



# Naval Weapons Systems Training Facility Boardman Environmental Impact Statement

## Importance of Training and Testing at NWSTF Boardman



### REALISTIC TRAINING

Realistic training allows U.S. Navy and Oregon National Guard personnel to maintain the highest level of military readiness and capability. Diverse training opportunities ensure military service men and women are able to react swiftly and decisively in a wide range of potential situations from combat to civilian evacuations and disaster relief.

**NWSTF Boardman provides a realistic training environment for U.S. military forces to ensure they have the capabilities to maintain a high state of readiness required to meet their assigned missions.**

### NWSTF BOARDMAN

Naval Weapons Systems Training Facility (NWSTF) Boardman is the only air-to-ground range located in the northwestern United States capable of supporting U.S. Navy and Oregon National Guard readiness training activities. NWSTF Boardman also has the only restricted airspace in Oregon for military training. NWSTF Boardman provides critical training opportunities for the Navy, Oregon National Guard and other Department of Defense personnel to prepare for a variety of duties they may be called upon to perform.

### MEETING THE NAVY AND OREGON NATIONAL GUARD MISSIONS

The Navy's mission, derived from Title 10 of the U.S. Code, is to "maintain, train and equip combat-ready naval forces capable of winning wars, deterring aggression and maintaining freedom of the seas." To accomplish this mission, the Navy establishes and executes at-sea and on-land training and testing programs and ensures forces and commands have access to military ranges, operating areas and airspace for training and testing.

The primary mission of the Oregon National Guard is to "provide the citizens of the State of Oregon and the United States with a ready force of citizen soldiers and airmen, equipped and trained to respond to any contingency."

The Navy, Oregon National Guard and other U.S. military services require frequent, realistic training to ensure preparation for conflicts around the globe, as well as homeland defense and homeland security activities. Military training areas like NWSTF Boardman must be capable of providing the environment necessary to support comprehensive training of the U.S. military.

## Importance of NWSTF Boardman

More than 47,000 acres of land are available within the boundaries of NWSTF Boardman and almost 500 square miles of special use airspace are available above the Boardman area, creating many opportunities for military training. NWSTF Boardman has a unique combination of attributes that make it an ideal training venue, including:

### Location

The location of NWSTF Boardman and its supporting components allow military readiness training to be conducted to properly build critical skills required for deploying military service men and women and developing systems for their use. It is the only location identified by the Oregon National Guard's Land Use Requirements Study that would meet its training requirements.

### Available resources

NWSTF Boardman is a unique national range asset that derives its value from its training capabilities and its location close to Navy and Oregon National Guard training units. Factors that make NWSTF Boardman uniquely suited to its mission include:

- Proximity to Navy and Oregon National Guard units and their families
- Land that is currently owned by the federal government
- Areas available with at least 9,000 undeveloped acres
- Areas capable of sustaining simultaneous training activities
- Areas with terrain appropriate to accommodate the training ranges
- Land and air training opportunities, including air-to-ground activities
- Preservation of the only restricted airspace in Oregon for military training

### Area of training space

Approximately 490 square miles of military airspace and 47,432 acres of land are available within the boundaries of NWSTF Boardman, creating numerous opportunities for training military forces.



## Training Activities

Training activities conducted at NWSTF Boardman provide Navy and Oregon National Guard personnel the opportunity to train regularly with weapons and equipment in order to understand their capabilities, limitations and operation. Training is focused on preparing military personnel for worldwide deployment and includes:

- Conducting air combat maneuvers within special use airspace where aircraft engage in offensive and defensive maneuvering against each other, in addition to instrument training, in-flight refueling, basic familiarization training and formation flying.
- Conducting electronic combat training, including intercepting, identifying and locating enemy emitters, and preventing or reducing the effective use of enemy electronic equipment.
- Conducting bombing and missile exercises (non-explosive), in addition to live-fire training activities against ground targets.
- Performing research, development, test and evaluation activities.
- Performing activities from the air that train military forces to deliver and extract equipment and personnel using a variety of techniques.
- Conducting flight training for the Oregon National Guard Tactical Unmanned Aerial Systems.
- Conducting rotary and fixed wing flight training for the Oregon National Guard.

