

Public Scoping

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT



F-15 BEDDOWN AND INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES AT
ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, GUAM

OVERVIEW

- The National Environmental Policy Act
- What is Public Scoping?
- Proposed Action
- Alternatives
- Environmental Resources
- Summary of Potential Impacts
- Provide Comments



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NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 was enacted to address concerns about federal actions and their effects on the environment.

- Under NEPA, the analysis of environmental consequences is presented in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which accomplishes the following objectives:
 - Identify and describe the affected environment
 - Evaluate the potential environmental consequences of reasonable alternatives
 - Identify environmental permits and specific mitigation measures to avoid, minimize, or reduce adverse environmental impacts, if required
- The NEPA process concludes with a Record of Decision (ROD) that identifies which alternative is selected and outlines any mitigation measures that are required, if any.
- The Department of the Air Force (DAF) has issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS in accordance with NEPA. The DAF is the lead agency for the EIS, and the U.S. Navy is a cooperating agency.

Steps in the EIS Process



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WHAT IS PUBLIC SCOPING?

- An early and open process for identifying issues and alternatives to be addressed in an EIS
- Conducted in compliance with NEPA

Purpose of Public Scoping:

- Provide the public with information about a proposed action, alternatives, and topics that will be analyzed in the EIS
- Conduct public outreach and receive public input on the information to be presented in the EIS



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AFTER PUBLIC SCOPING

After the public scoping period has ended, the DAF will:

- Incorporate public input into the proposal and develop the Draft EIS, which is expected to be completed in Summer 2024
- Make the Draft EIS available to the public for review for a minimum of 45 days
- Incorporate applicable input on the Draft EIS into the development of the Final EIS, which is anticipated in Winter 2025; a Record of Decision could be signed no sooner than 30 days after the Final EIS is released



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PUBLIC SCOPING PERIOD

During this scoping period, all scoping materials will be available to the public for online browsing or download from the project website www.AAFBInfraAndF15EIS.com. To request hardcopies, please use one of the methods outlined below. For printed material requests, the standard U.S. Postal Service shipping timeline will apply. Please consider the environment before requesting printed material.

Scoping comments can be submitted in English using one of the following methods:

- 36th Civil Engineer Squadron
ATTN: CEV (AAFB F-15 and Infrastructure EIS) Unit 14007
APO, AP 96543-4007
- Project Website: www.AAFBInfraAndF15EIS.com



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PROPOSED ACTION PURPOSE AND NEED

Purpose: The purpose of the Proposed Action is to provide critical infrastructure that enhances U.S. posture west of the International Date Line. Additionally, the purpose of the Proposed Action is to beddown and operate Republic of Singapore Air Force fighter aircraft at Andersen AFB to support training requirements.

Need: The Proposed Action is needed to enhance DAF capability to support U.S. and partner nation forces within the Indo-Pacific region and strengthen the U.S.'s ability to respond regionally and worldwide, through construction of infrastructure upgrades and increased support of fighter aircraft, in alignment with evolving DAF and DoD strategies and initiatives for the region. Increasing and improving airfield and munitions infrastructure would address capability gaps and allow for greater efficiencies and agility in the way ground operations are conducted.



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PROPOSED ACTION OVERVIEW

- Construction of infrastructure upgrades over 7 years at the North Ramp and Munitions Storage Area-1 (MSA-1) on Andersen AFB
 - The North Ramp project area would provide additional aircraft parking, fueling, and maintenance infrastructure to allow for greater efficiencies and agility in where and how ground operations are conducted
 - MSA-1 would be used for munitions storage for aircraft rotations and training detachments, consistent with existing operations
- Beddown and operation of up to 12 Republic of Singapore Air Force F-15 aircraft with anticipated arrival beginning 2029



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PROPOSED ACTION

Andersen AFB Project Area Overview



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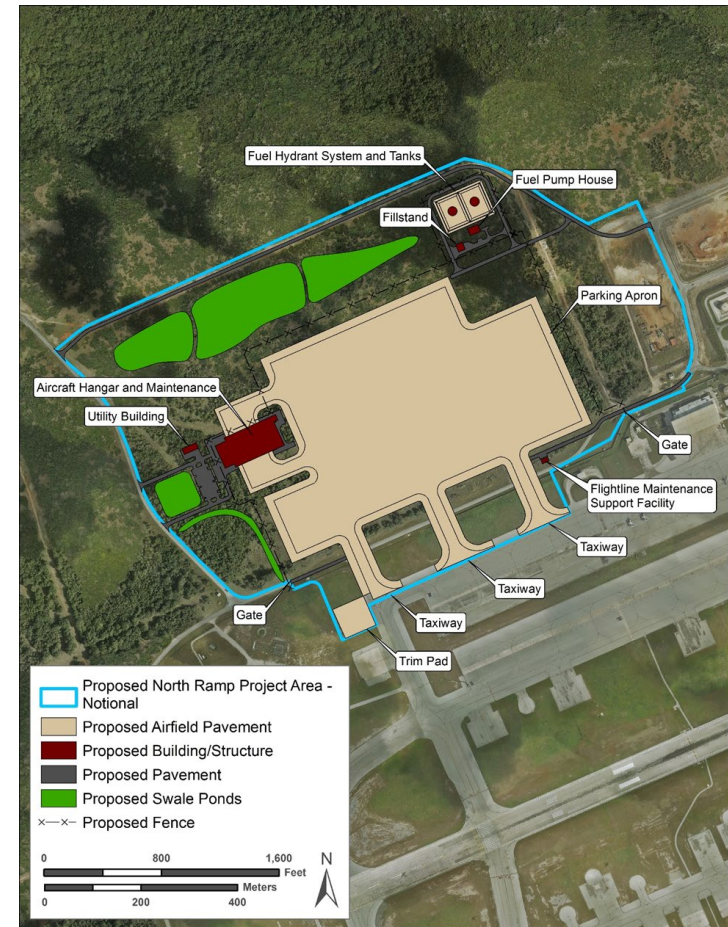


PROPOSED ACTION: NORTH RAMP INFRASTRUCTURE

Approximately 80 acres of paved surfaces;
16 acres of stormwater management infrastructure;
and 96 acres that would be cleared, graded,
revegetated, and maintained once construction is
complete.

