



# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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

### DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD

#### Introduction

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) was enacted to address concerns about federal actions and their effects on the environment. An EIS is the most detailed analysis prescribed by regulations implementing NEPA. The Department of the Air Force (DAF) has developed a Draft EIS for the F-15 Beddown and Infrastructure Upgrades at Andersen Air Force Base (AFB), Guam, and has published a Notice of Availability (NOA) for the Draft EIS, pursuant to NEPA. The U.S. Navy is a cooperating agency on the EIS. The Proposed Action addressed in the Draft EIS includes the beddown and mission support of up to 12 Republic of Singapore (RSAF) F-15 fighter aircraft, and construction of infrastructure upgrades adjacent to the northwest corner of the Andersen AFB airfield (North Ramp) and in Munitions Storage Area-1 (MSA-1) (Figure 1). The Final EIS and a Record of Decision on the Proposed Action are expected in Spring 2025.

#### Project Background

DAF and Department of Defense (DoD) strategies and initiatives for the Indo-Pacific are continuously evolving in response to the geopolitical climate. The proposed RSAF F-15 beddown and infrastructure upgrades at Andersen AFB would be conducted in alignment with these initiatives in the Indo-Pacific region to modernize and strengthen DoD's presence, improve logistics and maintenance capabilities, and allow the DAF and DoD to maintain agile defense capabilities within the region, in accordance with DAF responsibilities mandated by Title 10 U.S. Code 8062 to ensure readiness.

#### What is the Draft EIS Public Review Period?

A public review period is conducted to provide the public with the opportunity to review and comment on the Draft EIS, in compliance with NEPA. The Draft EIS contains information on the action being proposed, and presents potential impacts from implementing the Proposed Action and alternatives. During the public review period, the DAF actively requests substantive public comments on topics addressed in the Draft EIS for consideration in the Final EIS. See the timeline on the back of this brochure for additional information regarding steps in the EIS process.



Figure 1: Overview of Locations on Andersen AFB Selected for Infrastructure Upgrades

[www.AAFBInfraAndF15EIS.com](http://www.AAFBInfraAndF15EIS.com)

To ensure the DAF has sufficient time to consider public input, please submit comments by July 29, 2024. Visit the project website for more information.



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### Purpose of and Need for the Proposed Action

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 RSAF fighter aircraft at Andersen AFB to support training requirements.

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.

### Proposed Action

The Proposed Action is to beddown up to 12 RSAF F-15 aircraft and to construct infrastructure upgrades at Andersen AFB.

- **F-15 Beddown:** Beddown of up to 12 RSAF F-15 fighter aircraft, to include airfield operations from Andersen AFB and a 3 percent increase in installation personnel. Would include hosting periodic, temporary training events with support aircraft twice per year, for four weeks per event, in support of F-15 training mission requirements. No new airspace is proposed and no changes to the manner in which the existing airspace is used would occur.
- **Infrastructure Upgrades:** Construction of infrastructure upgrades over approximately 3 to 7 years at the North Ramp and MSA-1 project areas (Figures 2 and 3). Would provide additional options for parking, storing, maintaining, refueling, loading, and unloading aircraft at the airfield, as well as storing munitions. Could support both the F-15 beddown and other DAF, service component, and partner nation aircraft or missions operating from Andersen AFB now or in the future. Construction would disturb approximately 192 acres at the North Ramp and approximately 17 acres in MSA-1.

