- Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) Proposed Military Influence Planning Areas (MIPAs)

- Highlands County Adopted the MIPAs as Military Airport Zones (MAZs)
- Encroachment Protection efforts are focused on MIPA/MAZ I the Area Within 3 Miles of the Range Boundary

- Most Potential for Impacts on Public Safety & Range Training Exercises
Noise Contours show most noise impact in Aircraft Entry and Exit Corridor and North and South Bombing Ranges
Military Airport Zone I in Highlands County is in mostly Rural areas

These areas also have High Conservation Significance and encompass thousands of acres
Military Activities and Features exist throughout the Range

- Restricted Airspaces are the most Active and Sensitive areas
- Military Training Activities have proven to be compatible with Agriculture and Wildlife
Highlands County 2030 Comprehensive Plan Natural Resources Element – Conservation Acquisition Priorities:

1. Scrub or Sandhill habitats (xeric uplands);
2. Endemic populations of endangered or threatened species, including species of special concern;
3. Wetlands, Cutthroat grass seeps, and un-canalized freshwater estuaries feeding the lakes;
4. Important aquifer recharge functions;
5. Unique scenic or natural resources;
6. Dry prairie;
7. Southern Florida Flatwoods of high quality; and
8. Other natural resource types of ecological value.
• REPI- Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration
  - 1 to 1 Match Preferred
  - Maximum Annual Request $3 million
  - Requires a Long Range Protection Plan for Range
  - Multi-Parcel Projects with a 5 Year Horizon
• Success Requires Many Funding Partners
  ▪ Florida Defense Alliance
  ▪ Florida Defense Support Task Force
  ▪ REPI
  ▪ FL Department of Environmental Protection
  ▪ FL Department of Agriculture
  ▪ US Fish and Wildlife Service
  ▪ Conservation Trust Fund
- Previous Transactions took 2 Years
  - Conservation Easements on Two Properties
  - 1,382 acres
  - $2,430,700
  - Including due diligence, acquisition, monitoring and enforcement costs
- Anticipated 2015 REPI Request
  - REPI $3,000,000
  - POTENTIAL MATCH (Projected)
    - DIG $200,000
    - FDSTF $500,000
    - ConsTF $500,000
    - R&Fam $1,500,000
  - Shortfall $300,000
NRAC Request:
Recommend that the Highlands County Board of County Commissioners commit $500,000 of Conservation Trust Fund monies to match a 2015 Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Grant to purchase conservation easements in Military Airport Zone (MAZ) I to protect the natural resources in the region, the Avon Park Air Force Range and the public.
Questions and Discussion

Thank you!