



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

Project Update Notice Number 13—September 19, 2012

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.

➤ **Marine Corps continues to review comments received upon publication of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)**

- On July 27, 2012, the Marine Corps announced the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) of its study of reasonable alternatives for potential land acquisition and airspace establishment to meet its Marine Expeditionary Brigade (MEB) sustained, combined-arms live-fire and maneuver training requirements.
- The 30-day wait period on the FEIS ended on August 27, 2012. In response to the release of the FEIS, approximately 1,000 individual, agency and non-governmental organization comment letters were received on the FEIS.
- Although the Marine Corps and the Department of the Navy (DoN) had originally scheduled the release of the ROD for September 2012, review and consideration of comments on the FEIS continues in order to ensure all comments are thoroughly evaluated, and that the action selected in the ROD meets requirements to achieve MEB training while avoiding to the degree practicable impacts on recreation, socio-economic, natural and other resources.

➤ **Future Project Milestones**

- Publish Record of Decision (ROD) – November/December 2012
- If ROD determines to seek land acquisition and Special Use Airspace establishment and modification, then:
 - Submit Legislative Withdrawal Request for federal lands to the Secretary of Interior (2012)
 - Submit formal airspace proposal to FAA (2012)
 - Secretary of Interior submit withdrawal petition to the Congress (early 2013)
 - Congressional consideration of withdrawal request and potential enactment (2013)
 - Initiate real estate appraisal and other actions for purchase of non-federal lands from state and private land owners (2012-2013)
 - FAA initiate airspace rule making, including preparation of EIS (2013)
- If Congress approves land withdrawal for military training and appropriations for non-federal land purchases and if FAA approves Special Use Airspace additions and modifications in 2013-2014
 - Acquisition of non-federal lands at fair market value (2013-2014)
 - Undertake range preparations (2013-2014)
 - Commence MEB building block training in (2014)
 - Undertake MEB sustained, combined-arms, live-fire and maneuver training (2015)

For Further Information Please Contact

29Palms Training Land/Airspace Acquisition Project

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