

NEFL MIRR Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

Date: April 23, 2026
Project name: Northeast Florida Military Installation Readiness Review
Project no: D3968700
Attention: NEFL MIRR Technical Advisory Committee
Company: Northeast Florida Regional Council
Prepared by: Jacobs

Agenda

- 2:00 pm Welcome & Introductions
- Introduction
 - Purpose of the meeting - *Jacobs*
 - Project scope & overview- *Jacobs*
- 2:05 pm Draft Project Descriptions: NS Mayport
- 2:30 pm Draft Project Descriptions: MCSF Blount Island
- 2:55 pm Draft Project Descriptions: NAS Jacksonville
- 3:20 pm Draft Project Descriptions: Camp Blanding
- 3:45 pm Next Steps & Questions

Technical Advisory Committee Mission

To discuss relevant topics, provide expert opinions, follow up questions on assessment and adaptation, review preliminary findings and foster the identified outcomes toward implementation.



Meeting Summary

The Northeast Florida Military Installation Resilience Review (NEFL MIRR) Technical Advisory Committee convened on April 23, 2026, to review and discuss draft resilience project concepts across the 4 MIRR military installations in the region. The meeting focused on identifying vulnerabilities to natural hazards and operational constraints, evaluating proposed strategies to improve resilience, and gathering technical feedback to refine projects prior to further development and Steering Committee review. The Jacobs team presented a range of projects for each installation addressing critical infrastructure, access, utilities, communications, and adjacent lands, with emphasis on redundancy, coordination, and feasibility.

At Naval Air Station Jacksonville, discussions centered on the lack of redundancy in the electrical system and the operational risks associated with a single substation. While the current utility agreement with JEA covers operations and maintenance, there is interest in exploring expanded coordination, feasibility studies for redundancy, and broader resilience planning, although policy constraints limit development outside the installation fence line. For Roosevelt Boulevard, the installation's primary access route, there was strong support for traffic signal coordination and intelligent transportation systems as near-term solutions to congestion, alongside longer-term studies focused on multimodal transportation and alternative routes. Adjacent lands near NOLF Whitehouse were discussed in the context of dark-sky requirements, wildfire risk, and encroachment, with consensus around the importance of coordinated land-use planning, prescribed fire, and native replanting strategies supported by partnerships both inside and outside the fence line.

At Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island, potable water and communications emerged as significant resilience concerns due to a lack of redundancy. Participants emphasized the need for improved coordination with JEA and JAXPORT, feasibility studies for redundant water supply and on-base potable storage, and exploration of non-potable water sources for operational uses. Communications discussions highlighted interest in dual fiber routes, renting dark fiber from JEA, and establishing backup wireless capabilities, with clear agreement on the need for follow-up coordination among installation staff, utilities, and technical experts. Hecksher Drive, the primary access road to Blount Island, was recognized as highly vulnerable to sea level rise, storm surge, erosion, and congestion. Elevating flood-prone segments, enhancing shoreline protection, and cautiously exploring alternative transportation options were broadly supported. It was noted by installation members that a northward expansion of Dave Rawls Blvd to alleviate traffic from Hecksher Drive and help create continuous flow off-installation and from JAXPORT would not be a viable option as tractor trailer traffic is trying to reach the I-295 corridor.

For Camp Blanding Joint Training Facility, State Road 16 was identified as a critical vulnerability due to frequent flooding and aging drainage infrastructure. There was strong consensus that a comprehensive drainage study is needed to identify ownership, system deficiencies, and opportunities for targeted upgrades, especially given the area's inclusion in a Basin Management Action Plan and proximity to sensitive water resources. It was noted by installation members that any roadway expansion or alternative route creation that would take land away from training ranges would be a non-starter and should not be considered a viable option. Adjacent lands were discussed as mission-critical buffers, with continued interest in Sentinel Landscape and REPI opportunities, though challenges remain related to defining appropriate boundaries and refining project concepts.

At Naval Station Mayport, discussions focused on A1A and surrounding shorelines, which are increasingly vulnerable to sea level rise, erosion, and storm surge. While road elevation remains cost-prohibitive in the near term, participants supported continued evaluation of phased approaches, integrated shared-use paths, and shoreline stabilization measures that balance natural and structural solutions. The role of living shorelines, dune elevation, beach renourishment, and thin-layer placement was emphasized, with caution expressed regarding design and implementation to avoid ecological harm. The Timucuan Preserve was recognized as a critical natural buffer protecting installation assets, and participants supported strengthening partnerships and carefully advancing marsh migration and restoration strategies.

Across all installations, recurring themes included the need to improve redundancy for mission-critical systems, strengthen interagency coordination, leverage existing studies and funding opportunities, and prioritize projects that are both feasible and impactful in the near term while supporting longer-term resilience goals. TAC members were encouraged to brief their respective Steering Committee representatives on the project concepts presented by the Jacobs team. Additional feedback will be incorporated as projects are refined for subsequent phases of the NEFL MIRR effort.

