



Sentinel Landscape Partnership Program

Founded in 2013 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Department of Defense, and Department of the Interior with a mission to:

- Strengthen military readiness
- Conserve natural resources
- Bolster agricultural and forestry economies
- Increase public access to outdoor recreation
- Enhance resilience to climate change.

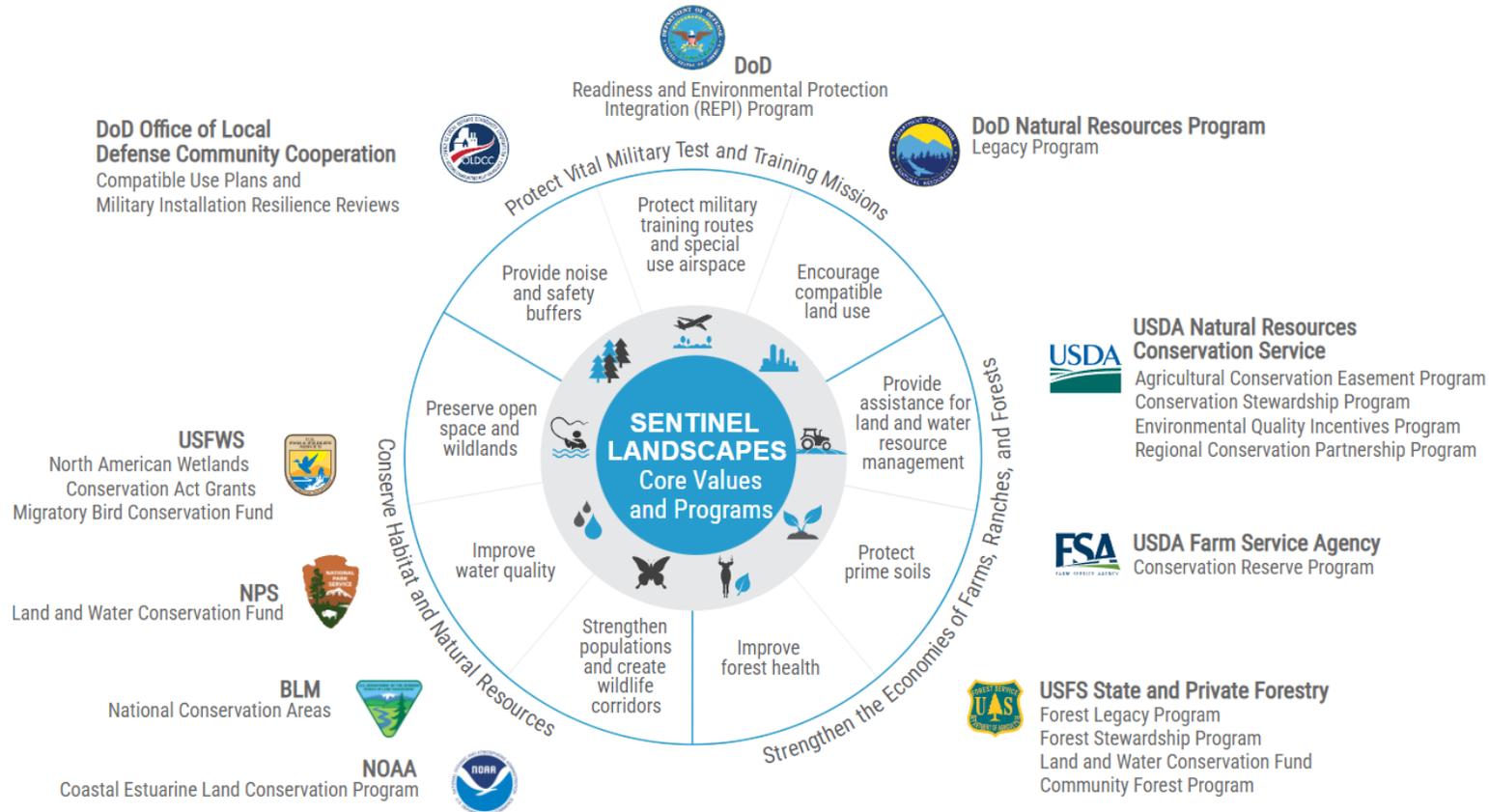


Sentinel Landscape Video



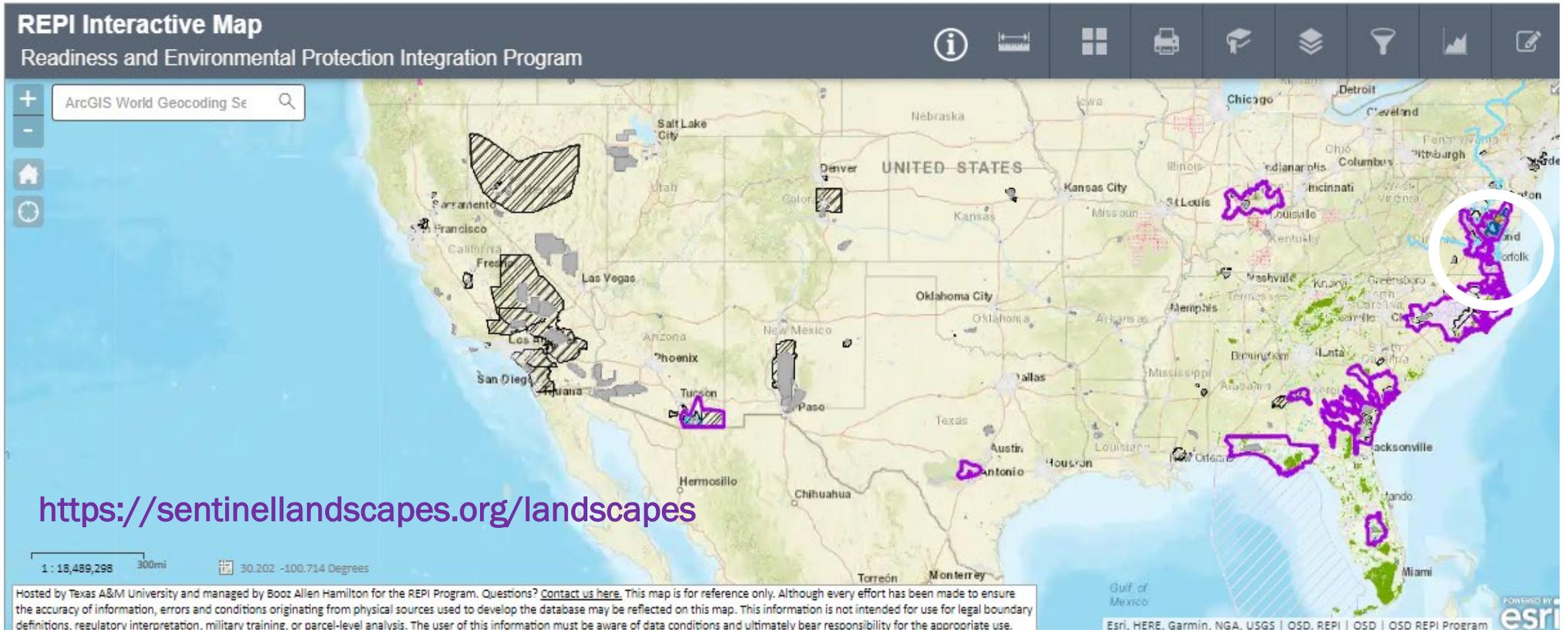


Federal Programs Active in Sentinel Landscapes





Sentinel Landscapes Across the U.S.





