

Environmental Impact Statement for

U.S. Air Force Formal Training Unit Optimization



Welcome

Welcome to the public scoping meeting for the U.S. Air Force Formal Training Unit Optimization Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The meeting will have the following format:

5:00 PM to 6:30 PM

Open house and comment submission

6:30 PM to 7:00 PM

Air Force presentation

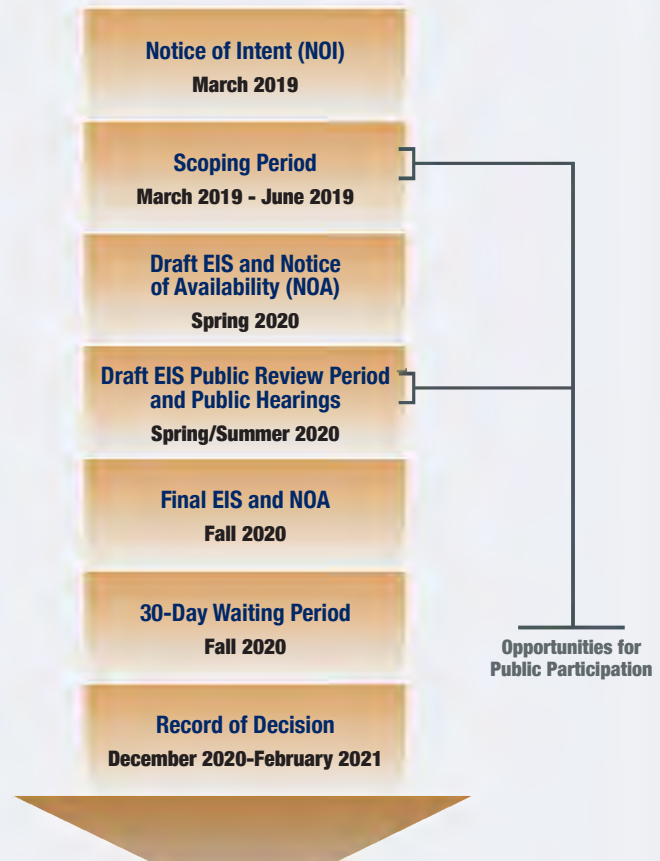
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Open house and comment submission resumes

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is our national charter for making informed decisions while considering environmental impacts. NEPA requires all federal agencies making a proposal that may significantly impact the environment to prepare an EIS. Scoping is the first step in the EIS process. During scoping, the Air Force is actively seeking feedback from Federal, state and local agencies, federally recognized tribes, and the public in development of the EIS. The public scoping phase provides opportunities to learn about and comment on the project and provides the Air Force with the opportunity to identify issues of interest or concern to frame the environmental analysis.

What is the Background of the Project?

The U.S. Air Force's only F-22 Formal Training Unit (FTU) mission was based at Tyndall AFB, FL. On October 8, 2018 Hurricane Michael caused devastation to Tyndall AFB rendering the base incapable of hosting the F-22 FTU mission. A special environmental assessment was prepared for the interim relocation of F-22 and T-38 aircraft to Eglin AFB, FL. The Air Force is preparing an EIS for the proposed action to permanently beddown its F-22 FTU and to optimize 5th generation fighter FTU operations.



What is the Purpose and Need?

The Air Force's purpose of the Proposed Action is to:

- ▶ Permanently relocate the F-22 FTU mission from Eglin AFB to support continued training and production of combat ready F-22 fighter pilots.
- ▶ Consolidate F-22 operations at Langley AFB, VA to improve readiness.
- ▶ Optimize the use of training, airspace, and range capacity for 5th generation aircraft operations by redirecting a 5th generation FTU to Eglin AFB.

The Air Force's need for the Proposed Action:

The Air Force must re-organize its 5th generation fighter training fleets to ensure FTUs have adequate training ranges, facilities, and airspace necessary to effectively produce qualified combat pilots.



What are the Alternatives Being Considered in the EIS? What is the Proposed Action?

The Proposed Action would relocate the F-22 FTU mission from Eglin AFB to Langley AFB, VA no later than the fall of 2021.

What is Proposed Alternative #1?

