



## Proposed Land Acquisition/Airspace Establishment in Support of Large-Scale MAGTF Live Fire and Maneuver Training

Project Update Notice Number 9—November 7, 2011

Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command  
Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center  
Twentynine Palms, CA

*The Project Update Notices offer a focused way to provide easily accessible, wide-spread distribution of new Project information.*

*They augment the regular updating of key Project public documents carried on MCAGCC's Land Acquisition Study webpage.*

*Please see these other Project documents for an overview and key background information.*

### ➤ **Public Strongly Participated in the Review of and Comment on Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)**

- The DEIS Public Comment Period ran from February 25 through May 26, 2011
- Public Review and Comment Meetings were well attended:
  - 108 people attended on April 12, 2011, at Copper Mountain College, Joshua Tree, CA
  - 209 people attended on April 13, 2011, at Ontario High School, Ontario, CA
  - 256 people attended on April 14, 2011, at Hilton Garden Inn, Mirage/Sahara Conference Center, Victorville, CA
- Nearly 22,000 comments or petitions were submitted by mail or delivery, via the public website, telephone voice message or e-mail – similar to the number of comments received during the Public Scoping period
- Comments were received from many stakeholder groups, including area residents, state and local government officials and agencies, off-highway and aviation enthusiasts, US Government agencies, and non-government organizations
- Comments were received on various resources and alternatives studied in the EIS, including requests to protect:
  - Off-highway recreation opportunities and related local and regional economic activities
  - Civil aviation opportunities
  - Species and habitat
  - Water resources
  - Mining resources
- Comments were received in favor of alternatives other than the Preferred Alternative 6, which had been developed in response to Scoping Comments
- Suggestions were made to modify Alternative 6 to further accommodate off-highway recreation
- Comments were also received concerning Alternative 3 and the South Study Area

### ➤ **Comments will be addressed in the preparation of the Final EIS**

- The Marine Corps and the Department of the Navy team have given consideration to all comments received during the comment period
- Issues identified during the comment period will help the Navy and Marine Corps to prepare the Final EIS
- Public comments help to inform the process that leads to the Record of Decision, which will be based on the EIS, costs, training requirements, and other factors.

### ➤ **Future Significant Project Milestones:**

- Publish Final EIS – February 2012, and then review public comments
- Publish Record of Decision (ROD) – May 2012
- If ROD determines to pursue land acquisition and air space establishment:
  - Congressional action on request for public land withdrawal for military training
  - FAA formal processes and actions on Special Use Airspace proposal request

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**For Further Information Please Contact**

**29Palms Training Land/Airspace Acquisition Project**

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