DRAFT

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE COMBAT SUPPORT TRAINING RANGE, TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District, Regional Planning and Environmental Center

Contract Number W912BV23D0006, Task Order No. W912DV24F0321

April 2026

Privacy Advisory

This Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) has been provided for public comment in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended (42 United States [U.S.] Code 4321 et seq.), and Department of Defense (DoD) NEPA Implementing Procedures (hereafter referred to as "DoD NEPA Procedures").

The DoD NEPA Procedures may use an early and open process to determine the scope of issues for analysis in an environmental document, including identifying substantive issues that meaningfully inform the consideration of environmental effects and the resulting decision on how to proceed, eliminating from further study non-substantive issues.

Public input allows the U.S. Department of the Air Force to make better-informed decisions. Letters or other written or verbal comments provided may be published in this EA. Providing personal information is voluntary. Private addresses will be compiled to develop a stakeholders inventory. However, only the names of the individuals making comments and specific comments will be disclosed. Personal information, home addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses will not be published in this EA.

Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

The digital version of this EA is compliant with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 because assistive technology (e.g., "screen readers") can be used to help the disabled to understand these electronic media. Due to the nature of graphics, figures, tables, and images occurring in the document, accessibility may be limited to a descriptive title for each item.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF FIGURES

NUMBER **PAGE**

LIST OF TABLES

NUMBER **PAGE**

LIST OF APPENDICES

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

#	Number
325 CES	325th Civil Engineer Squadron
325 CES/CEIEC	325th Civil Engineer Squadron/Compliance
ACAM	Air Conformity Applicability Model
AFB	Air Force Base
AFCEC	Air Force Civil Engineer Center
AFIMSC	Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center
APE	Area of Potential Effects
BMP	best management practice
CAA	Clean Air Act
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CO_2e	carbon dioxide equivalent
CONUS	Continental United States
CSTR	Combat Support Training Range
CWA	Clean Water Act
DAF	Department of the Air Force
dB	decibels
dBP	decibels peak
DoD	Department of Defense
DoW	Department of War
EA	Environmental Assessment
EO	Executive Order
EODMAG	Explosive Ordnance Disposal Storage Magazine
ERP	Environmental Restoration Program
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FAC	Florida Administrative Code
FCMP	Florida Coastal Management Program
FDEP	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
FDOT	Florida Department of Transportation
FMSF	Florida Master Site File
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
GHG	greenhouse gas
HAP	hazardous air pollutant
HWMP	Hazardous Waste Management Plan
HWPM	Hazardous Waste Program Manager
ICRMP	Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan
INRMP	Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan
IPaC	Information for Planning and Consultation

JACK	Joint Air-Transportable Containerized Kitchen
kV	kilovolt
kVA	kilovolt-amperes
LSA	Life Support Area
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
mgd	million gallons per day
MOUT	Military Operations on Urban Terrain
mph	miles per hour
MSS	medium shelter systems
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NEW	net explosive weight
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NWI	National Wetlands Inventory
O_3	ozone
Pb	lead
PCBs	polychlorinated biphenyls
PFAS	per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances
PFBS	perfluorobutane sulfonate
PFOA	perfluorooctanoic acid
PFOS	perfluorooctane sulfonate
PM_{10}	particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter
$PM_{2.5}$	particulate matter less than or equal to 2.5 microns in diameter
POL	petroleum, oil, and lubricants
PSD	Prevention of Significant Deterioration
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RED HORSE	Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers
ROI	region of influence
RPM	Restoration Program Manager
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SPCC	Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure
SSS	small shelter systems
SSTL	shower/shave/toilet/laundry
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
tpy	tons per year
U.S.	United States
U.S.C.	United States Code
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency

USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
VOC	volatile organic compound

1.0 PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR ACTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center (AFIMSC) proposes to develop a Combat Support Training Range (CSTR) at the Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB) Silver Flag training site in Bay County, Florida. The AFIMSC is developing CSTRs to fill gaps in current expeditionary training capabilities for installation and mission support Airmen. CSTRs are a premier training platform with equipment and vehicles, natural and built infrastructure, and realistic threat environment to enable combat support and combat service support teams to build the mission capacity essential to win future fights. Construction would be planned for Fiscal Year 2028 and would take 12 months.

This Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) is developed in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended (42 United States [U.S.] Code [U.S.C.] 4321 et seq.), and Department of Defense (DoD) NEPA Implementing Procedures (hereafter referred to as "DoD NEPA Procedures"). The Department of the Air Force (DAF) determined that the Proposed Action would not likely have reasonably foreseeable significant effects on the quality of the human environment and, thus, prepared this EA. Proposed development at Tyndall AFB would only occur upon completion of this EA and issuance of a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

1.2 LOCATION

Tyndall AFB occupies approximately 29,276 acres in Bay County, Florida, approximately 13 miles southeast of Panama City (Figure 1-1). Over 30 organizations operate at Tyndall AFB, including the 325th Fighter Wing, the First Air Force, the 53rd Weapons Evaluation Group, and the Air Force Civil Engineer Center (AFCEC). The Silver Flag training area is located on the eastern side of Tyndall AFB and comprises approximately 1,200 acres. The training area is home to the 801st Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers (RED HORSE) Training Squadron. Silver Flag develops and delivers integrated, realistic training and exercises for combat support teams.

1.3 PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to establish a training platform to allow Units of Action to develop skills needed to establish, operate, protect, and recover an expeditionary airbase. An expeditionary airbase is a mobile installation that can be established rapidly in the field under a variety of conditions. These installations often consist of simple structures such as concrete block buildings, K-spans, and tents. The concept of an expeditionary airbase allows the DAF to set up an airfield where it is needed, rather than limiting air support to locations where permanent infrastructure exists. Expeditionary airbases support the DAF mission by being ready to set up quickly in the field using small teams that are flexible and trained in a variety of jobs, ready to deploy at any time (DAF, 2025a). A CSTR enables larger units to train together and provides for more complex training events that would not be practical to establish at all home stations.

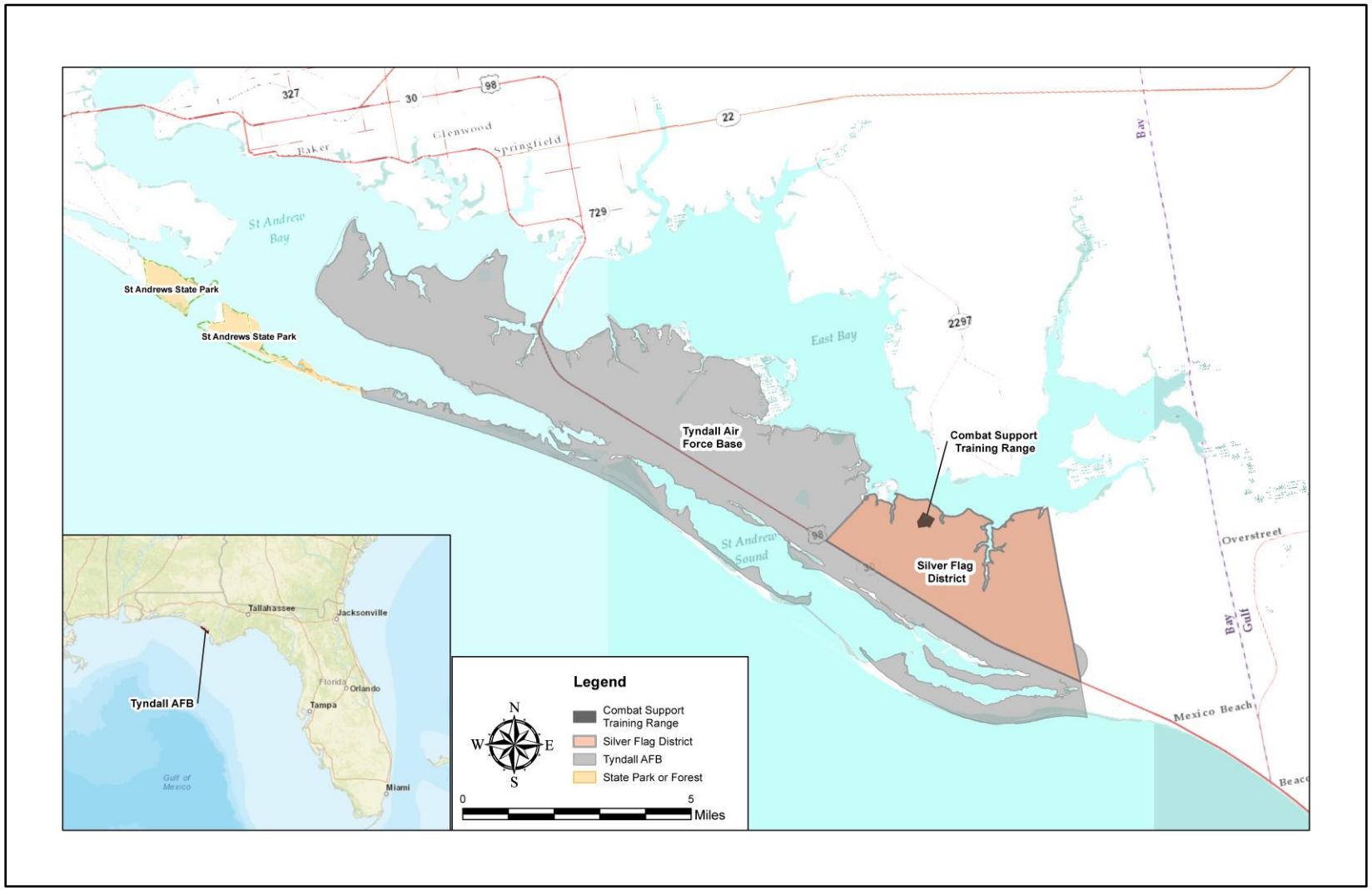


Figure 1-1. Regional Map of Tyndall AFB and Silver Flag Training Area

In 2020, the AFCEC Commander directed the establishment of Civil Engineer CSTR locations within a 10-hour drive from all Continental U.S. (CONUS) installations. The Proposed Action is needed to meet the DAF requirements for a Regional Training Site within the eastern contiguous United States. The current training locations lack sites that provide realistic training that combat support units would face in real-world scenarios against peer or near-peer adversaries. As the force generation model evolves to create standing units ready for immediate deployment in high-threat environments, there is a pressing need for training that integrates both technical and combat skills. Should the Proposed Action not be implemented, units would not receive the training needed to maintain technical and combat skills related to expeditionary air bases.

1.4 INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION, PUBLIC AND AGENCY PARTICIPATION

1.4.1 Agency Consultation

The DAF prepared a Draft FONSI and released it with the Draft EA for agency and public review.

The DAF initiated Section 7 consultation under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) for the Proposed Action using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) tool. Basic information concerning the location and nature of the projects included in the Proposed Action was input into the IPaC tool to obtain an official species list from the USFWS. The list identifies threatened and endangered species and other protected species (e.g., migratory birds) with potential to be affected by the Proposed Action. Coordination with USFWS is ongoing.

The DAF also initiated consultation with the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Consultation with the SHPO is ongoing.

Other state and local agencies were consulted through the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Office of Intergovernmental Programs State Clearinghouse Process. These agencies were provided with an opportunity to review the Draft EA.

Tyndall AFB is located within the coastal zone, and the Proposed Action is subject to FDEP Coastal Zone Management Plan consistency review. The Florida Coastal Management Program (FCMP) mandates that activities carried out on federal lands, which may impact coastal resources or nonfederal lands, must comply to the fullest extent feasible with the enforceable policies outlined in the FCMP.

Agency correspondence is provided in Appendix A, *Stakeholder and Tribal Correspondence*.

1.4.2 Government-to-Government Consultation

The DAF initiated consultation with Native American Tribes with cultural affinity to the location of the Proposed Action in keeping with the Presidential Memorandum on *Government-to-Government Relations with Native American Tribal Governments*; Executive Order (EO) 13175, *Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments*; DAF

Instruction 90-2002, *Department of the Air Force Interactions with Federally Recognized Tribes*; Air Force Manual 32-7003, *Environmental Conservation;* and Department of War (DoW) Policy on Native American and Native Alaskan Consultation. An initial response was received from the Seminole Nation and is included in Appendix A, *Stakeholder and Tribal Correspondence*.

1.4.3 Public Review

The public and other interested stakeholders are invited to review and comment on this Draft EA; accordingly, a Notice of Availability of the Draft EA and Draft FONSI was published in the *Panama City News Herald* newspaper to commence a 30-day public review comment period. In addition, the Draft EA is posted on the following website: https://www.tyndall.af.mil/About/.

The Draft EA is also available at the library listed below:

Bay County Public Library
898 W 11th Street
Panama City, FL 32404

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

This section provides a description of the alternatives to implement the Proposed Action as well as the No Action Alternative, identification of alternatives considered but eliminated from further analysis, and comparison of the environmental consequences for each alternative. Alternative 1 is the Preferred Alternative.

2.1 ALTERNATIVE 1: CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE THE CSTR SITE AT SILVER FLAG AND RELOCATE THE EXISTING TRAINING AREA TO TAXIWAY A

The following projects would be included in the construction and operation of the CSTR:

1. **Relocate the Existing Training Area.** Existing Silver Flag training space encompassing approximately 6 acres would need to be relocated due to CSTR proposed facilities. The site for relocation would be near Taxiway A (Figure 2-1). The Taxiway A location is a previously disturbed area that was historically used for training and fitness activities. A swimming pool was present at the site from approximately 2004 to 2020. A network of trails that was part of an obstacle course is also present at this location. Outside of the disturbed areas, the site is pine forest. Improvements to the training area would include grubbing, grading, and placement of gravel fill.
2. **Life Support Area (LSA) Infrastructure and Facilities.** Infrastructure would need to be installed and would consist of water connections from the Support Depot to the LSA. Deployable facilities would include approximately 36 small shelter systems (SSS) (military tents) (24,000 square feet) with an approximate capacity for a total of approximately 400 trainees, two Joint Air-Transportable Containerized Kitchens (JACKs), and room for medium shelter systems (MSS). The project would also include two 5,000-square-foot shower/shave/toilet/laundry (SSTL) facilities. The LSA has the capability to accommodate 12 additional SSS (144 people) for full build-out. Construction laydown would occur within the boundaries of the proposed CSTR. Additional construction requirements are included in Table 2-1.

Small Shelter Systems: all-purpose tent-type shelters used for billeting, work areas, storage, etc.

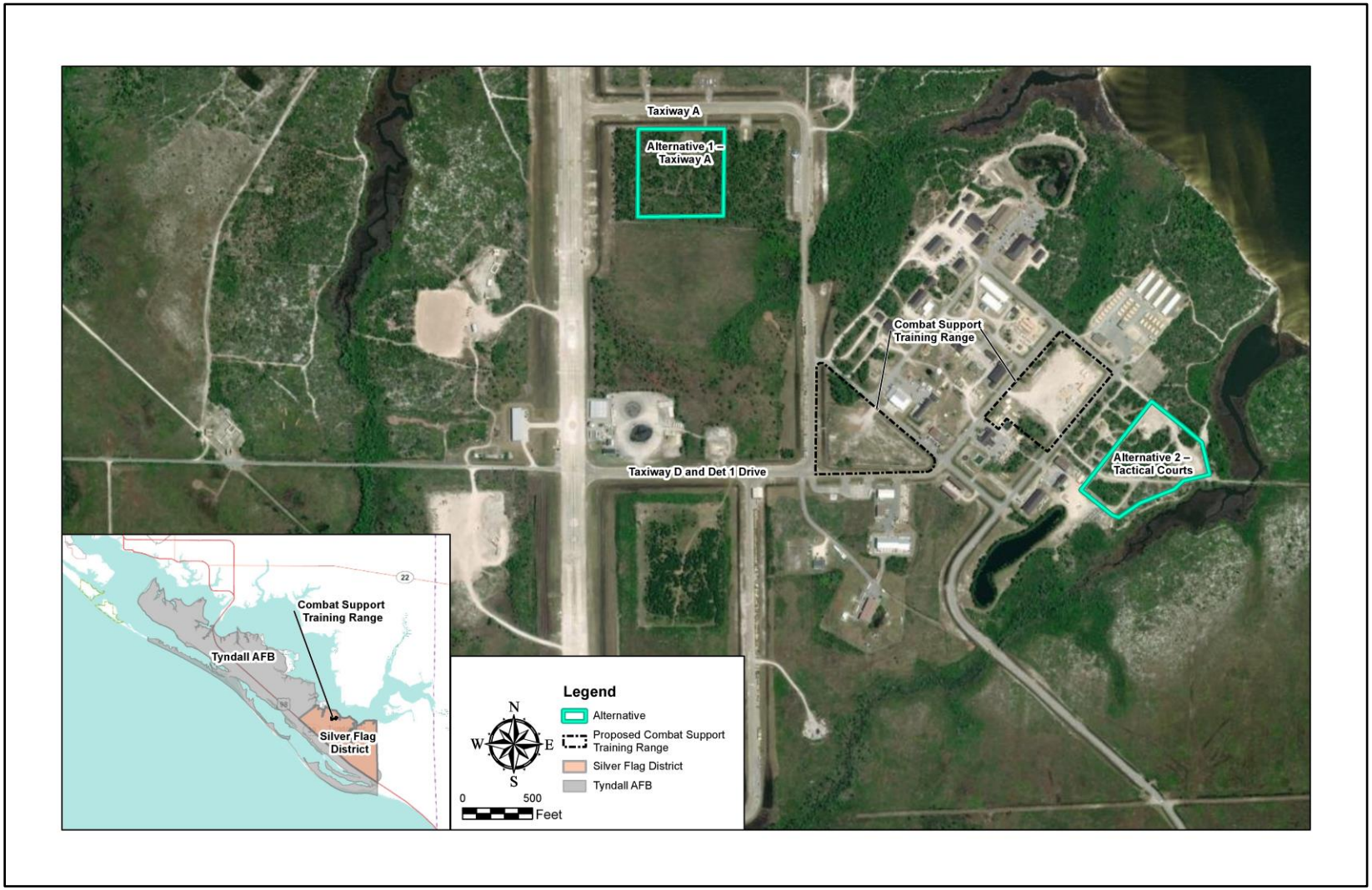


Figure 2-1. Potential Locations to Relocate Existing Training Area

3. **Support Depot Infrastructure and Facilities.** The Support Depot would be constructed to include ten 5,000-square-foot climate-controlled K-span storage facilities. These facilities would be constructed on 5,000-square-foot concrete pads equipped with electricity. Additional concrete would be installed to tie the concrete pads to the street. Construction laydown would occur within the boundaries of the proposed CSTR. Additional construction requirements are included in Table 2-1.


K-span: rust-free, watertight, and fireproof storage facility

4. **Explosive Ordnance Disposal Storage Magazine (EODMAG).** An EODMAG security vault would be constructed to safely store weapons from potential theft and accidental detonation. Only blank ammunition would be stored.

Table 2-1. Summary of Proposed Construction Projects

Feature	Description	Size
Relocate Existing Training Area		
Grade, grub[1], and gravel		6 acres
LSA Primary Infrastructure and Facilities		
Utilities relocation[2]		
Electric	Remove	1,400 LF
	Add	1,500 LF
Communications	Remove	825 LF
	Add	700 LF
Water	Add	1,000 LF
SSTL	Two (each 5,000 SF)	10,000 SF (Total)
Tent capacity	36 SSS, 5 MSS, 2 JACKs Grade, grub, gravel Fill	 5.2 acres 3,300 CY
Expansion area	12 additional SSS (144 people) Grading Fill	 1.2 acres 900 CY
Primary Support Depot Infrastructure and Facilities		
Grade, grub[1], and gravel		7 acres
Fill		11,000 CY
Utilities[2]		
Electric	Remove	1,000 LF
	Add	1,125 LF
Water	Remove	500 LF
	Add	525 LF
Communications	Remove	1,000 LF
	Add	700 LF
Stormwater	Add	40 LF
Paving		20,350 SY
K-spans	Ten 5,000-SF storage areas (50-foot by 100-foot) on concrete pads. HVAC on concrete pads (6-foot by 7-foot).	1.2 acres

Table 2-1. Summary of Proposed Construction Projects

Feature	Description	Size
EODMAG		
EODMAG	One 7-foot x 7 foot x 7-foot unit for the storage of blanks. Maximum NEW of 128 pounds. Actual NEW not to exceed 40 pounds.	50 SF

CY = cubic yards; EODMAG = Explosive Ordnance Disposal Storage Magazine; HVAC = heating, ventilation, and air conditioning; JACK = Joint Air-Transportable Containerized Kitchen; LF = linear feet; LSA = Life Support Area; MSS = medium shelter systems; NEW = net explosive weight; SF = square feet; SSS = small shelter systems; SSTL = shower/shave/toilet/laundry; SY = square yards

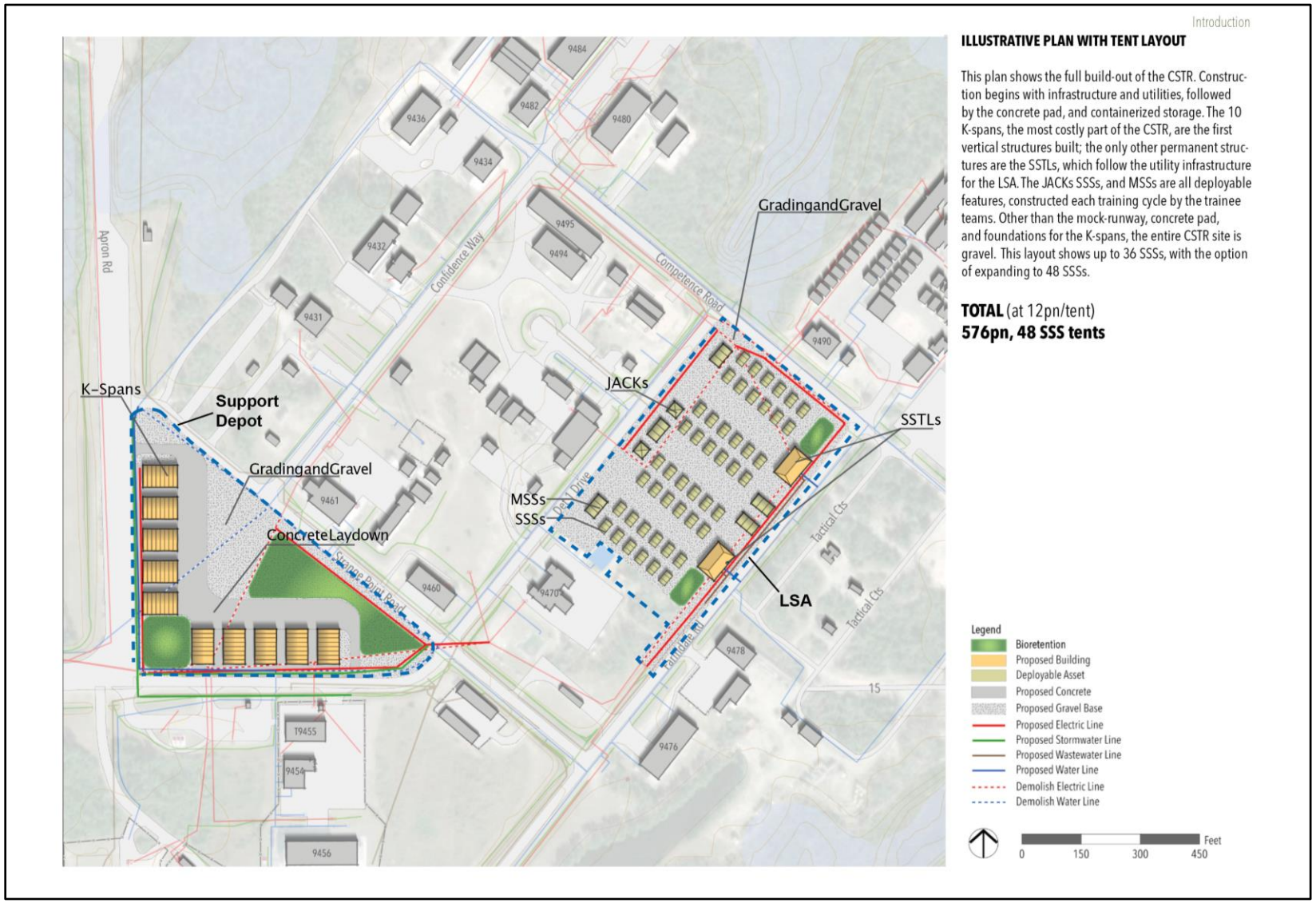
Notes:

1. Grub = removal of roots and stumps.
2. Trenching for utility lines would be at a depth and width of 24 inches.

Under Alternative 1, the CSTR would be constructed at the Silver Flag training area (Figure 2-2). Construction would start with relocation of the existing training area (Figure 2-1). The approximately 6-acre site would be graded and graveled, and assets would be relocated. The second step of the project would include construction of the LSA infrastructure, and the third step would be construction of the LSA facilities (SSTL facilities). Utilities would need to be relocated and fill and gravel would be placed to raise the Support Depot site to 14 feet above mean sea level (DAF, 2019). The fourth step would include Support Depot infrastructure, and the fifth step would be installation of the K-spans on concrete pads. The CSTR teams would deploy the SSS, MSS, and JACKs during training events. Figure 2-2 illustrates a conceptual CSTR layout at the Silver Flag training area with one possible tent configuration.

Operations would consist of approximately 400 trainees who would train for approximately 2 weeks every month. Training would consist of assembling and disassembling structures such as the SSS and MSS. Silver Flag currently has a mock runway that is used for a variety of training purposes, including runway repair and simulated bombings. It is anticipated that an additional two detonations would occur monthly on the mock runway using a 2.5-pound net explosive weight (NEW) explosive charge. For the purpose of providing a conservative noise and safety analysis, a 42.5-pound NEW charge was also analyzed. Other required CSTR training events would occur on existing Silver Flag ranges. Such training would include an off-road (mounted) course, a land navigation (dismounted) course, and a Military Operations on Urban Terrain (MOUT) course. Use of a small arms range and a full-distance range would require travel to Fort Rucker (formerly Fort Novosel), located in Dale County, Alabama.

Primary electric, water, stormwater, and communications already exist on the site, as described below, and are shown on Figure 2-2.



Source: (USAF, 2025)

Figure 2-2. Conceptual CSTR Layout at the Silver Flag Training Area

Electrical. For the CSTR to operate at full capacity, the connected load is estimated to be approximately 520 kilovolt-amperes (kVA). This includes power for the permanent SSTL facilities and site lighting. The SSTL facilities would require electricity for heating, ventilating, and cooling; water heating; laundry equipment; and lighting. The SSS, MSS, and JACKs would use generators for power. A pad-mounted transformer, located along Farmdale One Road across from Building 9491, would provide power to the main electrical panels or switchgears of the permanent facilities. The Support Depot area would have a connected load of approximately 400 kVA to support the 10 K-spans and site lighting. A pad-mounted transformer, located on the parcel near the intersection of Farmdale One and Strange Point Roads, would provide power to the main electrical panels in each K-span.

Water. The water requirements for the CSTR depend on factors such as climate, intensity of training, and specific mission needs. However, the Army Techniques Publication 4-44 provides general water consumption planning guidelines (see Table 2-2).

Table 2-2. Minimum Water Allocation per Person per Day

Use	Conditions	Gallons per Person per Day
Drinking Water	Temperate	1.5
	Hot/arid or high intensity	3.0
Personal Hygiene and Sanitation	Personal hygiene	1.0 to 1.7
Field Feeding	Not applicable	0.8 to 2.8
Laundry and Equipment Cleaning	Not applicable	2.3

Potable water connections would be required for the two permanent SSTL facilities. Each facility would use between 5,000 to 8,000 gallons of water per day. Water connections would also be established to fill the water bladders used by the JACKs. Each JACK would consume 800 to 1,000 gallons of water per day. Water connections would also be required at the Support Depot for both equipment cleaning and fire protection. To address current flow and pressure, the existing 4-inch main may need to be replaced with an 8-inch line. Connections to the SSTL facilities would include a main shut-off valve, a water meter, a backflow preventer to protect against contamination, a particulate filter, and a pressure-reducing valve to maintain appropriate water pressure within the system. Hose bibs (3/4-inch) would be established in proximity to each JACK to fill the water supply bladders. Hose bibs (3/4-inch) would also be located at each K-span structure at the Support Depot.

Sanitary Sewer. Structures in the LSA, including the SSTL facilities and JACKs, would tie into the existing wastewater line running along Farmdale One Road. The estimated discharge would be approximately 14,000 gallons per day. In the Support Depot, the K-span structures would include 4-inch area drains to collect water from cleaning operations. The area drains would be piped to drain to an oil/water separator, which would tie into the existing wastewater line at the intersection of Farmdale One Road and Strange Point Road.

Stormwater. A stormwater analysis was conducted to ensure high-tempo training operations in the Silver Flag District can be maintained. The LSA would be graded to allow stormwater to flow to existing ditches at the northwest side of the road. The Support Depot would be graded to allow stormwater to flow to existing ditches at the west side of the site. Fill will be required at the north corner of the site to bring it to the 14-foot median sea level required for construction at

Tyndall AFB. All construction would comply with Tyndall AFB requirements for the management of stormwater. Bioretention structures would be constructed within the LSA and the Support Depot. Proper compaction and lime treating (if required) beneath roads and foundations/slabs-on-grade would prevent settlement that could negatively impact the hydrology of the area.

Communications. The CSTR would simulate real-world deployment; therefore, limited wired connectivity would be available. However, basic communication infrastructure, tied back to an existing point of connection in Strange Point Road, would be installed to support the operations in both the LSA and Support Depot.

2.2 ALTERNATIVE 2: CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE THE CSTR SITE AT SILVER FLAG AND RELOCATE THE EXISTING TRAINING AREA TO THE TACTICAL COURTS

Under Alternative 2, the CSTR site would be developed the same as under Alternative 1, except the existing training area would be relocated to Tactical Courts 1 and 2 combined. This alternative provides approximately 6 acres of space as shown on Figure 2-1. The Tactical Courts consist of existing buildings, roadways, and storage areas, along with some areas of isolated woodland. Improvements to the training area would include grubbing, grading, and placement of gravel fill. Existing buildings would remain on-site.

2.3 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Under the No Action Alternative, the action would not take place and critical DAF training requirements would not be met. The DAF would not meet the requirement to locate a CSTR within a 10-hour drive from all CONUS installations and would continue to lack the capacity to meet combat support readiness requirements.

2.4 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT ELIMINATED FROM FURTHER ANALYSIS

The CSTR concept began as a training site initiative under the DAF Directorate of Civil Engineers in 2018. Between 2018 and 2022, the AFCEC expanded existing Silver Flag and Air Reserve sites and established contingency training at five other locations. In 2025, CSTR training was updated and prioritized for six sites, including Silver Flag (DAF, 2025b). The Silver Flag training area was selected for CSTR, as this site currently supports Air Force Civil Engineering training conducted by the 801st RED HORSE. The area has also been used in the past to support CSTR events that did not meet the full CSTR agenda. Current assets exist at Silver Flag that support CSTR training without needing additional expenditures. These include the presence of a mock runway currently being used for runway repair training, classroom space, two MOUT villages, and an off-road driving course.