Middle Chesapeake Sentinel Landscape: MD, VA, DE Established 2015

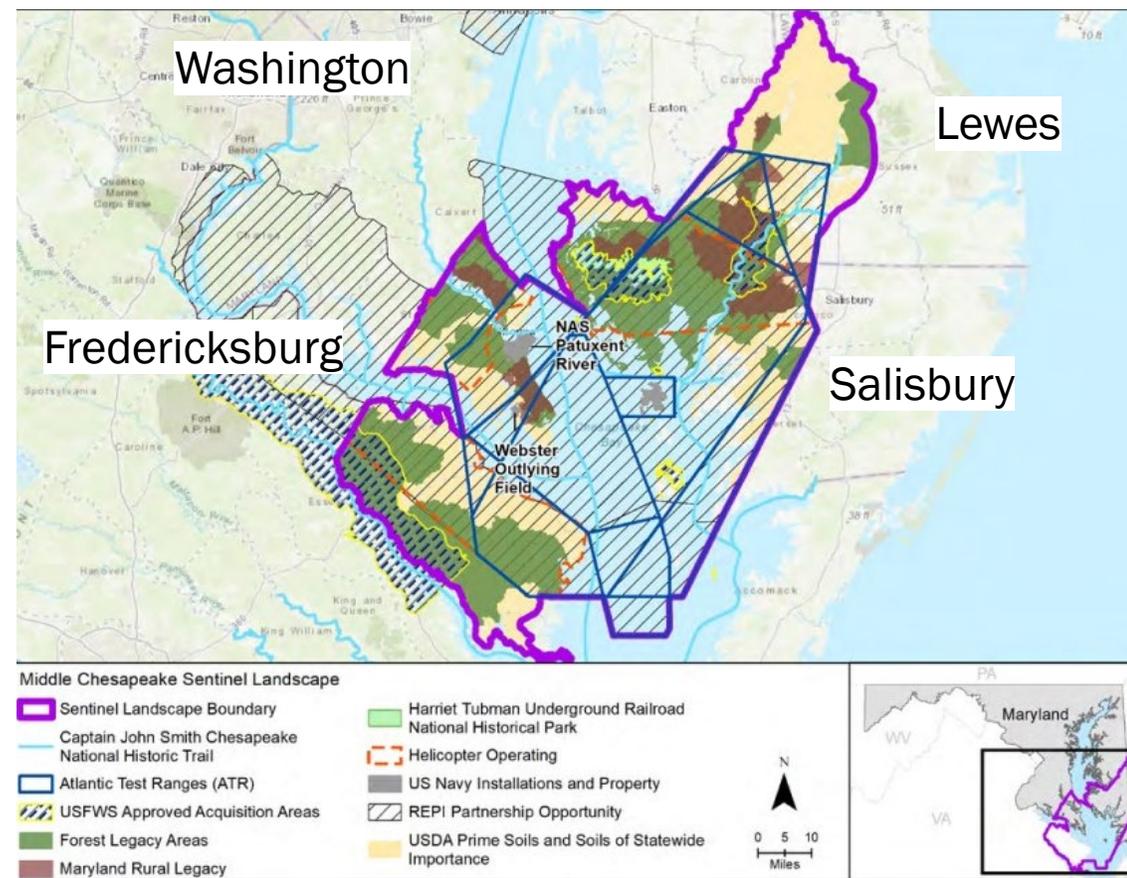
Middle Chesapeake Sentinel Landscape:

- Anchor Installation: NAS Patuxent River
- Landscape Area: 2,231,277 acres

Preserve large continuous tracts of land beneath the Navy's area of operation to limit incompatible development and ensure military readiness.

Prevent the conversion of working lands to non-agricultural uses

Protect and restore habitat for rare, threatened and endangered species and create connected wildlife corridors.





Middle Chesapeake Sentinel Landscape, Maryland: Partners

Example Partners:

- USDA - NRCS
- DOI - USFWS and NPS
- Commonwealth of Virginia
- Maryland DNR
- Delaware Department of Natural Resources
- St. Mary's County
- Chesapeake Conservancy
- Eastern Shore Land Conservancy
- Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust,
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Conservation Fund.
- Trust for Public Land
- and many more...

MIDDLE CHESAPEAKE SENTINEL LANDSCAPE

DELAWARE, MARYLAND, AND VIRGINIA | Est. 2015

The Chesapeake Bay is America's largest estuary spanning over 2.8 million acres. The ecosystem is valued for its natural beauty, economic productivity, and ecological vitality. It is also home to one of the U.S. Navy's premier aircraft testing locations, Naval Air Station (NAS) Patuxent River-Atlantic Test Ranges (ATR). The U.S. Navy conducts over 150,000 annual testing and research flights within its 1.5 million-acre special use airspace in the region. This averages out to more than 410 aircraft operations occurring per day. In 2015, a diverse group of stakeholders came together to form the Middle Chesapeake Sentinel Landscape. Despite the landscape's historic agricultural and fishing traditions, it is less than two hours driving distance from Washington, D.C., and is a coveted location for weekend or summer homes. This dynamic presents a challenge for the partners within the sentinel landscape, whose individual missions can conflict with unfettered development. The primary goal of the Middle Chesapeake Sentinel Landscape is to protect land that supports wildlife, agricultural productivity, and the U.S. Navy's mission.



