

# Conservation Benefits the Community and Crane

The White River Military Alliance has developed a Conservation Incentive Toolkit that helps landowners neighboring NSA Crane identify opportunities for conservation. Why is land conservation important to our community and to Crane?

## **Preserves and Protects Natural Land**

“This farmland is all we have because it’s a non-renewable resource, and we need to be good stewards and take advantage of this great opportunity—especially because you can get paid to do it. I hope by doing this conservation, it could lead to more jobs at Lake Glendora Test Facility and help our local economy in Sullivan. If I can protect and make my farm better from a conservation standpoint and help the mission at Crane, it’s a win-win. I hope others in the region will take the same approach.”

— *Darin Sisil, owner of a 522-acre farm in Sullivan County*

## **Conservation has a Tangible Impact**

### **For the Community:**

- Protects agricultural lands
- Protects natural and forest lands
- Preserves habitat for threatened, endangered, and at-risk species
- Preserves water quality and protects water supply

### **For the Military:**

- Protects small arms and ordnance testing and demilitarization missions that produce significant amounts of noise and vibration
- Prevents workarounds that would reduce test capacity
- Allows for future mission growth

## **Allows Crane to Maintain its Military Missions**

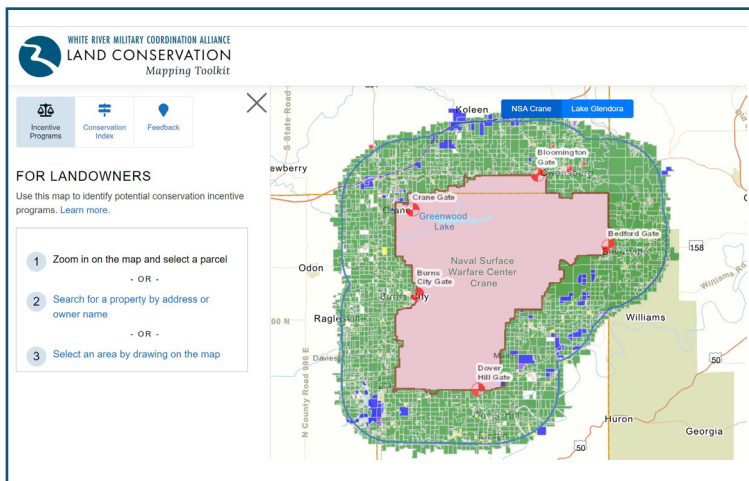
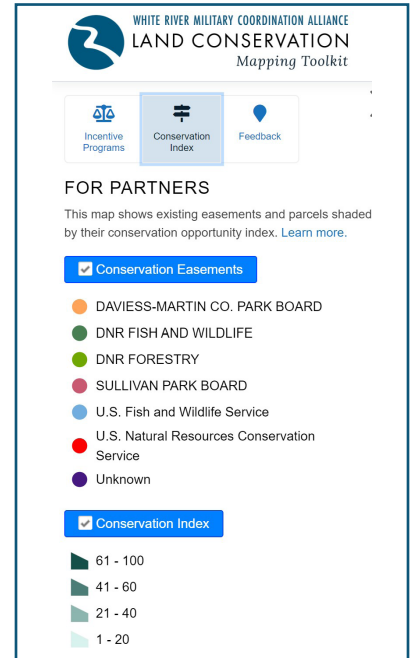
How neighboring lands are used around a military installation is a crucial part of making sure it can fulfill its important role within the U.S. military. For NSA Crane, that important role includes weapons testing, research and development, and ordnance support. Crane conducts realistic weapons system testing to make sure our men and women in uniform and their equipment are fully prepared for real-world combat. Having natural and open spaces around Crane helps make sure that the military doesn’t need to do workarounds that would reduce test capacity. Testing activities can sometimes impact civilians because they produce excessive noise and vibration.



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## May Provide Financial Incentives Through Conservation Programs

Conservation incentive programs protect the open and natural spaces that neighbor military installations to avoid land use conflicts by preserving agricultural lands and habitat for wildlife. Through conservation incentive programs, landowners and local land trust organizations may leverage federal and state-level programs with mutual interest in preserving land. The voluntary easements created through this cost-sharing approach allow the landowner to maintain ownership of the land while being a good neighbor to Crane. These protected lands are not owned by the military or used for military training or testing. For the military, they serve as compatible neighboring lands.



## What is the Conservation Incentive Toolkit?

The Conservation Incentive Toolkit is an online mapping tool designed to promote land conservation in our region and help landowners neighboring Crane identify conservation resources that are available to them. The toolkit includes a map with various GIS layers that show detailed information

about existing land use status for parcels within three miles of NSA Crane and LGTF. The map allows landowners neighboring Crane to understand their land's attributes and see what potential conservation incentives could be available to them.

## What programs are available to me?

You can see if you qualify for state and federal land conservation programs at [Map.WRMCAAlliance.com](http://Map.WRMCAAlliance.com).



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