- ▶ Proposed Alternative 1 includes two sub-alternatives to evaluate different locations for T-38 squadrons and maintenance facilities on Langley AFB. Common elements include:
 - F-22 FTU aircraft and personnel
 - F-22/T-38 aircraft operations in existing airspace
 - Facilities for F-22 squadrons and maintenance
- ▶ Sub-Alternative 1A:
 - T-38 squadrons and maintenance occupy existing buildings on Langley AFB
 - T-38 aircraft would be parked on the west ramp
- ▶ Sub-Alternative 1B:
 - Construction of new facilities for T-38 squadrons and maintenance on the north ramp
 - New satellite fire station would be constructed

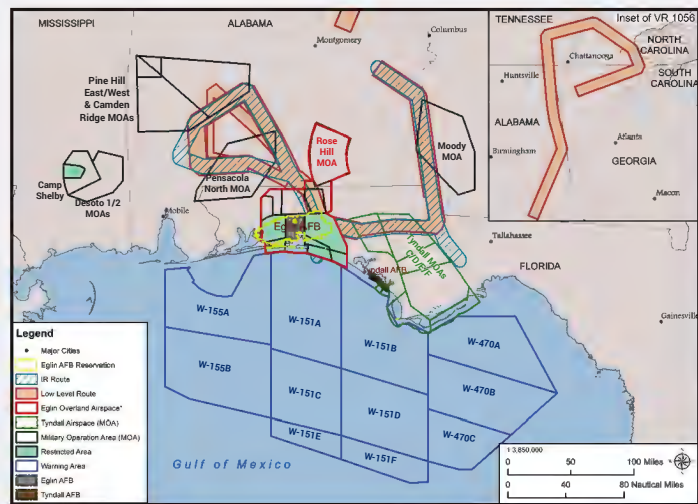
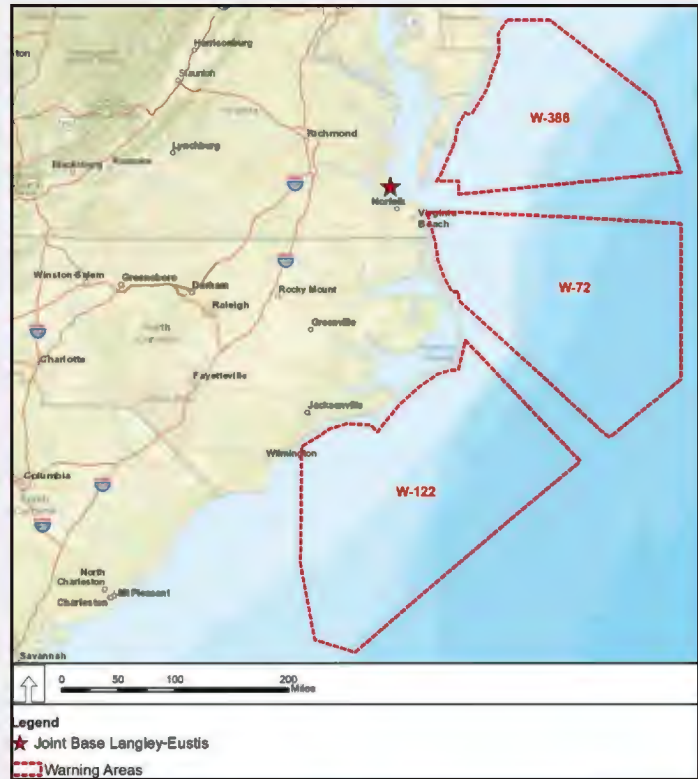
What is Proposed Alternative #2?

To optimize available training range and airspace capacity, the Air Force would beddown a F-35 FTU squadron at Eglin AFB upon departure of the F-22 FTU.

- ▶ F-35 aircraft would operate in existing airspace
- ▶ Incoming F-35 FTU would leverage existing facilities and planned upcoming construction projects.
- ▶ Alternatives 1 and 2 are not mutually exclusive, meaning that both alternatives could be selected.

No Action Alternative

- ▶ The F-22 FTU would remain at Eglin AFB and operations would be split between Eglin AFB and Tyndall AFB.
- ▶ The F-35 FTU would not beddown at Eglin AFB and would conduct operations at locations with sub-optimal range and airspace capacity.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

5th Gen FTU Public Affairs at 757-276-8556
 or 633CES.CEIE.NEPAPublicComment@us.af.mil
 and put ATTN: 5th Gen FTU EIS on all correspondence.

TO SUBMIT COMMENTS:

Submit via the public website at:
<https://leidoosemg.com/5GenFTUEIS>
 Submit written comments to:
 5th GEN FTU EIS, 2261 Hughes Ave., Suite 155
 JBSA Lackland, TX 78236-9835
 For FedEx and UPS Deliveries send to:
 AFCEC/CZN 5th GEN FTU EIS
 3515 S General McMullen, Suite 155
 San Antonio, TX 78226.