Scenic soybean field on the banks of the Patuxent River in Solomon, Maryland. (Photo by Preston Kares)

LANDSCAPE DETAIL

Total Sentinel Landscape Area: 2,231,277 acres		
Total Protected Acres: 59,881 <small>From year established through fiscal year 2022</small>	Total Enrolled Acres: 67,625 <small>For fiscal year 2022</small>	Active Base Area Acres: 7,640

SENTINELLANDSCAPES.ORG

2023 LANDSCAPE PROFILE | Middle Chesapeake

<https://sentinellandscapes.org/landscapes/middle-chesapeake/>

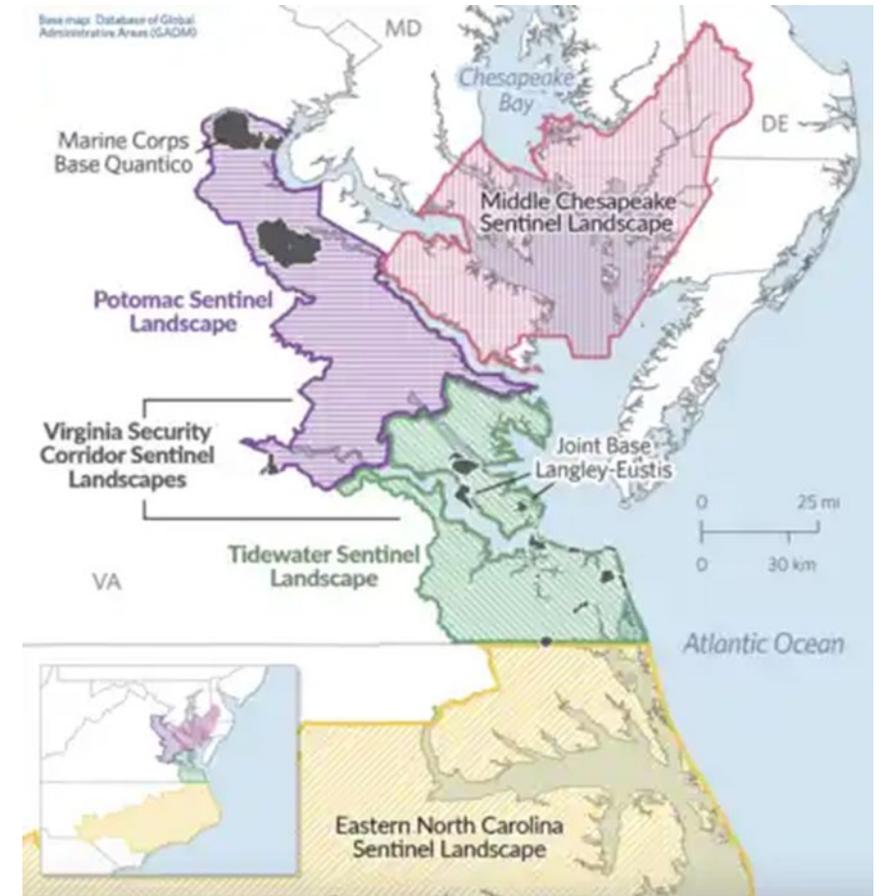




Virginia Security Corridor Sentinel Landscapes, VA Established 2023

The Virginia Security Corridor:

- 2.9 million acres - land and water
- Potomac Sentinel Landscape – anchored by Marine Corps Base Quantico
- Tidewater Sentinel Landscape – anchored by Joint Base Langley Eustis
- Supports 10 military installations - every Branch of the U.S. Armed Forces
- Connects Eastern North Carolina and Middle Chesapeake Sentinel Landscapes





Virginia Security Corridor Sentinel Landscapes, VA: Partners

VIRGINIA SECURITY CORRIDOR SENTINEL LANDSCAPE

The Virginia Security Corridor is comprised of two sentinel landscapes: Potomac and Tidewater. This region encompasses over 2.9 million acres of land and water in Virginia's "Golden Crescent," an area of high military concentration, population growth, urban sprawl, and a growing technology industry. It is also home to some of the Commonwealth's most abundant resources, including intact forests, open and agricultural lands, and complex marsh and riverine systems that connect to the nation's largest estuary—the Chesapeake Bay.