As part of the Area Development Plan process, the AFIMSC and Tyndall AFB planners and range managers selected six potential locations at Silver Flag for relocation of the existing training area. The site selection process was a multistep evaluation conducted during an on-site planning session for relocating training areas and equipment. The goal was to identify viable locations that meet

operational, environmental, planning, and cost requirements while supporting the broader compact base camp vision. The team was initially provided the six potential sites to evaluate for relocating existing training areas and assets. An initial evaluation eliminated three of the locations due to size limitations and one due to an ongoing construction project. The remaining two sites (Figure 2-1) were evaluated against cost and seven additional factors when selecting a preferred location (Table 2-3). These factors included the following:

1. **Compliance with the Training Regulating Plan.** The regulating plan considers whether the site is compatible with training use under current land use designations.
2. **Distance from Power Plants.** Sites are required to be close to the power plant for engineers to run temporary power lines for training purposes.
3. **Previously Disturbed Land.** Sites with previous disturbance are preferred to reduce potential environmental effects.
4. **Environmental Constraints.** This factor considers environmental constraints such as previous site contamination or pollution, wetlands, threatened and endangered species, or cultural resources.
5. **Within Developable Area.** Locations that are designated by previous planning activities (e.g., Silver Flag Area Development Plan) as suitable for future development are given preference.
6. **Support for a Secure, Compact Base Camp.** Sites are preferred if they maintain planning goals of consolidating like functions within the same area.
7. **Promotes Walkability.** Sites are preferred if locations are within walking distance of existing classrooms as well as existing and proposed training locations.

Table 2-3 identifies the two remaining locations and provides a simplified summary of the results of that quantitative analysis for those locations.

Table 2-3. Analysis of Existing Training Area Relocation Alternatives

Factors	Taxiway A	Tactical Courts Combined
Compliance with the Training Regulating Plan	√	X
Distance from Power Plant	√	▬
Previously Disturbed Land	√	▬
Environmental Constraints	√	√
Within Developable Area	√	√
Support for a Secure, Compact Base Camp	√	√
Promotes Walkability	▬	√

Note:
1. √ = meets factor; X = does not meet factor; ▬ = partially meets factor.

2.5 COMPARISON OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES BY ALTERNATIVE

Table 2-4 presents a summary of potential environmental consequences for the alternatives by environmental resource area.

Table 2-4. Comparative Summary of Environmental Consequences

Resource Area	No Action Alternative	Alternative 1	Alternative 2
Public Health and Safety	No significant effects would occur to public health and safety with implementation of the No Action Alternative.	Health and safety effects could occur, but effects would be reduced to less than significant with proper training, hearing protection, and BMPs.	Health and safety effects could occur, but effects would be reduced to less than significant with proper training, hearing protection, and BMPs.
Air Quality	Air emissions and resulting air quality effects under the No Action Alternative would remain unchanged from existing conditions.	Compliance with permit requirements would ensure that implementation of Alternative 1 would result in less than significant air quality effects.	Compliance with permit requirements would ensure that implementation of Alternative 2 would result in less than significant air quality effects.
Biological Resources	No significant effects to biological resources would occur with implementation of the No Action Alternative.	Implementation of Alternative 1 may have effects on vegetation, wildlife, migratory birds, and invasive and exotic species but no significant effects are anticipated.	Effects associated with Alternative 2 would be the same as those described for Alternative 1 and, therefore, would not be significant.
Water Resources	No significant effects to water resources are anticipated with implementation of the No Action Alternative.	Implementation of Alternative 1 may have effects on surface water management, but no significant effects are anticipated.	Implementation of Alternative 2 may have effects on surface water management, but no significant effects are anticipated.
Geology and Soil Resources	No significant effects to geology and soil resources are anticipated with implementation of the No Action Alternative.	No significant effects to geology and soil resources are anticipated with implementation of Alternative 1.	No significant effects to geology and soil resources are anticipated with implementation of Alternative 2.
Land Use	No significant effects to land use would occur with implementation of the No Action Alternative.	No significant effects to land use would occur with implementation of Alternative 1.	No significant effects to land use would occur with implementation of Alternative 2.
Cultural Resources	As no historic properties would be affected by the No Action Alternative, no adverse effects to cultural resources are anticipated from the implementation of the No Action Alternative.	As no historic properties would be affected by implementation of Alternative 1. No adverse effects to cultural resources are anticipated from the implementation of Alternative 1.	There is potential to affect cultural resources with the implementation of Alternative 2 due to the unevaluated status of Site 8BY00116 regarding NRHP eligibility. In the event Alternative 2 is implemented, mitigation efforts would be coordinated through the SHPO and federally recognized tribes to ensure compliance with the NHPA.

Table 2-4. Comparative Summary of Environmental Consequences

Resource Area	No Action Alternative	Alternative 1	Alternative 2
Hazardous Materials and Wastes	There would be no changes to hazardous materials and hazardous wastes, toxic substances, ERP sites, or live fire and munitions in the ROI beyond baseline conditions.	Implementation of Alternative 1 would not result in significant effects to the hazardous materials and waste resource area.	Implementation of Alternative 2 would not result in significant effects to the hazardous materials and waste resource area.
Infrastructure	No significant effects to infrastructure would occur with implementation of the No Action Alternative.	Changes in demand to infrastructure would be minimal and the increased demand would not create a service disruption to existing users or substantially increase demand in the region.	Changes in demand to infrastructure would be minimal and the increased demand would not create a service disruption to existing users or substantially increase demand in the region.
Transportation	No significant effects to transportation would occur with implementation of the No Action Alternative.	Effects to transportation could occur, but effects would not be significant.	Effects to transportation could occur, but effects would not be significant.
Noise	Under the No Action Alternative, no new noise-generating activities would occur. Existing conditions would not change and there would be no significant noise effects.	The loudest noise generated by activities proposed under Alternative 1 (i.e., cratering charge detonations) would be infrequent—at a tempo of two charges per month—and noise levels at the closest noise-sensitive location would be at levels associated with a low risk of complaints. Other proposed activities would be the same as ongoing activities and/or would be inaudible at the closest sensitive locations. There would be no significant noise effects.	Noise-generating activities proposed under Alternative 2 would be the same as under Alternative 1 and would not result in significant noise effects.

BMP = best management plan; ERP = Environmental Restoration Program; NHPA = National Historic Preservation Act; NRHP = National Register of Historic Places; ROI = region of influence; SHPO = State Historic Preservation Officer

3.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

3.1 INTRODUCTION

3.1.1 Resources Not Carried Forward for Detailed Analysis

Table 3-1 lists the environmental resources or valued environmental components not carried forward and the rationale for why they were not analyzed in detail in this EA.

Table 3-1. Resources Not Carried Forward for Detailed Analysis (including brief rationale)

Valued Environmental Components	Rationale
Airspace	The CSTR does not include the use of any aircraft and would involve ground activities only. Therefore, there would be no effects to airspace.
Socioeconomics	A one-time injection of funds due to construction would have no noticeable effect on the socioeconomics of the region.

CSTR = Combat Support Training Range

3.1.2 Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions Considered

Table 3-2 lists those actions that are occurring at the same time and place as the Proposed Action and are within the power of the DAF to regulate. Projects considered include those in or near the Silver Flag District.

Table 3-2. Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions Considered

Project/Trend	Description	Resources Potentially Affected
New AFCEC Campus	Replace AFCEC research facilities originally in the 9700 Area that were destroyed during Hurricane Michael with a new campus. Total project area is approximately 883,000 square feet, plus site work and utilities. The new AFCEC campus would be at the corner of U.S. Highway 98 and Farmdale One Road, which is approximately 1.25 miles south of the proposed CSTR site at Silver Flag. Construction is ongoing and is anticipated to be completed prior to commencement of construction activities for the CSTR.	Public Health and Safety, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Water Resources, Geology and Soil Resources, Land Use, Cultural Resources, Hazardous Materials and Wastes, Infrastructure, Transportation, Noise
New Fire Station	Construct a replacement fire station facility to house fire protection vehicles, equipment, and operating personnel of the base fire department. Satellite Fire Station #4 sustained severe damage during Hurricane Michael. Consequently, facilities at the main base cantonment area are temporarily designated with emergency response, which does not meet required 5-minute response times. The new satellite fire station would meet response times to Silver Flag and AFCEC research facilities. The planned location for the new fire station is adjacent to the new AFCEC campus.	Public Health and Safety, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Water Resources, Geology and Soil Resources, Land Use, Cultural Resources, Hazardous Materials and Wastes, Infrastructure, Transportation, Noise

Table 3-2. Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions Considered

Project/Trend	Description	Resources Potentially Affected
Silver Flag Projects	Various projects in the Silver Flag District planned over the next 3-5 years: • Construct obstacle course fence. • Replace main gate, Silver Flag. • Replace back gate, Silver Flag. • Install plumbing lines and electricity to support water fountains in B9570, B9572, and B9574. • Install approximately 10,000 LF fence with gate, complete with necessary clearing and grubbing.	Public Health and Safety, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Water Resources, Geology and Soil Resources, Land Use, Cultural Resources, Hazardous Materials and Wastes, Infrastructure, Transportation, Noise
New Fire Research and Development Facility	Construct new fire facility east of the existing fire training facility. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2026.	Public Health and Safety, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Water Resources, Geology and Soil Resources, Land Use, Cultural Resources, Hazardous Materials and Wastes, Infrastructure, Transportation, Noise
DuPont Bridge Replacement	Replace the DuPont Bridge over East Bay in Bay County. The project includes constructing two new parallel bridges adjacent to the current DuPont Bridge. Project is ongoing.	Public Health and Safety, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Water Resources, Geology and Soil Resources, Land Use, Cultural Resources, Hazardous Materials and Wastes, Infrastructure, Transportation, Noise

= number; AFCEC = Air Force Civil Engineer Center; B = Building; CSTR = Combat Support Training Range; LF = linear feet; U.S. = United States

3.2 PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

3.2.1 Affected Environment

This section discusses public health and safety associated with construction, public access, training events and potential need for emergency response services, and environmental health and safety risks to children. The region of influence (ROI) for public health and safety is the Silver Flag training area and the closest emergency services.

Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) Site TU539P-Sub is within the ROI, and there are ongoing studies for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) including perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). Section 3.9, *Hazardous Materials and Wastes*, contains more information.

3.2.1.1 Construction

Health and safety during construction is generally associated with the safety of personnel within or adjacent to the construction zones. The DAF RED HORSE and/or any construction contractors

would comply with federal regulations, including 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1926, *Safety and Health Regulations for Construction*, and appropriate Tyndall AFB and DAF safety protocols.

3.2.1.2 Public Access

The main cantonment area of the Silver Flag training area is closed to public access, hunting, and recreation. There are some blocks of land designated for public hunting that are open on weekends and holidays; these areas are located east and south of the main cantonment area (DAF, 2025c). Permits are required for the public to obtain access to these sites, and closures are posted online at https://tyndall.isportsman.net/. Public access also is also allowed for visitation to a cemetery located south of the main cantonment area.

3.2.1.3 Emergency Services and Response

The 325th Fighter Wing Safety Office staff members are responsible for the installation safety program. Their mission is to implement proactive mishap prevention programs to protect the people, equipment, and combat capability at Tyndall AFB (DAF, 2024). Safety comprises three divisions:

1. Flight - ensures safe flying operations or assigned, tenant, and transient aircraft.
2. Weapons - responsible for the use, storage, and transportation of explosive materials on Tyndall AFB.
3. Occupational - responsible for the safety of the base's population to include workplace, traffic, motorcycle, and recreational safety (DAF, 2024).

Tyndall AFB does not offer urgent or emergency services (DAF, 2025d).

As part of the Hurricane Michael rebuilding effort, Fire Station Number (#) 4 was rebuilt at the Silver Flag training area. It houses a fire company from Tyndall AFB and provides fire protection and equipment for the Silver Flag training area (DVIDS, 2022). The location of the station is just west of the site of the former fire garage (Building 9443).

Personnel could be injured during training events due to vehicle turnovers, sprains, spot fires, insect bites, other vegetation and wildlife interactions, and explosives use. The closest medical facilities are located in Panama City and typically a 30- to 40-minute drive from Silver Flag. These facilities include the following:

- HCA Florida Gulf Coast Hospital (449 West 23rd Street, Panama City, Florida) - Fully accredited, 281-bed hospital offering comprehensive care and 24/7 emergency services.
- Ascension Sacred Heart Bay (615 North Bonita Avenue A, Panama City, Florida) - Provides short-term acute care with 144 beds (formerly 323 beds prior to Hurricane Michael), specialty care, and 24/7 emergency care including a Level II Trauma Center for serious and life-threatening injuries and illnesses.

Explosives safety relates to the management and safe use of ordnance and munitions. Safety arcs create a safe distance between the ordnance storage, loading/unloading, handling, and inhabited buildings. The actual size of the arc depends on the types and quantities of ordnance that the facility is authorized to store or handle. The arcs protect personnel against potential serious injury or equipment destruction from possible fires or explosions.

3.2.1.4 Children

EO 13045, *Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks*, requires federal agencies to "make it a high priority to identify and assess environmental health and safety risks that may disproportionately affect children and shall ensure that its policies, programs, activities, and standards address disproportionate risks to children that result from environmental health risks or safety risks." Since the Proposed Action takes place on the Silver Flag training area of Tyndall AFB, children would not be present and disproportionate risks would not occur. Risks to children will not be discussed further in this EA.

3.2.2 Environmental Consequences

This section evaluates the public and employee health and safety associated with new construction and CSTR training events. An effect on public health and safety would be significant if the Proposed Action resulted in the following:

1. A substantial increase in the risks associated with safety of employees, contractors, or the general public
2. Introduction of a new health and safety risk that the DAF is not prepared to respond to
3. Inability of emergency services to respond to an emergency event

3.2.2.1 Alternative 1

3.2.2.1.1 Construction

Construction would take place at the Silver Flag training area, Tyndall AFB. The RED HORSE and/or any construction contractors would comply with federal regulations, including 29 CFR Part 1926, *Safety and Health Regulations for Construction*, and appropriate Tyndall AFB and DAF safety protocols. As a result, no significant effects to public health and safety during construction would occur.

3.2.2.1.2 Public Access

Coordination would be required if training events occurred during the weekends of hunting season or would preclude cemetery access. With coordination and planning, no significant effects to public health and safety and public access would occur.

3.2.2.1.3 Emergency Services and Response

CSTR training missions would be performed in accordance with DAF safety regulations and occupational health and safety standards. Trainees could be injured and would need to be treated at the 325th Medical Group on Tyndall AFB or local facilities. The 325th Medical Group only handles outpatient services. Any emergency would require calling 911. Local hospitals in Panama City are an approximately 30- to 40-minute drive from Silver Flag. As a result, an on-site medic could be assigned during CSTR training events to provide first aid, accompany any injured trainees to the local hospital, or accompany the trainee if transferred to a larger hospital. Serious situations may require helicopter transport. Fire Station #4 on Silver Flag would respond to any fire incidents.

Safety arcs would be established for the use of explosives at the mock runway and the EODMAG (Figure 3-1). These arcs represent the minimum distance between sites storing or handling

explosive materials and specified exposures. Land use within safety arcs would be restricted to protect personnel. With no inhabited buildings located within the safety arcs and the reduced arc size with using an EODMAG, no significant effects to public health and safety would occur. Noise effects on public health and safety are discussed in Section 3.12.2.1, *Noise, Alternative 1*.

Following similar procedures for other training events at Silver Flag and coordination with the 325th Medical Group and other community emergency service providers before engaging in a training event would ensure that health and safety risks would be minimized. Possible advanced planning efforts could include notifying the 325th Medical Group and local facilities prior to the training events for medical support and providing an on-site medic. With planning, long-term public health and safety effects could occur but would not be significant.

The location of the existing training area under Alternative 1 would be near Taxiway A, which is a slightly farther walk from the main cantonment area. For example, the distance from one classroom space (Building 9462) to the site would be approximately 0.5 mile. This would not likely pose a health and safety risk for trainees during typical weather conditions. Hot and humid weather during a training event would require use of protective measures (e.g., fluids, rest periods, classroom time, etc.) and trainees could experience variable weather conditions during real-world events. Therefore, this location could have some periodic public health and safety effects due to weather but they would not be significant with use of protective measures that would be in place during all training events during hot and humid weather.

3.2.2.2 Alternative 2

Health and safety effects under Alternative 2 would be similar to effects described under Alternative 1. Under Alternative 2, the only difference is the location of the existing training area relocation. Under this alternative, the existing training area would be located in the southeast corner of the main training area and would still be walkable. Health and safety effects would be similar to the current training location and, therefore, not significant.

3.2.2.3 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, the CSTR would not be constructed, students would train elsewhere, and there would be no change to health and safety. Training on Silver Flag would continue as it does under current conditions. Therefore, no significant effects would occur to public health and safety with implementation of the No Action Alternative.

3.2.2.4 Reasonably Foreseeable Effects

Projects that are close to the Proposed Action in both time and distance are identified in Table 3-2. All of these projects have been evaluated under previous NEPA actions and determined to have no significant effects. These projects in combination with the Proposed Action would have no meaningful reasonably foreseeable adverse effects to public health and safety resources.

3.2.2.5 Mitigation

Because effects would not be significant, mitigation measures are not proposed.

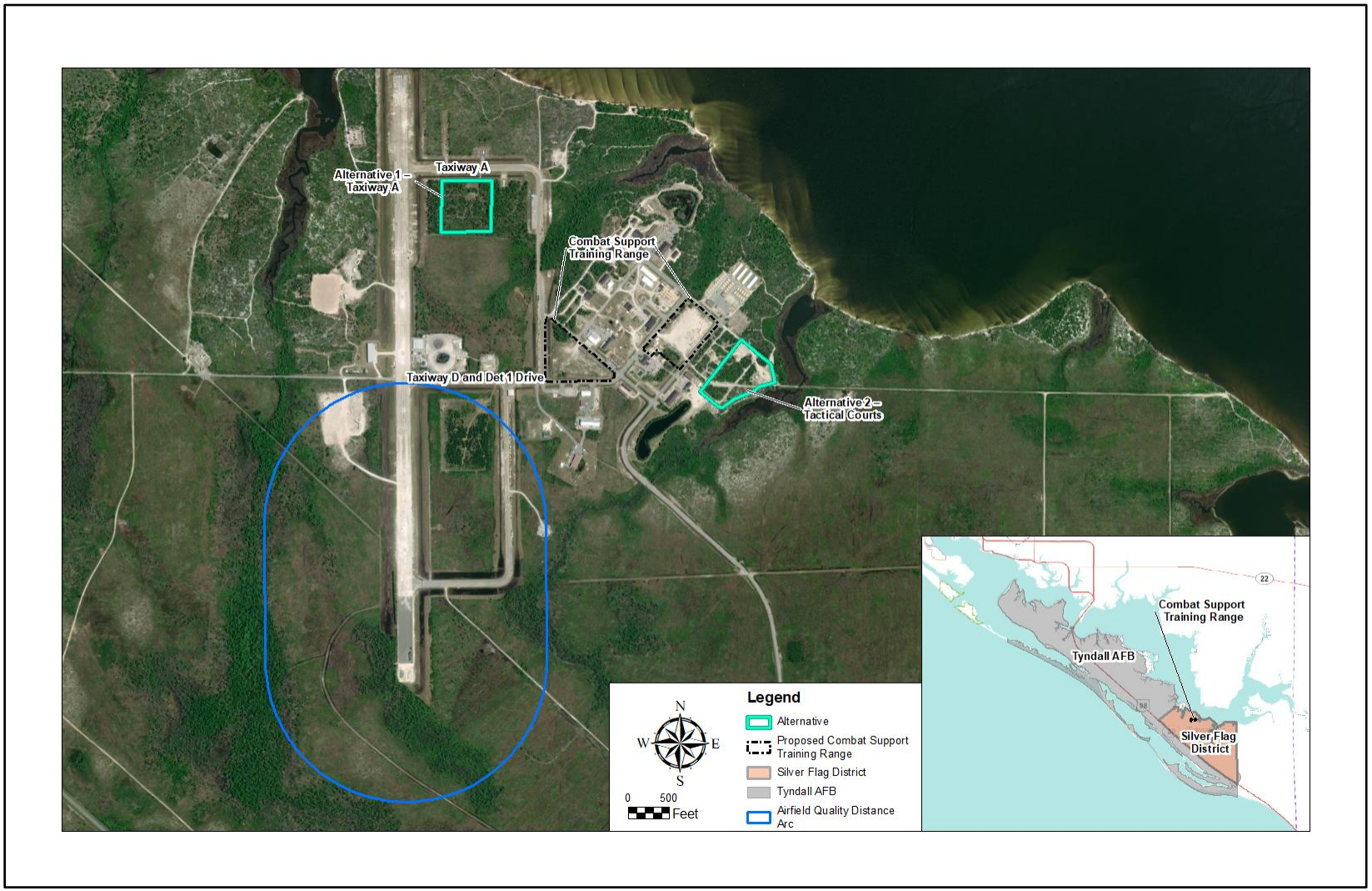


Figure 3-1. Safety Arc Associated with the EODMAG

3.3 AIR QUALITY

3.3.1 Affected Environment

Air quality in a given location is defined by the size and topography of an air basin, the air emissions that occur within and outside of the air basin, local and regional meteorological influences, and the resulting types and concentrations of pollutants in the atmosphere. The significance of a pollutant concentration often is determined by comparing its concentration to an applicable national or state ambient air quality standard. These standards represent the allowable atmospheric concentrations at which public health and welfare are protected and include a reasonable margin of safety to protect the more sensitive individuals in the population. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) established the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) to regulate the following criteria pollutants: ozone (O_3), carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter (PM_{10}), particulate matter less than or equal to 2.5 microns in diameter ($PM_{2.5}$), and lead (Pb).

The ROI for the air quality analysis includes the areas surrounding the CSTR site and Bay County. Air emissions from the project also would affect air quality along roadways used to transport personnel and materials between the CSTR site and Tyndall AFB. Since proposed emissions would be low and more dispersed within these transportation routes, the analysis focused on the area immediately surrounding the CSTR site.

The Clean Air Act (CAA) and its subsequent amendments establish air quality regulations and the NAAQS and delegate the enforcement of these standards to the states. The CAA establishes air quality planning processes and requires areas in nonattainment of NAAQS to develop a State Implementation Plan that details how the state will attain the standards within mandated timeframes. The requirements and compliance dates for attainment are based on the severity of the nonattainment classification of the area. Under the CAA, state and local agencies may establish ambient air quality standards and regulations of their own, provided these are at least as stringent as the federal requirements. The FDEP Division of Air Resource Management is responsible for enforcing air pollution regulations in Florida. The Division of Air Resource Management enforces the NAAQS by monitoring air quality, developing rules to regulate and to permit stationary sources of air emissions, and contributing to air quality attainment planning processes statewide.

In addition to criteria pollutants, USEPA also regulates hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) that are known or are suspected of causing serious health effects or adverse environmental effects. HAPs are emitted from a range of industrial facilities and vehicles. The CAA identifies 188 substances as HAPs (e.g., benzene, formaldehyde, mercury, and asbestos). USEPA sets federal regulations to reduce HAP emissions from stationary sources in the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (USEPA, 2025a).

O_3 is formed in the atmosphere by photochemical reactions of previously emitted pollutants called precursors. O_3 precursors are mainly nitrogen oxides and photochemically reactive volatile organic compounds (VOCs). In the presence of solar radiation, the maximum effect of precursor emissions on O_3 levels usually occurs several hours after they are emitted and many miles from their source. O_3 concentrations are highest during the warmer months of the year and coincide with the period of maximum exposure to the sun's rays. Inert pollutants tend to have the highest concentrations

during the colder months of the year, when light winds and nighttime/early morning surface-based temperature inversions inhibit atmospheric dispersion.

USEPA designates all areas of the United States in terms of having air quality better (attainment) or worse (nonattainment) than the NAAQS. Former nonattainment areas that have attained NAAQS are designated as maintenance areas. Currently, Bay County, which encompasses the CSTR site, is classified as an attainment area for all NAAQS (USEPA, 2025b). Therefore, the requirements of the CAA General Conformity Regulation do not apply to the Proposed Action.

The CSTR project site generates air emissions from training exercises due to (1) the use of fossil-fuel-powered vehicles, nonroad equipment, and ordnance and (2) the operation of vehicles on unpaved surfaces and the use of larger ordnance, which generates fugitive dust.

Greenhouse gases (GHGs) are naturally occurring and human-made atmospheric constituents that absorb and re-emit infrared radiation. This process plays a crucial role in regulating Earth's temperature. Common GHGs include carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, nitrogen trifluoride, sulfur hexafluoride, and water vapor. Cumulative GHG emissions from all sources worldwide can increase heat in the atmosphere, which has the potential to impact average global temperatures.

The Proposed Action would emit GHGs into the atmosphere. Because GHGs can persist in the atmosphere and disperse globally, emissions from various sources, including the activities from the project alternatives, can collectively contribute to the overall atmospheric concentration of GHGs. An analysis of the projected GHG emissions from the project alternatives are presented.

3.3.2 Environmental Consequences

The air quality analysis estimated the effects of the proposed activities by comparing the increase in annual criteria pollutant emissions to applicable insignificance indicators for attainment areas (AFCEC, 2025). The ROI surrounding the CSTR site currently attains all NAAQS, and the insignificance indicator used to evaluate actions in such areas is the USEPA Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permitting threshold of 250 tons per year (tpy) of a criteria pollutant besides Pb. The insignificance indicator for Pb in this area is 25 tpy. The insignificance indicators do not denote a significant effect; however, they do provide a threshold to identify actions that have insignificant effects to air quality. Any action with net emissions below the insignificance indicators is considered so insignificant that the action would not cause or contribute to an exceedance of any NAAQS.

The air quality analysis estimated the magnitude of emissions that would result from construction and operation of the proposed alternatives with the use of the DAF Air Conformity Applicability Model (ACAM) version 5.0.24a (Solutio Environmental, 2025). The analysis also used emissions factors developed by USEPA to estimate emissions from proposed munitions usage (USEPA, 1995).

3.3.2.1 Alternative 1

Air quality effects resulting from construction activities under Alternative 1 would occur from (1) combustive emissions due to the use of fossil-fuel-powered equipment and (2) fugitive dust emissions (PM_{10}/$PM_{2.5}$) from the operation of equipment on exposed soil. Construction activity

data for Alternative 1 were developed to estimate construction equipment usages and areas of disturbed ground for use as inputs to the ACAM. The air quality analysis assumed that the proposed construction activities would begin in early 2028 and last for 1 year. To provide a conservative analysis, it was assumed that all proposed construction activities would occur within the year 2028.

Proposed construction activities would implement standard practices to minimize fugitive dust emissions and to comply with Rule 62-296.320(4)(c) of the Florida Administrative Code (FAC), *Unconfined Emissions of Particulate Matter*, which requires the use of reasonable precautions to prevent particulate matter from becoming airborne. Such measures include paving and maintaining roads, applying water or chemical dust suppressants during grading and land clearing, and promptly removing material tracked onto paved surfaces, as listed in Section 3.3.2.1.1, *Measures to Minimize Effects*.

Air quality effects resulting from operation of Alternative 1 would occur from (1) a series of diesel-powered electric generators, (2) occasional use of explosives, and (3) buses and light-duty vehicles used to transport personnel to and from the project site. Operational activity data for Alternative 1 were developed for use as inputs to the ACAM. The air quality analysis assumed that the proposed operational activities would begin January 2029.

Table 3-3 presents estimates of annual air emissions that would occur from implementation of Alternative 1. These data show that annual emissions would remain below the insignificance indicator thresholds. Therefore, implementation of Alternative 1 would not result in significant air quality effects.

Table 3-3. Annual Emissions for Implementation of Alternative 1

Year/Activity	Air Pollutant Emissions (tons per year)						
	VOCs	CO	NO_X	SO_X	PM_{10}	$PM_{2.5}$	CO_2e
Year 2028							
Construction Emissions	0.06	0.68	0.54	0.00	1.55	0.02	166
Year 2029							
Personnel Emissions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Generator Emissions	22.92	86.16	202.32	16.53	21.39	21.39	15,571
Explosive Emissions	NA	0.21	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.10
Total Emissions – Year 2029	22.92	86.37	202.32	16.53	21.39	21.39	15,571
Insignificance Indicator	250	250	250	250	250	250	75,000
Exceed Threshold Indicator?	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

< = less than; CO = carbon monoxide; CO_2e = carbon dioxide equivalent; NA = not applicable; NO_X = nitrogen oxides; Pb = lead; PM_{10} = particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter; $PM_{2.5}$ = particulate matter less than or equal to 2.5 microns in diameter; SO_X = sulfur oxides; VOC = volatile organic compound

Notes:

1. Total Pb emissions would be < 0.001 tons per year, substantially less than the insignificance indicator of 25 tons per year.
2. Calculated values and totals have been rounded; therefore, sum totals might not exactly match the totals row.

The estimation of emissions for the proposed series of diesel-powered electric generators used during operations at the CSTR site were based on each unit operating every hour of the year, or 8,760 hours per year. Based on this metric, these combined sources would generate emissions that

would equate to the definition of a major source and, therefore, would require an operating permit subject to the requirements of FAC Chapter 62-213, *Operation Permits for Major Sources of Air Pollution*. Compliance with these permit requirements would ensure that operations of Alternative 1 would result in less than significant air quality effects.

3.3.2.1.1 Measures to Minimize Effects

Tyndall AFB would incorporate standard construction practices into proposed construction activities to reduce fugitive dust emissions generated from the use of construction equipment on exposed soil. Some of these practices would include the following:

1. Use water trucks to keep areas of vehicle movement damp enough to minimize the generation of fugitive dust.
2. Minimize the amount of disturbed ground area at a given time.
3. Suspend all soil disturbance activities when winds exceed 25 miles per hour (mph) or when visible dust plumes emanate from the site and stabilize all disturbed areas with water application.
4. Designate personnel to monitor the dust control program and to increase watering, as necessary, to minimize the generation of dust.

3.3.2.2 Alternative 2

Air emissions and resulting air quality effects from Alternative 2 would be nearly identical to those estimated for Alternative 1. The only difference between these alternatives is that, under Alternative 2, the Silver Flag existing training area would be relocated to Tactical Courts 1 and 2 combined. The combined Tactical Courts 1 and 2 encompass approximately 6 acres.

Table 3-4 presents estimates of annual air emissions that would occur from implementation of Alternative 2. These data show that annual emissions would remain below the insignificance indicator thresholds. Therefore, implementation of Alternative 2 would not result in significant air quality effects.

Similar to Alternative 1, proposed construction activities would implement standard practices to minimize fugitive dust emissions and to comply with Rule 62-296.320(4)(c) of the FAC, as listed in Section 3.3.2.1.1, *Measures to Minimize Effects*. In addition, operation of the proposed diesel-powered electric generators at the CSTR site would require an operating permit subject to the requirements of FAC Chapter 62-213, *Operation Permits for Major Sources of Air Pollution*. Compliance with these permit requirements would ensure that operations of Alternative 2 would result in less than significant air quality effects.

Table 3-4. Annual Emissions for Implementation of Alternative 2

Year/Activity	Air Pollutant Emissions (tons per year)						
	VOCs	CO	NO_X	SO_X	PM_{10}	$PM_{2.5}$	CO_2e
Year 2028							
Construction Emissions	0.06	0.68	0.54	0.00	1.58	0.02	167
Year 2029							
Personnel Emissions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01

Table 3-4. Annual Emissions for Implementation of Alternative 2

Year/Activity	Air Pollutant Emissions (tons per year)						
	VOCs	CO	NO_X	SO_X	PM_{10}	$PM_{2.5}$	CO_2e
Generator Emissions	22.92	86.16	202.32	16.53	21.39	21.39	15,571
Explosive Emissions	NA	0.21	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.10
Total Emissions – Year 2029	22.92	86.37	202.32	16.53	21.39	21.39	15,571
Insignificance Indicator	250	250	250	250	250	250	75,000
Exceed Threshold Indicator?	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

< = less than; CO = carbon monoxide; CO_2e = carbon dioxide equivalent; NA = not applicable; NO_X = nitrogen oxides; Pb = lead; PM_{10} = particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter; $PM_{2.5}$ = particulate matter less than or equal to 2.5 microns in diameter; SO_X = sulfur oxides; VOC = volatile organic compound

Notes:

1. Total Pb emissions would be < 0.001 tons per year, substantially less than the insignificance indicator of 25 tons per year.
2. Calculated values and totals have been rounded; therefore, sum totals might not exactly match the totals row.

