



Proposed 29Palms Training Land/Airspace Acquisition Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

NEPA Process

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 requires federal agencies to analyze the potential environmental effects of their proposed actions. This analysis is presented in a document called an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The public can participate in the NEPA process by helping to identify potential environmental issues during the scoping period and by reviewing the EIS during the public comment periods.

Proposed 29Palms Training Land/Airspace Acquisition Project

The Department of the Navy is in the initial stages of preparing an EIS for the proposed acquisition of lands and establishment of Special Use Airspace contiguous to the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center at Twentynine Palms, California.

The table below shows the steps of the EIS process and identifies opportunities for public involvement.

| Milestone | Description |
|--|--|
| Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS <i>Oct. 30, 2008</i> | Publication of the Notice of Intent in the Federal Register starts the public involvement phase of the NEPA process. |
| → Scoping Period <i>Oct. 30, 2008 through Jan. 31, 2009</i> | The scoping process uses public input to identify environmental issues and a range of reasonable alternatives for the proposed action. Public comments must be received by the close of the scoping period to be considered in the Draft EIS. The scoping period closes on Jan. 31, 2009. |
| Draft EIS <i>Spring 2010</i> | The Draft EIS analyzes the potential environmental effects of the proposed action and alternatives. |
| → Notice of Availability (<i>Spring 2010</i>) followed by Public Meetings and Comment Period | A Notice of Availability is published in the Federal Register to notify the public that the Draft EIS is available. The Draft EIS is made available to the public for 90 days so that agencies, organizations and interested parties can review and comment on the document. Public meetings will be held during the 90-day comment period to receive comments on the Draft EIS. |
| Final EIS <i>Winter 2010</i> | The Final EIS documents significant environmental impacts of the proposed action and each alternative, and responds to comments received on the environmental analyses presented in the Draft EIS. It will include appropriate mitigation measures to address unavoidable environmental impacts. |
| → Notice of Availability <i>Winter 2010</i> | A Notice of Availability is published in the Federal Register to notify the public that the Final EIS is available. Interested parties have 30 days to review and submit comments on the Final EIS. |
| Record of Decision <i>Spring 2011</i> | After considering environmental effects of the proposed action and alternatives, other factors such as cost and feasibility, and public comments received on the EIS, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy will select a course of action and sign a Record of Decision document. |

[→ Opportunity for public involvement]



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Opportunities for Public Involvement

The Marine Corps is holding three open house public scoping meetings to support an early and open review process. Community input from the scoping meetings will be used to help identify potential issues and interests, and reasonable alternatives to be considered for study.

The scoping meetings will be held from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the following locations:

Wednesday, Dec. 3, 2008

Twentynine Palms Junior High
Hays Gym
5798 Utah Trail
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277

Thursday, Dec. 4, 2008

Hilton Garden Inn
12603 Mariposa Road
Victorville, CA 92395

Friday, Dec. 5, 2008

Ontario Convention Center
2000 E. Convention Center Way
Ontario, CA 91764

Informational materials and project documents will be made available for review at these libraries:

*Apple Valley Newton T.
Bass Branch Library*
14901 Dale Evans
Parkway
Apple Valley, CA 92307

Barstow Branch Library
304 E. Buena Vista St.
Barstow, CA 92311

Joshua Tree Library
6465 Park Blvd.
Joshua Tree, CA 92252

*Lucerne Valley Janice
Horst Branch Library*
33103 Old Woman
Springs Road
Lucerne Valley, CA
92356

*Needles Branch
Library*
1111 Bailey Ave.
Needles, CA 92363

Ontario City Library
215 E. C St.
Ontario, CA 91764

*Stanley Mosk
Library and Courts
Building*
914 Capitol Mall
Sacramento, CA
95814

*San Bernardino
County Library*
104 W. Fourth St.
San Bernardino, CA
92415

*Twentynine Palms
Library*
6078 Adobe Road
Twentynine Palms,
CA 92277

*Victorville Public
Library*
15011 Circle Drive
Victorville, CA
92395

*Yucca Valley
Branch Library*
57098 29 Palms
Highway
Yucca Valley,
CA 92284

For more information, please visit the project Web site: <http://www.29palms.usmc.mil/las>

To submit written comments, please contact:

MAGTFTC, MCAGCC
ATTN: Land Acquisition Program Manager
Box 788104, Building 1554, Room 138
Twentynine Palms, CA 92278-8104
E-mail: SMBPLMSWEBPAO@usmc.mil

Comments must be received by Jan. 31, 2009, for consideration in the Draft EIS.