The Virginia Security Corridor supports 10 military installations representing every branch of the U.S. Armed Forces. Specifically, the Potomac Sentinel Landscape is anchored by Marine Corps Base Quantico and the Tidewater Sentinel Landscape is anchored by Joint Base Langley-Eustis.

Partners established the Virginia Security Corridor to safeguard military testing and training activities, promote the use of Virginia's working lands, enhance resilience to climate-induced hazards, and conserve and restore vital habitats for improved water quality and protection of endangered species. These sentinel landscapes will also provide a connection between the Middle Chesapeake and Eastern North Carolina Sentinel Landscapes, enabling coordination of opportunities at a regional scale.

Landscapes Goals

Work collaboratively with landowners to implement the Virginia Joint Land Use Study recommendations to foster compatible use and resilience near military installations, while retaining at-risk working forest and agricultural lands.

Support comprehensive initiatives for coastal resilience, water management, and forest/fire management to mitigate the impacts of natural hazards, including inland and coastal flooding, and uphold water quality goals, particularly for the Chesapeake Bay and Albemarle-Pamlico estuary.

Stimulate economic growth in rural areas that is compatible with the objectives of military installations, safeguarding high conservation value lands to preserve dark skies and natural habitats.

Focus on land concerns (encroachment, forest health, arable and conservation lands, fire/flood abatement) in the north, central, and southwestern regions and water quality concerns in the southeastern region, while ensuring complementary efforts across all regions.



Air Force Thunderbirds practice at Joint Base Langley-Eustis (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Anthony N. Leclerc)

LANDSCAPE DETAIL

Total Sentinel Landscape Area:		
1,606,512 acres (Potomac)	1,343,153 acres (Tidewater)	
Total Protected Acres: 0	Total Enrolled Acres: 0	Active Base Area Acres: 194,711
From year established through fiscal year 2022	For fiscal year 2022	

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2023 LANDSCAPE PROFILE | Virginia Security corridor

<https://sentinellandscapes.org/landscapes/virginia-security-corridor/>

Example Partners:

- National Park Service Chesapeake Bay Office
- NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Virginia Field Office
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- USFS Washington Jefferson National Forest
- Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
- Capital Region Land Conservancy
- Caroline County
- City of Hampton
- The Ward Burton Wildlife Foundation
- The Pew Charitable Trusts

- The Black Family Land Trust
- Hampton Roads Military & Federal Facilities Alliance
- Hampton Roads Planning District Commission
- Rappahannock River Basin Commission
- Richmond Regional Commission
- Virginia Farm Bureau
- American Battlefield Trust
- Ducks Unlimited
- Friends of the Lower Appomattox
- The Virginia Agri-Business Council
- Virginia Forever, and many more...