3.3.2.3 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, the CSTR would not be developed at Tyndall AFB. Air emissions and resulting air quality effects under the No Action Alternative would remain unchanged from existing conditions.

3.3.2.4 Reasonably Foreseeable Effects

3.3.2.4.1 Criteria Pollutants

Future projects that emit air emissions within Tyndall AFB and the greater ROI could combine with emissions from the project alternatives and result in reasonably foreseeable effects. Currently, Bay County attains all NAAQS. Emissions from the proposed CSTR site would marginally combine with emissions from other sources within the ROI. Effects resulting from implementation of the Proposed Action, in conjunction with reasonably foreseeable future actions within the ROI, would not exceed any NAAQS and therefore would not result in significant effects.

3.3.2.4.2 Greenhouse Gases

To evaluate proposed GHG emissions, the analysis used the PSD threshold for GHGs of 75,000 tpy of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO_2e) as an indicator or threshold of insignificance for NEPA effects. A source exceeding this threshold would trigger major source PSD permitting requirements for GHGs, assuming the source first triggered PSD permitting for another regulated pollutant. Actions with a net change in CO_2e emissions below the insignificance indicator (threshold) are considered too insignificant on a global scale to warrant any further analysis of GHGs.

Table 3-3 and Table 3-4 present estimates of annual GHG emissions that would occur from implementation of Alternatives 1 and 2, respectively. These data show that GHGs from the alternatives would remain well below the GHG emissions insignificance indicator. Therefore, the project alternatives would not result in any significant reasonably foreseeable effects to GHG

emissions. Additional information regarding calculations for GHGs is provided in Appendix B, *Air Quality Calculations*.

3.3.2.5 Mitigation

In the absence of any significant effects to air quality, no mitigation measures are identified that would reduce air quality effects from the project alternatives.

3.4 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The ROI for biological resources consists of the areas that would be directly affected by land clearing, construction, and development under the Proposed Action, as well as adjacent habitat areas that could be indirectly affected by ground disturbance, noise, and human activity.

3.4.1 Affected Environment

Tyndall AFB is located within the East Gulf Coastal Plain physiographic province and occupies portions of two physiographic subdivisions: (1) Gulf Coastal Lowlands (characterized by lagoons, barrier islands, coastal swamps, and marshes) and (2) Flatwoods Forests (DAF, 2022a). The base is located on a peninsula that is surrounded by East Bay, St. Andrew Bay, and St. Andrew Sound. Barrier islands separate St. Andrew Sound from the Gulf of America. Coastal habitats on the base include barrier islands, beaches, sand dunes, bayous, and tidal marshes; interior landscapes consist of well-drained uplands, poorly drained flatwoods, ponds, and wetlands. Historically, most of the base consisted of coastal and upland longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*) ecosystems, which support numerous wildlife species. However, much of the vegetation has been altered by past human activity, including replacement of longleaf pine forest with slash pine (*P. elliottii*) and sand pine (*P. clausa*). Numerous public conservation lands occur nearby, with the closest being St. Andrews State Park and the Lathrop Bayou Tract.

3.4.1.1 Vegetation

Vegetation composition in the ROI varies between the proposed CSTR site (LSA and Support Depot area) and alternative existing training area relocation sites. The proposed LSA is nearly completely cleared, with gravel, exposed soil, and a small amount of maintained grass in the interior and limited pine tree occurrence at portions of the perimeter. The proposed Support Depot area is also heavily disturbed, consisting mostly of gravel, exposed soil, and grasses and forbs. Two small areas of pine tree coverage are present at the Support Depot site.

The existing training area relocation site at Taxiway A (Alternative 1) was formerly a maintained recreation area that contained a recreation building, swimming pool, and other small structures. The site was abandoned as a recreation area and has become overgrown with trees. However, dirt roads and paths remain in the area. The existing training area relocation site at the combined Tactical Courts 1 and 2 (Alternative 2) consists of wooded habitat interspersed with cleared and maintained areas.

3.4.1.2 Sensitive Habitats

Sensitive habitats in the ROI consist of wetlands, which are productive ecosystems that provide food and shelter for many plant, insect, amphibian, reptile, bird, fish, and mammal species. Some bird and mammal species use wetlands for food, water, and shelter during migration and breeding seasons. National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) data, which is based on aerial imagery, indicates that freshwater forested/shrub wetlands may occur immediately adjacent to small portions of the CSTR site and that freshwater forested/shrub and estuarine wetlands may occur adjacent to and near portions of the combined Tactical Courts 1 and 2 (Alternative 2) site. NWI wetlands are not identified near the proposed relocated training area at Taxiway A (Alternative 1).

3.4.1.3 Wildlife

As described in the Tyndall AFB Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) (DAF, 2022a), the natural systems on the base support a rich diversity of game and nongame wildlife, including mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish. Habitats and associated wildlife in undeveloped areas of the base are typical of those of the surrounding natural areas, including conservations lands (e.g., state parks). Representative wildlife species with potential occurrence on the base are listed in the INRMP.

3.4.1.4 Special Status Species

Special status species with potential for occurrence in the ROI are those species protected by federal or state law, including threatened and endangered species, bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), all bat species, and migratory birds. Brief species descriptions are provided below. Species listed under the ESA, species proposed for listing under the ESA, and state-listed species are shown in Table 3-5, based on information provided through the USFWS's IPaC online tool (Appendix C, *Biological Resources Supporting Information*) (USFWS, 2025). There are no critical habitats in the ROI.

Table 3-5. ESA-Listed, ESA-Proposed, and State-Listed Species with Potential Occurrence in the ROI

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Status	State Status
Mammals			
Tricolored bat	*Perimyotis subflavus*	PE	-
West Indian manatee	*Trichechus manatus*	T	T
Birds			
Eastern black rail	*Laterallus jamaicensis jamaicensis*	T	T
Reptiles			
Eastern indigo snake	*Drymarchon couperi*	T	T
Southern hog-nosed snake	*Heterodon simus*	PT	-
Alligator snapping turtle	*Macrochelys temminckii*	PT	T
Gopher tortoise	*Gopherus polyphemus*	-	T
Insects			
Monarch butterfly	*Danaus plexippus*	PT	-
Fish			
Gulf sturgeon	*Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi*	T	T

Table 3-5. ESA-Listed, ESA-Proposed, and State-Listed Species with Potential Occurrence in the ROI

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Status	State Status
Plants			
Godfrey's butterwort	*Pinguicula ionantha*	T	-
Telephus spurge	*Euphorbia telephioides*	T	E
White birds-in-a-nest	*Macbridea alba*	T	E

Sources: (DCAS, 2025; USFWS, 2025)
- = not applicable; E = endangered; ESA = Endangered Species Act; PE = proposed endangered; PT = proposed threatened; ROI = region of influence; T = threatened

Tricolored bat. The tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) was proposed for listing as endangered under the ESA in 2022. During winter, individuals hibernate in structures such as caves and mines. During spring, summer, and fall, tricolored bats occur in wooded areas where they roost primarily in trees, although they may also use structures such as buildings and bridges. Tricolored bats feed between dusk and dawn near trees, along waterways, and in riparian habitat. The tricolored bat is known to occur on portions of Tyndall AFB, but occurrence in the ROI specifically is unknown.

West Indian manatee. The West Indian manatee (Florida subspecies, *Trichechus manatus latirostrus*) is listed as threatened under the ESA. In 2023, the USFWS announced that reclassifying the Florida manatee as endangered may be warranted, and a status review is currently ongoing. The manatee is a warm-water species that is restricted to water temperatures above about 20 degrees Celsius (68 degrees Fahrenheit). Manatees may be found in a variety of freshwater, estuarine, and marine habitats. The species occurs in inland and coastal waters of peninsular Florida and southeastern Georgia during the winter but, in warm months, distribution expands considerably. Manatees feed primarily on seagrass and other marine and freshwater vegetation, including benthic, floating, emergent, and bank vegetation.

Eastern black rail. The eastern black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis jamaicensis*) is listed as threatened under the ESA. The eastern black rail is a secretive bird species that usually occurs in dense wetland vegetation. Individuals may use a variety of salt, brackish, and freshwater marsh habitats that can be tidally or nontidally influenced. Eastern black rails fly very little; if disturbed, they typically run along the ground through the dense vegetation. The eastern black rail has been documented on Tyndall AFB (DAF, 2023a), but occurrence in the ROI specifically is unknown.

Eastern indigo snake. The eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon couperi*) is listed as threatened under the ESA. This species frequently utilizes the burrows of other species such as the gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*) for overwintering. The snake often occurs in flatwoods, hammocks, stream bottoms, riparian thickets, and elevated areas with well-drained, sandy soils. The indigo snake could potentially occur in many areas of the base because it uses such a wide variety of habitats. However, this species is extremely uncommon and there have been no sightings on Tyndall AFB.

Southern hog-nosed snake. The southern hog-nosed snake (*Heterodon simus*) was proposed for listing as threatened under the ESA in 2025. This snake is found in sandhills, dry hammocks, pine flatwoods, sand pine-rosemary scrub, and coastal dune habitats, as well as urban areas and farmland where sandy soil is present. Southern hog-nosed snakes spend much of their time in

underground burrows. This species may potentially occur on Tyndall AFB (DOD LRMP, 2019; Jordan, 1998).

Alligator snapping turtle. The alligator snapping turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*) was proposed for listing as threatened under the ESA in 2021. This large turtle occurs on the bottom of various types of waterways, including streams, lakes, swamps, and brackish areas, that often contain tree root masses and stumps. Primary threats to the species are capture (intentional and accidental) and habitat alteration (e.g., erosion/siltation and pollution of waterways). Although there is potential for occurrence, alligator snapping turtles have not been documented on Tyndall AFB (DAF, 2022a).

Gopher tortoise. The state-designated threatened gopher tortoise is found primarily within sandhills and open grassland habitats, where it excavates a burrow for shelter. The primary features of good tortoise habitat are sandy soils, open canopy with plenty of sunlight, and abundant food plants. Gopher tortoise burrows are important habitat for many other species, including the federally listed eastern indigo snake. In 2022, the USFWS determined that the eastern distinct population segment of the species (which includes tortoises on Tyndall AFB property) is not warranted for listing under the ESA. All DoW entities, including the DAF, signed a Candidate Conservation Agreement with the USFWS in 2008 (updated in 2012). This agreement defines what each agency will voluntarily do to conserve the gopher tortoise and its habitat. Gopher tortoises occur on Tyndall AFB but have not been documented in the ROI.

Monarch butterfly. The monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) was proposed for listing as threatened under the ESA in 2024. The eastern North America population migrates annually between Canada and overwintering sites in central Mexico, although there is a small year-round population in southern Florida. Tyndall AFB lies along the route for monarchs migrating to Mexico or the southern part of the state. Occurrence in the ROI extends from about March to November. Adults feed on a variety of blooming nectar resources. Eggs are deposited on milkweed species.

Gulf sturgeon. The Gulf sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrhynchus desotoi*) is listed as threatened under the ESA. This sturgeon occurs in fresh water during warm months, when spawning occurs, and migrates into estuarine and marine environments in the fall to forage and overwinter. Migration out of the rivers occurs in October and November, while movement into the river systems occurs from March to May. Sturgeon from multiple river systems have been detected overwintering in marine nearshore waters off Tyndall AFB (DAF, 2022a), but occurrence in the bayous of East Bay near the ROI is unknown.

Godfrey's butterwort. Godfrey's butterwort (*Pinguicula ionantha*) is a carnivorous plant species endemic to the Florida panhandle and is listed as threatened under the ESA. Typical habitat includes open, acidic soils of seepage bogs on gentle slopes; deep quagmire bogs; ditches; and depressions in grassy pine flatwoods and grassy savannas, often occurring in shallow standing water. The species has been documented at several sites on Tyndall AFB.

Telephus spurge. Telephus spurge (*Euphorbia telephioides*) is a plant species endemic to coastal areas of the Florida panhandle and is listed as threatened under the ESA. This species occurs in a variety of habitats ranging from xeric scrub to mesic pine flatwoods, along disturbed sandy roads, and less commonly in wetlands with seepage slope species. Within pine flatwoods or upland pine

communities, this plant is associated with a longleaf pine and/or slash pine overstory and an herbaceous understory. The species has been documented in a few locations on Tyndall AFB.

White birds-in-a-nest. White birds-in-a-nest (*Macbridea alba*) is a plant species endemic to the Florida panhandle, primarily near the mouth of the Apalachicola River, and is listed as threatened under the ESA. The species occurs in coastal pinelands, seeps, bogs, and wet savannas and may also occur in mesic flatwoods with longleaf pine and oaks. White birds-in-a-nest has not been documented on Tyndall AFB.

Bald eagle. Bald eagles, which are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, use forested habitats isolated from human disturbance for nesting and expanses of fresh or saltwater for foraging. Bald eagles exhibit a strong affinity for a site once a nest has been established. The nesting period in the southeast United States extends from October 1 to May 15, with most nests being completed by November. Bald eagles are observed regularly on Tyndall AFB during winter months. Based on the most recent Audubon Florida Eagle Watch data (Audubon, 2025), the closest bald eagle nests are about 1,100 meters northwest of the Alternative 1 site and 1,500 meters east of the Alternative 2 site.

3.4.1.4.1 Migratory Birds

Migratory birds, which are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), are generally defined as any species or family of birds that lives, reproduces, or migrates within or across international borders. In the regulatory context of the MBTA, a migratory bird belongs to a family or group of species for which the United States has signed treaties with certain other nations. Migratory birds include most wild birds in the United States. The USFWS IPaC tool lists 15 migratory bird species that may potentially occur in the ROI.

3.4.1.4.2 Invasive Species

An invasive species may be defined as a species that is not native to an ecosystem and the introduction of which may cause environmental or economic damage or harm to human health. Invasive species may outcompete and displace native species, degrade habitats, and alter natural processes such as fire or wetlands hydrology. The primary invasive plant species of concern on Tyndall AFB are cogon grass (*Imperata cylindrica*), Japanese climbing fern (*Lygodium japonicum*), and Chinese tallow (*Triadica sebifera*) (DAF, 2022a). Tyndall Natural Resources personnel conduct invasive species monitoring and control efforts.

3.4.2 Environmental Consequences

Potential effects on biological resources, including plants, animals, and their habitats, would depend on factors such as sensitivity to a particular activity, proximity to potential stressors, and duration of exposure to stressors. This analysis provides an assessment of potential direct, indirect, temporary, and permanent effects to biological resources that could result from the Proposed Action.

The following criteria were evaluated when determining the significance of an effect on biological resources that could result from implementation of the Proposed Action:

- The direct effect or taking of a protected species, including habitat alteration
- The importance (legal, commercial, ecological, or scientific) of the resource
- The relative sensitivity of biological resources
- The quantity or percentage of biological resources relative to overall abundance
- The expected duration of potential effects

3.4.2.1 Alternative 1

3.4.2.1.1 Vegetation and Wildlife

Ground disturbance, including grading, tree stump and root removal, and graveling, would occur for the LSA and Support Depot. The placement of fill would occur on the proposed Support Depot site. Approximately 13 total acres would be disturbed for placement of the LSA and Support Depot infrastructure, in addition to a relatively small amount of disturbance associated with trenching for utilities connections. While vegetation at trenched areas would recover, nearly all vegetation would be removed long-term from the LSA and Support Depot sites. However, these areas are mostly disturbed from previous development and, except for a small number of trees near the LSA perimeter and within the Support Depot site, vegetation is limited to maintained grasses and forbs. Such areas have limited wildlife habitat value.

Relocation of existing training area activities to Taxiway A would result in long-term loss of approximately 6 acres of trees, shrubs, grasses, and forbs. Habitat loss would decrease food, shelter, and nesting/burrowing sites available to wildlife and could cause displacement of some individuals. However, the area of habitat affected would be relatively small, representing about 3.7 percent of all natural areas on the base (including surface water areas). In addition, much larger areas of similar vegetation and habitats occur adjacent to the base, including multiple conservation areas. For example, about 633,000 acres of habitat are available in the nearby Apalachicola National Forest.

Construction and land-clearing activities could potentially result in physical effects on individual animals (e.g., strikes by vehicles or construction equipment). Training activities would result in long-term increased vehicle operations and the associated potential for vehicle strikes. It is unlikely that substantial numbers of animals would be affected because personnel would be able to see and avoid most wildlife, and mobile animals would generally detect activities and avoid vehicles and equipment or leave the immediate vicinity. Small and slow-moving species such as insects, amphibians, and reptiles, as well as nests and young, are more susceptible to strikes. Most species that would be expected in the affected areas are regionally common and the loss of a small number of individuals would not cause population effects.

Disturbance from noise and increased human presence and activity may cause wildlife in nearby habitats to experience stress or react behaviorally (e.g., fleeing or avoiding the affected area). Construction noise would affect a relatively small area, and vegetation in surrounding areas would provide a noise and visual buffer for wildlife outside the immediate vicinity. Effects would be temporary and intermittent, and most affected animals would be able to return to the area and resume normal behaviors soon after construction activities were completed.

There would be a long-term increase in noise and human activity associated with training, including detonations on the mock runway. As with construction noise, wildlife exposed to training

noise and disturbance could experience stress or react behaviorally (e.g., fleeing the area). Affected wildlife could return to the area between training events or could be displaced long-term. Displaced individuals could potentially use similar habitat nearby. The types of noise effects associated with most detonations (2.5 pounds NEW) would generally be the same as those caused by other types of training (e.g., startle and behavioral reactions). Noise caused by detonations using 42.5-pound NEW charges would be greater, extending farther than that caused by smaller detonations, and would likely affect more individual animals. Animals occurring near such a detonation could experience hearing damage or other injuries. However, the number of animals affected by training activities would not be expected to cause detectable effects on wildlife at the population level. In addition, existing training activities currently use explosives up to 84 pounds NEW. Disturbance caused by training setup could cause mobile animals to leave the immediate vicinity, decreasing the potential for exposure to blast effects and the highest noise levels. Although detonations using 42.5-pound NEW charges could occur during training activities, most detonations would use the smaller 2.5-pound NEW charges. Some animals could habituate to the increased disturbance associated with most training activities over time. Human activity occurs on or near the proposed sites currently, including monthly detonations on the runway and at the Sky X area (approximately 2 miles southeast of the proposed CSTR location). The Tyndall AFB-Bay County Compatible Use Plan (Bay County, 2021) depicts relatively high notional noise levels in the Silver Flag area resulting from detonations and weapons firing at the Sky X area. The total area affected by activities other than detonations would be small relative to similar habitat available in the area.

Based on the discussion above, effects on vegetation and general wildlife would not be significant.

3.4.2.1.2 Sensitive Habitats

Direct effects on wetland habitats would not be expected because site layouts would be designed so that construction and ground-disturbing activities would not occur within delineated wetland boundaries. Sediment runoff from nearby construction activities and the addition of new impervious surfaces, which increase stormwater runoff, could affect wetland habitats adjacent to the proposed CSTR site. However, site designs would include construction best management practices (BMPs) (e.g., use of silt fences and revegetation of disturbed areas) and stormwater drainage and management features. Therefore, direct and indirect effects on wetlands in the context of loss or degradation of wildlife habitat would not be significant.

3.4.2.1.3 Special Status Species

Potential effects on special status species would be similar to those discussed above for general wildlife, including habitat loss, physical strikes, noise, and other disturbance. ESA Section 7 consultation with the USFWS (Vero Beach, Florida office) is ongoing. Relevant information from the consultation has been incorporated into the Final EA.

Florida manatee and Gulf sturgeon. There would be no potential for direct strikes or underwater noise disturbance on Florida manatees or Gulf sturgeon because construction and training activities would not occur in fresh water or estuarine habitats. Manatees at the surface could detect noise generated by construction and training activities, but physiological and behavioral responses would not be expected because noise levels would be relatively low. Noise from detonations would be less than that of existing explosive training, and the probability of a manatee surfacing near the

runway at the same time a detonation occurred would be low. Trees and other vegetation around the mock runway would attenuate noise from large detonations that would reach the water surface. The potential habitat effects from sediments and pollutants would be negligible due to the construction and stormwater management measures that would be implemented. The Proposed Action would have no effect on the Florida manatee or Gulf sturgeon.

Tricolored bat. Land clearing at the relocated training area at Taxiway A would represent potential long-term forest habitat loss for the tricolored bat. While any habitat loss could adversely affect individuals, the area affected would be small (maximum of about 6 acres) in the context of similar habitat available in nearby areas. The potential for direct effects during construction or training activities would be low. To protect flightless young, confirmed roosting trees would not be removed during the maternity season (April 16 to August 14). Vehicle strikes would be very unlikely due to the ability of bats in flight to detect and avoid objects. Construction noise could cause tricolored bats in nearby forest and wetland areas to experience stress or exhibit behavioral reactions, but substantial effects would not be expected overall. Temporary construction noise would occur during the day and would not affect foraging. Training activities could cause noise effects on individuals occurring nearby, as well as displacement from disturbed areas. However, substantial effects would not be expected for most activities because noise levels would be relatively low during most training activities and would decrease with distance from the source. Training would generally be expected to occur during the day and would not affect foraging. Detonations on the runway would generate noise that could affect bats at a greater distance, but the number of detonations would be relatively low and would occur in the context of ongoing training detonations on the Silver Flag runway and at the Sky X area (approximately 2 miles southeast of the proposed CSTR location) under existing conditions. The potential for hearing damage or other injuries would likely be limited to bats roosting near the runway at the time a detonation using a 42.5-pound NEW charge occurred. Disturbance caused by setup activities could cause individuals located near the runway to leave the immediate vicinity, decreasing the potential for exposure to the highest noise levels. Individuals could potentially habituate to noise from most sources. Training at the mock runway under existing conditions includes detonations using up to 84 pounds NEW, which is substantially higher than that of the Proposed Action. Detectable population-level effects would not be expected. The Proposed Action would not jeopardize the continued existence of the tricolored bat.

Eastern black rail. The eastern black rail typically occurs in marsh habitats with dense vegetation cover. This habitat type does not appear to occur in the Silver Flag area specifically but could potentially be present in association with adjacent wetlands. Although eastern black rail surveys have not been conducted in the ROI, the species has been observed on base and is known to occupy higher elevation wetlands with shrubby vegetation (DAF, 2023a). Noise and other disturbance associated with construction and most training activities could cause minor, short-term annoyance to any black rails present. Affected individuals would likely be able to use other habitat nearby. Detonation noise would be louder than that generated during other types of activities and would affect a larger area. Birds occurring near a detonation using a 42.5-pound NEW charge would likely experience more pronounced stress and behavioral reactions and could be injured. The number of detonations would be relatively low overall and would occur in the context of impulsive noise-producing activities under existing conditions, including intermittent detonations on the

Silver Flag runway and at the Sky X area (approximately 2 miles southeast of the proposed CSTR location). Training at the mock runway under existing conditions includes detonations using higher NEW than that proposed in association with the CSTR. The Proposed Action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the eastern black rail.

Eastern indigo snake and southern hog-nosed snake. Land clearing would decrease habitat available to the eastern indigo snake and southern hog-nosed snake, primarily at the existing training area relocation site at Taxiway A. The loss would be small compared to other available habitat in the area. Snakes could potentially be struck by vehicles during land-clearing and training activities, but the potential would be low due to the apparently low occurrence of indigo snakes on Tyndall and the large portion of time that hog-nosed snakes spend underground. Construction equipment could strike individuals located in burrows or other refuges. Any gopher tortoise burrows present would be avoided, which would decrease the potential for effects on indigo snakes and possibly hog-nosed snakes (see discussion below), and construction and training personnel would be directed to avoid snakes. Noise and other disturbance generated during construction and training activities could startle or disturb nearby snakes, but the effects would be short-term and intermittent. Snakes occurring near detonations using 42.5-pound NEW charges could experience more pronounced stress and behavioral reactions and could be injured. Disturbance from training setup activities could cause snakes to leave the immediate vicinity, decreasing the potential for exposure to blast effects and the highest noise levels. In addition, detonations using 42.5-pound NEW charges would likely occur infrequently and would have lower NEW than the NEW associated with existing training activities. The Proposed Action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the eastern indigo snake and is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the southern hog-nosed snake.

Alligator snapping turtles. There would be no potential for direct strikes or underwater noise disturbance on alligator snapping turtles. Individuals located in wetlands near training activities, and which emerge from of the water to deposit eggs or bask, could detect and possibly react behaviorally to the low-frequency component of noise. The effects would be infrequent because of the high percentage of time that these turtles are submerged. Detonations on the mock runway, which would generate the highest noise levels, would be relatively infrequent. There would be very low potential for nesting turtles to be affected. Alligator snapping turtles lay one clutch of eggs per year or every other year (FWC, 2025), usually at night, and the probability of activities that generate detectable noise and substrate vibration occurring during the relatively brief (hours long) nesting period would be extremely low. The Proposed Action would not likely jeopardize the continued existence of the alligator snapping turtle.

Monarch butterfly. Land clearing and disturbance could potentially remove milkweed and other nectar sources that are used by the monarch butterfly, although occurrence of such plants in the ROI is likely low. The number of plants affected would be small in the context of other available resources. Direct strikes by construction equipment would be unlikely. Vehicle strikes associated with construction and training activities would be possible, but the number of individuals potentially affected would be very low in the context of population numbers. In the proposed ESA listing notice, vehicle mortality was identified as a factor that is not considered a key population driver for the species, and the proposed 4(d) rule would provide a take exemption for vehicle strike mortality. Noise from construction and training activities would not be expected to substantially

affect monarch butterflies. In general, adult butterflies have poor hearing (Monarch Joint Venture, 2025; Journey North, 2013). In one study, monarch butterfly caterpillars responded to low-frequency sounds (Taylor & Yack, 2019). The reactions stopped when caterpillars were exposed to repeated sounds, suggesting potential habituation. Based on this information, caterpillars could presumably detect and react behaviorally to the low-frequency component of noise generated by loud construction equipment and detonations. Reactions could decrease with multiple exposures. Adults could theoretically detect and respond to sounds. The frequency and magnitude of reactions would not cause population-level effects. The Proposed Action would not jeopardize the continued existence of the monarch butterfly.

ESA-listed plant species. ESA-listed plant species could potentially occur in the ROI, but their presence is either unknown or (for white birds-in-a-nest) unlikely. Land-clearing and land-disturbing activities could damage or destroy any plants present. Tyndall Natural Resources personnel would conduct surveys for these plants prior to construction activities. If any plants were found, personnel would implement appropriate management actions, which could include avoidance of the species or transplanting them to donor sites with suitable habitat (to include subsequent monitoring). The Proposed Action may affect, but it not likely to adversely affect, Godfrey's butterwort, telephus spurge, and white birds-in-a-nest.

Gopher tortoise. Land clearing would potentially reduce gopher tortoise habitat but the affected area would be small relative to other available habitat areas. Due to the potential for direct strikes and burrow collapse, Tyndall Natural Resources personnel would survey affected areas prior to construction activities. Any gopher tortoise burrows present would be marked for avoidance, as described in the Tyndall AFB INRMP, and individual tortoises and burrows would be relocated if necessary. Noise and general disturbance associated with construction and training activities could cause stress and behavioral reactions (e.g., fleeing or avoiding an affected area) in nearby tortoises. Most affected individuals would likely resume normal activities soon after activities were completed, and some might habituate to noise and disturbance over time. Reptiles generally exhibit less pronounced reactions to noise than some other types of animals. Noise generated by detonations on the mock runway could affect individuals at greater distances than other activities. Tortoises occurring near detonations using 42.5-pound NEW charges could experience pronounced stress and behavioral reactions and could be injured. Disturbance from training setup activities could cause tortoises to leave the immediate vicinity, decreasing the potential for exposure to blast effects and the highest noise levels. Detonations using 42.5-pound NEW charges would occur infrequently and would have lower NEW than the NEW associated with existing training activities. Effects on the gopher tortoise would not be significant.

Migratory birds. Potential effects on migratory birds would be similar to those described for wildlife in general. Land clearing would reduce available habitat, but the change would not be expected to affect overall bird populations due to the availability of habitat in other nearby areas. Direct strikes by construction equipment and vehicles would be unlikely. Noise effects from construction and most training activities could cause temporary disturbance or displacement of a relatively small number of birds. Detonations on the mock runway would affect a larger area and associated number of birds but would not be expected to affect overall population numbers. Nesting bald eagles would not likely be disturbed by construction activities because the nearest construction location would be greater than the recommended avoidance distance of 660 feet for

construction activities, as identified in the USFWS *National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines* (USFWS, 2007). In addition, there would be a vegetated visual buffer between activities and bald eagle nests. Detonations on the mock runway would more likely be detected than other training activities. USFWS guidelines recommend avoiding blasting and other activities that generate loud, intermittent noise within 0.5 mile of active bald eagle nests unless tolerance to the activity has been demonstrated previously. A very small portion of the northern end of the mock runway is located within 0.5 mile of the nearest known eagle nest. Eagles are exposed to detonation noise intermittently under existing conditions, including detonations on the mock runway using up to 84-pound NEW charges and activities at the Sky X area, and continue to nest in the vicinity. Continued nesting indicates that eagles are tolerant of detonation noise in the ROI. Effects on migratory birds, including bald eagles, would not be significant.

3.4.2.1.4 Invasive Species

Ground disturbance that would occur during land-clearing and construction activities has the potential to introduce and spread invasive plants in the ROI. Grading and grubbing may provide conditions suitable for the establishment of invasive species, and fill materials may contain invasive species. During construction, all vehicles and equipment would be inspected and cleaned of any dirt, debris, seeds, and visible plant material prior to being brought onto and before leaving the project area. All activities would be subject to requirements and management practices provided in the Tyndall AFB Nuisance and Invasive Species Component Plan. Implementation of these requirements would substantially reduce the potential for adverse effects from invasive species, and effects would not be significant.

3.4.2.1.5 Measures to Minimize Effects

The following general measures would minimize effects on biological resources:

- Implement all applicable procedures identified in the Tyndall AFB Nuisance and Invasive Species Component Plan to minimize the potential for effects from invasive species. During construction, thoroughly inspect and clean all vehicles and equipment prior to being brought onto and before leaving the project area.
- Only conduct tree removal outside of the maternity season (April 16 to August 14).
- Before any ground disturbance, survey the affected area for gopher tortoises, gopher tortoise burrows, and ESA-listed plants (Godfrey's butterwort, telephus spurge, and white birds-in-a-nest). Mark any burrows and (if feasible) protected plants for avoidance, as described in the Tyndall AFB INRMP, and relocate tortoises, other burrow occupants, and ESA-listed plants as necessary.
- Direct construction and training personnel to avoid contact with wildlife in general and particularly gopher tortoises, eastern indigo snakes, and tortoise burrows.

3.4.2.2 Alternative 2

Under Alternative 2, the proposed CSTR site would be the same as described for Alternative 1, but the existing training area would be relocated to the combined Tactical Courts 1 and 2. The only difference in construction and operational effects is that relocation of the existing training area would result in less forest habitat removal (potentially about 3 acres under Alternative 2 versus up to about 5 acres under Alternative 1, although these areas are conceptual at this time), use of more

currently disturbed/maintained area, and more potential for effects on wildlife occurring in wetland habitats versus forest habitats. The total area affected would be about the same. The nearest bald eagle nest is about 0.94 mile east of the combined Tactical Courts area. This distance is greater than the recommended avoidance distance of 660 feet for construction activities (USFWS, 2007), and there would be a vegetated visual buffer between activities and bald eagle nests. As discussed for Alternative 1, nesting bald eagles have demonstrated tolerance for detonation noise in the ROI. Effects on biological resources associated with Alternative 2 would not differ meaningfully from those described for Alternative 1 and, therefore, would not be significant.

