



U.S. Air Force

## BARRY M. GOLDWATER RANGE – EAST : ARIZONA

Established in 1941, the Barry M. Goldwater Range (BMGR) is a premier military training range, located in southwest Arizona along the U.S.-Mexico border. The Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1999 renewed the land withdrawal through 2024 and transferred land management responsibilities from the Department of Interior to the Department of Defense. The 56th Fighter Wing at Luke Air Force



Base manages the eastern portion of the range.

The location, size, and capacity of the range, coupled with its vast desert

environment, enables the U.S. and its allies to conduct realistic combat training, including air-to-ground weapons employment, electronic warfare, tactical maneuvering and air support. The range offers four manned target complexes, an aerial gunnery range and three tactical ranges for advanced training scenarios. Electronic combat systems include air combat maneuvering instrumentation for live monitoring and recorded playback debrief, tactical datalink, threat simulation, moving target systems and a range operations center providing real time range/airspace access and management.

The Air Force manages the range in concert with multiple federal and state agencies to provide superior range operations, in balance with responsibilities to the public, tribes, and environment.

### FAST FACTS

- » Location: **Maricopa, Pima, and Yuma Counties, AZ**
- » Land Area: **1,050,000 acres**
- » Special Use Airspace: **7,000 square miles**
- » Operations/Sorties: **54,000+ per year**



**Above:** A 310th Fighter Squadron F-16 from Luke Air Force Base employs on the BMGR-East (U.S. Air Force photo)

**Left:** A-10 Thunderbolt IIs from the 354th Fighter Squadron at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base fly a training mission over the BMGR. (U.S. Air Force photo, Senior Airman Jesse Shipp)



An F-35A Lightning II from the 61st Fighter Squadron conducts air-to-air refueling operations

with the 161st Air Refueling Wing. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Staci Miller)

### UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS

- » Namesake is Barry M. Goldwater, a five-term U.S. Senator for Arizona
- » Neighbors with the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument and Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge
- » Includes the Gila Bend Air Force Auxiliary Air Field
- » BMGR-East won the Air Force Thomas D. White award for "Cultural Resources- Management" in 2009

### CONTACTS

**Public Affairs Office**  
(623) 856-5853