Tidewater Sentinel Landscape Coordinator: Mary.Bennett@dof.virginia.gov

Potomac Sentinel Landscape Coordinator: Christopher.Moi@dof.virginia.gov





Kittatinny Ridge Sentinel Landscape, PA: Established 2024

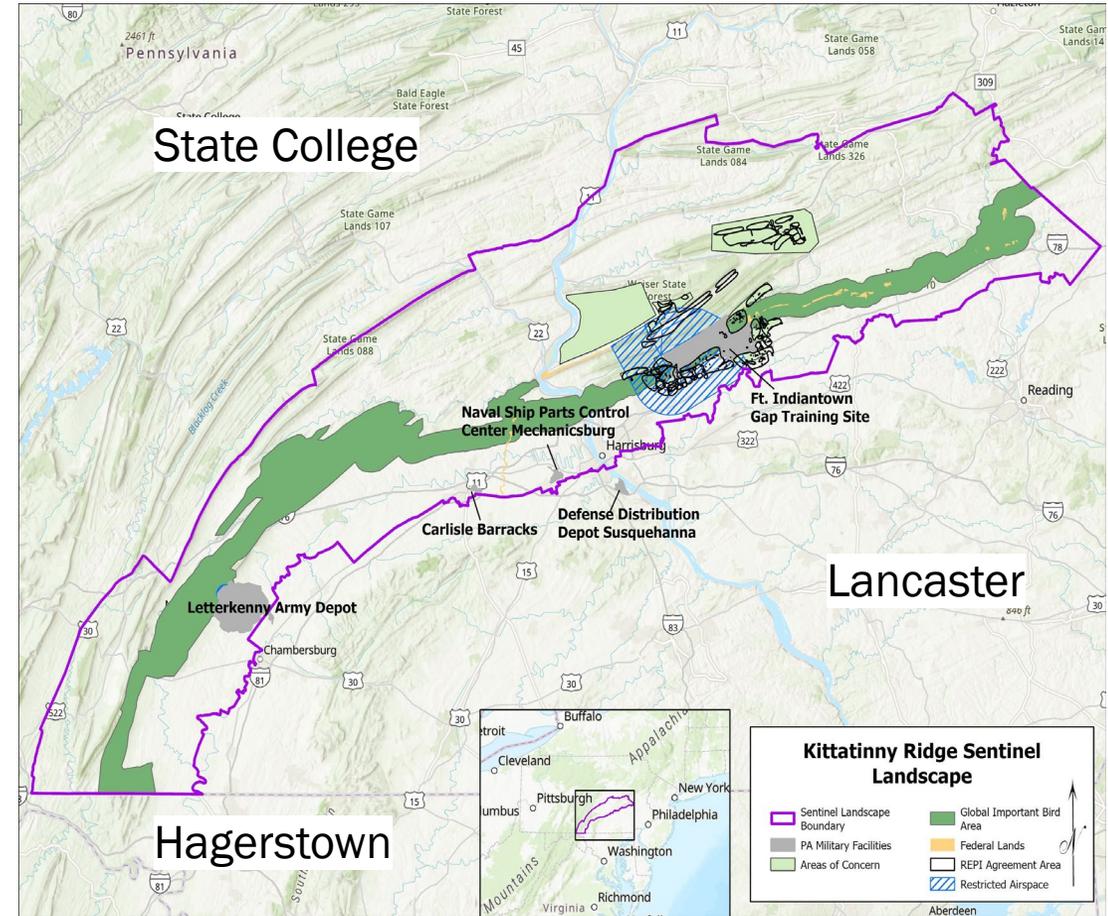
Kittatinny Ridge Sentinel Landscape

- Anchored by Fort Indiantown Gap
- Includes Letterkenny Army Depot
Carlisle Barracks, Naval Ship Parts
Control Center Mechanicsburg



Total Sentinel Landscape Area:
1.9 million acres

Active Base Area Acres:
17,203





Kittatinny Ridge Sentinel Landscape, PA: Landscape Goals and Partners

Landscape Goals

Preserve training missions and enhance readiness in the Kittatinny Ridge military corridor

Improve nature-based recreational resources and access to sustain small-town economies

Support working lands productivity and economic development

Increase coordinated and holistic land conservation, natural resource protection and stewardship initiatives

Example Partners:

- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
- Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
- Pennsylvania Game Commission
- Pennsylvania Military Community Enhancement Commission, and
- Pennsylvania Office of Outdoor Recreation

Sentinel Landscape Coordinator: rosmccarth@pa.gov

KITTATINNY RIDGE SENTINEL LANDSCAPE PENNSYLVANIA | Est. 2024



In the Lenape language, Kittatinny means "Big Mountain." This describes well the geography of Kittatinny Ridge Sentinel Landscape. Located in eastern Pennsylvania's Appalachian Mountains, the Kittatinny Ridge Sentinel Landscape encompasses forested ridges and fertile valleys provide clean water, sequester vast amounts of carbon, and serve as a crucial corridor for rare wildlife and songbird migration. It also plays a leading role in Pennsylvania's working lands and outdoor recreational economies.

The Kittatinny Ridge Sentinel Landscape supports military readiness as the home of the Pennsylvania National Guard's Fort Indiantown Gap (FTIG); the busiest National Guard training center, the Army's second busiest heliport, and one of only three specialized Army NG aviation facilities.

