



NORTHEAST FLORIDA MILITARY INSTALLATION READINESS REVIEW

Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island Tour &
Naval Station Mayport Stakeholder Workshop



On June 17, 2025, a significant collaboration took place as the Northeast Florida Regional Council (NEFRC) partnered with Jacobs Solutions to host its first site tour and stakeholder workshop focused on the Marine Corps Support Facility (MCSF) Blount Island and Naval Station (NS) Mayport. This event aimed to address the unique vulnerabilities, infrastructure needs, and resilience opportunities specific to military installations within the region.

The workshop brought together representatives from military installations, utility providers, regional planners, and community stakeholders. This collaborative effort aimed to identify vulnerabilities and regional challenges that impact both military operations and community infrastructure.

Before the workshop, the NEFRC and Jacobs MIRR team took an informative tour of MCSF Blount Island. This visit included a briefing led by Colonel Luke Watson, the Commanding Officer, and a guided tour led by his environmental staff. MCSF Blount Island plays a crucial role as the home of Blount Island Command and is central to the Marine Corps' global prepositioning programs. Its primary mission is to support crisis response by loading ships with prepositioned supplies for quick deployment of Marine expeditionary forces. Additionally, it supports naval battalion and marine/ship repair operations. During the briefing, it became clear that the base's global mission for crisis response hinges on reliable power, communication, and transportation networks. Some concerns raised during the discussions included untested backup water systems, shoreline erosion issues, and the challenges posed by limited traffic access.



Following the tour of MCSF Blount Island, a stakeholder meeting was held at the Mayport Community Center in a collaborative effort to visualize potential shocks and stressors affecting the two installations (NS Mayport and MCSF Blount Island). Some of the most pressing shocks and stressors identified were disruption of power, flooding, erosion, aging infrastructure, and traffic congestion.

Key goals of the workshop included:

- Discussion mission related shocks and stressors
- Understanding of ongoing resilience efforts/projects in the surrounding community
- Determine the study area boundary specific to these installations
- Identify critical assets outside of the fenceline that support mission readiness



The discussions also emphasized the need to explore the interdependencies between military installations and regional systems, highlighting the importance of coordinated efforts to enhance overall resilience in Northeast Florida. Stakeholders engaged in discussions about mission interdependencies, notably highlighting that Naval Station Mayport is a vital hub for regional and international defense operations, serving as a key center for ship repair, training, and fleet support. It was noted that Blount Island's operations are deeply interconnected with regional and global logistics networks. Ammunition is sourced from South Carolina, while major equipment maintenance is conducted in Albany, Georgia. From there, gear is distributed to strategic locations such as Norway, Guam, and the Middle East, supporting Marine Corps missions across all geographic combatant commands, including Marine Central Command and other regional combatant commanders.

The workshop also featured a Unique Value Mapping Exercise, which facilitated discussions on the most pressing shocks and stressors, as well as the contributions of ongoing resilience efforts from the various stakeholders present. These ongoing resilience efforts are important to be aware of to ensure that they align with defense priorities, such as the City of Jacksonville guiding growth and infrastructure investment towards areas that are less likely to be impacted by hazards, and strategies by JEA for managing transmission line vulnerabilities.

In conclusion, the workshop successfully convened stakeholders and allowed the NEFRC team to draft an initial study area for Naval Station Mayport and MCSF Blount Island. This event showcased the region's commitment to mission assurance, smart planning, and fostering mutually beneficial partnerships. Thank you to everyone who helped make this event a tremendous success. To learn more about this project or to stay up to date, visit our website at www.nefrc.org/MIRR.



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