3.4.2.3 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, the proposed CSTR site at the Tyndall AFB Silver Flag area would not be constructed. Baseline conditions would remain the same and no significant effects to biological resources would occur with implementation of the No Action Alternative.

3.4.2.4 Reasonably Foreseeable Effects

Ongoing and future testing and training missions, construction projects, and maintenance activities could affect the types of habitats and species addressed in this EA. Multiple small, incremental effects can become significant if they reach some threshold of significance. For example, multiple actions that individually cause a small amount of habitat removal or fragmentation could eventually result in a significant effect to wide-ranging species. Such effects could be magnified by similar activities conducted outside the installation.

Wildlife strikes may occur from vehicles and equipment, trampling, and wildfires, but population-level effects would not be expected. Multiple activities on Tyndall AFB may contribute to reasonably foreseeable habitat degradation or fragmentation on relatively small and large scales. Construction projects may result in development of some natural habitats. Accumulated noise levels are not expected to change appreciably for any areas with protected species, and reasonably foreseeable noise effects are not anticipated. Invasive plant species could be introduced or spread because of ground-disturbing activities, but management practices are expected to reduce the potential for reasonably foreseeable effects. Sensitive biological resources occurring on Tyndall AFB are actively managed. In addition, Tyndall AFB regularly conducts consultations with the USFWS regarding effects to protected species and habitats, and all resulting required terms and conditions are implemented.

Based on the discussion above, no significant reasonably foreseeable effects on biological resources would be anticipated.

3.4.2.5 Mitigation

In the absence of any significant effects on biological resources, no mitigation measures have been identified.

3.5 WATER RESOURCES

Water resources include watershed management, surface waters, stormwater management, floodplains, wetlands, and groundwater, the features and functions of which are valued by or beneficial to humans (e.g., water quality, recreation, and flood protection).

The ROI for water resources includes the surface and subsurface environments at, adjacent to, and downstream of the Proposed Action.

3.5.1 Affected Environment

3.5.1.1 Watershed Management

The proposed CSTR site is located in the St. Andrew Bay Watershed, which is managed by the Northwest Florida Water Management District.

3.5.1.2 Surface Water and Stormwater Management

Annual precipitation averages 58.7 inches. Winter months generally see the heaviest rainfall with averages of 5 inches a month, but precipitation can vary significantly. Major surface water features in the vicinity of the ROI include St. Andrew Sound and East Bay, as well as Baker Bayou located immediately south of the ROI. The East Bay (East Segment) is the closest Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 303(d) impaired waters receiving runoff from the ROI and is listed as impaired due to bacteria (in shellfish) and nutrients (total nitrogen) (FDEP, 2024). In addition, two permitted stormwater retention ponds are located in the ROI. These stormwater ponds are part of the Silver Flag Regional Stormwater System.

3.5.1.3 Floodplains and Wetlands

Wetlands are common throughout Tyndall AFB, and NWI maps of the ROI identifies emergent, scrub-shrub, and forested wetlands in the vicinity of the ROI (see Figure 3-2) (USFWS, 2026).

Much of the shoreline area of Tyndall AFB is within the 100-year floodplain. The base is vulnerable to flooding from tropical storms and hurricanes. Figure 3-2 shows the locations of floodplains in the vicinity of the ROI. Construction projects must comply with EO 11988, *Floodplain Management*, and with the AFCEC Severe Weather/Climate Hazard Screening and Risk Assessment Playbook. A key element of this compliance includes the Tyndall AFB Design Flood Elevation guidance for infrastructure and facilities. Projects along the East Bay side must have a design flood elevation of 14 feet above mean sea level.

3.5.1.4 Groundwater

Tyndall AFB is within the Apalachicola Embayment Groundwater Region. The three aquifers located in the ROI include the surficial, intermediate, and Floridan aquifer. The surficial aquifer is made of highly transmissive, well-sorted, fine- to medium-grained sands, which extend as deep as 110 feet. Groundwater occurs under confined table conditions at depths of 1 to 10 feet below land surface. The water table is relatively flat at Tyndall AFB but fluctuates up to 5 feet in response to seasonal rainfall and tidal cycles. Regionally, surficial aquifer groundwater flows south toward the Gulf of America; however, locally shallow groundwater flows toward nearby bayous, streams, and ditches (ATSDR, 2005).

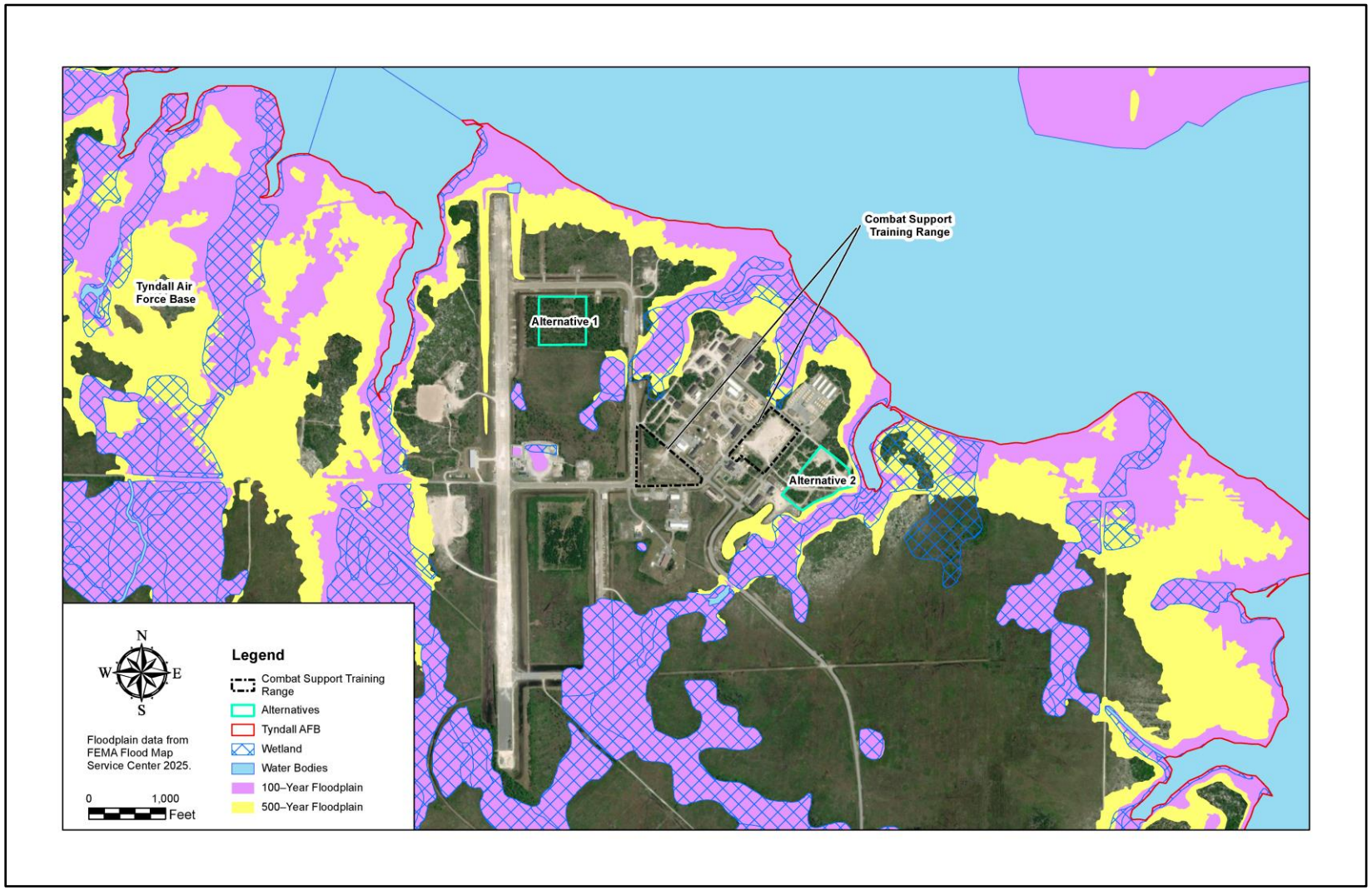


Figure 3-2. Floodplains and Wetlands near the Proposed CSTR

The intermediate aquifer system is approximately 200 feet thick and is highly effective as a confining unit. Limiting the amount of recharge to the Floridan aquifer system, the intermediate aquifer is relatively stagnant, which results in the presence of highly mineralized water in the basal portion of the aquifer (ATSDR, 2005).

The Floridan aquifer consists of limestone and dolomite and supplies water used for domestic, urban, and agricultural purposes in the state. At Tyndall AFB, the Floridan aquifer typically occurs at approximately 250 to 350 feet below land surface and is approximately 800 to 1,600 feet thick (USGS, 1990). Most of the potable water used by the base is supplied by the Bay County Utility Services Department, which uses Deer Point Lake as its water supply source (DAF, 2022a).

3.5.1.5 Coastal Zone Management

The FDEP is the lead agency for Florida's federally approved Coastal Zone Management Program. The Coastal Zone Management Act requires all federal agency activities that affect any land or water use or natural resource of the coastal zone be conducted in a manner consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with the enforceable policies of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration-approved state management program. This includes protecting natural resources and managing coastal development. The entire state of Florida is located within the coastal zone but, for planning and coordinating purposes and for completing federal consistency reviews, only the geographical area encompassed by the 35 Florida coastal counties and the adjoining territorial sea is utilized. The ROI is located in a coastal county and requires a consistency review (see Appendix D, *Florida Coastal Management Program Consistency Review*).

3.5.2 Environmental Consequences

A significant effect to water resources within the ROI would include the following:

- Adverse effects to water quality of the region
- Exceedance of safe annual yield of water supply sources/overdrafts of groundwater basins
- Violation of established laws or regulations adopted to protect sensitive water resources

3.5.2.1 Alternative 1

3.5.2.1.1 Surface Water and Stormwater Management

New construction, paving, and grading would potentially result in higher ephemeral stream rates of flow, causing downstream erosion and sedimentation. During construction, crews would employ BMPs for stormwater management, such as minimizing the disturbed area, installing silt fencing, and constructing new stormwater ponds to reduce these effects. As is discussed in Section 3.9, *Hazardous Materials and Wastes*, waste and contaminated media would be managed in accordance with applicable environmental compliance regulations, Tyndall AFB environmental management plans, and the guidelines established for all construction activities near or within ERP Site TU539P-Sub. Operations would follow Tyndall AFB Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan measures and other requirements. Implementation of Alternative 1 would result in short-term minor adverse effects to surface waters; however, the effects would not be significant.

In compliance with the CWA and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), a Construction General Permit and a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) would be required prior to construction. In addition, a Notice of Intent would be required, as more than 5 acres of land would be disturbed.

Because the project construction has a footprint greater than 5,000 square feet, it must comply with the Energy Independence and Security Act's low impact development requirement to maintain or restore, to the maximum extent technically feasible, the predevelopment hydrology of the property with regard to the temperature, rate, volume, and duration of flow. Methods to comply include utilization of bioretention cells, swales, permeable/porous pavement, etc. Operations at the CSTR would not be expected to affect surface waters because they would be conducted on improved surfaces that are compliant with Energy Independence and Security Act low impact development requirements. Chemical constituents of the explosives used at the mock runway would be consumed in the explosion and would not pose a contamination risk for area waters. CSTR operations would result in long-term adverse effects to surface waters; however, the effects would not be significant.

3.5.2.1.2 Floodplains and Wetlands

Because of the BMPs detailed in the above section and the distance to these features, effects to the floodplain and associated depressional wetlands, which are downstream of the CSTR site, would not be expected.

No 100-year or 500-year floodplains occur within the project boundaries, so there would be no direct effects on floodplains. No indirect effects on floodplains are anticipated because off-site effects from stormwater runoff would be minimized through the design of drainage systems to properly convey and store stormwater flows and through compliance with local floodplain management policies and regulations, which promote designs to minimize flood effects.

3.5.2.1.3 Groundwater

Groundwater within the surficial aquifer may be encountered during construction activities that involve excavation. The groundwater has known PFAS contamination; therefore, dewatering, if required, would be handled according to guidelines established for ERP Site TU539P-Sub to protect health and safety (see also Section 3.9, *Hazardous Materials and Wastes*). Proposed construction activities would not involve withdrawals or discharges to groundwater.

Effects on water resources would be minimized in accordance with permit requirements and the following management actions:

- Acquire necessary water resource permits for the Proposed Action, including but not limited to a NPDES permit, Environmental Resource Permits for stormwater, and a CWA Section 401 water quality certification.
- Conduct activities in accordance with the procedures pertaining to ERP Site TU539P-Sub.
- Implement measures to reduce or eliminate the potential for eroded soils and contaminants from entering surface water bodies and groundwater (i.e., vegetated buffers, silt fencing).
- Conduct activities in accordance with the project spill prevention plan, and clean up any fuel or oil spills per standard DAF procedures.

- Revegetate exposed soils as quickly as possible after the completion of work.

In summary, Alternative 1 would not have direct effects on surface waters, wetlands, or floodplains. Furthermore, with implementation of the procedures identified pertaining to ERP Site TU539P-Sub, potential effects on groundwater resources would be minor. During design and permitting, efforts would be made to minimize indirect effects on wetlands and surface waters to the greatest extent possible, and necessary permits would be obtained. Implementation of management actions and the requirements resulting from permits would minimize effects associated with stormwater runoff. Therefore, implementation of Alternative 1 would not result in significant effects to water resources.

3.5.2.2 Alternative 2

With the exception of the relocation of the existing training area, proposed construction and operations for Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1, resulting in the same effects described for Alternative 1. There are no surface waters, wetlands, or floodplains in the proposed location of the training area. Therefore, Alternative 2 would not have direct effects on surface waters, wetlands, or floodplains. Additionally, with implementation of the procedures identified pertaining to ERP Site TU539P-Sub, potential effects on groundwater resources would be minor. During design and permitting, efforts would be made to minimize indirect effects on wetlands and surface waters to the greatest extent possible, and all necessary permits would be obtained. Implementation of management actions and the requirements resulting from permits would minimize effects associated with stormwater runoff. Therefore, implementation of Alternative 2 would not result in significant effects to water resources.

3.5.2.3 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, the CSTR would not be constructed. There would be no effects to water resources.

3.5.2.4 Reasonably Foreseeable Effects

Projects that are close to the Proposed Action in both time and distance are identified in Table 3-2. All of these projects have been evaluated under previous NEPA actions and determined to have no significant effects. These projects in combination with the Proposed Action would have no meaningful reasonably foreseeable effects to water resources.

3.5.2.5 Mitigation

Because effects would not be significant, mitigation measures are not proposed.

3.6 GEOLOGY AND SOIL RESOURCES

The geology and soils resource area generally consists of soils and underlying geological structures such as sedimentary rock formations that may extend hundreds of feet in depth. The Proposed Action would have no effect on the overall geology of the ROI, including rock layers and large-scale surface topography. Therefore, the discussion of geology and soils is focused on soils in the project area, including the potential for erosion and associated effects. Disturbance of 1 acre

or more of total land area requires a Construction General Permit (i.e., stormwater construction permit) under the NPDES, as well as preparation of a SWPPP. Excavation and construction work in areas with potentially contaminated soil, including work within ERP sites, requires implementation of management guidelines or land use controls, as applicable. The ROI for soils includes the locations for the proposed CSTR site, as well as the potential locations for the relocation of the existing training area.

3.6.1 Affected Environment

Soils in the ROI consist primarily of the Hurricane sand series with lesser amounts of Leon sand, Kureb sand, and Resota fine sand (see Table 3-6). Contaminated soil in the project area occurs within ERP Site TU539P-Sub. Contamination studies for PFAS are ongoing (see Section 3.9, *Hazardous Materials and Wastes*). No prime farmland is located in the ROI (NRCS, 2026).

Table 3-6. Soil Series in the ROI

Soil Series	Description
Hurricane sand	Very deep, somewhat poorly drained, negligible runoff, 0–2 percent slope, not prone to ponding or flooding, very susceptible to wind erosion
Kureb sand	Very deep, excessively drained, negligible runoff, 0–5 percent slope, not prone to ponding or flooding, very susceptible to wind erosion
Leon sand	Very deep, poorly drained, rapid permeability and high-surface runoff, 0–2 percent slope, not prone to ponding or flooding, very susceptible to wind erosion
Resota fine sand	Very deep, moderately well-drained, negligible runoff, 0–5 percent slope, not prone to ponding or flooding, very susceptible to wind erosion

Source: (NRCS, 2026)
ROI = region of influence

3.6.2 Environmental Consequences

Activities were evaluated in the context of soil erosion and contaminant transport that may potentially occur because of ground disturbance and the addition of impervious surfaces. Generally, erosion and the associated sediment and contaminant transport can cause ground instability and impact sensitive features such as wetlands and other aquatic areas.

3.6.2.1 Alternative 1

Potential effects of the Proposed Action include erosion and associated effects such as siltation and contaminant transport. Erosion caused by human activities may occur at rates much greater than erosion caused by natural conditions and may affect ecosystems. The susceptibility of soil to erosion depends on factors such as soil composition and texture, presence of vegetation, and the slope of the affected area.

Site preparation and construction activities could directly disturb up to 20 acres of soil. Erosion of exposed soil resulting from rain, wind, and stormwater runoff could affect off-site areas, including wetlands and surface waters. Sedimentation of such aquatic features could affect hydrology and ecosystem functions. The potential for erosion would be decreased by the overall moderate slope of the ROI as well as the permeability of the soils present. In addition, Tyndall AFB would obtain a stormwater construction permit from the FDEP prior to construction. As required by the permit,

the construction contractor would develop a SWPPP, which would identify erosion prevention and control measures that would be required during site preparation and construction activities.

The Proposed Action would result in the addition of approximately 6 acres of new impervious surfaces including pavements and buildings. Additional impervious surface generally increases the amount and velocity of stormwater runoff, increasing the erosion potential.

Stormwater runoff may also convey contaminants, such as oil leaked from vehicles onto the soil or into wetlands and surface waters. However, stormwater drainage and management features (e.g., site grading to direct runoff to a stormwater management system) would be included in the project design. Bioretention basins are planned for the LSA and Support Depot.

Contaminated and potentially contaminated soil in the ROI would be managed according to ERP Site TU539P-Sub guidelines and a Memorandum of Understanding established between the DAF and FDEP. Soil that exceeds the FDEP's provisional soil cleanup target levels would not be transported off the base. Soil that does not meet DAF screening criteria would be managed in accordance with contract requirements and applicable laws and regulations. Refer to Section 3.9, *Hazardous Materials and Wastes*, for additional information on soil contaminants and associated management requirements.

In summary, based on the above discussion, there would be no significant effects on soil resources with implementation of Alternative 1.

3.6.2.2 Alternative 2

With the exception of the relocation of the existing training area, proposed construction and operations for Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1, resulting in the same effects described for Alternative 1. There are no unique soils encompassing Alternative 2, and potentially contaminated soils would be handled in the same manner as previously described. Therefore, implementation of Alternative 2 would not result in significant effects to soil resources.

3.6.2.3 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, the CSTR would not be constructed. There would be no effects to soil resources.

3.6.2.4 Reasonably Foreseeable Effects

Projects that are close to the Proposed Action in both time and distance are identified in Table 3-2. All of these projects have been evaluated under previous NEPA actions and determined to have no significant effects. These projects in combination with the Proposed Action would have no meaningful reasonably foreseeable effects to geology and soil resources.

3.6.2.5 Mitigation

Because effects would not be significant, mitigation measures are not proposed.

3.7 LAND USE

Land use describes the way the natural landscape has been modified or managed to provide for human needs. In developed and urbanized areas, land uses typically include residential, commercial, industrial, utilities and transportation, recreation, open space, and mixes of these basic types. Other uses such as mining, extractive activities, agriculture, forestry, and specially protected areas (such as larger monuments, parks, and preserves) are usually found on the fringes or outside of urbanized areas. Plans and policies guide how land resources are allocated and managed to best serve multiple needs and interests. Ordinances and regulations define specific limitations on uses. Tyndall AFB works with county and municipal offices to define and ensure compatible land uses and activities in the surrounding community to sustain the military mission (Bay County, 2021).

The ROI for the land use analyses in this EA includes the land within and surrounding the proposed CSTR site.

3.7.1 Affected Environment

The ROI for land use is within the Silver Flag area and the Tyndall East Planning District. The Silver Flag area and its general vicinity, including the mock runway, are classified as Training land use. Much of the undeveloped land that surrounds Silver Flag is classified as Open Space land use. Other land uses within the surrounding area include Industrial (Sky X Explosives Test Area and vicinity) and Airfield (drone runway and drone recovery area).

ERP Site TU539P-Sub is within the ROI, and there are ongoing contamination studies for PFAS chemicals. Bay County classifies all of Tyndall AFB as Public/Institutional land use. Off-base, approximately 1 mile northeast of the Silver Flag area, is mostly Conservation Habitat with some Single/Multi-family Residential and Agriculture land use (Bay County, 2026).

3.7.2 Environmental Consequences

Potential effects regarding land use focus on incompatibilities that either already exist in the ROI or effects associated with construction. A significant incompatibility would be one that threatens the sustainability of the military mission or puts the public at risk. For this action, land use compatibility was a primary factor in the selection of the proposed CSTR site and the locations for the relocation of the existing training area.

3.7.2.1 Alternative 1

Alternative 1 is located within an area of compatible land use on base and construction would not result in changes to the surrounding off-base community land use. The nearest residential areas are more than 1 mile away from the CSTR site, which provides a sufficient distance to prevent incompatible land use. The primary land use constraint is that construction activities at the Silver Flag location have the potential to disturb ERP Site TU539P-Sub, resulting in further contamination and affecting the ability of the DAF to use the site. Tyndall AFB has identified detailed guidelines governing all work within TU539P-Sub, including testing all excavated soils, which would then be characterized, stored, handled, transported, and disposed of according to hazardous waste laws and regulations. Detailed procedures are discussed in Section 3.9, *Hazardous Materials and Wastes*.

Tyndall AFB coordinates existing and future land use planning with Bay County to ensure compatibility between both parties (Bay County, 2021). Therefore, implementation of Alternative 1 would not result in significant effects on land use.

3.7.2.2 Alternative 2

Under Alternative 2, the CSTR site would be developed the same as under Alternative 1, except the existing training area would be relocated to Tactical Courts 1 and 2. The same land use planning zones, approximate distance to residential structures, and soil contamination exist for Alternative 2 as described for Alternative 1. Therefore, implementation of Alternative 2 would not result in significant effects on land use.

3.7.2.3 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, the CSTR would not be constructed. There would be no effects to land use.

3.7.2.4 Reasonably Foreseeable Effects

Projects that are close to the Proposed Action in both time and distance are identified in Table 3-2. All of these projects have been evaluated under previous NEPA actions and determined to have no significant effects. These projects in combination with the Proposed Action would have no meaningful reasonably foreseeable effects to land resources.

3.7.2.5 Mitigation

Because effects would not be significant, mitigation measures are not proposed.

3.8 CULTURAL RESOURCES

3.8.1 Affected Environment

Section 106 of the NHPA of 1966, as amended (54 U.S.C. Section 300101 et seq.) requires, for any federal, federally assisted, or federally licensed undertaking, that the federal agency take into account the effect of that undertaking on any district, site, building, structure, or object that is listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) before the expenditure of any federal funds or the issuance of any federal license.

The Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for meeting Sections 106 and 110 of the NHPA of 1966 (as amended) are found in the current Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP). In addition, the following SOPs address other preservation laws implemented by the ICRMP (DAF, 2022b):

- SOP #4: Cultural Discoveries
- SOP #5: Native American Access
- SOP #8: Mission Conflict and Solutions
- SOP #18: Road and Utilities Repair and Maintenance

Cultural resources are a broad term encompassing sites, objects, or practices of archaeological, historical, cultural, and religious significance. Eligibility criteria (36 CFR 60.4) include association

with important events or people in our history, distinctive construction or artistic characteristics, and the ability to yield important information in prehistory or history. In practice, properties are generally not eligible for listing on the NRHP if they lack diagnostic artifacts, subsurface remains, or structural features. Those considered eligible (or potentially eligible) are treated as though they were listed on the NRHP, even when no formal nomination has been filed. The federal agency must also consider the effect of a proposed undertaking on Native Americans from a cultural and religious standpoint. Sacred sites may be identified by a tribe or an authoritative individual (EO 13007, *Indian Sacred Sites*). Special protections are afforded to human remains, funerary objects, and objects of cultural patrimony under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.). Whatever the nature of the cultural resource addressed by a particular statute or tradition, implementing procedures invariably include consultation requirements at various stages of a federal undertaking. Under the NHPA, all consulting parties are given opportunities to participate in the Section 106 process. Tyndall AFB consults with the following tribes: Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Poarch Band of Creek Indians, Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, Seminole Tribe of Florida, and Thlopthlocco Tribal Town.

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) of any federal undertaking must be evaluated. Evaluating an undertaking's impact on historic properties within the APE is called a Section 106 review and typically includes a cultural resource inventory. In this section, the APE for the project would be the surveyed area as reported in Appendix A, *Stakeholder and Tribal Correspondence*.

In the event of an unanticipated discovery (including human remains) during ground-disturbing activities, the SOPs outlined in the ICRMP would be followed; all work would cease until cleared by the Tyndall AFB Cultural Resources Manager (DAF, 2022b).

The background literature review determined that portions of the project area have been previously inventoried for cultural resources. Numerous cultural resources surveys have been conducted at Tyndall AFB. Cultural resources sites identified during surveys are recommended as either being eligible, potentially eligible, or ineligible for listing in the NRHP. The recommended eligibility status of an identified site is coordinated with the SHPO, which either concurs with the recommended eligibility status or makes a different eligibility status determination.

Several archaeological surveys have been conducted in the Silver Flag area in recent years (DAF, 2023a). These surveys have encompassed all of the CSTR site as presented in Table 3-7 (Florida Department of State, 2025).

Table 3-7. Archaeological Surveys Within the APE

Title	Date	Author
Partial Cultural Resource Inventory of Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida	1979	Knudson, Gary D. and Stoutamire, James W.
Baker's and Strange's Mounds and Middens: Woodland Occupations on Tyndall Air Force Base	2011	Dengel, Craig, Russo, Michael, and Shanks, Jeffrey
Cultural Resources Survey of TY-100 & TY-101 Cultural Resources Management Support, Tyndall Air Force Base, Bay County, Florida	2014	Campbell, L. Janice, Kent, Bret, and Mathews, James H.
Phase I Survey of TY-165 and TY-166, Tyndall Air Force Base, Bay County, Florida	2020	Wilson, Brandon, Mohr, Bridget A., and Bradley, Dawn M.

Source: (Florida Department of State, 2025)
& = and; APE = Area of Potential Effects

Based on the surveys conducted, there are no historic properties within the proposed construction sites. No historic structures have been identified by surveys within or in the immediate vicinity of the Proposed Action. One unevaluated archaeological site (8BY00116) is partially located within the proposed location of Alternative 2.

No built resources within the entire Silver Flag area, including the APE, are considered historic. All built resources within the Silver Flag area were built in 1991 or later and have not been evaluated for the NRHP (DAF, 2022b). Due to their recent construction dates, they do not meet eligibility requirements for the NRHP or appear to meet any criteria exceptions for the NRHP to make them exceptionally significant for resources less than 50 years of age. For these reasons, cultural resources are not analyzed in further detail.

3.8.2 Environmental Consequences

3.8.2.1 Alternative 1

An impact to a cultural resource can occur directly from ground-disturbing activity and/or through visual or other indirect intrusion. The proposed project is not anticipated to result in an adverse impact to cultural resources, either through ground or permanent visual disturbances.

A background search of archaeological and historical literature and records for the project area and surrounding 1-mile area was conducted. Researchers gathered information regarding previous surveys and resources located on relevant topographic quadrangle maps, reviewed the Florida Master Site File (FMSF) and available historic digitized maps, and accessed NRHP information available through the National Park Service. Additional sources of information used included aerial maps and soil surveys for the respective counties of the project area. The review included the following types of resources: structures, historic sites, NRHP properties, FMSF properties, historic landmarks, historic standing structures (including cemeteries), cultural landscapes, and Traditional Cultural Properties.

No archaeological sites have been identified within the APE from previous surveys. No archaeological sites were identified in the 2019 survey of the surrounding 150 acres. As previously stated, the entire project area was excluded from the 2019 survey due to the high level of disturbed soil and wetland coverage (DAF, 2022b; Florida Department of State, 2025); therefore, the area has low archaeological potential.

If significant cultural materials are identified, avoidance or mitigation measures would be developed in coordination with the Florida SHPO and tribal representatives. Federal permit reviews would be subject to Section 106 of the NHPA (36 CFR Part 800).

3.8.2.2 Alternative 2

Under Alternative 2, the CSTR site would be developed the same as under Alternative 1, except the existing training area would be relocated to Tactical Courts 1 and 2 combined. This alternative provides approximately 6 acres of space as shown on Figure 2-1. Effects to cultural resources are similar to those described under Alternative 1; however, there is an archaeological site located within Tactical Courts 1 and 2. Site 8BY00116 is currently unevaluated as to NRHP eligibility. As such, should Alternative 2 be selected, testing and evaluation of the resource may be

required. If found eligible, mitigation efforts may be required and would be developed through coordination with the Florida SHPO and tribal representatives. In addition, avoidance and minimization measures, such as fencing or redesigning project boundaries to avoid Site 8BY00116, may be employed as per the Tyndall AFB ICRMP SOPs. There is potential to affect cultural resources with the implementation of Alternative 2 due to the unevaluated status of Site 8BY00116 regarding NRHP eligibility. In the event Alternative 2 is implemented, mitigation efforts would be coordinated through the SHPO and federally recognized tribes to ensure compliance with the NHPA.

3.8.2.3 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, the proposed CSTR site at Tyndall AFB would not be constructed. The DAF would not meet the requirement to locate a CSTR within a 10-hour drive from all CONUS installations and would continue to lack the capacity to meet combat support readiness requirements. There would be no adverse effects to cultural resources in the APE beyond baseline conditions.

3.8.2.4 Reasonably Foreseeable Effects

Projects that are close to the Proposed Action in both time and distance are identified in Table 3-2. All of these projects have been evaluated under previous NEPA actions and determined to have no significant effects and no adverse impact to cultural resources. These projects in combination with the Proposed Action would have no meaningful reasonably foreseeable effects to cultural resources.

3.8.2.5 Mitigation

The EA analysis concluded that Alternative 1 (the Preferred Alternative) and the No Action Alternative would not result in significant environmental effects to cultural resources; therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

Should Alternative 2 be selected, testing and evaluation of the aforementioned archaeological site (Site 8BY00116) would be required. If found NRHP eligible, mitigation efforts may be required and would be developed through coordination with the Florida SHPO and tribal representatives. In addition, avoidance and minimization measures, such as fencing or redesigning project boundaries to avoid Site 8BY00116, may be employed as per the Tyndall AFB ICRMP SOPs. There is potential to affect cultural resources with the implementation of Alternative 2 due to the unevaluated status of Site 8BY00116 regarding NRHP eligibility.

