$49.6M	\$282.8M
DOI	\$1.5M	\$1.3M	\$1.6M	\$11.3M	\$17.0M	\$7.5M	\$4.7M	\$8.4M	\$16.1M	\$12.4M	\$10.5M	\$24.4M	\$116.7M
Local	\$0.1M	\$1.0M	\$4.2M	\$2.8M	\$0.7M	\$3.4M	\$1.1M	\$5.2M	\$1.7M	\$1.9M	\$4.6M	\$24.1M	\$50.6M
Private	\$1.2M	\$1.9M	\$2.7M	\$5.6M	\$2.7M	\$13.3M	\$30.9M	\$18.7M	\$25.4M	\$27.8M	\$11.9M	\$23.9M	\$166.2M
State	\$0.6M	\$0.4M	\$2.6M	\$14.4M	\$25.7M	\$36.2M	\$23.7M	\$56.2M	\$60.4M	\$79.7M	\$51.0M	\$94.9M	\$445.9M
USDA	\$0.6M	\$0.5M	\$4.8M	\$18.9M	\$16.5M	\$34.5M	\$34.8M	\$46.0M	\$25.7M	\$58.3M	\$28.8M	\$45.6M	\$381.2M
Total	\$5.4M	\$11.7M	\$25.5M	\$68.0M	\$84.2M	\$130.2M	\$120.2M	\$161.1M	\$166.6M	\$199.0M	\$143.0M	\$262.5M	\$1.4B

From the partnership's founding through FY 2023, roughly \$381 million in USDA funds, \$283 million in DOD funds, and \$117 million in DOI funds have supported projects in sentinel landscapes. The partnership also attracts funding from participating states,² local governments, Federal agencies, and private organizations. To date, the partnership's efforts have received \$446 million in state funds, \$51 million in local funds, and \$166 million in private funds, as depicted in Figure 3.³

Figure 4: Acres Protected Within Each Sentinel Landscape from Their Establishment Through FY 2023



From 2013 through FY 2023, the contributions and collaboration of Federal, state, local, and private partners have culminated in the protection⁴ of 751,000 acres of land within sentinel landscapes, as depicted in Figure 4.⁵ In addition, in FY 2023 alone, 2.5 million acres of land within sentinel landscapes were enrolled in financial and technical assistance programs.⁶

² As of FY 2023, participating states in the Sentinel Landscapes Partnership include Arizona, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Maryland, Minnesota, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, and Washington.

³ The FY 2023 funding and acreage data presented in this report represents only landscapes that were designated prior to the 2024 Sentinel Landscapes Designation Cycle. Because the Eastern New Mexico, Great Salt Lake, Guåhan, Hawai'i, and Mojave Desert Sentinel Landscapes were not designated until FY 2024 and FY 2025, funding and acreage contributions from these landscapes are not recorded in this report.

⁴ Protected acres are defined as acres involved in projects that have completed due diligence and closing actions necessary to obtain a fee simple or easement interest in real property.

⁵ Land is considered enrolled if the property owner voluntarily participates in a Federal or state land-management program that provides financial or technical assistance to promote sustainable agricultural practices, restore imperiled species and their habitat, or preserve critical natural resources; or if a landowner or an organization receives a Federal or state grant to conduct a conservation project on said property.

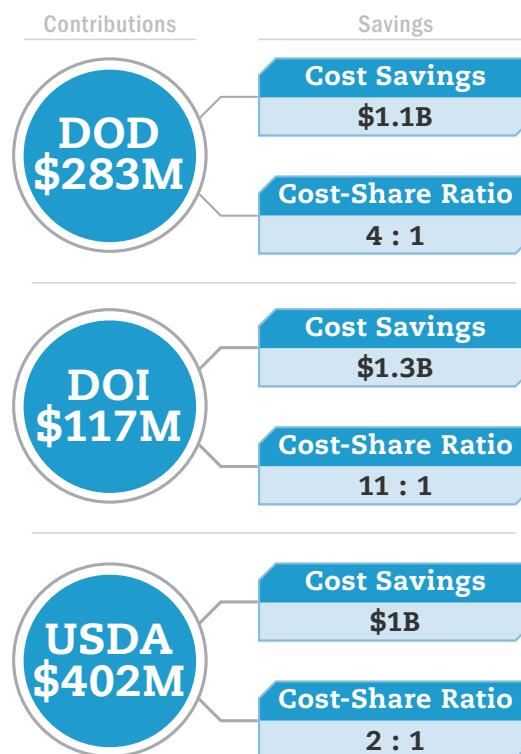
⁶ The values listed represent the acres protected and acres enrolled within the sentinel landscapes from the year of their Federal designation through FY 2023. For that reason, within each sentinel landscape, the total number of acres protected and enrolled may be higher than what is reported above.

