

## **Natural Resources**

Natural resources are valuable assets of the Department of the Air Force (DAF). They provide the natural infrastructure needed for testing weapons and technology, as well as for training military personnel for deployment. Sound management of natural resources increases the effectiveness of DAF adaptability in all environments. The DAF has stewardship responsibility for the physical lands on which installations are located to ensure all natural resources are properly conserved, protected, and used in sustainable ways. The primary objective of the DAF Natural Resources Program is to sustain, restore, and modernize natural infrastructure to ensure operational capability and no net loss in the capability of DAF lands to support the military mission of the installation. The Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) outlines and assigns responsibilities for the management of natural resources, discusses related concerns, and provides program management elements that will help to maintain or improve the natural resources within the context of the installation's mission. The Sikes Act is the legal driver for the INRMP.

Wildlife documented at Altus AFB includes 41 mammal species, 126 bird species, 25 reptile species, 8 amphibian species, and 66 invertebrate species. The installation supports populations of Oklahoma Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) like the Texas horned lizard, as well as 2 potentially federally listed T&E species: the Tricolored bat and the Monarch butterfly. Habitat is a key piece to the longevity of species, so Altus AFB NR also strives to conserve, protect, expand, and restore native and natural landscapes through projects like prairie restoration, planting and expanding the pollinator garden, and planting native trees.



