

# Joint Interagency Field Experimentation (JIFX) at the Naval Postgraduate School



**Test. Refine. Deploy. Scale.**  
**Operational Field Experimentation at Speed**

## What is JIFX?

**Joint Interagency Field Experimentation (JIFX) is the Naval Postgraduate School's quarterly field experimentation program, delivered through a standing capability that integrates graduate education, applied research and operational evaluation to test emerging technologies under realistic conditions.**

JIFX provides a safe, secure and legally compliant environment to identify, mature and accelerate early-stage technologies in direct collaboration with operators, researchers and industry.

Conducted in partnership with Camp Roberts and supported by joint, interagency and allied stakeholders, JIFX provides protected airspace, live-fire ranges, urban training environments, maritime access and instrumentation needed to evaluate technologies in operationally relevant conditions.

### JIFX enables:

- Early-stage prototype testing in air, land, maritime and cyber domains
- Direct operator and evaluator feedback during development
- Integration of complementary technologies in real time
- Rapid iteration through a repeatable quarterly cadence

**JIFX lowers the barrier for industry to test, refine and advance capabilities within the defense ecosystem.**

## Why it Matters

### Accelerating Capability for the Warfighter

**Modern conflict demands rapid adaptation and continuous iteration. The current acquisition, test and evaluation timelines are not sufficient.**

JIFX reduces the time between idea and operation by:

- Placing prototypes in the hands of operators early
- Enabling real-time feedback from experienced warfighters
- Identifying integration challenges and opportunities before formal programs of record
- Generating performance data that informs applied research, education and transition decisions

Capabilities first tested at JIFX have transitioned into operational use across the fleet and special operations community, compressing timelines from years to months.

**JIFX lowers technology risk for the Joint Force and increases access for new companies and capabilities into the defense industrial base.**



## The Naval Innovation Center at NPS

Field experimentation is a critical capability for the Naval Innovation Center (NIC) at NPS.

The purpose of the NIC at NPS is to rapidly develop and quickly field defense applications of emerging technologies to enhance warfighting advantage and the lethality of U.S. Naval and Joint Forces and our allies.

Within the Naval Innovation Center operating concept:

- Industry brings emerging and dual-use technologies into the defense ecosystem
- Warfighters and evaluators define operational gaps and performance requirements
- NPS faculty and students collaborate to integrate, model and refine solutions
- The field experimentation team provides the operational field environment for rapid experimentation and iteration
- Successful capabilities advance toward transition, adoption and scaling pathways

**JIFX is delivered through a standing field experimentation capability at NPS that convenes private-sector innovators, operators and government sponsors and embeds NPS students and faculty in live experimentation. This accelerates the transition of both talent and technology into operational capability while strengthening the education and applied research that prepare officers to evaluate and field emerging technologies.**



## Resourcing Considerations

Sustained investment in field experimentation at NPS will:

### Strengthening Rapid Experimentation Capacity

- Expand experimentation capacity and evaluator participation
- Increase instrumentation and data capture for transition-ready evidence
- Reduce time-to-test for promising capabilities
- Support rapid prototyping and follow-on experimentation mechanisms
- Strengthen the Naval Innovation Center at NPS

**Resourcing field experimentation enhances the Department of War's ability to test, integrate and scale emerging technologies at the speed of relevance.**

***Field experimentation strengthens the Department of War's ability to test, integrate and transition emerging technologies faster and more effectively.***

## Learn More



[nps.edu/web/fx](https://nps.edu/web/fx)

## The Ecosystem

**Naval Postgraduate School:** Students, Faculty, Researchers, Partners

**Combatant Commands & Service Components:** USSOCOM, INDOPACOM, USCENTCOM, USTRANSCOM, Naval Special Warfare, Air Force Special Operations Command, Army Futures Command, Joint Special Operations Command

**Government Sponsors & Partners:** Department of the Navy, Office of Naval Research, Naval Warfare Centers, Defense Innovation Unit, SBIR & STTR programs, Small Business Development Centers

**Industry (examples):** Shield AI, Saronic, Firestorm Labs, Aurelius Systems, Chariot Defense, Gambit Defense, Persistent Systems, Insitu, Hood Tech, AeroVironment, Rhoman Aerospace, GreenSight, Ascent AeroSystems, ModalAI