



Partners for a Compatible Future

Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake

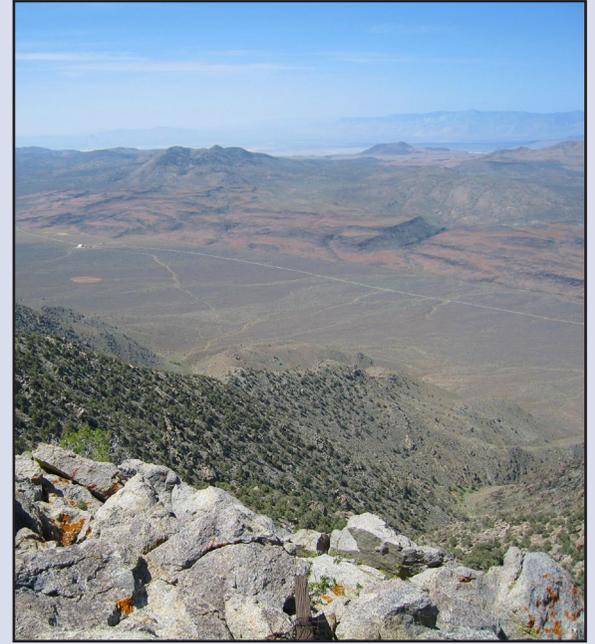


WHO WE ARE

Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS) China Lake is the Navy's single largest landholder, totaling more than 1.1 million acres, with approximately 95% of that land



undisturbed. The combination of NAWS China Lake's location, complex and varied terrain, restricted airspace, widespread instrumentation sites, unique test capabilities, and highly skilled technical workforce provides the most advanced and efficient method of conducting critical test, evaluation and training necessary to maintain technical standards in the Navy.



History

Throughout its history, the Navy at NAWS China Lake has supported both Naval and Department of Defense air weapons systems Research, Development, Acquisition, Test and Evaluation (RDAT&E) needs. Military activities at this site began during the Navy's rapidly expanding air combat role during World War II. The site was officially established as the Naval Ordnance Test Station, Inyokern, California, on November 8, 1943. In response to increasing capabilities, the Naval Ordnance Test Station was renamed the Naval Weapons Center, China Lake in 1967. In 1992, Naval Weapons Center merged with Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWCWD), and the Naval Weapons Center facilities, military administration, and airfield functions were consolidated into NAWS China Lake.

Our Mission Today

The mission of NAWS China Lake is to support the Navy's RDAT&E missions to provide cutting-edge weapons systems to the warfighter. Today, the major programs of NAWS China Lake include RDAT&E and support for systems engineering, electronic warfare, software and mission systems integration, weapons and energetics, and human systems. The ranges at NAWS China Lake are also used by U.S. and allied military services to test and evaluate land and air weapons systems, provide realistic training opportunities, and maintain operational readiness of forces.

ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS

NAWS China Lake is a major contributor to Inyo, Kern, and San Bernardino counties, providing economic stimulus in the form of good-paying jobs, demand for housing and consumer products, expenditures for supplies and operational support services, and related economic activities that ripple through a wide range of economic sectors.

NAWS China Lake's total economic contribution to the regional economy in Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 included:

\$1.2 BILLION

The total amount of economic activity* that NAWS China Lake generated



\$679 MILLION

The total industry output from payroll, operations and maintenance, and visitor spending

