

Commander Christopher Putre

VX-31 Commanding Officer



Cmdr. Chris Putre is a native of Wahiawa, Hawai'i, and received his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Nuclear Engineering and Engineering Physics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2006. After graduation, he attended flight school in Pensacola, Florida; Milton, Florida; and Kingsville, Texas, where he was designated a Naval Aviator in October 2008 and reported to Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 122 for initial F/A-18E/F Super Hornet training.

During his first operational tour assigned to the VFA-147 "Argonauts" at Naval Air Station Lemoore, California, he served as the Aircraft Division Officer, Avionics and Armaments Division Officer, Assistant Operations Officer, NATOPS Officer, Mission Planning Officer, Electronic Key Management System Program Manager, and Public Affairs Officer. He deployed in 2011 onboard the USS Ronald Reagan in support of Operations Tomodachi, New Dawn, and Enduring Freedom, and participated in the 2010 and 2012 Rim of the Pacific Exercises.

In 2012, Putre reported to Class 144 of the US Naval Test Pilot School in Patuxent River, Maryland. After graduating in December 2013, he was assigned to the "Dust Devils" of Air Test and Evaluation Squadron (VX) 31 at Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, California, where he was Project Officer for the APG-79 AESA Radar, Safety-of-Flight, and System Configuration Sets H8E and H8E(A) development efforts.

Following his tour with VX-31, Putre reported back to NAS Lemoore, California to the VFA-146 "Blue Diamonds" in September 2015 and served as the squadron's Safety Department Head, Maintenance Officer, and Operations Officer. He deployed onboard the USS Nimitz in 2017 in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. While at VFA-146, he completed his Master of Science Degree in Systems Engineering from Johns Hopkins University.

Putre reported back to the Dust Devils in April 2018, and has served as the Advanced Weapons Laboratory Military Deputy, Military Deputy for Test and Evaluation, and the Advanced Systems Integration Department Head. He assumed his current duties as commanding officer in November 2022.

Putre has accumulated 2,400 flight hours in 26 different aircraft and 398 carrier arrested landings. He is a member of the Defense Acquisition Corps and is certified DAWIA Level III in Test and Evaluation. His personal decorations include the Air Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (three Awards), Navy Achievement Medal, and the Humanitarian Service Medal.