Participation in the Sentinel Landscapes Partnership allows the FCC's members to achieve shared goals through collaboration within sentinel landscapes. Through strategic funding, projects address various agency goals, and member agencies contribute to landscape-level outcomes that could not have been achieved independently. These efforts also provide direct benefits to farmers, ranchers, and forest managers by increasing access to technical and financial assistance programs that promote land stewardship, sustain rural livelihoods, and improve economic resilience in agricultural communities.

To illustrate this shared benefit, Figure 5 represents the funding contributions of each FCC member as a ratio of overall funding committed to the Sentinel Landscapes Partnership. In addition to their own contributions in FY 2023, USDA, DOD, and DOI benefited from approximately \$46 million, \$50 million, and \$24 million (respectively) in funding from other Federal agencies, states, and local and private organizations spent in sentinel landscapes.

The contribution ratios in Figure 5 illustrate how the cooperation established through the Sentinel Landscapes Partnership enables the dollars spent by each agency partner to go further toward achieving their goals within the sentinel landscapes.

Figure 5: Federal Contribution Ratios in the Sentinel Landscapes Partnership



Landscape Highlight: Supporting Military Readiness Through Strategic Land Protection in Northwest Florida



The Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape supports the training missions of all military installations in the northwestern region of Florida. A key initiative is the Wolf Creek Forest land conservation project near Naval Air Station Whiting Field, the busiest aviation complex in the world. This project has preserved 14,113 acres over 20 years to create a buffer of forested lands between residential developments and the installation, ensuring the protection of open space to conduct uninterrupted military helicopter and fixed-wing aircraft training.

Backed by more than \$44 million in funding from Federal, local, and private sources, this joint effort demonstrates strong collaboration between the DOD REPI Program, the State of Florida, the USDA Forest Legacy Program, Santa Rosa County, and private partners.

Naval Air Station Whiting Field is just one of six installations that benefit from the strategic land conservation partnerships supported by the Northwest Florida Sentinel Landscape. Through FY 2023, partners have protected more than 35,000 acres and attracted over \$79 million in funding to support military readiness through sustainable land management across the region.

EXPANDING THE PARTNERSHIP'S GEOGRAPHY



In 2024 and 2025, the FCC designated six new sentinel landscapes to further conservation goals that protect military missions in strategic regions of the United States. In particular, the FCC designated the Hawai'i and Guåhan Sentinel Landscapes in 2024 and 2025 to align with DOD's Pacific priorities. Today, the partnership spans 19 designated landscapes across 17 states and one insular territory, encompassing more than 60 military installations and ranges.

EASTERN NEW MEXICO SENTINEL LANDSCAPE, NEW MEXICO

Cannon Air Force Base and Melrose Air Force Range

The Eastern New Mexico Sentinel Landscape covers more than 2.4 million acres, featuring a diverse terrain of rolling grasslands, private ranches, and farmlands. It is anchored by Cannon Air Force Base and Melrose Air Force Range. Both installations provide training and testing opportunities for the 27th Special Operations Wing, 26th Special Tactics Squadron, and 43rd Intelligence Squadron.

The landscape boundary also overlaps with the Ogallala Aquifer, the sole domestic water source for Cannon Air Force Base and its surrounding communities. Partners sustain local agricultural economies to support the military community and maintain natural landscapes that promote aquifer recharge for the installation's water supply.

GREAT SALT LAKE SENTINEL LANDSCAPE, UTAH

Air Force Little Mountain Test Facility, Camp Williams, Hill Air Force Base, and Tooele Army Depot

The Great Salt Lake Sentinel Landscape, spanning more than 2.7 million acres in northern Utah, contains the Western Hemisphere's largest saline lake and four military installations with unique missions and capabilities. Air Force Little Mountain Test Facility, Camp Williams, Hill Air Force Base, and Tooele Army Depot offer extensive training, testing, and logistical support for all the Military Services.

Utah is one of the fastest-growing and driest states. Wildlife management and water source protection are crucial to ensure the nation's premier fighter aircraft, such as the F-35 can conduct training over natural lands in this sentinel landscape. Land protection initiatives coordinated under the sentinel landscape will preserve migratory corridors—for birds and mule deer—that also serve as vital encroachment buffers.



Tate Rowley, a wildland firefighter with Unified Fire Authority, observes a line drop from a Sikorsky UH-60 Black Hawk during wildfire containment training on Camp Williams, Utah. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Alejandro Lucero)

GUÅHAN SENTINEL LANDSCAPE, GUAM

Andersen Air Force Base, Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz, and Naval Base Guam

Spanning 212 square miles, Guam is the largest and southernmost island in the Mariana Archipelago. The island plays a crucial role in DOD's operations due to its strategic location in the western Pacific Ocean. Encompassing Andersen Air Force Base, Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz, and Naval Base Guam, the Guåhan Sentinel Landscape enhances warfighting capabilities, supports joint regional partnerships, and facilitates DOD logistical operations. This includes hosting critical assets like the U.S.S. Frank Cable (AS-40), U.S.S. Emory S. Land (AS-39), and a Los Angeles Class submarine.