\$503 MILLION

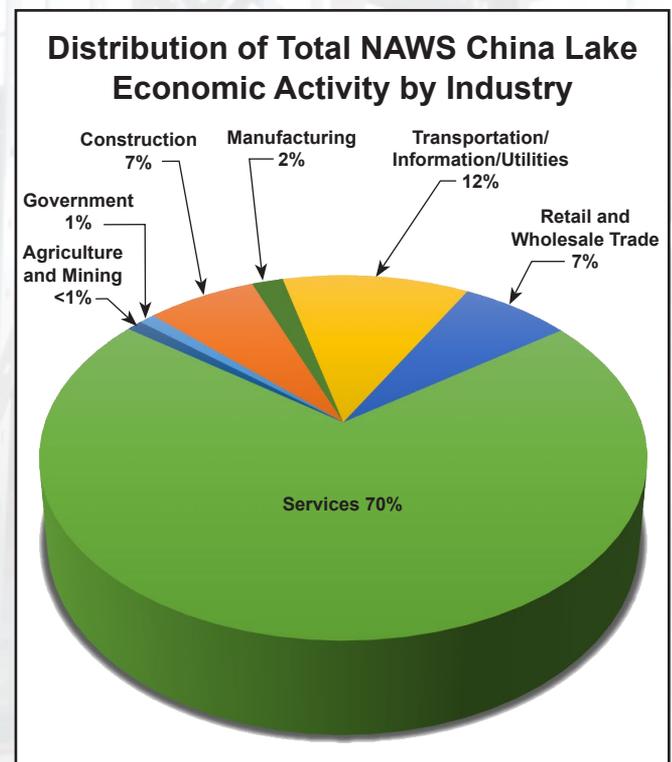
The total direct annual payroll for personnel working at NAWS China Lake

9,906

The number of jobs, including the 5,057 military and civilian personnel directly employed, and 4,849 additional jobs stimulated by operations and maintenance, payroll, and other spending

\$36 MILLION

The annual amount in state/local taxes including \$14 million from payroll, \$20 million from operations and maintenance, and \$2 million from visitor spending**



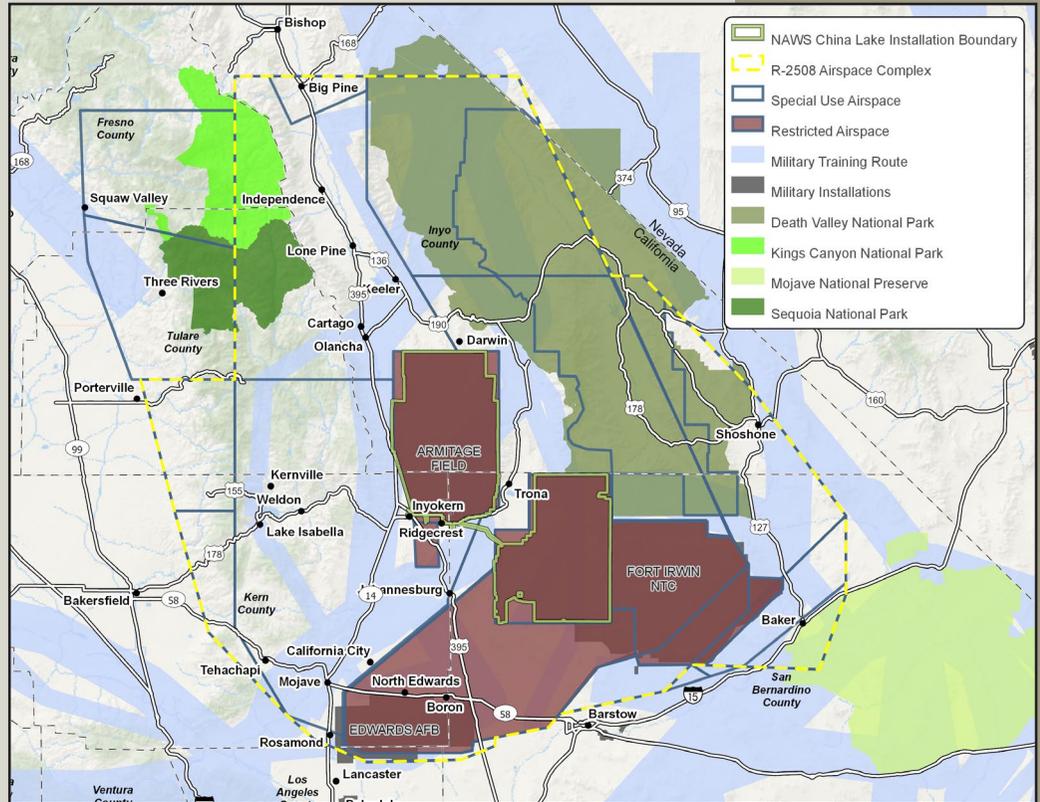
Source: NAWS China Lake Economic Impact Assessment, September 2018 (using financial data from FY 2017).