3.9 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND WASTES

Hazardous materials as defined and regulated by the Department of Transportation are substances or materials capable of posing an unreasonable risk to health, safety, and property when transported in commerce (49 CFR Part 171). Examples of hazardous materials include hazardous wastes and hazardous substances, petroleum, toxic chemicals, or any substance with inherently hazardous properties. Hazardous wastes are solid wastes, as defined by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), that possess hazardous characteristics (i.e., ignitibility, corrosivity, reactivity, or toxicity) or is listed as hazardous in the RCRA regulations (40 CFR Part 261). Hazardous wastes pose a substantial, actual, or potential hazard to human health or living organisms and are primarily managed by RCRA. Other hazardous materials and waste regulations include the Comprehensive

Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA); the Toxic Substances Control Act; the Solid Waste Disposal Act; and Section 311 of the CWA.

The DoW established the Defense Environmental Restoration Program to facilitate thorough investigation and cleanup of contaminated sites on military installations associated with past activities, in compliance with CERCLA. These contaminated sites are generally termed ERP sites and involve a wide range of potential hazards.

The ROI for hazardous materials and wastes includes the Silver Flag training area and the alternative existing training area site locations.

3.9.1 Affected Environment

3.9.1.1 Hazardous Materials and Wastes

Hazardous materials are used across Tyndall AFB to support the operation and maintenance of aircraft, equipment, vehicles, and infrastructure; these include materials such as petroleum, oil, and lubricants (POL); paints; cleaning agents; and pesticides. Their use and management is governed by several installation-wide plans including the SPCC Plan; the Hazardous Material Emergency Planning and Response Plan; and the Integrated Pesticide Management Plan. The 325th Civil Engineer Squadron/Compliance (325 CES/CEIEC) Hazardous Materials Office tracks the use of hazardous materials, including those used by contractors, at Tyndall AFB for compliance with the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act's hazardous materials inventory and release reporting requirements.

Tyndall AFB is a Large Quantity Generator of hazardous waste. Various processes at Tyndall AFB generate hazardous waste, including aircraft maintenance operations, facilities and maintenance operations, laboratory research, and construction and renovation activities. To ensure proper management and disposal, hazardous waste at Tyndall AFB are managed in accordance with the Tyndall AFB Hazardous Waste Management Plan (HWMP) (DAF, 2023b).

3.9.1.2 Toxic Substances

Toxic substances, for the purposes of this EA, include polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), asbestos, Pb-based paint, and radon. The Proposed Action would not involve renovation or demolition of existing structures; therefore, asbestos and Pb-based paint are not carried forward for analysis in this EA. All equipment at Tyndall AFB has been certified free of PCBs (DAF, 2022c); therefore, PCBs are also not carried forward for analysis in this EA. Lastly, Tyndall AFB is located within Radon Zone 3, which has the lowest potential for elevated indoor radon levels (USEPA, 2025c); therefore, radon is not carried forward for analysis in this EA.

3.9.1.3 Environmental Restoration Program Sites

There are three active ERP sites located within the ROI, but there are no Military Munitions Response Program sites. The ERP sites are the Silver Flag fire training area, the former wastewater treatment plant, and the former wastewater treatment plant spray fields (Figure 3-3). Together, these sites are referred to as ERP Site TU539P-Sub. Soil and groundwater at TU539P-Sub is contaminated with PFAS from historic firefighting training using aqueous film-forming foam. PFAS substances detected

at TU539P-Sub include PFOA, PFOS, and perfluorobutane sulfonate (PFBS). The FDEP has set provisional groundwater cleanup levels for combined PFOA/PFOS in groundwater at 70 parts per trillion. Provisional cleanup levels for PFOA and PFOS in soil are set at 25 milligrams per kilogram for commercial and industrial land uses (FDEP, 2022). Florida has not issued provisional cleanup levels for PFBS.

Initial assessments and site inspections have been completed (AFCEC, 2018) and a remedial investigation is underway. Site screening completed in 2014 did not find any contamination exceeding the soil cleanup level for PFOA and PFOS; however, the groundwater cleanup level was exceeded at all sampled locations for PFOA/PFOS. PFBS levels were below screening levels for both groundwater and soil (AFCEC, 2018). Preliminary results of the remedial investigation indicate that a groundwater PFOS plume extends past the ERP site boundaries and encompasses the entire proposed CSTR site and alternative training locations. Of the 32 monitoring wells used for the preliminary results, only one is located within the proposed CSTR site. There are no monitoring wells within the alternative training site. PFOS concentrations in the plume range from 4 to 400,000 nanograms per liter (4 to 400,000 parts per trillion), with higher concentrations located in the southwest portion of the Silver Flag fire training area (Tyndall AFB, 2025).

Construction activities near or within ERP Site TU539P-Sub must follow the conditions agreed to in a memorandum between the DAF and FDEP (DAF, 2021). Guidelines for work within TU539P-Sub were established by the DAF to ensure compliance with the memorandum. Appendix E, *Environmental Restoration Program Correspondence*, contains the memorandum. The following is a summary of the guidelines (Tyndall AFB, 2021):

1. The construction contractor must comply with Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards in 29 CFR 1910.120, Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response, and must address the health and safety of its employees associated with construction activities relative to the project.
2. Contaminated soil from excavation or construction activities may be temporarily moved within ERP Site TU539P-Sub, as long as it is subsequently redeposited in the same excavated area. Soils should be staged on plastic sheeting and shall not leave TU539P-Sub. BMPs shall be used to prevent contamination from spreading into previously uncontaminated or less contaminated areas within TU539P-Sub. If soils are to be removed for disposal from the site, they shall be tested prior to disposal or reuse.
3. Waste soils must be tested using approved procedures and analyzed for characteristic hazardous chemicals. These results shall be provided to the base Restoration Program Manager (RPM) and the 325 CES Hazardous Waste Program Manager (HWPM) prior to transportation for proper disposal at an authorized facility. If approved by the RPM and the HWPM, soils may be conservatively treated and handled in accordance with appropriate hazardous waste laws and regulations. Soils that exhibit a hazardous waste characteristic shall be further sampled to determine applicability of land disposal restrictions and any underlying hazardous constituents in accordance with applicable regulations and standards. The construction contractor shall sample and profile soils using a qualified environmental professional, properly handle and properly dispose of any contaminated media, and provide all necessary records to the appropriate Tyndall AFB personnel.

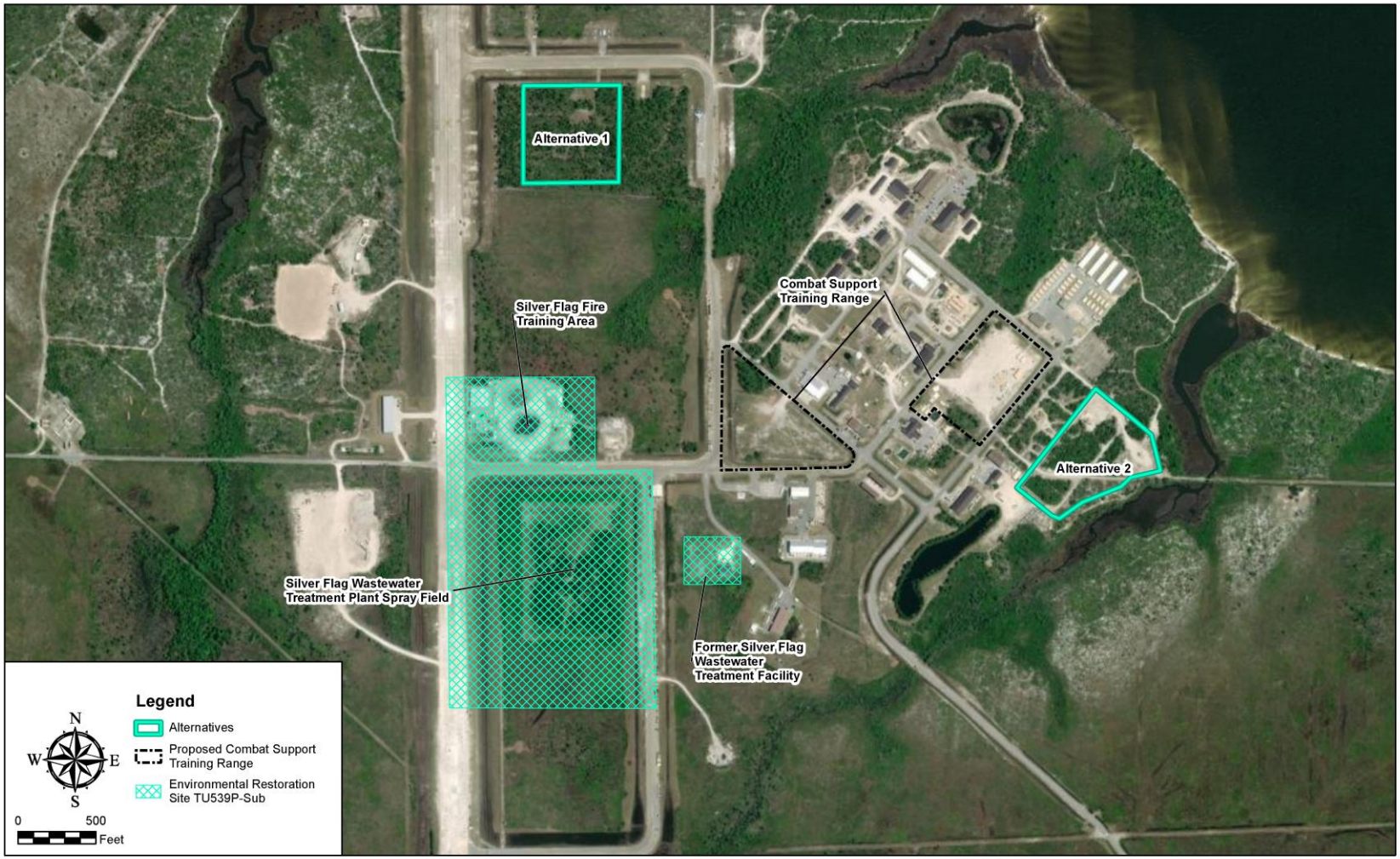


Figure 3-3. Active ERP Sites – Silver Flag Training Site

4. Prior to removing soils from ERP Site TU539P-Sub and the construction area and reusing these soils elsewhere, the soils must first be stockpiled in specified volumes and then sampled and analyzed by a qualified environmental professional (analysis to include PFOS and PFOA as well as VOCs, semi-VOCs, RCRA metals, and petroleum residual organics). Soil sampling results must be compared with the FDEP residential soil cleanup target levels to determine the acceptability for proposed reuse on base; for reuse along the flightline, the FDEP industrial soil cleanup target levels are acceptable. If soil sampling results exceed remedial goals or soil cleanup target levels for any contaminant, a specified process should be followed to resample the failed constituent(s) and then divide the stockpile into aliquots to determine if and where any portion of the stockpile can be reused. Upon following all appropriate sampling protocols, aliquots or stockpiles that exceed FDEP standards must be moved to the waste pad for off-site disposal at an approved disposal facility.
5. The construction contractor must prepare a summary report documenting any sampling and testing results; contaminated soil excavation volumes, depths, and delineation; and reuse or disposal actions.
6. Construction activities shall avoid damaging or disturbing any monitoring wells. Monitoring wells shall also be protected from the introduction of any construction-related contaminants. If wells are damaged during construction, then the repair, replacement, or abandonment shall be conducted only with approval from the RPM; all work shall be conducted by an appropriately licensed water well driller; and all work shall require coordination with USEPA, FDEP, and the Tyndall AFB RPM.
7. Any soils brought on-site and used for backfill must be properly tested or certified clean to ensure that no contaminants are being applied on-site. The source of backfill should be natural or virgin material and not from an area that was previously used for commercial or industrial activities. If the backfill soils are not certified clean with appropriate documentation, soils must be tested in accordance with approved methods for the following: VOCs, semi-VOCs (e.g., polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, pesticides, PCBs, and phenols), RCRA metals, and petroleum residual organic compounds. Analytical results should be compared to the FDEP residential soil cleanup target levels to determine acceptability of the proposed material as clean fill.
8. Construction contractors must be informed of the appropriate procedures if any contamination is encountered (i.e., suspicious odors, fuel smells, soil staining, odd soil colors, unfamiliar liquids, buried materials) at the construction site. If these conditions are encountered, the RPM and HWPM must be contacted. If discovered, these soils should be separated and then stockpiled on, and covered with, plastic sheeting until they are properly tested and disposed.
9. If dewatering is required, the construction contractor is responsible for permitting, handling, storage, characterization, treatment, and disposal of any potentially contaminated dewatering effluent. A dewatering plan would be prepared and approved prior to construction. The dewatering plan would include the location where dewatering would occur, anticipated volumes to be dewatered, flow rates, etc. Dewatering within a groundwater plume may be allowed as long as the effluent percolates back into the known plume areas in accordance with an infiltration plan approved by the FDEP, other approved on-site method(s) of disposition are used, and/or it is disposed of off-site. Before off-site

disposal, it must be analyzed for characteristic hazardous chemicals and other constituents in accordance with appropriate methods and regulations and as required by treatment/disposal facilities. All necessary results and records must be provided to the appropriate Tyndall AFB personnel prior to transportation for proper disposal at an authorized disposal facility.

10. Any equipment that comes in contact with contaminated soils or groundwater shall be properly decontaminated before mobilizing off-site. Any decontaminated fluids must be collected and stored in 55-gallon drums, properly labeled, and stored (in a manner not to exceed the time requirements of RCRA and applicable laws) on on-site pallets until sampled, tested, and disposed of at a proper disposal facility.

3.9.1.4 Live Fire and Munitions

Small arms live fire training does not occur at the Silver Flag training area. Explosives are currently used in training exercises at the Silver Flag runway. Under the Military Munitions Rule, used or fired military munitions are only considered solid waste when disposed of by burial/landfilling (on or off range) or when transported off range for storage, reclamation, treatment and/or treatment/disposal (USEPA, 2010).

3.9.2 Environmental Consequences

A significant effect to hazardous materials and wastes, toxic substances, ERP sites, or live fire and munitions within the ROI would occur if the Proposed Action would result in the following:

- Noncompliance with applicable federal and state regulations
- Increases in the amounts of hazardous waste generated or procured beyond Tyndall AFB's current waste management procedures and capacities
- Disturbance or creation of contaminated sites resulting in negative effects on human health or the environment

3.9.2.1 Alternative 1

3.9.2.1.1 Hazardous Materials and Wastes

Alternative 1 CSTR construction and operation (routine maintenance, site reconfiguration, and runway repair training exercises) would use hazardous materials, such as paints, adhesives, welding gases, solvents, preservatives, sealants, and POL. Small amounts of hazardous waste would be generated from construction and operations and would be managed in accordance with the Tyndall AFB HWMP. Hazardous materials used and waste generated would be reported to the 325 CES/CEIEC Hazardous Materials Office. Adherence to the HWMP would minimize effects from the handling and disposal of hazardous waste and ensure compliance with federal, state, and DAF regulations (DAF, 2023b). The installation's generator status would not be affected because Tyndall AFB is already a Large Quantity Generator (DAF, 2023b).

Alternative 1 would result in an increase in the amount of POL used on-site, as well as an increased risk of accidental petroleum release. The use of certain POL would be required during construction. POL, such as diesel, gasoline, and hydraulic fluid, would be used in construction and grading

vehicles. BMPs implemented under the required SWPPP would minimize the potential for effects from construction POL.

Alternative 1 includes on-site equipment refueling. Refueling would be completed using mobile refueling techniques. As such, installation of permanent petroleum infrastructure (e.g., aboveground storage tanks, underground storage tanks, etc.) would not be anticipated. During training activities, POL would be used on-site in vehicles, heavy equipment, and generators. All POL stored, used, or dispensed on-site would be handled in accordance with the Tyndall AFB SPCC Plan (Oneida, 2022). All POL handlers would be instructed on the SPCC Plan and POL spills would be addressed using the SPCC Plan. Any POL waste generated would be handled in accordance with the HWMP.

Under Alterative 1, mobile generators would be used as part of the CSTR training. To comply with the SPCC Plan, mobile generators that have an integrated fuel tank that is 55 gallons or more must have properly sized secondary containment. If secondary containment is impracticable, active containment measures would be implemented such as having a properly sized spill kit readily available at all times and conducting frequent (e.g., daily, weekly) inspections.

Pest management operations would be conducted in accordance with the Tyndall AFB Integrated Pest Management Plan and would be scheduled, reported, and coordinated with mission activities to avoid inadvertently exposing personnel. Implementation of Alternative 1 would result in no effects related to pest management.

Alternative 1 would not result in significant effects to the hazardous materials and wastes resource area.

3.9.2.1.2 Environmental Restoration Program Sites

The CSTR site and Alternative 1 existing training area location are located within the PFOS groundwater plume. Adherence to the ERP guidelines (see Section 3.9.1.3, *Environmental Restoration Program Sites*) (Tyndall AFB, 2021) would minimize potential for construction workers to be directly exposed to contamination, ensure proper handling and disposal of any contaminated media, and protect monitoring infrastructure. Construction would not hinder future cleanup efforts or affect contamination status. As noted in Section 3.9.1.3, contamination exposure pathways for soil and groundwater are being evaluated. Therefore, with use of the ERP guidelines, effects to personnel training or working on the site are not anticipated.

Implementation of Alternative 1 would not result in significant effects related to the ERP site.

3.9.2.1.3 Live Fire and Munitions

CSTR small arms training would occur at Fort Rucker (formerly Fort Novosel), located in Dale County, Alabama. Munitions and munitions waste management would be handled by Fort Rucker under an established program and are not analyzed here.

CSTR training would include detonating explosives (i.e., 2.5-pound NEW explosive charges) twice monthly and conducting runway repairs. This would result in the generation of a nominal amount of munitions related waste, as most of the explosive constituents would be consumed during detonation. Because the Tyndall AFB Silver Flag training area is and will continue to be an

operational range under DoW management, munitions used for their intended purpose would continue to be exempt from RCRA regulations (USEPA, 2010). If munitions waste is disposed of or taken off the range, it would be managed in accordance with the HWMP. Implementation of Alternative 1 would not result in significant effects related to live fire and munitions.

3.9.2.2 Alternative 2

The Alternative 2 CSTR location and operations are the same as Alternative 1, with the existing training area relocation being the only difference. The Alternative 2 location for the existing training area has the same PFAS contamination status as the Alternative 1 existing training area location. Effects for Alternative 2 would be the same as those described for Alternative 1.

3.9.2.3 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, the proposed CSTR at Tyndall AFB would not be constructed. The DAF would not meet the requirement to locate a CSTR within a 10-hour drive from all CONUS installations and would continue to lack the capacity to meet combat support readiness requirements. There would be no changes to hazardous materials and hazardous wastes, toxic substances, ERP sites, or live fire and munitions in the ROI beyond baseline conditions.

3.9.2.4 Reasonably Foreseeable Effects

Implementation of the Proposed Action would not result in short- or long-term, adverse effects to the hazardous materials and wastes resource area. The projects identified in Table 3-2 would have the potential to generate hazardous waste during construction activities at Tyndall AFB. Hazardous waste associated with these projects would be managed in accordance with the Tyndall AFB HWMP. Adherence to the HWMP would minimize effects from the handling and disposal of hazardous substances and ensure compliance with state and federal hazardous materials regulations (DAF, 2023b). Potential effects from the accidental release of such products would be minimized by following response procedures specified in Tyndall AFB's SPCC Plan (Oneida, 2022).

When considered in conjunction with the effects of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions at Tyndall AFB, no significant, adverse additive effects to the hazardous materials and wastes resource area would be anticipated to occur with implementation of the Proposed Action.

3.9.2.5 Mitigation

The EA analysis of the hazardous materials and wastes resource area concluded that the Proposed Action would not result in significant environmental effects; therefore, no mitigation measures are required. BMPs are described and recommended where applicable.

3.10 INFRASTRUCTURE

3.10.1 Affected Environment

This section discusses infrastructure such as utilities, including potable water, wastewater, solid waste management, and energy.

3.10.1.1 Potable Water

Drinking water at Tyndall AFB is supplied by Bay County, which draws water from Deer Point Reservoir. The Bay County Water Treatment Facility has a maximum daily operating capacity of 60 million gallons per day (mgd) with potential future phases of expansion to 78 and 96 mgd (Bay County, 2021). The average water usage at Tyndall AFB is 0.706 mgd (DAF, 2015).

3.10.1.2 Wastewater

Wastewater is conveyed to the Military Point wastewater treatment plant through eight wastewater lift stations and the installation's sewer system. The plant treats an average of 3.7 mgd and has a capacity of 7.0 mgd. Tyndall AFB is allowed by contract to discharge a monthly average of up to 1.26 mgd of wastewater to the treatment plant. Average discharge is 0.76 mgd, with peak flows reaching 1.35 mgd (DAF, 2015; Bay County, 2021).

3.10.1.3 Solid Waste Management

Solid waste management at Tyndall AFB is serviced by a contractor. All waste is collected and transported off-site to the Bay County Waste-to-Energy Facility or the Steelfield Road Landfill. Tyndall AFB has developed and implemented the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan to reduce the amount of waste generated at the source and reduce the amount of waste disposed of at landfills through reuse and recycling of materials. Tyndall AFB achieved a total solid waste diversion rate of 57 percent in 2022 (DAF, 2023c).

3.10.1.4 Energy

Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative supplies Tyndall AFB with electricity delivered through two 46-kilovolt (kV) lines to an electrical substation on the west end of the base, which steps the voltage down to a 12.47-kV level for distribution within the base. Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative owns and maintains the electrical distribution system with the base and is under contract to provide 729,000 kilowatt-hours per day. As of 2020, Tyndall AFB's average daily demand for electricity was 230,175 kilowatt-hours per day (DAF, 2020).

Tyndall AFB purchases natural gas from TECO Peoples Gas. Natural gas is delivered to the base through a utility-owned regulator station and then distributed throughout the base. Tyndall AFB's natural gas average daily demand is approximately 192,000 cubic feet with a supply capacity of 1,440,000 cubic feet per day (DAF, 2020).

3.10.2 Environmental Consequences

A significant effect on or from utilities within the ROI would involve one or more of the following:

- Prolonged or repeated service disruptions to utility end users
- Substantial increase in utility demand relative to existing and planned regional uses

3.10.2.1 Alternative 1

3.10.2.1.1 Potable Water

Water use for Alternative 1 at 400 personnel a month is estimated to be approximately 2.4 million gallons per year (13,600 gallons per day for a total of 168 days). This represents approximately

2 percent of Tyndall AFB's water use, and the increased demand would not create a service disruption to existing users or substantially increase demand in the region. Should CSTR use be expanded to accommodate 800 personnel a month, water use would be doubled and would represent 4 percent of current water use. Therefore, no significant effects to potable water would be expected under Alternative 1.

3.10.2.1.2 Wastewater

Wastewater generated from Alternative 1 operations would be approximately 840,000 gallons per year. This represents approximately 6 percent of the average discharge to the Military Point wastewater treatment plant. Changes in demands would be minimal and the increased demand would not create a service disruption to existing users or substantially increase demand in the region. Therefore, no significant effects to wastewater would be expected under Alternative 1.

3.10.2.1.3 Solid Waste Management

Under Alternative 1, solid waste and construction debris would be generated during construction and demolition activities. Disposal and recycling of solid waste generated during construction would be the responsibility of the RED HORSE. The RED HORSE is required to comply with federal, state, and local regulations for the collection and disposal of solid waste from the installation. Construction and demolition debris would be hauled, recycled, and/or disposed of as required by Tyndall AFB's qualified recycling program.

Following completion of construction and upon implementation of Alternative 1, there would be an increase of approximately 400 personnel a month at Silver Flag. With the potential expansion area, this number could increase to 800 personnel per month. An increase in the amount of municipal solid waste generated at the CSTR would be expected. Recycling efforts at Tyndall AFB and Silver Flag divert solid waste generated on the installation from being sent to local landfills. Any solid waste generated (nonhazardous or construction-debris-related) would be disposed of by the project proponent. All solid waste that cannot be recycled would be disposed of at a permitted landfill or other authorized facility. Solid waste generated would not create a service disruption to existing users or substantially increase demand in the region. Therefore, no significant effects to solid waste management would be expected under Alternative 1.

3.10.2.1.4 Energy

Under Alternative 1, permanent electrical power would be supplied to permanent facilities such as the SSTL facilities. Temporary facilities such as the MSS would receive power from generators that would be installed and removed as part of training exercises. An increase in the demand for electrical power would be expected under Alternative 1, as an increase of approximately 400 to 800 personnel would occur monthly. During the construction process, potential effects to electrical systems could include temporary service interruptions. Any expected service interruptions would be communicated to range personnel. Increases in electrical demand would not create a long-term service disruption to existing users or substantially increase demand in the region. Therefore, no significant effects to energy are expected under Alternative 1.

3.10.2.2 Alternative 2

Demands on infrastructure under Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1. The primary difference between the alternatives would be that Alternative 2 would relocate the existing training area to the combined Tactical Courts. This change in location would not change the demand on utility systems.

3.10.2.3 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, the CSTR would not be constructed, students would train elsewhere, and there would be no change to infrastructure. Therefore, no significant effects to infrastructure would occur with implementation of the No Action Alternative.

3.10.2.4 Reasonably Foreseeable Effects

Projects that are close to the Proposed Action in both time and distance are identified in Table 3-2. All of these projects have been evaluated under previous NEPA actions and determined to have no significant effects. These projects in combination with the Proposed Action would have no meaningful reasonably foreseeable effects to infrastructure.

3.10.2.5 Mitigation

The EA analysis concluded that the Proposed Action would not result in significant environmental effects to infrastructure; therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

3.11 TRANSPORTATION

Traffic is commonly measured through average daily traffic and design capacity.

3.11.1 Affected Environment

Access to the Silver Flag training area is via the two-lane U.S. Highway 98 also known as Tyndall Parkway. Farmdale One Road is paved, located off of U.S. Highway 98, and runs north directly to the Silver Flag cantonment area. There is no security gate at the intersection of Farmdale One Road and U.S. Highway 98; a security gate (Silver Flag main entrance gate) is located on Farmdale One Road approximately 1,600 feet south of the cantonment area. Most of the road network within the cantonment area is paved. The network of dirt, semi-improved, and paved roads outside the cantonment area is used for vehicle training and forestry operations. Roads are shown on Figure 3-4.

The road network in the Silver Flag area has low levels of traffic. Table 3-8 shows the average daily traffic data for U.S. Highway 98 segments that provide access to Tyndall AFB and the Silver Flag training area.

Table 3-8. Average Annual Daily Traffic for U.S. Highway 98 near Tyndall AFB

U.S. Highway 98 Segment	2024 AADT (two-way)
425 Feet North of Tyndall Bridge (East Bay)	24,000
1.25 Miles East of Tyndall Drive	7,000
275 Feet East of 9th Street (Mexico Beach)	7,600

Source: (FDOT, 2024)
AADT = average annual daily traffic; AFB = Air Force Base; U.S. = United States

Figure 3-4. Road Network to and Within the Silver Flag Training Area

3.11.2 Environmental Consequences

Effects to transportation were analyzed by considering the possible changes to existing traffic conditions and the capacity of area roadways from proposed increases in construction and commuter traffic.

3.11.2.1 Alternative 1

3.11.2.1.1 Construction

Construction vehicles and worker trips would result in a temporary increase in truck and passenger vehicle traffic on U.S. Highway 98 to access the Silver Flag training area. Approximately 30 construction workers would commute to the site on a daily basis. The analysis assumes that 30 workers would drive alone and would generate an additional 60 trips per day. Heavy equipment would travel to Silver Flag but predominantly would be parked at the site and, therefore, would not commute on a daily basis. As a result, effects to transportation could occur, but effects would not be significant.

3.11.2.1.2 Operations

Students would attend training for 2 weeks once per month. It is assumed that buses would transport the students from the main base of Tyndall AFB or the Northwest Florida Beaches International Airport to the site, with only instructors arriving by single-occupancy vehicles. Assuming 400 students and smaller-size buses that hold approximately 25 people, approximately 16 buses would be required to drop off and pick up the students at Silver Flag for training. Some buses would likely park on-site. Larger buses could also be used to reduce trips. Trucks would be required to deliver propane, pump out the septic system, and deliver other equipment, supplies, and food. Table 3-9 shows the estimated number of vehicle trips per training event.

Table 3-9. Estimated Vehicle Trips per Training Event

Source	Number	Expansion Area	Total Trips (with expansion)	Round Trips (with expansion)
Personnel				
Instructors	10	4	14	28
Students[1]	400	144	22	44
Deliveries				
Supplies	4	2	6	12
Septic[2]	5	2	7	14
		Total	**49**	**98**

Notes:
1. Assume students are bused to Silver Flag using 25-person capacity buses.
2. Assume that the septic system would be maintained every 3 days during the training event. If additional trainees attend (expansion area) then the septic system would be maintained every 2 days.

Based on the average annual daily traffic levels, these additional trips, even with the expansion area, would represent a small percentage of trips on U.S. Highway 98. The trips would be spread over the 2-week training event, with most trips occurring during arrival and departure days. Even if all instructors, students, and deliveries arrived on the same day, it would be a 0.4 percent increase in traffic volume on the DuPont Bridge and a 1.4 percent increase in traffic volume on U.S. Highway 98 approaching Farmdale One Road. Silver Flag roads would likely experience more

noticeable increases in traffic; however, these roads would not be open to the public and are currently paved but low-speed routes that have a primary function of military training. As a result, effects to transportation could occur, but effects would not be significant.

In summary, Alternative 1 could result in effects to transportation, but effects would not be significant.

3.11.2.2 Alternative 2

Transportation effects under Alternative 2 would be the same as the effects described under Alternative 1. As a result, Alternative 2 could result in effects to transportation, but effects would not be significant.

3.11.2.3 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, the CSTR would not be constructed, students would train elsewhere, and there would be no change to transportation. U.S. Highway 98 would continue to operate as it does today. Therefore, no significant effects to transportation would occur with implementation of the No Action Alternative.

3.11.2.4 Reasonably Foreseeable Effects

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) proposes replacing the DuPont Bridge from Oakshore Drive to Tyndall AFB. Construction began during the summer of 2025 with completion expected in mid-2030. All existing traffic lanes will remain open during construction; however, there may be periodic lane closures and traffic shifts predominantly avoiding the peak morning and afternoon periods. Speeds during construction will be reduced to 35 mph. The new bridge will have a total of four travel lanes (two eastbound and two westbound), shoulders on either side for use by emergency or broken-down vehicles, and 12-foot-wide pedestrian and bicycle lanes (FDOT, 2025).

CSTR construction activities would be programmed for Fiscal Year 2027; therefore, construction equipment and trainees accessing the Silver Flag training area would occur before the bridge construction is complete. The FDOT reported that during construction of the new bridge, traffic speeds would be reduced, and potential lane closures could occur; these actions could result in increased congestion when considered with the additional CSTR construction equipment and trainee bus trips. However, plans to keep all lanes open during the peak morning and afternoon periods, Monday through Friday, would reduce the potential for congestion. Once the bridge has been replaced, traffic flow is expected to be improved. Therefore, transportation effects associated with implementing the Proposed Action, when considered with other proposed projects, could occur but would not be significant.

3.11.2.5 Mitigation

The EA analysis concluded that the Proposed Action would not result in significant environmental effects to transportation; therefore, no mitigation measures are required.

3.12 NOISE

Noise is unwanted sound. Although loud noises can have other effects, the most common noise effect is annoyance. Air Force Handbook 32-7084, *AICUZ Program Manager's Guide*, establishes aircraft and explosives time-averaged noise levels above which noise-sensitive land uses (e.g., residences) are considered incompatible. Army Regulation 200-1, *Environmental Protection and Enhancement*, describes explosives noise levels of greater than 115 decibels (dB) peak (dBP) as being associated with a moderate risk of complaints. The ROI for this resource area includes the Silver Flag training area and surrounding areas in which noise generated by the Proposed Action would be audible.