Rapid population growth and development around the Kittatinny Ridge Sentinel Landscape's main highways have decreased open space and increased light pollution, threatening FTIG's nighttime training capabilities. These pressures impact military installations specializing in Air and Missile Defense; sensitive species, like the eastern regal fritillary butterfly and cerulean warbler; ecosystem services, including drinking water, farm products, and timber; recreational resources; and climate change resilience. Currently, only 20 percent of the Kittatinny Ridge Sentinel Landscape is protected, which has attracted a myriad of partners to collaborate on strategic actions aimed at protecting the natural resources of this landscape.



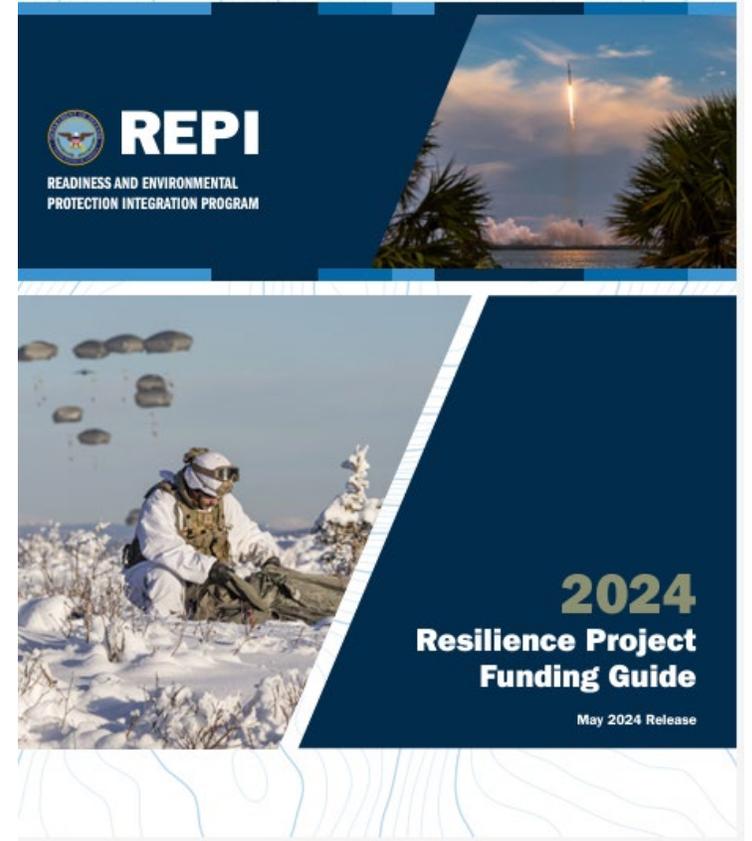
<https://sentinellandscapes.org/landscapes/kittatinny-ridge/#resources>





Resources: REPI Resilience Project Funding Guide

- REPI Program funds can serve as a non-Federal match for any Federal agency
- Eligibility requirements and application information for each program.
- Alignment with programs on climate hazard categories: Drought, Wildfire, Coastal Hazard, Riverine Flooding, and Land Degradation.
- Program Calendar provides key opening and closing dates for funding program application



https://www.repi.mil/Portals/44/2024_REPI_Resilience_Guide_052024.pdf





Resources: Mission Ready - State Policy Options to Sustain Military Installations

- *“State legislatures are critical in managing relations between the military and surrounding communities, especially regarding issues of mission change, growing local development and incompatible land uses that may threaten the military’s ability to operate effectively.”*
- *“State-level proactive strategies will become even more critical to the sustainability of military operations and defense communities.”*

Mission Ready

State Policy Options to Sustain Military Installations



<https://www.ncsl.org/military-and-veterans-affairs/mission-ready-state-policy-options-to-sustain-military-installations>





Key Points on Sentinel Landscapes (SL)

- Projects are all off-base – in defense communities
- Like REPI, SL projects require match 
- SL is like supercharged REPI

"None of us can tackle the climate challenge alone. We have a better chance [of] tackling the threat when we find ways to confront it together." Kathleen Hicks
– Deputy Defense Secretary.



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