

**FINAL**



# JOINT BASE MCGUIRE-DIX-LAKEHURST, NJ AIR INSTALLATIONS COMPATIBLE USE ZONES STUDY

AUGUST 2022



**U.S. AIR FORCE**

## Air Installations Compatible Use Zones Program

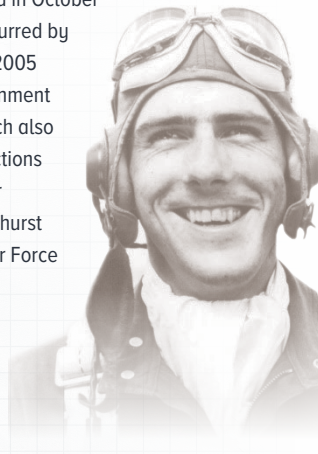
The Department of Defense's (DoD's) **Air Installations Compatible Use Zones (AICUZ) Program** balances the needs of military air and ground operations with community concerns by focusing on the **Air Force's policy of promoting public health, safety, and general welfare in areas surrounding air installations while seeking development that is compatible with the defense flying mission.**

## JB MDL Mission & History

**With Air Force, Army, and Navy missions, JB MDL is the nation's only tri-service joint base and the largest DoD installation** in the New York Metropolitan-Delaware Valley area. Located 18 miles southeast of Trenton, N.J., the 42,000-contiguous acres are home to more than 80 mission partners and

40 mission commanders providing a wide range of combat capability. The 87th Air Base Wing is the host unit at JB MDL and provides installation management to the joint base.

JB MDL was created when the former McGuire Air Force Base, Fort Dix, and Naval Air Engineering Station Lakehurst merged in October of 2009. The merger occurred by recommendation of the 2005 Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC), which also directed the support functions for Fort Dix and Naval Air Engineering Station Lakehurst to relocate to McGuire Air Force Base.



## Economic Impact

The military provides direct, indirect, and induced economic benefits to local communities through jobs and wages. Benefits include employment opportunities and increases in local business revenue, property sales, and tax revenue. JB MDL is the largest DOD employer in the State of New Jersey, providing well-paying jobs and economic stability that creates demand for goods and services, and supports local businesses and the local economy. According to an economic impact analysis for Fiscal Year 2018, it is estimated that the annual economic impact of JB MDL was \$4.8 billion. That makes the base's economic footprint enormously important for both the region and state.

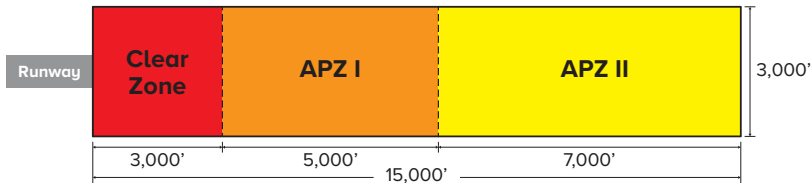


As one of 12 joint bases established through the 2005 BRAC process, JB MDL is host to a multitude of Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy assets. With every service represented on the installation, JB MDL brings integral resources to today's fight as America's premiere warfighting base.

## Noise, Clear Zones and Accident Potential Zones

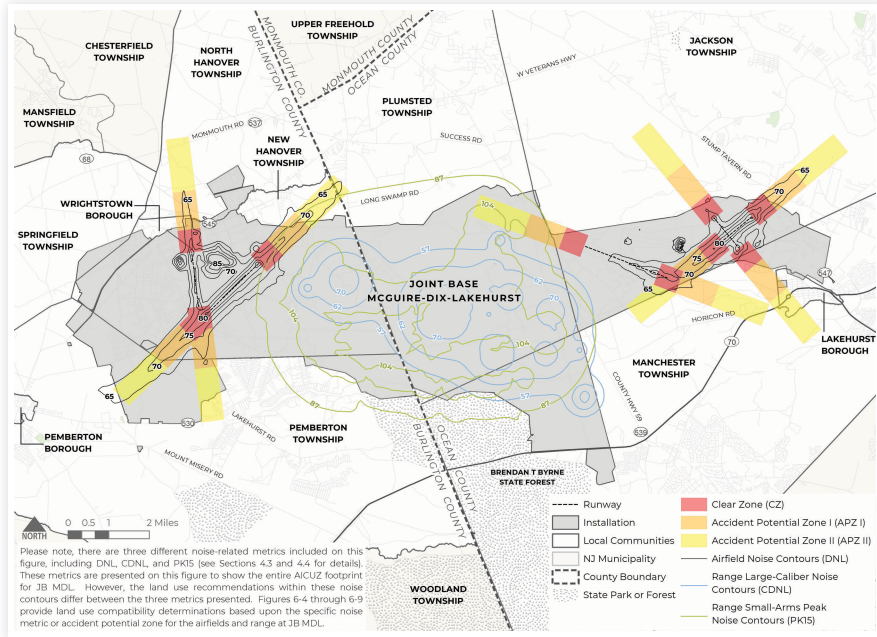
Under the AICUZ Program, the DoD provides noise zones to define aircraft noise exposure, using the **Day-Night Average Sound Level (DNL)**. The DNL metric is based on the number of average daily aircraft operations over a 24-hour period, and A-weighted DNL is used for aircraft noise. For range-generated noise, two noise metrics are employed by the DoD in this AICUZ Study, including Peak Sound Pressure Level (dB PK), which is the highest instantaneous, sound over a given period