3.12.1 Affected Environment

Areas on and near Tyndall AFB experience elevated noise levels generated by military training and associated activities on a regular basis. Aircraft noise levels in the project areas for baseline conditions—which reflect completion of approved unit bed downs at Tyndall AFB—are below land use compatibility criteria (Bay County, 2021). All noise complaints that were received by Tyndall AFB Public Affairs from individuals in surrounding communities between 2020 and 2024 were related to aircraft noise (Tyndall AFB Public Affairs, 2025). Activities that are conducted in the Silver Flag training area, which include the operation of heavy equipment and occasional explosives detonations, also generate noise. Explosives detonations conducted currently at the Sky X area and mock runway generate noise levels exceeding 115 dBP in surrounding communities, but these events are sufficiently infrequent that time-averaged munitions noise levels exceed land use compatibility criteria only within approximately 1 mile of the range (Bay County, 2021). Detonations of charges up to 84 pounds NEW occur on the mock runway under existing conditions. The closest noise-sensitive location to proposed CSTR operations is a residential area located on the north shore of East Bay. These residences are located more than a mile away from the mock runway where explosives detonations associated with CSTR runway repair training would be conducted and at greater distances from other proposed CSTR activities.

3.12.2 Environmental Consequences

Noise effects would be considered potentially significant and would warrant a more detailed analysis if noise generated by the Proposed Action would exceed 115 dBP at a sensitive location. Cratering charge detonation noise levels were estimated using the Army's BNOISE2 OneShot Module assuming charge burial at a depth of 1 foot.

3.12.2.1 Alternative 1

At the closest noise-sensitive location, the loudest noise generated by activities proposed under Alternative 1 (i.e., cratering charge detonation) would be approximately 114 dBP—a level associated with a low risk of complaints (Figure 3-5). There would be two charge detonations per month with a maximum NEW of approximately half of the maximum NEW of charges being detonated on the mock runway under existing conditions. Noise frequency and intensity would remain well below time-averaged noise levels at which sensitive land uses are considered incompatible.

Figure 3-5. Areas Potentially Affected by Noise Levels Exceeding 115 dBP Generated by Explosive Charge Detonations During Proposed CSTR Training

Construction equipment typically generates noise levels up to 89 dB within 50 feet of construction activity (USEPA, 1971). Noise associated with construction and day-to-day operations at the CSTR would not be expected to be audible at the closest noise-sensitive location. Proposed training at locations other than the CSTR (e.g., MOUT facility) would be the same as ongoing training at those facilities and would not generate different noise levels. Because noise at the closest noise-sensitive location would be similar to ongoing noise and would be below criteria levels (cratering charges) or inaudible (other CSTR activities), noise effects associated with implementation of Alternative 1 would not be significant.

3.12.2.2 Alternative 2

Noise-generating activities proposed under Alternative 2 would be the same as under Alternative 1. Noise associated with proposed activities would be below criteria levels at sensitive locations and no significant effects would occur.

3.12.2.3 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, no new noise-generating activities would occur. Existing conditions would not change and there would be no additional noise effects. Therefore, no significant effects would occur.

3.12.2.4 Reasonably Foreseeable Effects

Implementation of the Proposed Action would not result in short- or long-term, adverse noise effects. The projects listed in Table 3-2 would have the potential to generate noise during construction activities at Tyndall AFB. Noise associated with construction activities would be temporary and localized to nearby areas. When considered in conjunction with the effects of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions at Tyndall AFB, no significant, adverse additive effects to noise would be anticipated to occur with implementation of the Proposed Action.

3.12.2.5 Mitigation

Since no adverse or significant noise effects would occur, no mitigation measures are proposed at this time.

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

4.0 REFERENCES

AFCEC. (2018). *Final Site Inspections Report of Fire Fighting Foam Usage at Tyndall Air Force Base, Bay County, Florida.* Air Force Civil Engineer Center.

AFCEC. (2025). *DAF Air Quality Environmental Impact Analysis Process (EIAP) Guide - Fundamentals, Volume 1 of 2.* Air Force Civil Engineer Center, Compliance Technical Support Branch (AFCEC/CZTQ).

ATSDR. (2005). *Health Consultation, Tyndall Air Force Base.* Atlanta, Georgia: Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

Audubon. (2025). *NestSites*. Retrieved from Audubon Florida Eagle Watch Program: https://www.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=3c31a9a817e443ceaf842a4b120646f7#overview.

Bay County. (2021). *Tyndall AFB-Bay County Compatible Use Plan.* Bay County, Florida.

Bay County. (2026). *Planning & Zoning*. Retrieved from Bay County Florida: https://www.baycountyfl.gov/276/Planning-Zoning.

DAF. (2015). *Installation Development Plan for Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida. Department of the Air Force, 325th Fighter Wing. April.*

DAF. (2019). Memorandum for AFCEC/CL: Tyndall AFB Design Flood Elevation. June 5. Retrieved from https://www.tyndallifs.com/images/Home/Tyndall_DFE_Memo.pdf.

DAF. (2020). *Final Environmental Impact Statement for F-35A Beddown at Tyndall AFB and MQ-9 Wing Beddown at Tyndall AFB or Vandenberg AFB.*

DAF. (2021). Memorandum for Record from SAF/IEE to Interim Secretary Hamilton regarding Soil Management Pursuant to the Tyndall Rebuild Program. August 3.

DAF. (2022a). *Tyndall Air Force Base Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan.* Department of the Air Force.

DAF. (2022b). *Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan: Tyndall.* Department of the Air Force. September.

DAF. (2022c). *Hazardous Material Emergency Planning and Response Plan, Tyndall Air Force Base. March.* 325th Fighter Wing, Tyndall AFB, Florida.

DAF. (2023a). *Final Environmental Assessment for Fire Research and Development Facilities, Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida.* Department of the Air Force.

DAF. (2023b). *Hazardous Waste Management Plan Tyndall Air Force Base.* Department of the Air Force.

DAF. (2023c). *Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan, Tyndall AFB, Florida.* Department of the Air Force.

DAF. (2024). Tyndall Air Force Base Fact Sheet. *Safety*. Retrieved October 22, 2025, from https://www.tyndall.af.mil/About/Fact-Sheets/Article/315016/safety/.

DAF. (2025a). *Final Environmental Assessment for Combat Support Training Range Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada. July.* Department of the Air Force.

DAF. (2025b). *Air Force Combat Support Training Ranges*. Retrieved December 16, 2025, from Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center: https://www.afimsc.af.mil/CSTR/.

DAF. (2025c). 2025-2026 Hunting, Fishing, & Recreation Map, Tyndall Air Force Base. 325 CES/Natural Resources. Retrieved October 28, 2025, from https://tyndall.isportsman.net/files/2025-2026/2025-2026HuntingMap.pdf.

DAF. (2025d). *Urgent & Emergency Care*. Retrieved October 22, 2025, from U.S. Department of the Air Force, 325th Medical Group - Tyndall Air Force Base: https://tyndall.tricare.mil/Health-Services/Urgent-Emergency-Care.

DCAS. (2025). *Endangered, Threatened and Commercially Exploited Plants of Florida*. Retrieved from Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services: https://www.fdacs.gov/Consumer-Resources/Protect-Our-Environment/Botany/Florida-s-Endangered-Plants/Endangered-Threatened-and-Commercially-Exploited-Plants-of-Florida.

DOD LRMP. (2019). *Herpetofauna Conservation Status Summary, Department of Defense Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation. September.* Department of Defense Legacy Resource Management Program.

DVIDS. (2022). *Tyndall Silver Flag training area to house Fire Station.* Retrieved October 29, 2025, from Defense Visual Information Distribution Service: https://www.dvidshub.net/image/7361010/tyndall-silver-flag-training-area-house-fire-station-4.

FDEP. (2022). *Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Dynamic Plan.* Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Waste Management.

FDEP. (2024). *Comprehensive Verified List.* Retrieved November 13, 2025, from Florida Department of Environmental Protection: https://floridadep.gov/dear/watershed-assessment-section/documents/comprehensive-verified-list.

FDOT. (2024). *Annual Average Daily Traffic Report.* Florida Department of Transportation.

FDOT. (2025). *State Road 30 (U.S. 98) DuPont Bridge Replacement.* Retrieved October 23, 2025, from Florida Department of Transportation: https://storymaps.arcgis.com/collections/a90de23a2d354c99a9f52d3c912db34d?item=1.

Florida Department of State. (2025). Florida Master Site Files, Florida Division of Historical Resources. doi:https://dos.fl.gov/historical/preservation/master-site-file/.

FWC. (2025). *Alligator snapping turtle*. Retrieved from Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission: https://myfwc.com/wildlifehabitats/profiles/reptiles/freshwater-turtles/alligator-snapping-turtle/.

Jordan, R. A. (1998). *Species Profile: Southern Hognose Snake (Heterodon simus) on Military Installations in the Southeastern United States.* Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Technical Report SERDP-98-4.

Journey North. (2013). *Monarch Butterflies: Answers From the Monarch Butterfly Expert, Spring 2013*. Retrieved from https://journeynorth.org/tm/monarch/ExpertAnswer13.html.

Monarch Joint Venture. (2025). *Butterfly Senses*. Retrieved from Monarch Joint Venture: https://monarchjointventure.org/monarch-biology/butterfly-senses.

NRCS. (2026). *Soil Map—Bay County, Florida: Web Soil Survey, National Cooperative Soil Survey.* Natural Resources Conservation Survey.

Oneida. (2022). *Tyndall AFB Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Plan.*

Solutio Environmental. (2025). *USAF Air Conformity Applicability Model (ACAM). Version 5.0.24a.* Retrieved from https://aqhelp.com/acam.html.

Taylor, C., & Yack, J. (2019). Hearing in caterpillars of the monarch butterfly (Danaus plexippus). *Journal of Experimental Biology, 222*. doi:10.1242/jeb.211862.

Tyndall AFB. (2021). *Environmental Restoration Program Guidelines Work on ERP Site TU539P-Sub – AFCEC Silver Flag Fire RDT&E.*

Tyndall AFB. (2025). *PFOS Plume Preliminary Results.*

Tyndall AFB Public Affairs. (2025). Personal Communication from Venessa Armenta to Leidos via e-mail on September 10, 2025.

USAF. (2025). *Combat Support Training Range Area Development Plan - Draft Report. June.* United States Air Force.

USEPA. (1971). *Noise From Construction Equipment and Operations, Building Equipment, and Home Appliances.* U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

USEPA. (1995). *AP-42 Compilation of Air Pollutant Emission Factors.* Washington, D.C.: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

USEPA. (2010). *EPA Munitions Response Guidelines.* U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office.

USEPA. (2025a). *National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP)*. Retrieved from U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/national-emission-standards-hazardous-air-pollutants-neshap-8.

USEPA. (2025b). *Nonattainment Areas for Criteria Pollutants (Green Book)*. Retrieved from U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: https://www.epa.gov/green-book.

USEPA. (2025c). *FLORIDA - EPA Map of Radon Zones. October 24.* Retrieved from Environmental Protection Agency: https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2014-08/documents/florida.pdf.

USFWS. (2007). *National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines.* U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

USFWS. (2025). *Information for Planning and Consultation Resources List.* Vero Beach, FL: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Florida Ecological Services Field Office.

USFWS. (2026). *National Wetlands Inventory Map*. Retrieved January 14, 2026, from National Wetlands Inventory: https://fwsprimary.wim.usgs.gov/wetlands/apps/wetlands-mapper/.

USGS. (1990). *Ground Water Atlas of the United States, Segment 6, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina.* U.S. Geological Survey.

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

APPENDIX A STAKEHOLDER AND TRIBAL CORRESPONDENCE

A.1 General Stakeholders

A.1.1 Scoping Letter

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
325TH CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON (ACC)
TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA

Mr. José J. Cintron
Chief, Environmental Element
325th Civil Engineer Squadron
103 Mississippi Road
Tyndall AFB FL 32403-504

Ms. Lindsay Weaver
Coordinator
Office of Intergovernmental Programs
Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Blvd, Mail Station 47
Tallahassee FL 32399

Dear Ms. Weaver

The United States (U.S.) Department of the Air Force (DAF) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with construction of a Combat Support Training Range (CSTR) at Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (Title 42 U.S. Code 4321 et seq.) and Department of Defense NEPA Implementing Procedures (30 June 2025).

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to establish a training platform to allow civil engineering combat support teams to develop skills needed to establish, operate, protect, and recover an expeditionary air base. An expeditionary air base is a mobile installation that can be established rapidly in the field under a variety of conditions. These installations often consist of simple structures such as concrete block buildings, K-spans, and tents. A CSTR enables larger units to train together and provides for more complex training events that would not be practical to establish at all home stations. The CSTR at Tyndall AFB would be constructed at the existing Silver Flag training area on the eastern side (Attachment 1).

The EA will assess the potential environmental consequences associated with the Proposed Action and alternatives, including the No Action Alternative. Potential impacts identified during the initial planning stages include effects on air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, water resources (including wetlands), safety and occupational health, hazardous materials and waste, and infrastructure. In support of this process, we request your input in identifying general or specific issues or areas of concern you believe should be addressed in the EA. We intend to notify your office when the Draft EA is completed and welcome comments and input at that time as well.

During the EA process, the DAF will determine whether the Proposed Action would have adverse impacts on coastal resources protected under the state of Florida's Coastal Zone Management Program.

The DAF respectfully requests your written comments and other input on the Proposed Action within 30 days of receipt of this letter so they can be considered during preparation of the Draft EA and Coastal Consistency Determination. When completed, the Draft EA will also be submitted to the State Clearinghouse for review and comment. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Tyndall AFB's Point of Contact, Mr. Edwin Wallace, via email at edwin.wallace.1@us.af.mil, or via telephone at (850) 283-2714.

Sincerely

CINTRON.JOSE.J.1182275146
Digitally signed by CINTRON.JOSE.J.1182275146
Date: 2026.01.05 13:00:15 -06'00'

JOSÉ CINTRON, GS-13, DAF

1 Attachment:
1. Figure 1. Proposed Location of CSTR

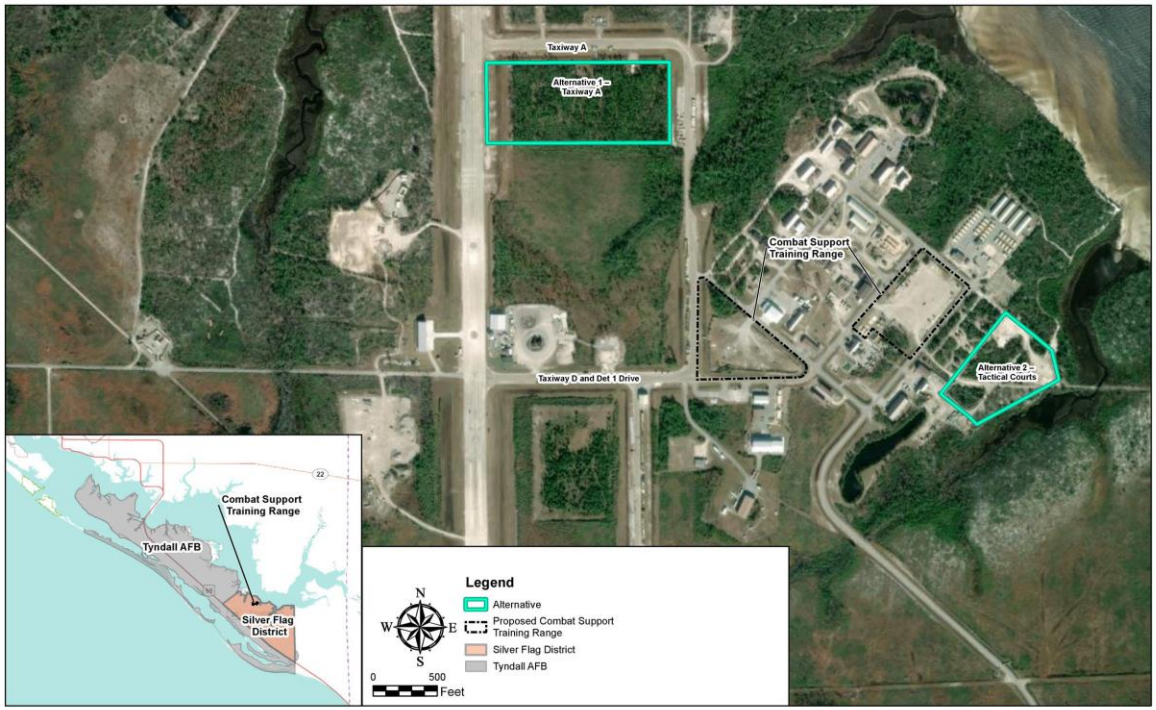


Figure 1. Proposed Location of CSTR

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
325TH CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON (ACC)
TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA

Mr. José J. Cintron
Chief, Environmental Element
325th Civil Engineer Squadron
103 Mississippi Road
Tyndall AFB FL 32403-504

Panama City Permits Section
Jacksonville Regulatory District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
415 N Richard Jackson Blvd, Suite 411
Panama City FL 32407-3887

Dear Sir or Madam

The United States (U.S.) Department of the Air Force (DAF) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with construction of a Combat Support Training Range (CSTR) at Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (Title 42 U.S. Code 4321 et seq.) and Department of Defense NEPA Implementing Procedures (30 June 2025).

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to establish a training platform to allow civil engineering combat support teams to develop skills needed to establish, operate, protect, and recover an expeditionary air base. An expeditionary air base is a mobile installation that can be established rapidly in the field under a variety of conditions. These installations often consist of simple structures such as concrete block buildings, K-spans, and tents. A CSTR enables larger units to train together and provides for more complex training events that would not be practical to establish at all home stations. The CSTR at Tyndall AFB would be constructed at the existing Silver Flag training area on the eastern side (Attachment 1).

The EA will assess the potential environmental consequences associated with the Proposed Action and alternatives, including the No Action Alternative. Potential impacts identified during the initial planning stages include effects on air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, water resources (including wetlands), safety and occupational health, hazardous materials and waste, and infrastructure. In support of this process, we request your input in identifying general or specific issues or areas of concern you believe should be addressed in the EA. We intend to notify your office when the Draft EA is completed and welcome comments and input at that time as well.

During the EA process, the DAF will determine whether the Proposed Action would have adverse impacts on wetland or water resources protected under the Clean Water Act.

The DAF respectfully requests your written comments and other input on the Proposed Action within 30 days of receipt of this letter so they can be considered during preparation of the Draft EA. When completed, the Draft EA will also be submitted to the State Clearinghouse for review and comment. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Tyndall AFB's Point of Contact, Mr. Edwin Wallace, via email at edwin.wallace.1@us.af.mil, or via telephone at (850) 283-2714.

Sincerely

CINTRON.JOSE.J.1182275146
Digitally signed by CINTRON.JOSE.J.1182275146
Date: 2026.01.05 13:04:11 -06'00'

JOSÉ CINTRON, GS-13, DAF

1 Attachment:
1. Figure 1. Proposed Location of CSTR

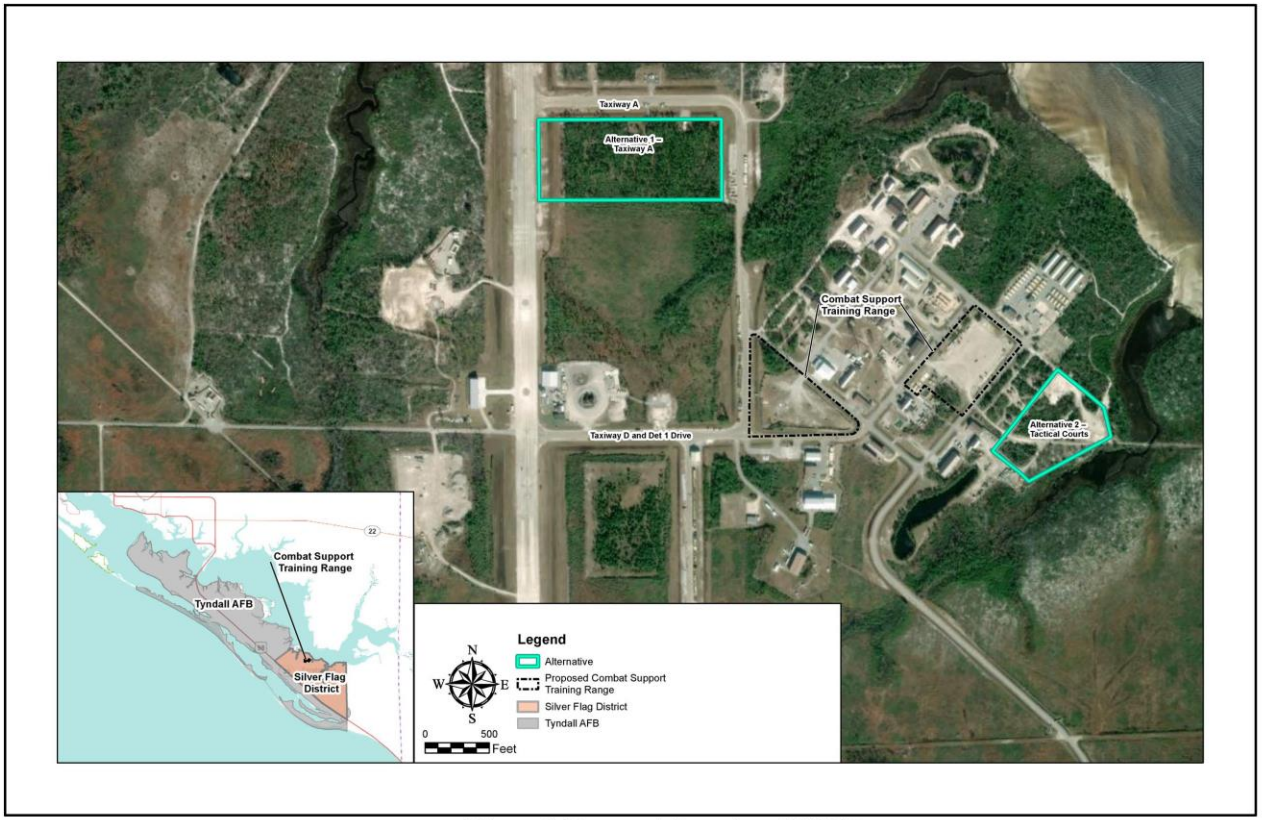


Figure 1. Proposed Location of CSTR

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
325TH CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON (ACC)
TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA

Mr. José J. Cintron
Chief, Environmental Element
325th Civil Engineer Squadron
103 Mississippi Road
Tyndall AFB FL 32403-504

Mr. Christopher Putnam
Supervisor, Environmental Review
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1601 Balboa Ave
Panama City FL 32405

Dear Mr. Putnam

The United States (U.S.) Department of the Air Force (DAF) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with construction of a Combat Support Training Range (CSTR) at Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (Title 42 U.S. Code 4321 et seq.) and Department of Defense NEPA Implementing Procedures (30 June 2025).

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to establish a training platform to allow civil engineering combat support teams to develop skills needed to establish, operate, protect, and recover an expeditionary air base. An expeditionary air base is a mobile installation that can be established rapidly in the field under a variety of conditions. These installations often consist of simple structures such as concrete block buildings, K-spans, and tents. A CSTR enables larger units to train together and provides for more complex training events that would not be practical to establish at all home stations. The CSTR at Tyndall AFB would be constructed at the existing Silver Flag training area on the eastern side (Attachment 1).

The EA will assess the potential environmental consequences associated with the Proposed Action and alternatives, including the No Action Alternative. Potential impacts identified during the initial planning stages include effects on air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, water resources (including wetlands), safety and occupational health, hazardous materials and waste, and infrastructure. In support of this process, we request your input in identifying general or specific issues or areas of concern you believe should be addressed in the EA. We intend to notify your office when the Draft EA is completed and welcome comments and input at that time as well.

During the EA process, the DAF will determine whether the Proposed Action would have adverse impacts on any fish or wildlife resources regulated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The DAF respectfully requests your written comments and other input on the Proposed Action within 30 days of receipt of this letter so they can be considered during preparation of the draft EA. When completed, the draft EA will be submitted to your office for review and comment.

The DAF respectfully requests your written comments and other input on the Proposed Action within 30 days of receipt of this letter so they can be considered during preparation of the Draft EA. When completed, the Draft EA will also be submitted to the State Clearinghouse for review and comment. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Tyndall AFB's Point of Contact, Mr. Edwin Wallace, via email at edwin.wallace.1@us.af.mil, or via telephone at (850) 283-2714.

Sincerely

CINTRON.JOSE.J.1182275146 Digitally signed by CINTRON.JOSE.J.1182275146 Date: 2026.01.05 13:12:55 -06'00'

JOSÉ CINTRON, GS-13, DAF

1 Attachment:
1. Figure 1. Proposed Location of CSTR

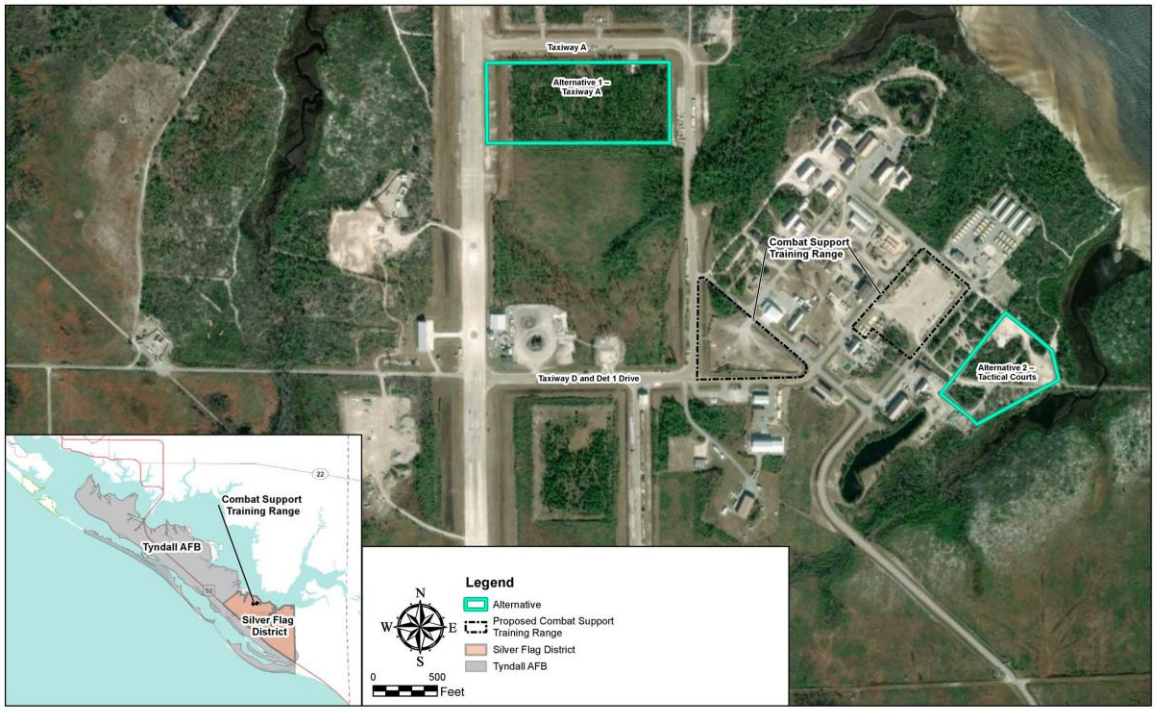


Figure 1. Proposed Location of CSTR

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
325TH CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON (ACC)
TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA

Mr. José J. Cintron
Chief, Environmental Element
325th Civil Engineer Squadron
103 Mississippi Road
Tyndall AFB FL 32403-504

Ms. Danielle Gadzala
Northwest Region Conservation Biologist
Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission
5300 High Bridge Rd
Quincy FL 32351

Dear Ms. Gadzala

The United States (U.S.) Department of the Air Force (DAF) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with construction of a Combat Support Training Range (CSTR) at Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (Title 42 U.S. Code 4321 et seq.) and Department of Defense NEPA Implementing Procedures (30 June 2025).

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to establish a training platform to allow civil engineering combat support teams to develop skills needed to establish, operate, protect, and recover an expeditionary air base. An expeditionary air base is a mobile installation that can be established rapidly in the field under a variety of conditions. These installations often consist of simple structures such as concrete block buildings, K-spans, and tents. A CSTR enables larger units to train together and provides for more complex training events that would not be practical to establish at all home stations. The CSTR at Tyndall AFB would be constructed at the existing Silver Flag training area on the eastern side (Attachment 1).

The EA will assess the potential environmental consequences associated with the Proposed Action and alternatives, including the No Action Alternative. Potential impacts identified during the initial planning stages include effects on air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, water resources (including wetlands), safety and occupational health, hazardous materials and waste, and infrastructure. In support of this process, we request your input in identifying general or specific issues or areas of concern you believe should be addressed in the EA. We intend to notify your office when the Draft EA is completed and welcome comments and input at that time as well.

During the EA process, the DAF will determine whether the Proposed Action would have adverse impacts on any fish or wildlife resources regulated by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). The DAF respectfully requests your written comments and other input on the Proposed Action within 30 days of receipt of this letter so they can be considered during preparation of the draft EA. When completed, the draft EA will be submitted to your office for review and comment.

The DAF respectfully requests your written comments and other input on the Proposed Action within 30 days of receipt of this letter so they can be considered during preparation of the Draft EA and Coastal Consistency Determination. When completed, the Draft EA will also be submitted to the State Clearinghouse for review and comment. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Tyndall AFB's Point of Contact, Mr. Edwin Wallace, via email at edwin.wallace.1@us.af.mil, or via telephone at (850) 283-2714.

Sincerely

CINTRON.JOSE J.1182275146 Digitally signed by CINTRON.JOSE.J.1182275146 Date: 2026.01.05 13:15:41 -06'00'

JOSÉ CINTRON, GS-13, DAF

1 Attachment:
1. Figure 1. Proposed Location of CSTR

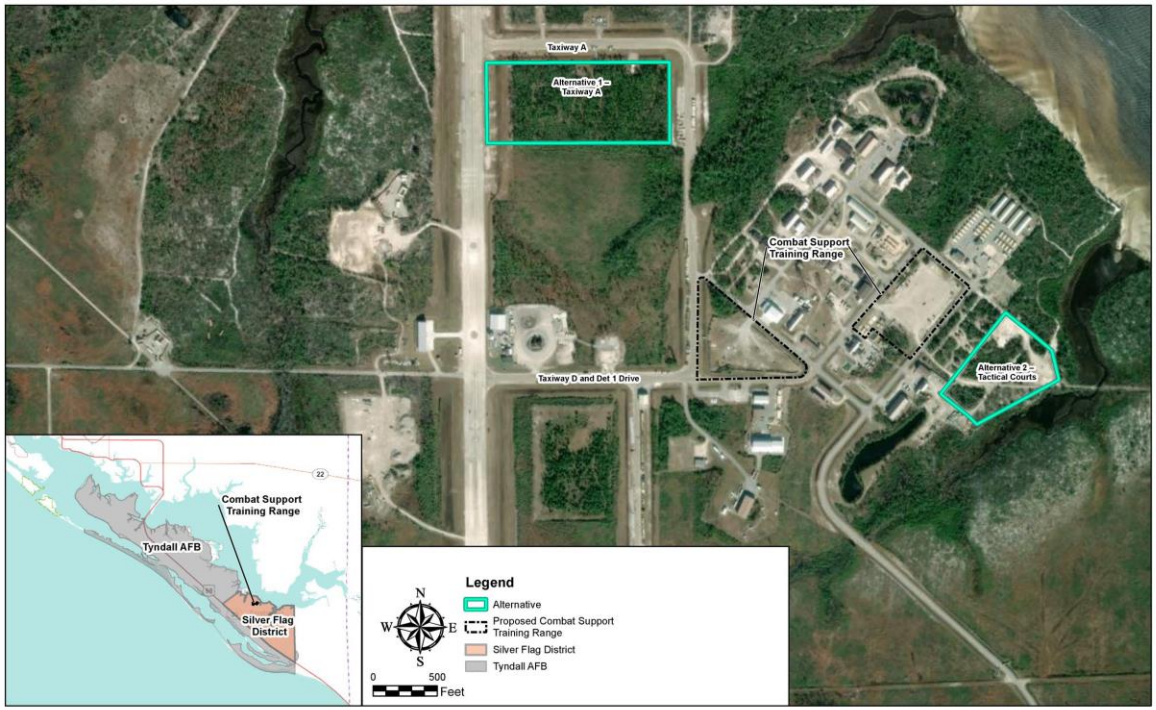


Figure 1. Proposed Location of CSTR

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
325TH CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON (ACC)
TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA

Mr. José J. Cintron
Chief, Environmental Element
325th Civil Engineer Squadron
103 Mississippi Road
Tyndall AFB FL 32403-504

Mr. Noah Silverman
NEPA coordinator, Southeast Regional Office
NOAA Fisheries
263 13th Ave S
St. Petersburg FL 33701

Dear Ms. Gadzala

The United States (U.S.) Department of the Air Force (DAF) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with construction of a Combat Support Training Range (CSTR) at Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (Title 42 U.S. Code 4321 et seq.) and Department of Defense NEPA Implementing Procedures (30 June 2025).