North Ramp Upgrades:

- Airfield pavements
- Aircraft hangar and maintenance facility
- Flightline maintenance facility and utility building
- Jet fuel receipt, storage, and distribution system extension
- Fencing and utilities extension
- Roadways and parking
- Stormwater management infrastructure



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PROPOSED ACTION: MSA-1 INFRASTRUCTURE

Approximately 2 acres of paved surfaces; 1.5 acres of stormwater management infrastructure; and 2.3 acres would be temporary disturbance to support construction, and 11.2 acres that would be cleared, revegetated, and maintained once construction is complete.

MSA-1 Upgrades:

- Three earth covered magazines
- Pavements and utilities
- Generator
- Stormwater management infrastructure



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PROPOSED ACTION: F-15 BEDDOWN

Up to 12 Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF) F-15 aircraft would beddown and operate from Andersen AFB, Guam. The first aircraft are anticipated in 2029.

F-15 Beddown includes:

- Up to 12 RSAF F-15 aircraft and their training operations
- Temporary support aircraft airfield operations during planned exercises
- Increase in support personnel and dependents by approximately 240, stationed at Andersen AFB, Guam
- An additional approximately 200 temporary support personnel at Andersen AFB, Guam. This temporary increase would occur during approximately 2 planned training events per year, for approximately 4 weeks per event



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SELECTION STANDARDS FOR ALTERNATIVES

DAF identified Andersen AFB, Guam for enhanced strategic capabilities, including beddown of up to 12 Republic of Singapore Air Force F-15 aircraft and upgrade of operationally relevant infrastructure based on the following location selection standards. The selected location should:

- Be on U.S. territory to allow implementation of procedures for security protection of forces;
- Allow all upgraded capabilities to be on one installation;
- Support aircraft capable of reaching potential areas of conflict in East Asia;
- Have existing DoD airfield infrastructure (e.g., runways, aircraft parking, associated airfield support systems) that could be expanded upon without interfering with existing operations;
- Have adequate base operating support and weapon storage areas so these capabilities may provide for operational efficiencies;
- Be near an airspace training range with live fire Air-to-Air and Air-to-Ground not requiring aerial refueling; and
- Have base and community service availability to support a recurring rotational increase in population of up to 240 people.



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ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERATION

Once Andersen AFB was identified for enhanced strategic capabilities, DAF considered locations on Andersen AFB for the proposed infrastructure.

Airfield Infrastructure:

- The proposed airfield infrastructure on Guam would require approximately 150 to 200 acres
- Based on this size, planners developed a footprint in a Geographic Information System program and sought to identify a location on base that met selection standards
- North Ramp project area under the Proposed Action is the only contiguous location adjacent to the airfield capable of meeting the construction footprint selection standards

Munitions Storage Infrastructure:

- DAF determined that the munitions infrastructure must be located within MSA-1 for operational efficiencies
- Collocating additional munitions storage within MSA-1 reduces environmental and mission impacts

No Action Alternative:

- NEPA requires the alternatives analysis in the EIS to include a “No Action Alternative.”
- The No Action Alternative will be analyzed in the EIS, in addition to the Proposed Action.



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TOPICS TO BE ANALYZED IN THE EIS

Biological Resources

- Threatened and endangered species
- Wildlife and vegetation
- Wetlands and floodplains

Cultural Resources

- Archaeological resources (prehistoric and historic)
- Historic architectural resources
- Traditional resources

Water Resources

- Water quality (surface water and stormwater)
- Groundwater aquifers

Social Resources

- Socioeconomics
- Land Use
- Health and Safety

Other Considerations

- Airfield management and aircraft safety
- Air Quality
- Geology and Soils
- Noise
- Infrastructure and utilities
- Transportation
- Hazardous materials and waste



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SUMMARY OF ANTICIPATED IMPACTS

- DAF will conduct cultural and biological resources surveys in the areas proposed for upgrades and is consulting with the State Historic Preservation Office and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to determine the potential for significant impacts on those resources.
- Details regarding the status of consultations will be incorporated into preparation of the Draft EIS and include, but is not limited to, consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act
- DAF anticipates an increased demand on the construction workforce and an increase in local spending. Temporary increase in construction related traffic could also lead to a temporary increase in air quality impacts.
- More information on potential impacts will be available in forthcoming analysis in the Draft EIS, which is expected to be completed in Summer 2024.



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COMMENT SUBMISSION

Comments, suggestions, and relevant information are welcomed on the DAF Andersen AFB F-15 and Infrastructure Upgrades proposal. Please submit comments in English using one of the following methods:

- **Postal Mail:** 36th Civil Engineer Squadron, ATTN: CEV (AAFB F-15 and Infrastructure EIS), Unit 14007, APO, AP 96543-4007
- **Project Website:** www.AAFBInfraAndF15EIS.com

DAF also welcomes comments under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800)

To ensure the Department of the Air Force has sufficient time to consider public input, please submit all comments by January 15, 2024.



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Thank you for your participation!

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