

## National Asset

In 2020, the military installations in northwest Florida provided an annual economic impact exceeding \$22 Billion and generated over 209,600 jobs.

Eglin Air Force Base, housed in Okaloosa County, is the largest installation in the Department of Defense and hosts the joint service Gulf Test and Training Range (GTTR).

The GTTR complex, the largest test and training range in the nation, is identified by Department of Defense Directive as a national asset that can not be replicated anywhere in the continental U.S., and is the only range capable of supporting future technologically advanced weapons testing.



### Defense Support Initiatives Committee

Okaloosa—Santa Rosa—Walton  
Counties

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## Gulf Test & Training Range Military Mission Line Advocacy Position



Provided by



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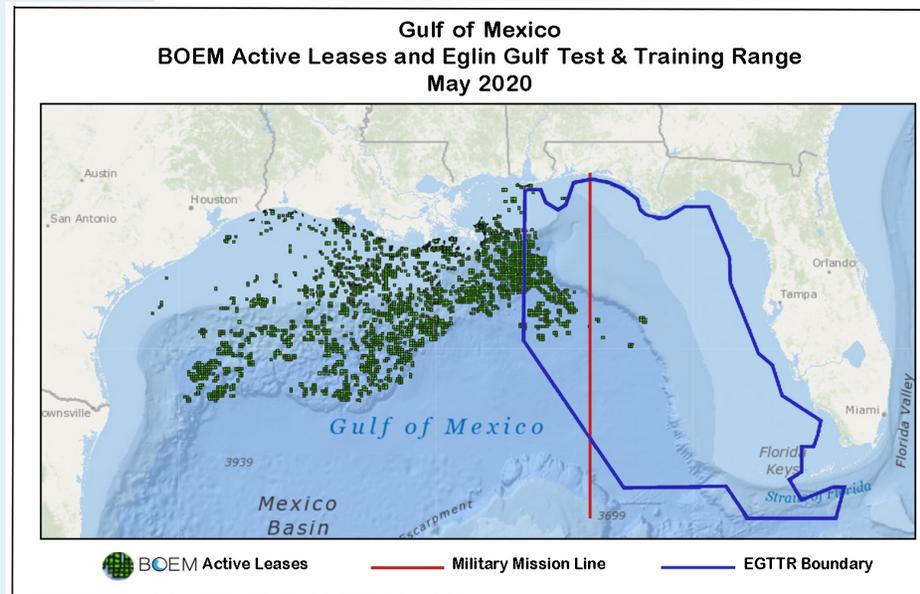
## Security Interests

The GTTR connects test & training ranges and capabilities across the eastern Gulf of Mexico extending from NW Florida to Key West. This multi-service training area supports simultaneous maritime, air and land training exercises. The GTTR provides unique capabilities to test, train with, and evaluate high-altitude supersonic air combat training, air-to-air missile testing, drone targeting, hypersonic weapons testing, space launches/landings, and other activities. As weapon systems and aircraft become more sophisticated and long-reaching, test and training ranges take on even greater importance in military capabilities and national security.

The GTTR is an integral part of DoD's Training Resource Strategy. Defense contracting awards in the Northwest Florida region have grown by 28% since 2015 with a monetary value increase of 63% during the same time period. The region's contracting value reached \$1.6 Billion in 2020.

## Military Mission Line

Federal policies have protected the Eastern Gulf of Mexico from encroachment since 1983 by providing a buffer zone (now defined by the Military Mission Line established in 2006) restricting oil and natural gas drilling, exploration and related activities. This mandated north-south Military Mission Line protects the GTTR from non-compatible activities. Oil drilling structures, associated exploratory activities and related activities east of the MML would be incompatible with military activities, negatively impact military readiness and compromise our nation's military superiority.



## MML Advocacy Resolutions

- Building Industry Association
- City of Fort Walton Beach
- City of Pensacola
- Crestview Chamber of Commerce
- Destin Chamber of Commerce
- Defense Support Initiatives Committee
- Economic Development Council of Okaloosa County
- Eglin Federal Credit Union
- Emerald Coast Association of Realtors
- Emerald Coast Military Affairs Council
- Escambia County Board of County Commissioners
- ERA American Real Estate
- Florida's Great Northwest
- Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Navarre Area Chamber of Commerce
- Key West Chamber of Commerce
- Navarre Area Chamber of Commerce
- Navarre Beach Area Chamber of Commerce
- Navarre Beach Area CoC MAC
- Niceville-Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce
- Niceville-Valparaiso CoC MAC
- Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners
- Santa Rosa Board of County Commissioners
- Santa Rosa County Chamber of Commerce
- Santa Rosa County MAC
- Technology Coast Manufacturing and Engineering Network
- Town of Cinco Bayou
- Walton Area Chamber of Commerce
- Walton County Economic Development Alliance