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to establish a training platform to allow civil engineering combat support teams to develop skills needed to establish, operate, protect, and recover an expeditionary air base. An expeditionary air base is a mobile installation that can be established rapidly in the field under a variety of conditions. These installations often consist of simple structures such as concrete block buildings, K-spans, and tents. A CSTR enables larger units to train together and provides for more complex training events that would not be practical to establish at all home stations. The CSTR at Tyndall AFB would be constructed at the existing Silver Flag training area on the eastern side (Attachment 1).

The EA will assess the potential environmental consequences associated with the Proposed Action and alternatives, including the No Action Alternative. Potential impacts identified during the initial planning stages include effects on air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, water resources (including wetlands), safety and occupational health, hazardous materials and waste, and infrastructure. In support of this process, we request your input in identifying general or specific issues or areas of concern you believe should be addressed in the EA. We intend to notify your office when the Draft EA is completed and welcome comments and input at that time as well.

During the EA process, the DAF will determine whether the Proposed Action would have adverse impacts on any habitat or fisheries resources regulated by NOAA Fisheries. The DAF respectfully requests your written comments and other input on the Proposed Action within 30 days of receipt of this letter so they can be considered during preparation of the draft EA. When completed, the draft EA will be submitted to your office for review and comment.

The DAF respectfully requests your written comments and other input on the Proposed Action within 30 days of receipt of this letter so they can be considered during preparation of the Draft EA and Coastal Consistency Determination. When completed, the Draft EA will also be submitted to the State Clearinghouse for review and comment. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Tyndall AFB's Point of Contact, Mr. Edwin Wallace, via email at edwin.wallace.1@us.af.mil, or via telephone at (850) 283-2714.

Sincerely

CINTRON.JOSE.J.1182275146
Digitally signed by CINTRON.JOSE.J.1182275146
Date: 2026.01.05 13:19:16 -06'00'

JOSÉ CINTRON, GS-13, DAF

1 Attachment:
1. Figure 1. Proposed Location of CSTR

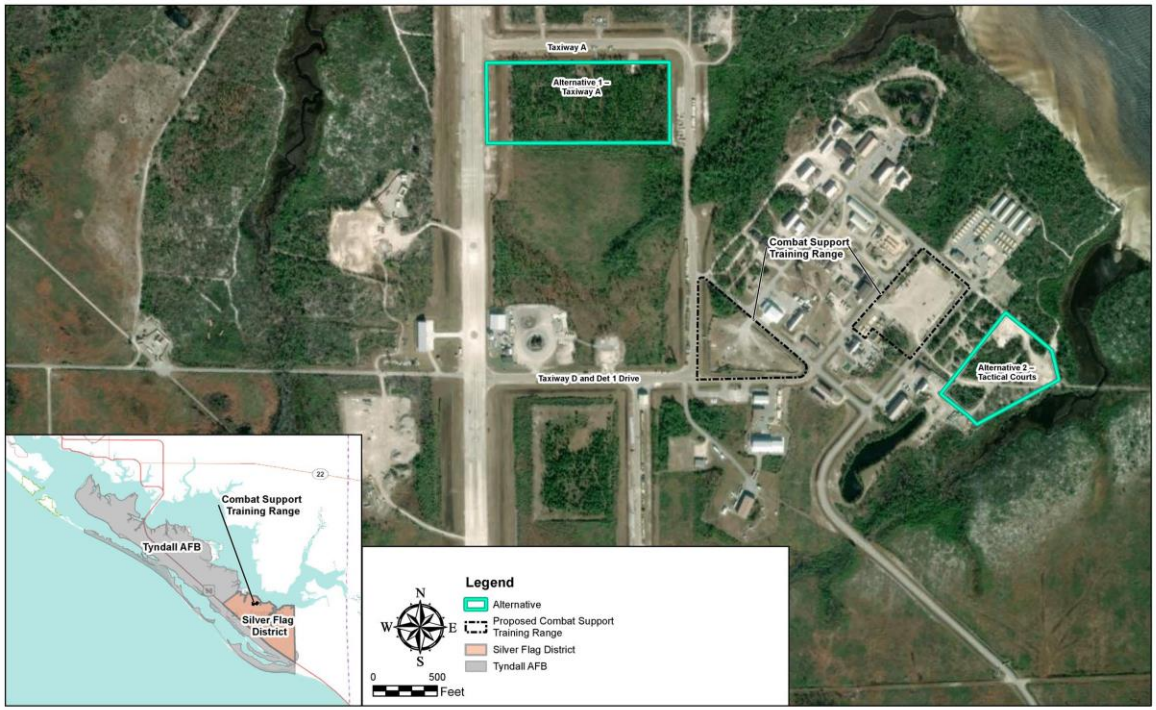


Figure 1. Proposed Location of CSTR

A.1.2 Responses

From: Bunting, Kelly A CIV USARMY CESAJ (USA) <Kelly.A.Bunting@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 9:51 AM
To: WALLACE, EDWIN B CIV USAF ACC 325 CES/CEIEC <edwin.wallace.1@us.af.mil>
Cc: Lovvorn, Lisa S CIV USARMY CESAJ (USA) <lisa.s.lovvorn@usace.army.mil>
Subject: RE: Environmental Assessment, Tyndall AFB CSTR

Good Morning Mr. Wallace,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has received a request for input on areas of concern that will be evaluated in the Environmental Assessment (EA) to be prepared in support of the proposed CSTR at Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB). We are happy to participate in this effort. We request that the EA address potential impacts of the proposed project to any waters of the United States, including wetlands. Under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act, we are authorized to evaluate potential impacts from any work or structure that is proposed in, over, under, or affecting waters of the United States. This could include impacts to navigation or impacts to the course, condition, or capacity of those waters. Under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, we are authorized to evaluate potential impacts from any dredge or fill activities within waters of the United States, including wetlands.

Based on the map provided, one specific area of concern we would like to see addressed is on the eastern side of the Alternative 2 site, which appears to be within or adjacent to waters of the United States. Any potential impacts to this area, including wetlands or marsh located adjacent to the waterway, would be within our area of concern.

While it is our understanding that the lead federal agency for this project would be the AFB, we would review the findings of any coordination the AFB enters into under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the Essential Fish Habitat provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act during our review of any permit application.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in preparing and reviewing the EA for this project. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Kelly

Kelly Bunting
Project Manager
Panama City Permits Section
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Jacksonville District Regulatory Division
415 Richard Jackson Boulevard, Suite 411
Panama City Beach, Florida 32407
Office 850-763-0717 ext. 2
Cell 850-362-8150

We are no longer accepting electronic permit applications via email. Permit applications must be submitted by using the new Regulatory Request System (RRS), located at: **https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs** Have questions or need technical assistance? Visit our support page for help at https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs/support or watch a quick 4-minute video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=24lkoNZvjC0.

1

From: State_Clearinghouse <State.Clearinghouse@FloridaDEP.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 2:44 PM
To: WALLACE, EDWIN B CIV USAF ACC 325 CES/CEIEC <edwin.wallace.1@us.af.mil>
Cc: State_Clearinghouse <State.Clearinghouse@FloridaDEP.gov>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] State Clearinghouse Letter for FL202601260677 - NEPA Review for Preparation of Draft EA for Proposed Construction of a Combat Support Training Range at Tyndall Air Force Base, Bay County, Florida

February 25, 2026

Edwin Wallace
325th Fighter Wing
501 Airey Avenue
Tyndall AFB, FL 32403

RE: U.S. Air Force - NEPA Review for Preparation of Draft EA for Proposed Construction of a Combat Support Training Range at Tyndall Air Force Base, Bay County, Florida
SAI # FL202601260677

Dear Edwin:

The Florida State Clearinghouse has coordinated the review of the proposed project under the following authorities: Presidential Executive Order 12372; § 403.061(43), Florida Statutes (F.S.); the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1451-1464, as amended; and the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321-4347, as amended.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) staff have reviewed the notice regarding the preparation of a Draft EA for the construction of a combat support training range at Tyndall Air Force Base in accordance with their authorities under Chapter 379, Florida Statutes, and have no comments or recommendations related to the listed species and their habitat or other fish and wildlife resources to offer at this time.

The Florida State Historic Preservation Officer reviewed the project for possible effects on historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places. The review was conducted in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and its implementing regulations in 36 CFR Part 800: Protection of Historic Properties. Their letter is attached.

Based on the information submitted and minimal project impacts, the state has no objections to the subject project. Thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft EA. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at (850) 717-9037.

Respectfully,

Lindsay Weaver

2

Lindsay Weaver
Florida State Clearinghouse
Office of Intergovernmental Programs
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
State.Clearinghouse@FloridaDEP.gov
Office: 850-717-9037

3

A.2 Tribal Consultation

A.2.1 Scoping Letter

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
325TH FIGHTER WING (ACC)
TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE FLORIDA

13 January 2026

Colonel Christian M. Bergtholdt
Commander
325th Fighter Wing
325 Checkertail Way
Building 1400M, Suite 220
Tyndall AFB FL 32403-5549

Tolbert Cypress, Chairman
Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida
Tamiami Station
P.O. Box 440021
Miami FL 33144

Dear Chairman Cypress,

The Department of the Air Force (DAF) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with construction of a Combat Support Training Range (CSTR) at Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB). The EA is being prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended by Public Law 118-5, Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 (42 United States Code [U.S.C.] 4321 et seq.), and the DAF's Environmental Impact Analysis Process.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to establish a training platform to allow civil engineering combat support teams to develop skills needed to establish, operate, protect, and recover an expeditionary air base. An expeditionary air base is a mobile installation that can be established rapidly in the field under a variety of conditions. These installations often consist of simple structures such as concrete block buildings, K-spans, and tents. A CSTR enables larger units to train together and provides for more complex training events that would not be practical to establish at all home stations. The CSTR would be constructed at the existing Silver Flag training area on the eastern side of Tyndall AFB (Attachment 1).

The Proposed Action is considered an undertaking under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. During the NEPA process, the DAF will determine whether the proposed undertaking would have adverse impacts on archaeological resources, architectural resources, traditional cultural properties, or other cultural resources. The DAF is not aware of any traditional cultural properties or other historic properties of religious or tribal significance located within either of the alternative sites.

In accordance with Section 106, implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800, and Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 4710.02, *DoD Interactions with Federally Recognized*

Tribes, the DAF is inviting you to participate in government-to-government consultation regarding the proposed undertaking. The DAF is also consulting with the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer with respect to the proposed undertaking.

Please let us know if you are aware of any properties of cultural, historical, or religious significance that could potentially be affected by the proposed undertaking. Additionally, as a stakeholder in the NEPA process, the DAF requests your input in identifying any issues or areas of concern you feel should be addressed in the EA.

The DAF respectfully requests your written comments and other input on the proposed undertaking within 30 days of receipt of this letter so they can be considered during preparation of the Draft EA and Section 106 consultation materials. Responses provided after 30 days will also be considered. The Draft EA will be provided to you for review and comment, when available, with continued opportunity for consultation. Please send your comments or requests for additional information to the Tyndall AFB point of contact, Mr. Edwin Wallace, via email at edwin.wallace.1@us.af.mil, or via telephone at (850) 283-2714.

Sincerely,

BERGTHOLDT.CHRISTIAN.M.1116429736 Digitally signed by BERGTHOLDT.CHRISTIAN.M.1116429736 Date: 2026.01.16 12:25:00 -06'00'

CHRISTIAN M. BERGTHOLDT, Colonel, USAF
Commander

1 Attachment:
1. Figure 1. Proposed Location of CSTR

Sent via email to: jasond@miccosukeetribe.com; kevind@miccosukeetribe.com

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
325TH FIGHTER WING (ACC)
TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE FLORIDA

13 January 2026

Colonel Christian M. Bergtholdt
Commander
325th Fighter Wing
325 Checkertail Way
Building 1400M, Suite 220
Tyndall AFB FL 32403-5549

David Hill, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee OK 74447

Dear Principal Chief Hill,

The Department of the Air Force (DAF) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with construction of a Combat Support Training Range (CSTR) at Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB). The EA is being prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended by Public Law 118-5, Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 (42 United States Code [U.S.C.] 4321 et seq.), and the DAF's Environmental Impact Analysis Process.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to establish a training platform to allow civil engineering combat support teams to develop skills needed to establish, operate, protect, and recover an expeditionary air base. An expeditionary air base is a mobile installation that can be established rapidly in the field under a variety of conditions. These installations often consist of simple structures such as concrete block buildings, K-spans, and tents. A CSTR enables larger units to train together and provides for more complex training events that would not be practical to establish at all home stations. The CSTR would be constructed at the existing Silver Flag training area on the eastern side of Tyndall AFB (Attachment 1).

The Proposed Action is considered an undertaking under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. During the NEPA process, the DAF will determine whether the proposed undertaking would have adverse impacts on archaeological resources, architectural resources, traditional cultural properties, or other cultural resources. The DAF is not aware of any traditional cultural properties or other historic properties of religious or tribal significance located within either of the alternative sites.

In accordance with Section 106, implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800, and Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 4710.02, *DoD Interactions with Federally Recognized*

Tribes, the DAF is inviting you to participate in government-to-government consultation regarding the proposed undertaking. The DAF is also consulting with the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer with respect to the proposed undertaking.

Please let us know if you are aware of any properties of cultural, historical, or religious significance that could potentially be affected by the proposed undertaking. Additionally, as a stakeholder in the NEPA process, the DAF requests your input in identifying any issues or areas of concern you feel should be addressed in the EA.

The DAF respectfully requests your written comments and other input on the proposed undertaking within 30 days of receipt of this letter so they can be considered during preparation of the Draft EA and Section 106 consultation materials. Responses provided after 30 days will also be considered. The Draft EA will be provided to you for review and comment, when available, with continued opportunity for consultation. Please send your comments or requests for additional information to the Tyndall AFB point of contact, Mr. Edwin Wallace, via email at edwin.wallace.1@us.af.mil, or via telephone at (850) 283-2714.

Sincerely,

BERGTHOLDT.CHRISTIAN.M.1116429736 Digitally signed by BERGTHOLDT.CHRISTIAN.M.1116429736 Date: 2026.01.16 12:25:23 -06'00'

CHRISTIAN M. BERGTHOLDT, Colonel, USAF
Commander

1 Attachment:
1. Figure 1. Proposed Location of CSTR

Sent via email to: section106@muscogeenation.com

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
325TH FIGHTER WING (ACC)
TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE FLORIDA

13 January 2026

Colonel Christian M. Bergtholdt
Commander
325th Fighter Wing
325 Checkertail Way
Building 1400M, Suite 220
Tyndall AFB FL 32403-5549

Stephanie A. Bryan, Chairwoman
Poarch Band of Creek Indians
5811 Jack Springs Rd
Atmore AL 36502

Dear Chairwoman Bryan,

The Department of the Air Force (DAF) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with construction of a Combat Support Training Range (CSTR) at Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB). The EA is being prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended by Public Law 118-5, Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 (42 United States Code [U.S.C.] 4321 et seq.), and the DAF's Environmental Impact Analysis Process.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to establish a training platform to allow civil engineering combat support teams to develop skills needed to establish, operate, protect, and recover an expeditionary air base. An expeditionary air base is a mobile installation that can be established rapidly in the field under a variety of conditions. These installations often consist of simple structures such as concrete block buildings, K-spans, and tents. A CSTR enables larger units to train together and provides for more complex training events that would not be practical to establish at all home stations. The CSTR would be constructed at the existing Silver Flag training area on the eastern side of Tyndall AFB (Attachment 1).

The Proposed Action is considered an undertaking under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. During the NEPA process, the DAF will determine whether the proposed undertaking would have adverse impacts on archaeological resources, architectural resources, traditional cultural properties, or other cultural resources. The DAF is not aware of any traditional cultural properties or other historic properties of religious or tribal significance located within either of the alternative sites.

In accordance with Section 106, implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800, and Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 4710.02, *DoD Interactions with Federally Recognized*

Tribes, the DAF is inviting you to participate in government-to-government consultation regarding the proposed undertaking. The DAF is also consulting with the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer with respect to the proposed undertaking.

Please let us know if you are aware of any properties of cultural, historical, or religious significance that could potentially be affected by the proposed undertaking. Additionally, as a stakeholder in the NEPA process, the DAF requests your input in identifying any issues or areas of concern you feel should be addressed in the EA.

The DAF respectfully requests your written comments and other input on the proposed undertaking within 30 days of receipt of this letter so they can be considered during preparation of the Draft EA and Section 106 consultation materials. Responses provided after 30 days will also be considered. The Draft EA will be provided to you for review and comment, when available, with continued opportunity for consultation. Please send your comments or requests for additional information to the Tyndall AFB point of contact, Mr. Edwin Wallace, via email at edwin.wallace.1@us.af.mil, or via telephone at (850) 283-2714.

Sincerely,

BERGTHOLDT.CHRISTIAN.M.1116429736 Digitally signed by BERGTHOLDT.CHRISTIAN.M.1116429736 Date: 2026.01.16 12:47:58 -06'00'

CHRISTIAN M. BERGTHOLDT, Colonel, USAF
Commander

1 Attachment:
1. Figure 1. Proposed Location of CSTR

Sent via email to: sbryan@pci-nsn.gov; bbailey@pci-nsn.gov; tribalchairinfo@pci-nsn.gov

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
325TH FIGHTER WING (ACC)
TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE FLORIDA

13 January 2026

Colonel Christian M. Bergtholdt
Commander
325th Fighter Wing
325 Checkertail Way
Building 1400M, Suite 220
Tyndall AFB FL 32403-5549

Lewis J. Johnson, Principal Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
PO Box 1498
Wewoka OK 74884

Dear Principal Chief Johnson

The Department of the Air Force (DAF) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with construction of a Combat Support Training Range (CSTR) at Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB). The EA is being prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended by Public Law 118-5, Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 (42 United States Code [U.S.C.] 4321 et seq.), and the DAF's Environmental Impact Analysis Process.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to establish a training platform to allow civil engineering combat support teams to develop skills needed to establish, operate, protect, and recover an expeditionary air base. An expeditionary air base is a mobile installation that can be established rapidly in the field under a variety of conditions. These installations often consist of simple structures such as concrete block buildings, K-spans, and tents. A CSTR enables larger units to train together and provides for more complex training events that would not be practical to establish at all home stations. The CSTR would be constructed at the existing Silver Flag training area on the eastern side of Tyndall AFB (Attachment 1).

The Proposed Action is considered an undertaking under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. During the NEPA process, the DAF will determine whether the proposed undertaking would have adverse impacts on archaeological resources, architectural resources, traditional cultural properties, or other cultural resources. The DAF is not aware of any traditional cultural properties or other historic properties of religious or tribal significance located within either of the alternative sites.

In accordance with Section 106, implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800, and Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 4710.02, *DoD Interactions with Federally Recognized*

Tribes, the DAF is inviting you to participate in government-to-government consultation regarding the proposed undertaking. The DAF is also consulting with the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer with respect to the proposed undertaking.

Please let us know if you are aware of any properties of cultural, historical, or religious significance that could potentially be affected by the proposed undertaking. Additionally, as a stakeholder in the NEPA process, the DAF requests your input in identifying any issues or areas of concern you feel should be addressed in the EA.

The DAF respectfully requests your written comments and other input on the proposed undertaking within 30 days of receipt of this letter so they can be considered during preparation of the Draft EA and Section 106 consultation materials. Responses provided after 30 days will also be considered. The Draft EA will be provided to you for review and comment, when available, with continued opportunity for consultation. Please send your comments or requests for additional information to the Tyndall AFB point of contact, Mr. Edwin Wallace, via email at edwin.wallace.1@us.af.mil, or via telephone at (850) 283-2714.

Sincerely

BERGTHOLDT.CHRISTIAN.M.1116429736 Digitally signed by BERGTHOLDT.CHRISTIAN.M.1116429736 Date: 2026.01.16 12:48:26 -06'00'

CHRISTIAN M. BERGTHOLDT, Colonel, USAF
Commander

1 Attachment:
1. Figure 1. Proposed Location of CSTR

Sent via email to: chief@sno-nsn.gov; yahola.b@sno-nsn.gov

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
325TH FIGHTER WING (ACC)
TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE FLORIDA

13 January 2026

Colonel Christian M. Bergtholdt
Commander
325th Fighter Wing
325 Checkertail Way
Building 1400M, Suite 220
Tyndall AFB FL 32403-5549

Marcellus W. Osceola Jr., Chairman
Seminole Tribe of Florida
6300 Stirling Road
Hollywood FL 33024

Dear Chairman Osceola,

The Department of the Air Force (DAF) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with construction of a Combat Support Training Range (CSTR) at Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB). The EA is being prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended by Public Law 118-5, Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 (42 United States Code [U.S.C.] 4321 et seq.), and the DAF's Environmental Impact Analysis Process.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to establish a training platform to allow civil engineering combat support teams to develop skills needed to establish, operate, protect, and recover an expeditionary air base. An expeditionary air base is a mobile installation that can be established rapidly in the field under a variety of conditions. These installations often consist of simple structures such as concrete block buildings, K-spans, and tents. A CSTR enables larger units to train together and provides for more complex training events that would not be practical to establish at all home stations. The CSTR would be constructed at the existing Silver Flag training area on the eastern side of Tyndall AFB (Attachment 1).

The Proposed Action is considered an undertaking under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. During the NEPA process, the DAF will determine whether the proposed undertaking would have adverse impacts on archaeological resources, architectural resources, traditional cultural properties, or other cultural resources. The DAF is not aware of any traditional cultural properties or other historic properties of religious or tribal significance located within either of the alternative sites.

In accordance with Section 106, implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800, and Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 4710.02, *DoD Interactions with Federally Recognized*

Tribes, the DAF is inviting you to participate in government-to-government consultation regarding the proposed undertaking. The DAF is also consulting with the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer with respect to the proposed undertaking.

Please let us know if you are aware of any properties of cultural, historical, or religious significance that could potentially be affected by the proposed undertaking. Additionally, as a stakeholder in the NEPA process, the DAF requests your input in identifying any issues or areas of concern you feel should be addressed in the EA.

The DAF respectfully requests your written comments and other input on the proposed undertaking within 30 days of receipt of this letter so they can be considered during preparation of the Draft EA and Section 106 consultation materials. Responses provided after 30 days will also be considered. The Draft EA will be provided to you for review and comment, when available, with continued opportunity for consultation. Please send your comments or requests for additional information to the Tyndall AFB point of contact, Mr. Edwin Wallace, via email at edwin.wallace.1@us.af.mil, or via telephone at (850) 283-2714.

Sincerely,

BERGTHOLDT.CHRISTIAN.M.1116429736 Digitally signed by BERGTHOLDT.CHRISTIAN.M.1116429736 Date: 2026.01.16 12:48:48 -06'00'

CHRISTIAN M. BERGTHOLDT, Colonel, USAF
Commander

1 Attachment:
1. Figure 1. Proposed Location of CSTR

Sent via email to: chairman@semtribe.com; tinaosceola@semtribe.com

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
325TH FIGHTER WING (ACC)
TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE FLORIDA

13 January 2026

Colonel Christian M. Bergtholdt
Commander
325th Fighter Wing
325 Checkertail Way
Building 1400M, Suite 220
Tyndall AFB FL 32403-5549

Ryan Morrow, Town King
Thlopthlocco Tribal Town
PO Box 188
Okemah OK 74859-0188

Dear Town King Morrow,

The Department of the Air Force (DAF) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with construction of a Combat Support Training Range (CSTR) at Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB). The EA is being prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended by Public Law 118-5, Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 (42 United States Code [U.S.C.] 4321 et seq.), and the DAF's Environmental Impact Analysis Process.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to establish a training platform to allow civil engineering combat support teams to develop skills needed to establish, operate, protect, and recover an expeditionary air base. An expeditionary air base is a mobile installation that can be established rapidly in the field under a variety of conditions. These installations often consist of simple structures such as concrete block buildings, K-spans, and tents. A CSTR enables larger units to train together and provides for more complex training events that would not be practical to establish at all home stations. The CSTR would be constructed at the existing Silver Flag training area on the eastern side of Tyndall AFB (Attachment 1).

The Proposed Action is considered an undertaking under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. During the NEPA process, the DAF will determine whether the proposed undertaking would have adverse impacts on archaeological resources, architectural resources, traditional cultural properties, or other cultural resources. The DAF is not aware of any traditional cultural properties or other historic properties of religious or tribal significance located within either of the alternative sites.

In accordance with Section 106, implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800, and Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 4710.02, *DoD Interactions with Federally Recognized*

Tribes, the DAF is inviting you to participate in government-to-government consultation regarding the proposed undertaking. The DAF is also consulting with the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer with respect to the proposed undertaking.

Please let us know if you are aware of any properties of cultural, historical, or religious significance that could potentially be affected by the proposed undertaking. Additionally, as a stakeholder in the NEPA process, the DAF requests your input in identifying any issues or areas of concern you feel should be addressed in the EA.

The DAF respectfully requests your written comments and other input on the proposed undertaking within 30 days of receipt of this letter so they can be considered during preparation of the Draft EA and Section 106 consultation materials. Responses provided after 30 days will also be considered. The Draft EA will be provided to you for review and comment, when available, with continued opportunity for consultation. Please send your comments or requests for additional information to the Tyndall AFB point of contact, Mr. Edwin Wallace, via email at edwin.wallace.1@us.af.mil, or via telephone at (850) 283-2714.

Sincerely,

BERGTHOLDT.CHRISTIAN.M.1116429736 Digitally signed by BERGTHOLDT.CHRISTIAN.M.1116429736 Date: 2026.01.16 12:49:05 -06'00'

CHRISTIAN M. BERGTHOLDT, Colonel, USAF
Commander

1 Attachment:
1. Figure 1. Proposed Location of CSTR

Sent via email to: rmorrow@tttown.org; thpo@tttown.org

A.2.2 Responses

From: Victoria Menchaca <VictoriaMenchaca@semtribe.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 1:50 PM
To: WALLACE, EDWIN B CIV USAF ACC 325 CES/CEIEC <edwin.wallace.1@us.af.mil>
Cc: THPO Compliance <THPOCompliance@semtribe.com>; Danielle Simon <daniellesimon@semtribe.com>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Construction of Combat Support Training Range (CSTR) Environmental Assessment Scoping Letter, Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB), Bay County, FL

SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA
TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA
TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
THPO PHONE: (863) 983-6549
THPO TRIBAL CONSULTATION EMAIL: THPOCOMPLIANCE@SEMTRIBE.COM
THPO WEBSITE: WWW.STOFTHPO.COM

TRIBAL OFFICERS
MARCELLUS W. OSCEOLA JR.
CHAIRMAN
HOLLY TIGER
VICE CHAIRWOMAN
NAOMI R. WILSON
SECRETARY
PETER A. HAHN
TREASURER

February 10, 2026

Edwin Wallace, GS-12, DAF
Program Manager NEPA
325 CES/CEIEC
100 Checkertail Way, B36233
Tyndall Air Force Base, FL 32403
DSN 523-2714
Phone: 850-283-2714
Email: edwin.wallace.1@us.af.mil

Subject: Construction of Combat Support Training Range (CSTR), Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB), Bay County, Florida
THPO Compliance Tracking Number: 0034783

In order to expedite the THPO review process:
1. Please correspond via email and provide documents as attachments,
2. Please send all emails to THPOCompliance@semtribe.com,
3. Please reference the THPO Compliance Tracking Number if one has been assigned.

Dear Edwin Wallace,

Thank you for contacting the Seminole Tribe of Florida Tribal Historic Preservation Office (STOF THPO) Compliance Section regarding the Construction of Combat Support Training Range (CSTR), Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB), Bay County, Florida.

The proposed undertaking does fall within the STOF Area of Interest. We have reviewed the documents that you provided pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 USC 470) as amended and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800). In order for our office to complete our review, we would like to request the following additional information:

- Our records indicate that an unevaluated site, BY00116, appears to be located within and/or adjacent to the Alternative 2 Tactical Courts APE depicted in Figure 1 of the attachment. The current FMSF form for BY00116 notes the presence of a possible sand mound and recommends Phase II investigations of the site. Has a more recent evaluation of BY00116 occurred? If so, could you please provide this information
- Additionally, will the proposed undertaking effect BY00116?

We look forward to the delivery of the additional information requested. Please continue to consult with our office and feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Victoria L. Menchaca, M.A.,RPA
Compliance Analyst II
Seminole Tribe of Florida
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Phone: 863-458-8195
Email: victoriamenchaca@semtribe.com

From: WALLACE, EDWIN B CIV USAF ACC 325 CES/CEIEC <edwin.wallace.1@us.af.mil>
Sent: Thursday, January 22, 2026 12:03 PM
To: Chairman <Chairman@semtribe.com>; THPO Compliance <THPOCompliance@semtribe.com>; Tina Osceola <TinaOsceola@semtribe.com>
Cc: Tutterow, Brian W. [US-US] <brian.w.tutterow@leidos.com>
Subject: Construction of Combat Support Training Range (CSTR) Environmental Assessment Scoping Letter, Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB), Bay County, FL

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Chairman Osceola,

The Department of the Air Force (DAF) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed action to construct a Combat Support Training Range (CSTR) at Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB), Bay County. The EA is being prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended by Public Law 118-5, Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 (42 United States Code [U.S.C.] 4321 et seq.), and the DAF's Environmental Impact Analysis Process. Attached is the scoping letter and invitation to participate in consultation for the proposed undertaking.

If you have any questions, please contact Edwin Wallace at edwin.wallace.1@us.af.mil or 850-283-2714.

Respectfully,

Edwin Wallace, GS-12, DAF
Program Manager NEPA
325 CES/CEIEC
100 Checkertail Way, B36233
Tyndall Air Force Base, FL 32403
850-283-2714 DSN 523-2714

A.3 National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Consultation

A.3.1 Scoping Letter

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
325TH CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON (ACC)
TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA

Mr. José J. Cintron
Chief, Environmental Element
325th Civil Engineer Squadron
103 Mississippi Road
Tyndall AFB FL 32403-504

Ms. Alissa Slade Lotane
Director
Florida Division of Historical Resources
R.A. Gray Building, Room 305
500 South Bronough St
Tallahassee FL 32399-0250

Dear Ms. Lotane

The United States (U.S.) Department of the Air Force (DAF) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with construction of a Combat Support Training Range (CSTR) at Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (Title 42 U.S. Code 4321 et seq.) and Department of Defense NEPA Implementing Procedures (30 June 2025).