Guam's diverse ecosystems—ranging from coral reefs and limestone forests to grasslands—support specialized military training and provide habitat for imperiled species. However, the island faces threats from natural disasters, ecological instability, and fire. The Guåhan Sentinel Landscape prioritizes interagency collaboration to sustain military readiness, conserve marine and terrestrial resources, and improve community well-being.

HAWAI'I SENTINEL LANDSCAPE, HAWAI'I, KAUAI, AND O'AHU ISLANDS

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Marine Corps Base Hawai'i, Pacific Missile Range Facility, Pōhakuloa Training Area, and U.S. Army Garrison Hawai'i

The Hawai'i Sentinel Landscape spans more than 2 million acres and includes lands essential to the DOD mission, conservation, and agriculture on Kauai, O'ahu, and Hawai'i Islands. Key military installations within this landscape include Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Marine Corps Base Hawai'i, Pacific Missile Range Facility, Pōhakuloa Training Area, and U.S. Army Garrison Hawai'i. These sites support the Military Services in maintaining regional power balances in the Indo-Pacific.

Rapid urban and residential development of agricultural lands on the islands can obstruct low-elevation flight and drone training, radar, and communication antennas. Similarly, weather-related events including tropical storms, wildfires, and flooding can impact military training and operational days. As such, partners in the Hawai'i Sentinel Landscape are focused on landscape-level efforts to protect agricultural and natural lands to prevent encroachment and boost installation resilience to coastal flooding and wildfires.

KITTATINNY RIDGE SENTINEL LANDSCAPE, PENNSYLVANIA

Fort Indiantown Gap and Letterkenny Army Depot

The Kittatinny Ridge Sentinel Landscape is anchored by Fort Indiantown Gap, the busiest National Guard training center and the Army's second busiest heliport. As one of only three specialized Army National Guard aviation facilities, Fort Indiantown Gap plays a critical role in preparing warfighters and projecting military strength and capabilities in forward-deployed areas.

Located in eastern Pennsylvania's Appalachian Mountains, the sentinel landscape encompasses forested ridges and fertile valleys that provide clean water and serve as a crucial corridor for rare wildlife and songbird migration. However, urban development around Fort Indiantown Gap has depleted open space and increased noise complaints related to long, loud training days. This urbanization is further impacting the installation's ability to train under dark night skies.

Partners in the Kittatinny Ridge Sentinel Landscape are working to address these challenges to military operations, testing, and training by increased coordination of land conservation and natural resource protection efforts.



A Laysan Albatross chick sits in its nest. Biologists at Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, in support of the Bird Aircraft Strike Hazard initiative, conduct the annual Laysan Albatross Translocation Program, transferring albatross and their eggs from the installation to safer areas on other parts of the island. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Bodie Estep)



C-17 aircrew from the 758th Airlift Squadron, Pittsburgh Air Reserve Station, fly in formation with test pilots from the 418th Flight Test Squadron out of Edwards Air Force Base, California. The two squadrons executed test formation flying and airdrop proficiency in the local airspace. (Air Force photo by Richard Gonzales)

MOJAVE DESERT SENTINEL LANDSCAPE, CALIFORNIA

Edwards Air Force Base, the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, National Training Center Fort Irwin, and Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake

The Mojave Desert Sentinel Landscape in California covers about 3.5 million acres of the western Mojave Desert and is home to Edwards Air Force Base, the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, National Training Center Fort Irwin, and Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake. These installations require off-base land and airspace to test, transit, and train current and next-generation capabilities.

However, this region is increasingly challenged by incompatible development, including airspace congestion, limited access to training routes, unauthorized off-road vehicle use, and energy development. These challenges pose significant threats to military operations.

This sentinel landscape brings together state and local governments, Federal, tribal, and private partners focused on reducing land-use conflicts that impact military readiness. Partners are reclaiming and rehabilitating up to 50,000 acres of priority habitats while mitigating wildfire impacts. Protecting priority habitats decreases the regulatory burden on military testing and training, and improves installation resilience by supporting natural landscapes that are more drought- and fire-resilient.

FURTHERING THE FCC'S MISSION-ESSENTIAL WORK

In 2024, the Sentinel Landscapes Partnership achieved significant success in advancing its mission to protect vital landscapes that support military readiness at more than 60 military installations. Through collaborative efforts, the partnership extended its geographic presence across the United States and its territories. The partnership also increased total protected acres by 10 percent and saw a 25 percent funding increase.

This growth reflects the partnership's commitment to fostering compatible land-use practices that balance the priorities of the FCC member agencies, which include national defense, agricultural viability, species recovery, and sustainable land management. These accomplishments not only enhance military readiness but also promote long-term protection of critical landscapes. The FCC's 2024 accomplishments serve as a springboard for future work across the 19 sentinel landscapes, setting a strong foundation for continued protection of lands surrounding military installations and ranges.



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