*EIA results are rounded as appropriate for presentation purposes.

**Provided for informational purposes, not included in the Total Economic Impact.

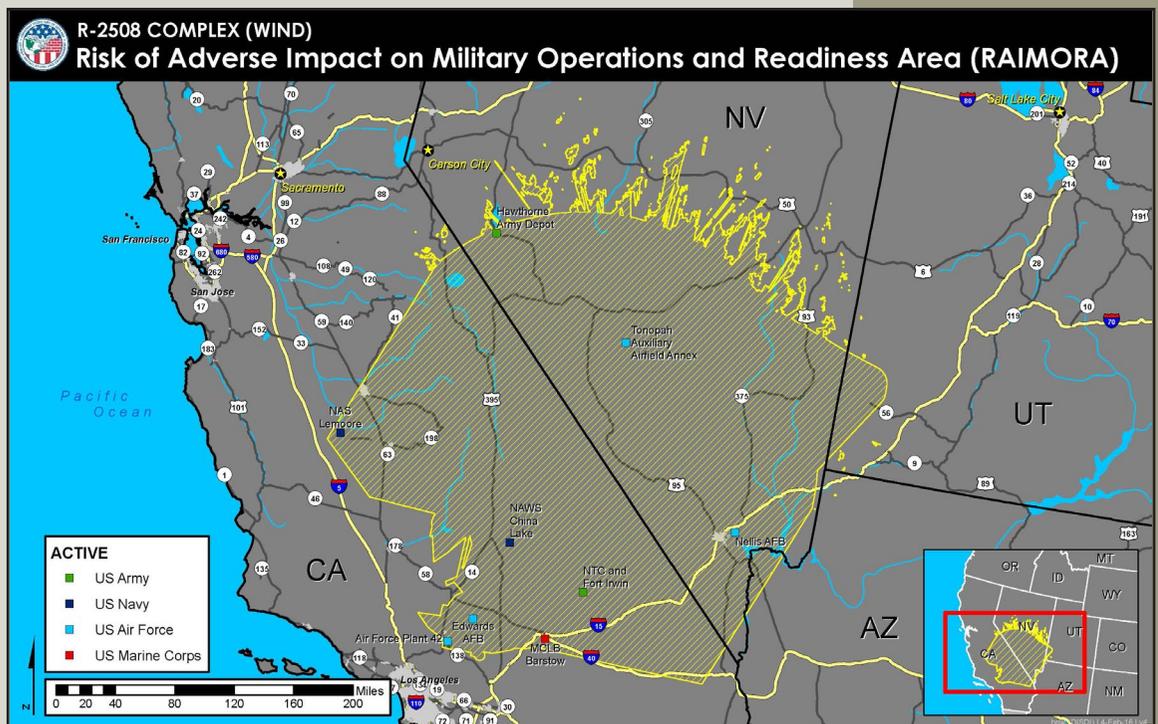
AREAS OF OPERATION

The R-2508 special use airspace complex overlays NAWS China Lake and is jointly managed by the Navy, Air Force, and Army. The complex includes approximately 20,000 square miles of airspace in the upper Mojave Desert and supports the RDAT&E of cutting-edge weapons systems. NAWS China Lake also maintains Armitage Airfield with three runways, more than 2,000 facilities from office space to laboratories, over 700 miles of paved and unpaved roads, and provides other services such as environmental, cultural and historical stewardship in support of RDAT&E, training, and other missions assigned to the Station.



NAWS China Lake's land area includes the mainsite, Armitage Field, and the test ranges. The mainsite, located about 150 miles northeast of Los Angeles and 10 miles east of Inyokern, contains the NAWS China Lake Headquarters, principal laboratories, housing, and most administrative and support functions.

The R-2508 Complex has an approved Risk of Adverse Impact on Military Operations and Readiness Area (RAIMORA) that outlines a defined area for wind projects that pose a risk to military activities conducted within the R-2508 airspace and the Nevada Test and Training Range. The RAIMORA can be seen in the map above.



