

F-35A Training Basing

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

NEPA PROCESS AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires that U.S. federal agencies consider environmental consequences of proposed actions. The public participates in the process by:

- Helping to identify environmental issues and potential alternatives during the scoping period
- Evaluating the analysis of the Proposed Action and alternatives during the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) public comment period
- Evaluating the Final EIS and U.S. Air Force responses to public comments received on the Draft EIS during the Final EIS wait period

MILESTONES	DESCRIPTION	SCHEDULE
Notice of Intent (NOI) to Prepare an EIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Publication of the NOI in the Federal Register and local newspapers started the public involvement phase of the NEPA process 	Dec. 28, 2009
Scoping Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Conducted prior to starting the environmental analysis ➤ Involved the public and other agencies in identifying the environmental issues and reasonable alternatives to be analyzed in the EIS ➤ Included 23 scoping meetings and a 141-day public comment period 	Scoping Period: Dec. 28, 2009 - May 17, 2010
Draft EIS/Notice of Availability (NOA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Presents the analysis of potential environmental impacts for the Proposed Action and each alternative ➤ Announced via an NOA of the Draft EIS published in the Federal Register and local newspapers ➤ Filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and made available to interested parties 	Jan. 20, 2012
Public Hearings and Comment Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provides 45 days for the public and other agencies to comment on the analysis presented in the Draft EIS 	Public Comment Period: Jan. 20, 2012 - March 14, 2012 Public Hearings: Holloman Air Force Base Feb. 7-9, 2012 Luke Air Force Base Feb. 13-16, 2012 Tucson International Airport Air Guard Station Feb. 21-23, 2012 Boise Air Terminal Airport Air Guard Station Feb. 27-29, 2012
Final EIS/NOA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ An update to the Draft EIS based on comments received during the Draft EIS public comment period ➤ Announced via an NOA of the Final EIS published in the Federal Register and local newspapers ➤ Filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and made available to interested parties 	Summer 2012
30-Day Wait Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provides interested parties 30 days to review and submit comments on the Final EIS 	Summer 2012
Record of Decision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Follows the 30-day wait period and considers public comments on the possible environmental impacts ➤ Includes selection of an alternative by the decision maker ➤ Announced via a Notice of Record of Decision published in the Federal Register and local newspapers ➤ Made available to interested parties 	Summer 2012

◆ Opportunities for Public Review and Comment ■ Complete ■ In Progress ■ Next Steps