of time, as well as CDNL, is also a cumulative noise metric; however, it uses a C-weighted scale, which captures lower-frequency sound levels. In addition, the DOD provides **Clear Zones (CZs) and Accident Potential Zones (APZs)** as planning tools for local agencies. CZs and APZs define the areas where an aircraft accident is likely to. For planning purposes within this AICUZ Study and consistency with land use compatibility guidance, Class B CZ and APZ dimensions are applied to all runways at JB MDL.



### CLASS "B" RUNWAY

APPROXIMATE SCALE



2022 JB MDL AICUZ Noise Contours, CZs and APZs



## Compatible Development

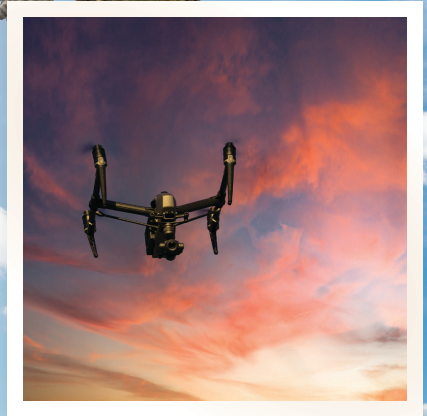
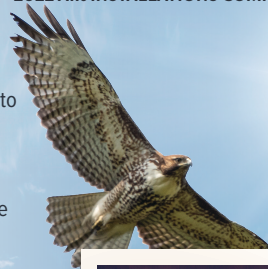
The AICUZ Program includes guidelines for land use compatibility within noise zones, Clear Zones, and APZs. In general, these guidelines recommend that noise-sensitive land uses be placed outside of high noise zones and that people-intensive uses not be placed within APZs. Land development should be compatible with noise zones, Clear Zones, and APZs near military airfields. JB MDL is a large installation with two airfields and a range in between and multiple population centers around the perimeter of the installation, such as Wrightstown, Lakehurst, and Browns Mills. The noise zones associated with the two airfields are mostly contained on-base; however, portions do extend off the ends of the runways into surrounding municipalities. Similarly, the noise zones associated with the range also extend off-base to the north and south. The CZs, and APZs also extend into surrounding areas of Burlington and Ocean counties.

## Hazards to Aircraft Flight Zone

Other land uses and activities that can pose potential hazards to flight include:

- Uses that would **attract birds**;
- **Towers, structures, and vegetation** that penetrate navigable airspace;
- **Lighting (direct or reflected)** that would impair pilot vision;
- Uses that would **generate smoke, steam, or dust**; and
- **Electromagnetic interference** with aircraft communication and navigation.

**The Hazards to Aircraft Flight Zone (HAFZ)** is a consultation zone within which the Air Force requests that project applicants and local planning bodies consult with the Air Force to ensure the project is compatible with installation operations relative to these concerns.



## Air Force and Community Roles

AICUZ Study implementation must be a joint effort between JB MDL and the surrounding communities.

**The 2022 JB MDL AICUZ Study** provides the best source of information about the roles the Air Force, local government, and the community can play to ensure land use planning decisions are compatible with a future installation presence.

For a copy of the JB MDL 2022 AICUZ Study, please contact the **87th ABW Public Affairs Office**.

### For More Information



Concerned citizens are encouraged to contact the following with any noise complaints.

Citizens can reach the PA Office at (609) 754-2104 or via email at [87.abw.pa@us.af.mil](mailto:87.abw.pa@us.af.mil).

**JB MDL also posts certain information** on its installation website, including alerts about upcoming range operations that may generate noise (note that this includes only noise associated with the range, and the airfield operations at JB MDL – McGuire and JB MDL – Lakehurst are not included). The “**JB MDL Noise Level Calendar**” can be found on the installation’s website in the lower right at <https://www.jbmdl.jb.mil/>. Other social media accounts used to post information and/or alerts include:

- FACEBOOK**  /JointBaseMcGuireDixLakehurst
- TWITTER**  /JointBaseMDL
- YOUTUBE**  /JointBaseMDL
- INSTAGRAM**  /JBMDL
- FLICKR**  /JointBaseMDL