CHALLENGES TO OUR MISSION

The Navy's ability to sustain its training mission in the upper Mojave Desert depends on the continued support and cooperation of its friends and neighbors in surrounding communities.

Incompatible development of various types can threaten NAWS China Lake's ability to maintain such a unique and ideal training facility. The most significant concerns at NAWS China Lake relate to local land development and restrictions on the use of airspace within the Military Influence Area, including the following:

- Encroachment on the single source of groundwater.
- Land use for renewable energy projects not compatible with the RDAT&E mission.
- Frequency interference from expanding cellular and commercial communications.
- Vertical flight obstructions from communication towers, new transmission lines, wind turbines, and construction cranes.
- Residential and commercial development within known aircraft noise areas.



As incompatible development increases, pressure builds for the Navy to alter flight operations, reduce flights over certain areas, or otherwise reduce mission effectiveness, ultimately jeopardizing the viability of the RDAT&E mission. The Navy and its partners in the community have the opportunity to work together to manage future growth and development cooperatively for the benefit of all.



WORKING TOGETHER FOR A COMPATIBLE FUTURE

Military personnel and their family members stationed at NAWS China Lake are fully integrated into their local communities. All personnel are encouraged to serve as role models in the local community and promote good citizenship. Personnel from the base participate in almost every aspect of local civic activities. They serve the community as school mentors, public safety volunteers, and coaches for youth sports teams. Typically over 1,000 hours of community service are accomplished by over 250 volunteers annually. In 2017, the Women's Auxiliary Commissioned Officer's Mess donated \$40,000 to various non-profit groups and the Navy's Religious Services Offering Fund provided \$70,000 to local organizations.

Other community involvement and partnership activities involving NAWS China Lake personnel include:

- Maturango Museum
- Salvation Army
- High Desert Women's Safe House
- Emergency Readiness Fair
- Local STEM Days
- Sea Cadets
- Career Day
- Local Sports Leagues
- Adopt-A-Highway Program
- Veteran Stand Down
- Life Skills Classes
- Safe Graduation Night Party
- Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Drives
- Historical Society of the Upper Mojave Desert

Volunteers from the installation also participate in highway clean-up days, community activities sponsored by the American Legion, and various activities for local schools that promote public academic programs and increase community relations. The Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) provided over \$50 million in grant funds for the improvement of local schools on federal land. The grant funds were used by the Sierra Sands Unified School District to build Murray Middle School and make upgrades to Burroughs High School.

NAWS China Lake is committed to working with local government and citizens to plan wisely for conservative growth and resource protection in areas potentially affected by Navy operations.

We continue to plan for change by:

- Participating in the San Bernardino County Department of Defense (DoD) Working Group to update the San Bernardino County General Plan with a Military Element.
- Engaging with local jurisdictions and stakeholders to kick off an updated Joint Land Use Study for the R-2508 Complex.
- Utilizing Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) program funding to buffer key test areas from incompatible development.
- Engaging with local planning jurisdictions on potential wind energy development to mitigate potential compatibility issues.
- Participating as an ex-officio non-voting member on the Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority in order to support development of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

Local government and private citizens can help by:

- Familiarizing themselves with local zoning codes and potential constraints from military operations before buying, renting, developing, or redeveloping property to understand the different kinds of compatible land uses and their requirements.

Working together, we can continue our long history of cooperative interaction to maintain the Navy mission, encourage compatible land use managed growth, and support economic stability in the region.



The historical ties between NAWS China Lake and the surrounding communities have and remain strong from its establishment 75 years ago on November 8, 1943. A continued strong collaboration and respect for one another over the next 75 years will continue to produce success, and thus is in everyone's mutual benefit to realize. The entire team that comprises China Lake looks forward to working closely with community partners to be a driver of the economic engine for Inyo, Kern, and San Bernardino counties as well as the State of California, while providing the capabilities to the warfighter that lead to victory in battle.

- Commanding Officer, NAWS China Lake



For further information, please contact:

NAWS China Lake Community Planning Liaison Officer: (760) 939-9438

<http://cnic.navy.mil/ChinaLake>