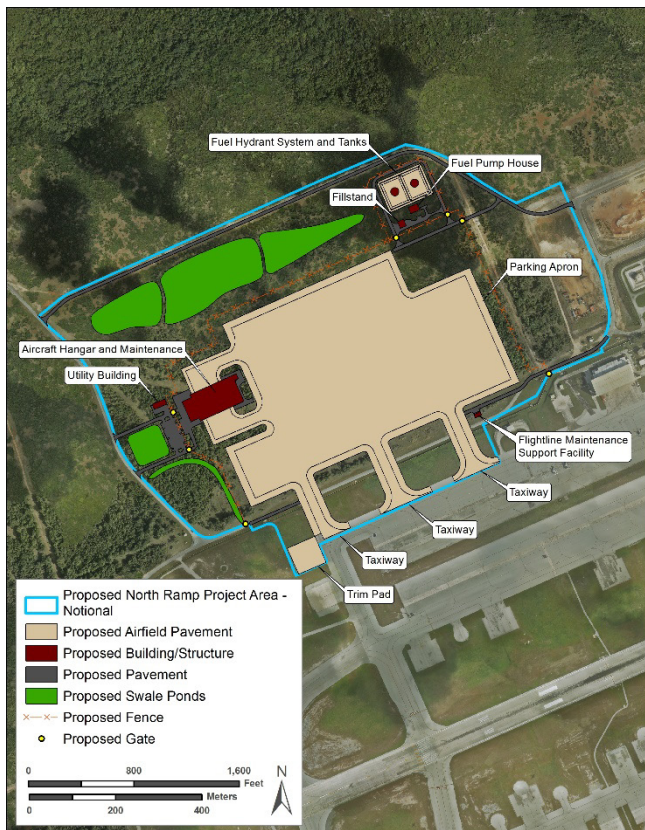


Figure 2: Proposed North Ramp Infrastructure Upgrades



Figure 3: Proposed MSA-1 Infrastructure Upgrades



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### Alternatives

The DAF reviewed requirements for strategic capabilities within the Indo-Pacific region and dismissed five other potential alternative locations within the Pacific Air Forces area of responsibility (i.e., Iwo To [formerly known as Iwo Jima], Japan; Saipan, U.S.; Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory; Wake Island, U.S.; and Hawai'i, U.S.) from consideration. Once Andersen AFB was identified for enhanced strategic capabilities, the DAF considered other locations on Andersen AFB for the infrastructure upgrades and considered renovation or replacement of existing infrastructure; however, only the Proposed Action locations were determined to meet the criteria for the infrastructure upgrades. The Draft EIS also presents a No Action Alternative, which is the continuation of current actions at Andersen AFB, under which the F-15 beddown and infrastructure upgrades would not occur.

### Environmental Impact Analysis

The DAF understands there is potential for the F-15 beddown and infrastructure upgrades to affect environmental resources and the human environment. The Draft EIS analyzes and presents the potential environmental consequences associated with the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative. The DAF conducted cultural and natural resources surveys in the areas proposed for upgrades, and is currently consulting with appropriate resource agencies to determine the potential for significant impacts on those resources and corresponding mitigation measures, as needed. Figure 4 shows an example of the habitat within the North Ramp project area. The Final EIS and a Record of Decision on the Proposed Action are expected in Spring 2025.

The environmental resource areas reviewed in the Draft EIS include:

#### BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

- Threatened and endangered species
- Essential fish habitat
- Wildlife and vegetation
- Wetlands and floodplains

#### CULTURAL RESOURCES

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

#### WATER RESOURCES

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

#### SOCIAL RESOURCES

- Land use, including coastal zone management
- Socioeconomics
- Environmental Justice
- Health and Safety
- Recreation

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

- Infrastructure and utilities
- Transportation
- Hazardous materials and wastes

#### OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Geology and soils
- Noise
- Air quality
- Cumulative Impacts



Figure 4: Limestone Degraded Forest with Native Trees in the North Ramp Project Area

## How to Review the Draft EIS

The Draft EIS is available for download on the project website at: [www.AAFBInfraAndF15EIS.com](http://www.AAFBInfraAndF15EIS.com) and can also be reviewed at one of the following document repositories:

Location	Address
Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library	254 Martyr Street, Hagåtña, GU 96910
University of Guam Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Library	Government Documents Tan Siu Lin Building, UOG Station, 303 University Drive, Mangilao, GU 96923

Requests for printed materials can be made using the comment methods below. Please consider the environment before requesting printed materials.

## Participate and Provide Your Comments

The DAF invites interested parties to comment on the Draft EIS, visit the website to learn more about the project, and participate in the public meetings. Comments, suggestions, and relevant information are welcomed on the F-15 Beddown and Infrastructure Upgrades Draft EIS. The DAF also welcomes comments under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800). Please submit comments in English using one of the following methods:



### PUBLIC MEETINGS:

Make a verbal or written comment on the record at a public meeting. Open House public meetings will be held as follows:

- Wednesday, July 17, 2024, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Dededo Senior Center, Dededo, Guam
- Thursday, July 18, 2024, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Yigo Senior Center, Yigo, Guam



### POSTAL MAIL:

Write a letter or download a written comment form and mail to:

HQ AFCEC/CIE  
Attn: Mr. David Martin  
Bldg. 171, 2261 Hughes Ave., Ste. 155  
JBSA Lackland AFB, TX 78236-9853  
(U.S. POSTAL SERVICES DELIVERY)



### PROJECT WEBSITE:

Visit the "Comment" tab on the project website at: [www.AAFBInfraAndF15EIS.com](http://www.AAFBInfraAndF15EIS.com)



### EMAIL:

Send an email to the project point of contact at:  
[afcec.aafb.infrasandf-15eis@us.af.mil](mailto:afcec.aafb.infrasandf-15eis@us.af.mil)  
ATTN: AAFB F-15 and Infrastructure EIS

Comments received during the Draft EIS public review period will be considered in the preparation of the Final EIS; substantive comments will be responded to in the Final EIS.

## EIS Timeline