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to establish a training platform to allow civil engineering combat support teams to develop skills needed to establish, operate, protect, and recover an expeditionary air base. An expeditionary air base is a mobile installation that can be established rapidly in the field under a variety of conditions. These installations often consist of simple structures such as concrete block buildings, K-spans, and tents. A CSTR enables larger units to train together and provides for more complex training events that would not be practical to establish at all home stations. The CSTR at Tyndall AFB would be constructed at the existing Silver Flag training area on the eastern side (Attachment 1).

The EA will assess the potential environmental consequences associated with the Proposed Action and alternatives, including the No Action Alternative. Potential impacts identified during the initial planning stages include effects on air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, water resources (including wetlands), safety and occupational health, hazardous materials and waste, and infrastructure. In support of this process, we request your input in identifying general or specific issues or areas of concern you believe should be addressed in the EA. We intend to notify your office when the Draft EA is completed and welcome comments and input at that time as well.

During the EA process, the DAF will determine whether the Proposed Action would have adverse impacts on historic properties or other cultural resources. Separate consultation pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations at 36 Code of Federal Regulations 800.2(c)(2)(ii) will be initiated at a later date.

The DAF respectfully requests your written comments and other input on the Proposed Action within 30 days of receipt of this letter so they can be considered during preparation of the Draft EA. When completed, the Draft EA will also be submitted to the State Clearinghouse for review and comment. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Tyndall AFB's Point of Contact, Mr. Edwin Wallace, via email at edwin.wallace.1@us.af.mil, or via telephone at (850) 283-2714.

Sincerely

CINTRON.JOSE.J.1182275146
Digitally signed by CINTRON.JOSE.J.1182275146
Date: 2026.01.05 12:56:55 -06'00'

JOSÉ CINTRON, GS-13, DAF

1 Attachment:
1. Figure 1. Proposed Location of CSTR

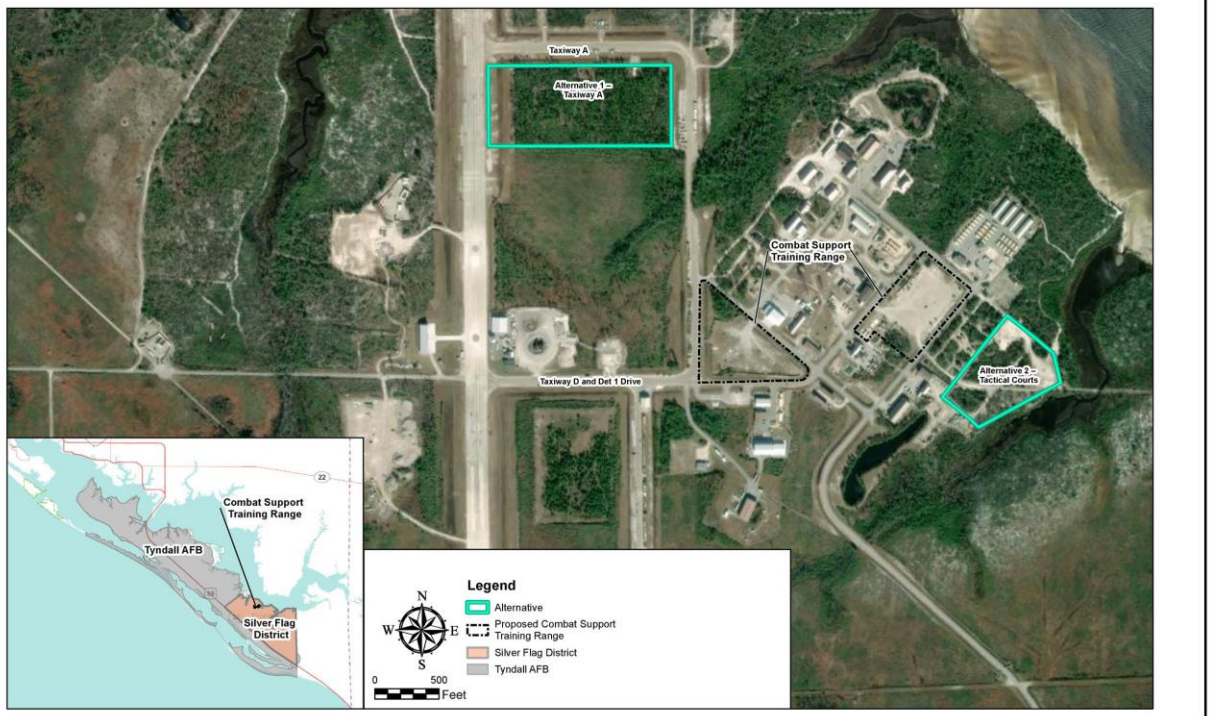


Figure 1. Proposed Location of CSTR

A.3.2 Response

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT of STATE

RON DESANTIS
Governor

CORD BYRD
Secretary of State

Florida State Clearinghouse
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
3800 Commonwealth Blvd., M.S. 47
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2400

February 13, 2026

DHR Project File No.: 2026-0381, Received by DHR: January 26, 2026
Application No.: FL202601260677
Project: *Combat Support Training Range at Tyndall Air Force Base*
County: Bay

To Whom It May Concern:

The Florida State Historic Preservation Officer reviewed the referenced project for possible effects on historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the *National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).* The review was conducted in accordance with Section 106 of the *National Historic Preservation Act of 1966*, as amended, and its implementing regulations in *36 CFR Part 800: Protection of Historic Properties.* This project is subject to compliance with the Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB).

Based on the information provided, it is the opinion of this office that the proposed project will have no effect on historic properties. However, the permit, if issued, should include the following special condition regarding unexpected discoveries:

- If prehistoric or historic artifacts, such as pottery or ceramics, projectile points, dugout canoes, metal implements, historic building materials, or any other physical remains that could be associated with Native American, early European, or American settlement are encountered at any time within the project site area, the permitted project shall cease all activities involving subsurface disturbance in the vicinity of the discovery. The applicant shall contact the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, Compliance and Review Section at (850)-245-6333. Project activities shall not resume without verbal and/or written authorization.
- In the event that unmarked human remains are encountered during permitted activities, all work shall stop immediately and the proper authorities notified in accordance with Section 872.05, Florida Statutes.

If you have any questions, please contact Michael DuBose, Historic Preservationist, by email at Michael.DuBose@dos.fl.gov or by telephone at 850.245.6342.

Sincerely,

Kelly L Chase
For

Alyssa Lotane
Director, Division of Historical Resources
& State Historic Preservation Officer

Division of Historical Resources
R.A. Gray Building • 500 South Bronough Street• Tallahassee, Florida 32399
850.245.6300 • 850.245.6436 (Fax) • FLHeritage.com

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

APPENDIX B AIR QUALITY CALCULATIONS

AIR CONFORMITY APPLICABILITY MODEL REPORT
RECORD OF AIR ANALYSIS (ROAA)

1. General Information: The Air Force's Air Conformity Applicability Model (ACAM) was used to perform a net change in emissions analysis to assess the potential air quality impact/s associated with the action. The analysis was performed in accordance with the Air Force Manual 32-7002, *Environmental Compliance and Pollution Prevention*; the *Environmental Impact Analysis Process* (EIAP, 32 CFR 989); the *General Conformity Rule* (GCR, 40 CFR 93 Subpart B); and the *USAF Air Quality Environmental Impact Analysis Process (EIAP) Guide*. This report provides a summary of the ACAM analysis.

Report generated with ACAM version: 5.0.24a

a. Action Location:
Base: TYNDALL AFB
State: Florida
County(s): Bay
Regulatory Area(s): NOT IN A REGULATORY AREA

b. Action Title: Development and Operation of a Combat Support Training Range (CSTR) at Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida – Alternative 1

c. Project Number/s (if applicable): N/A

d. Projected Action Start Date: 1 / 2028

e. Action Description:

Under the Alternative 1, the Air Force would construct and operate a CSTR at the Silver Flag training site. Construction activities would include site grading, grubbing, and installation of utilities and infrastructure for a Life Support Area (LSA) and a Support Depot. Facilities would include two 5,000-square-foot shower/shave/toilet/laundry (SSTL) buildings, approximately 36 small shelter systems (SSS), five medium shelter systems (MSS), two Joint Air-Transportable Containerized Kitchens (JACKs), and ten 5,000-square-foot K-span storage facilities. Approximately 6 acres of the existing training area would be relocated near Taxiway A.

Operationally, about 400 trainees would participate in two-week training events each month (five days per week) involving assembly/disassembly of structures, equipment operation, and limited use of explosives (up to 2.5 pounds net explosive weight per detonation, twice monthly).

f. Point of Contact:
Name: Allison Williams
Title: Environmental Scientist
Organization: Leidos Corporation
Email: allison.williams@leidos.com
Phone Number: (719) 470 9579

2. Air Impact Analysis: Based on the attainment status at the action location, the requirements of the GCR are:

____ applicable
__X__ not applicable

Total reasonably foreseeable net direct and indirect emissions associated with the action were estimated through ACAM on a calendar-year basis for the start of the action through achieving "steady state" (cCba.e., no net gain/loss in emission stabilized and the action is fully implemented) emissions. The ACAM analysis uses the latest and most accurate emission estimation techniques available; all algorithms, emission factors, and methodologies used are

AIR CONFORMITY APPLICABILITY MODEL REPORT
RECORD OF AIR ANALYSIS (ROAA)

described in detail in the *USAF Air Emissions Guide for Air Force Stationary Sources*, the *USAF Air Emissions Guide for Air Force Mobile Sources*, and the *USAF Air Emissions Guide for Air Force Transitory Sources*.

"Insignificance Indicators" were used in the analysis to provide an indication of the significance of Alternative 1's potential impacts to local air quality. The insignificance indicators are trivial (de minimis) rate thresholds that have been demonstrated to have little to no impact to air quality. These insignificance indicators are the 250 ton/yr Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) major source threshold and 25 ton/yr for lead for actions occurring in areas that are "Attainment" (cCba.e., not exceeding any National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS)). These indicators do not define a significant impact; however, they do provide a threshold to identify actions that are insignificant. Any action with net emissions below the insignificance indicators for all criteria pollutants is considered so insignificant that the action will not cause or contribute to an exceedance on one or more NAAQS. For further detail on insignificance indicators, refer to *Level II, Air Quality Quantitative Assessment, Insignificance Indicators*.

The action's net emissions for every year through achieving steady state were compared against the Insignificance Indicators and are summarized below.

Analysis Summary:

2028

Pollutant	Action Emissions (ton/yr)	INSIGNIFICANCE INDICATOR	
		Indicator (ton/yr)	Exceedance (Yes or No)
NOT IN A REGULATORY AREA			
VOC	0.061	250	No
NOx	0.514	250	No
CO	0.677	250	No
SOx	0.001	250	No
PM 10	1.550	250	No
PM 2.5	0.017	250	No
Pb	0.000	25	No
NH3	0.004	250	No

2029

Pollutant	Action Emissions (ton/yr)	INSIGNIFICANCE INDICATOR	
		Indicator (ton/yr)	Exceedance (Yes or No)
NOT IN A REGULATORY AREA			
VOC	22.917	250	No
NOx	202.315	250	No
CO	86.156	250	No
SOx	16.528	250	No
PM 10	21.392	250	No
PM 2.5	21.392	250	No
Pb	0.000	25	No
NH3	0.000	250	No

2030 - (Steady State)

Pollutant	Action Emissions (ton/yr)	INSIGNIFICANCE INDICATOR	
		Indicator (ton/yr)	Exceedance (Yes or No)
NOT IN A REGULATORY AREA			
VOC	22.917	250	No
NOx	202.315	250	No
CO	86.156	250	No
SOx	16.528	250	No

AIR CONFORMITY APPLICABILITY MODEL REPORT
RECORD OF AIR ANALYSIS (ROAA)

PM 10	21.392	250	No
PM 2.5	21.392	250	No
Pb	0.000	25	No
NH3	0.000	250	No

None of the estimated annual net emissions associated with this action are above the insignificance indicators; therefore, the action will not cause or contribute to an exceedance of one or more NAAQSs and will have an insignificant impact on air quality. No further air assessment is needed.

Allison Williams, Environmental Scientist — Mar 27 2026

Name, Title — **Date**

AIR CONFORMITY APPLICABILITY MODEL REPORT
RECORD OF AIR ANALYSIS (ROAA)

1. General Information: The Air Force's Air Conformity Applicability Model (ACAM) was used to perform a net change in emissions analysis to assess the potential air quality impact/s associated with the action. The analysis was performed in accordance with the Air Force Manual 32-7002, *Environmental Compliance and Pollution Prevention*; the *Environmental Impact Analysis Process* (EIAP, 32 CFR 989); the *General Conformity Rule* (GCR, 40 CFR 93 Subpart B); and the *USAF Air Quality Environmental Impact Analysis Process (EIAP) Guide*. This report provides a summary of the ACAM analysis.

Report generated with ACAM version: 5.0.24a

a. Action Location:
Base: TYNDALL AFB
State: Florida
County(s): Bay
Regulatory Area(s): NOT IN A REGULATORY AREA

b. Action Title: Development and Operation of a Combat Support Training Range (CSTR) at Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida – Alternative 2

c. Project Number/s (if applicable): N/A

d. Projected Action Start Date: 1 / 2028

e. Action Description:

Under Alternative 2, the Air Force would construct and operate a CSTR at the Silver Flag training site. Construction activities would include site grading, grubbing, and installation of utilities and infrastructure for a Life Support Area (LSA) and a Primary Support Depot. Facilities would include two 5,000-square-foot shower/shave/toilet/laundry (SSTL) buildings, approximately 36 small shelter systems (SSS), five medium shelter systems (MSS), two Joint Air-Transportable Containerized Kitchens (JACKs), and ten 5,000-square-foot K-span storage facilities. The existing training area would be relocated to Tactical Courts 1 and 2 combined, which encompasses approximately 6 acres.

Operationally, about 400 trainees would participate in two-week training events each month (five days per week) involving assembly/disassembly of structures, equipment operation, and limited use of explosives (up to 2.5 pounds net explosive weight per detonation, twice monthly).

f. Point of Contact:
Name: Allison Williams
Title: Environmental Scientist
Organization: Leidos Corporation
Email: allison.williams@leidos.com
Phone Number: (719) 470 9579

2. Air Impact Analysis: Based on the attainment status at the action location, the requirements of the GCR are:

____ applicable
_X_ not applicable

Total reasonably foreseeable net direct and indirect emissions associated with the action were estimated through ACAM on a calendar-year basis for the start of the action through achieving "steady state" (cCba.e., no net gain/loss in emission stabilized and the action is fully implemented) emissions. The ACAM analysis uses the latest and most accurate emission estimation techniques available; all algorithms, emission factors, and methodologies used are

AIR CONFORMITY APPLICABILITY MODEL REPORT
RECORD OF AIR ANALYSIS (ROAA)

described in detail in the *USAF Air Emissions Guide for Air Force Stationary Sources*, the *USAF Air Emissions Guide for Air Force Mobile Sources*, and the *USAF Air Emissions Guide for Air Force Transitory Sources*.

"Insignificance Indicators" were used in the analysis to provide an indication of the significance of Alternative 2's potential impacts to local air quality. The insignificance indicators are trivial (de minimis) rate thresholds that have been demonstrated to have little to no impact to air quality. These insignificance indicators are the 250 ton/yr Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) major source threshold and 25 ton/yr for lead for actions occurring in areas that are "Attainment" (cCba.e., not exceeding any National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS)). These indicators do not define a significant impact; however, they do provide a threshold to identify actions that are insignificant. Any action with net emissions below the insignificance indicators for all criteria pollutants is considered so insignificant that the action will not cause or contribute to an exceedance on one or more NAAQS. For further detail on insignificance indicators, refer to *Level II, Air Quality Quantitative Assessment, Insignificance Indicators*.

The action's net emissions for every year through achieving steady state were compared against the Insignificance Indicators and are summarized below.

Analysis Summary:

2028

Pollutant	Action Emissions (ton/yr)	INSIGNIFICANCE INDICATOR	
		Indicator (ton/yr)	Exceedance (Yes or No)
NOT IN A REGULATORY AREA			
VOC	0.061	250	No
NOx	0.515	250	No
CO	0.678	250	No
SOx	0.001	250	No
PM 10	1.577	250	No
PM 2.5	0.017	250	No
Pb	0.000	25	No
NH3	0.004	250	No

2029

Pollutant	Action Emissions (ton/yr)	INSIGNIFICANCE INDICATOR	
		Indicator (ton/yr)	Exceedance (Yes or No)
NOT IN A REGULATORY AREA			
VOC	22.917	250	No
NOx	202.315	250	No
CO	86.156	250	No
SOx	16.528	250	No
PM 10	21.392	250	No
PM 2.5	21.392	250	No
Pb	0.000	25	No
NH3	0.000	250	No

2030 - (Steady State)

Pollutant	Action Emissions (ton/yr)	INSIGNIFICANCE INDICATOR	
		Indicator (ton/yr)	Exceedance (Yes or No)
NOT IN A REGULATORY AREA			
VOC	22.917	250	No
NOx	202.315	250	No
CO	86.156	250	No
SOx	16.528	250	No

AIR CONFORMITY APPLICABILITY MODEL REPORT
RECORD OF AIR ANALYSIS (ROAA)

PM 10	21.392	250	No
PM 2.5	21.392	250	No
Pb	0.000	25	No
NH3	0.000	250	No

None of the estimated annual net emissions associated with this action are above the insignificance indicators; therefore, the action will not cause or contribute to an exceedance of one or more NAAQSs and will have an insignificant impact on air quality. No further air assessment is needed.

Allison Williams, Environmental Scientist — Mar 27 2026

Name, Title — **Date**

APPENDIX C BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES SUPPORTING INFORMATION

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Florida Ecological Services Field Office
777 37th St
Suite D-101
Vero Beach, FL 32960-3559
Phone: (352) 448-9151 Fax: (772) 562-4288
Email Address: fw4flesregs@fws.gov
https://www.fws.gov/office/florida-ecological-services

In Reply Refer To: 11/05/2025 17:33:08 UTC
Project Code: 2026-0012601
Project Name: Environmental Assessment for the Combat Support Training Range, Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. **Please include your Project Code, listed at the top of this letter, in all subsequent correspondence regarding this project.** Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered

species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf

Florida bonneted bat: If the Florida bonneted bat or Florida bonneted bat Critical Habitat is on your Official Species List, please make sure you are using the 2024 Florida Bonneted Bat Guidelines and Key and submitting acoustic survey data to NABat if acoustic surveys are conducted.

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts see https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permits/what-we-do.

It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures see https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of

Executive Order 13186, please visit https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Bald & Golden Eagles
- Migratory Birds
- Marine Mammals
- Wetlands

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Florida Ecological Services Field Office
777 37th St
Suite D-101
Vero Beach, FL 32960-3559
(352) 448-9151

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2026-0012601

Project Name: Environmental Assessment for the Combat Support Training Range, Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida

Project Type: Military Development

Project Description: The Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center proposes to develop a Combat Support Training Range at Tyndall Air Force Base's Silver Flag training site in Bay County, Florida. The project would consist of relocating the existing 6-acre Secondary Distribution Center Training Area; constructing infrastructure to support a Life Support Area and related facilities (small and medium shelter systems, joint air-transportable containerized kitchens, and shower/shave/toilet/laundry facilities); constructing Support Depot infrastructure; and installing K-span storage facilities on concrete pads. Utility connection, grading, fill, and gravel would be included in the actions, with approximately 15 acres (including previously disturbed areas) affected. Training would consist of assembling and disassembling structures, detonating explosives on the existing mock runway (a currently ongoing activity), and conducting runway repairs.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@30.02183375,-85.4910007210755,14z

Counties: Bay County, Florida

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 11 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries[1], as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

1. NOAA Fisheries, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Tricolored Bat *Perimyotis subflavus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed Endangered
West Indian Manatee *Trichechus manatus* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. ***This species is also protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act, and may have additional consultation requirements.*** Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4469 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/JOR2AGIF25H5ZIUTWLIDBQID6U/documents/generated/7281.pdf	Threatened

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Eastern Black Rail *Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10477	Threatened

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Alligator Snapping Turtle *Macrochelys temminckii* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4658	Proposed Threatened
Eastern Indigo Snake *Drymarchon couperi* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/646	Threatened
Southern Hognose Snake *Heterodon simus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3248	Proposed Threatened

FISHES

NAME	STATUS
Gulf Sturgeon *Acipenser oxyrinchus (=oxyrhynchus) desotoi* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/651	Threatened

INSECTS

Project code: 2026-0012601 11/05/2025 17:33:08 UTC

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Proposed Threatened

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Godfrey's Butterwort *Pinguicula ionantha* Population: No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6805	Threatened
Telephus Spurge *Euphorbia telephioides* Population: No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5499	Threatened
White Birds-in-a-nest *Macbridea alba* Population: No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6291	Threatened

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the National Wildlife Refuge system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

Bald and Golden Eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act [2] and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) [1]. Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to Bald or Golden Eagles, or their habitats, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate avoidance and minimization measures, as described in the various links on this page.

7 of 15

1. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.
2. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

There are Bald Eagles and/or Golden Eagles in your project area.

Measures for Proactively Minimizing Eagle Impacts
For information on how to best avoid and minimize disturbance to nesting bald eagles, please review the National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines. You may employ the timing and activity-specific distance recommendations in this document when designing your project/ activity to avoid and minimize eagle impacts. For bald eagle information specific to Alaska, please refer to Bald Eagle Nesting and Sensitivity to Human Activity.

The FWS does not currently have guidelines for avoiding and minimizing disturbance to nesting Golden Eagles. For site-specific recommendations regarding nesting Golden Eagles, please consult with the appropriate Regional Migratory Bird Office or Ecological Services Field Office.

If disturbance or take of eagles cannot be avoided, an incidental take permit may be available to authorize any take that results from, but is not the purpose of, an otherwise lawful activity. For assistance making this determination for Bald Eagles, visit the Do I Need A Permit Tool. For assistance making this determination for golden eagles, please consult with the appropriate Regional Migratory Bird Office or Ecological Services Field Office.

Ensure Your Eagle List is Accurate and Complete
If your project area is in a poorly surveyed area in IPaC, your list may not be complete and you may need to rely on other resources to determine what species may be present (e.g. your local FWS field office, state surveys, your own surveys). Please review the Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles, to help you properly interpret the report for your specified location, including determining if there is sufficient data to ensure your list is accurate.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to bald or golden eagles on your list, see the "Probability of Presence Summary" below to see when these bald or golden eagles are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Sep 1 to Jul 31

PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project

activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read "Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles", specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

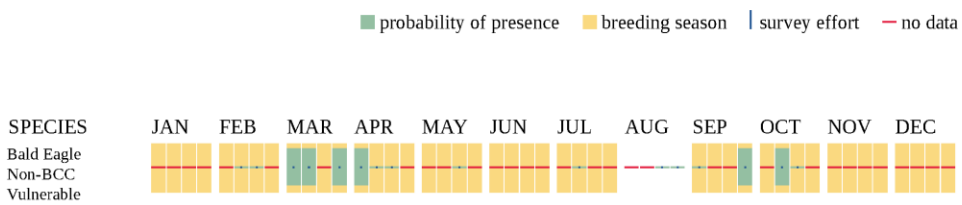
Probability of Presence (■)

Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

Breeding Season (■)
Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

Survey Effort (|)
Vertical black lines; the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data (–)
A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.



Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action

MIGRATORY BIRDS

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) [1] prohibits the take (including killing, capturing, selling, trading, and transport) of protected migratory bird species without prior authorization by the Department of Interior U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service).

1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
2. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the "Probability of Presence Summary" below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
American Kestrel *Falco sparverius paulus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9587	Breeds Apr 1 to Aug 31
Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Sep 1 to Jul 31
Black Skimmer *Rynchops niger* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5234	Breeds May 20 to Sep 15
Brown-headed Nuthatch *Sitta pusilla* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9427	Breeds Mar 1 to Jul 15
Chimney Swift *Chaetura pelagica* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9406	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 25
Least Tern *Sternula antillarum antillarum* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/11919	Breeds Apr 25 to Sep 5
Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9561	Breeds elsewhere
Red-headed Woodpecker *Melanerpes erythrocephalus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9398	Breeds May 10 to Sep 10

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres morinella* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10633	Breeds elsewhere
Semipalmated Sandpiper *Calidris pusilla* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9603	Breeds elsewhere
Short-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus griseus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9480	Breeds elsewhere
Swallow-tailed Kite *Elanoides forficatus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8938	Breeds Mar 10 to Jun 30
Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus hudsonicus* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/11991	Breeds elsewhere
Willet *Tringa semipalmata* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10669	Breeds Apr 20 to Aug 5
Wilson's Plover *Charadrius wilsonia* This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9722	Breeds Apr 1 to Aug 20

PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read "Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles", specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

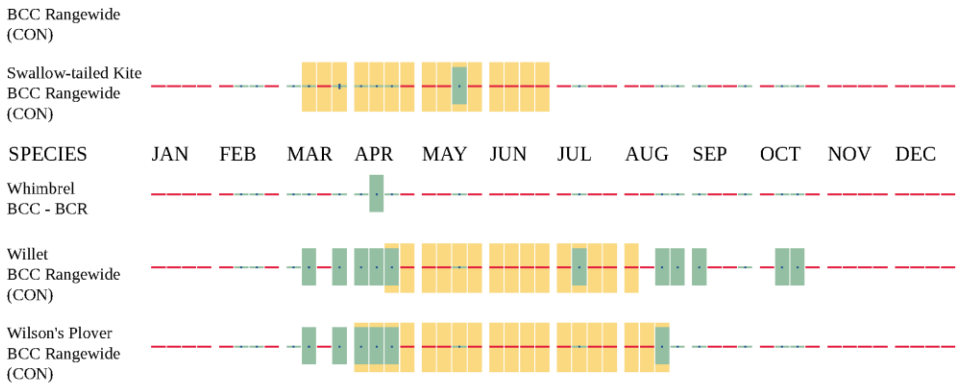
Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

Survey Effort (|)
Vertical black lines; the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

No Data (–)
A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.



Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action

MARINE MAMMALS

Marine mammals are protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Some are also protected under the Endangered Species Act[1] and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora[2].

The responsibilities for the protection, conservation, and management of marine mammals are shared by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [responsible for otters, walruses, polar bears, manatees, and dugongs] and NOAA Fisheries[3] [responsible for seals, sea lions, whales, dolphins, and porpoises]. Marine mammals under the responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list; for additional information on those species please visit the Marine Mammals page of the NOAA Fisheries website.

The Marine Mammal Protection Act prohibits the take of marine mammals and further coordination may be necessary for project evaluation. Please contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Field Office shown.

1. The Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973.

2. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is a treaty to ensure that international trade in plants and animals does not threaten their survival in the wild.
3. NOAA Fisheries, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

NAME

West Indian Manatee *Trichechus manatus*
Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4469

WETLANDS

Impacts to NWI wetlands and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District.

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND
- PEM1C

FRESHWATER POND
- PUBHx

FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND
- PFO4/SS1C

Project code: 2026-0012601 11/05/2025 17:33:08 UTC

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Air Force
Name: Ronald Combs
Address: 1140 Eglin Parkway
City: Shalimar
State: FL
Zip: 32579
Email combsro@leidos.com
Phone: 8503753736

15 of 15

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

APPENDIX D FLORIDA COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM CONSISTENCY REVIEW

Florida Statute	Legal Scope	Consistency Evaluation
Chapter 161 *Beach and Shore Preservation*	Authorizes the Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems within FDEP jurisdiction to regulate construction on or seaward of the state's beaches.	The Proposed Action would not adversely affect beach and shore management, specifically as it pertains to the Coastal Construction Permit Program, the CCCL Program, and the Coastal Zone Protection Program. The Proposed Action would occur within the Silver Flag training area located on the eastern side of Tyndall AFB and would not occur seaward of the CCCL.
Chapter 163, Part II *Growth Policy; County and Municipal Planning; Land Development Regulation*	Requires local governments to prepare, adopt, and implement comprehensive plans that encourage the most appropriate use of land and natural resources in a manner consistent with the public interest.	The Proposed Action would occur within Tyndall AFB and, therefore, would not affect municipal or county government comprehensive plans.
Chapter 186 *State and Regional Planning*	Details state-level planning requirements. Requires the development of special statewide plans governing water use, land development, and transportation.	As part of the NEPA process, the Proposed Action is being coordinated with federal, state, and local governments and agencies, including the FDEP State Clearinghouse, for compatibility with state and regional planning.
Chapter 252 *Emergency Management*	Provides for planning and implementation of the state's response to, efforts to recover from, and the mitigation of natural and man-made disasters.	The Proposed Action would not affect the ability of the state to respond to or recover from natural or man-made disasters.
Chapter 253 *State Lands*	Addresses the state's administration of public lands and property of this state and provides direction regarding the acquisition, disposal, and management of all state lands.	The Proposed Action would occur entirely within Tyndall AFB. No state lands would be disturbed during the construction, renovations, infrastructure construction, or demolitions and, therefore, state lands would not be affected.
Chapter 258 *State Parks and Preserves*	Addresses administration and management of state parks and preserves.	The Proposed Action would not directly affect state parks, recreational areas, or preserves. Secondary or indirect effects to environmental or social resources related to these facilities are not anticipated. Opportunity for recreation on state lands would not be affected.
Chapter 259 *Land Acquisition for Conservation or Recreation*	Authorizes acquisition of environmentally endangered lands and outdoor recreation lands.	The Proposed Action would occur within Tyndall AFB and would not affect the acquisition of environmentally endangered and outdoor recreation lands.

Florida Statute	Legal Scope	Consistency Evaluation
Chapter 260 *Recreational Trails System*	Authorizes acquisition of land to create a recreational trails system and to facilitate management of the system.	The Proposed Action would occur within Tyndall AFB and would not have an effect on the acquisition of land to create a recreational trails system.
Chapter 267 *Historical Resources*	Addresses management and preservation of the state's archaeological and historical resources.	The Proposed Action would not adversely affect historical or cultural resources of the State of Florida. The DAF is consulting with the Florida State Historic Preservation Office pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. In the event of an unanticipated discovery (including human remains) during ground-disturbing activities, the Standard Operating Procedures outlined in the Tyndall AFB Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan would be followed.
Chapter 288 *Commercial Development and Capital Improvements*	Provides the framework for promoting and developing the general business, trade, and tourism components of the state economy.	The Proposed Action would occur on an active military installation with limited access to the public and limited or no implications for effects on general business, trade, and tourism components of the state economy.
Chapter 334 *Transportation Administration*	Addresses the state's policy concerning transportation administration.	The Proposed Action would not have an effect on the state's transportation administration policies.
Chapter 339 *Transportation Finance and Planning*	Addresses the finance and planning needs of the state's transportation system.	The Proposed Action would not affect the finance and planning needs of the state's transportation system.
Chapter 373 *Water Resources*	Addresses the state's policy concerning water resources.	There would be no direct effects on floodplains as no 100-year or 500-year floodplains occur within the project boundaries. No indirect effects on floodplains are anticipated because off-site effects from stormwater runoff would be minimized through the design of drainage systems to properly convey and store stormwater flows. The groundwater has known PFAS contamination; dewatering, if required, would be handled according to guidelines established for ERP Site TU539P-Sub. Thus, potential effects on groundwater resources would be minor. Up to 20 acres would be cleared and graded for construction and stormwater drainage, with approximately 6 acres of impervious surfaces. Total site disturbance exceeds one acre, so a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit would be required, as well as a Notice of Intent for disturbance greater than 5 acres.

Florida Statute	Legal Scope	Consistency Evaluation
		To address the potential for excess sedimentation and other runoff effects, the proponent would obtain all necessary permits and implement permit requirements and best management practices. Hazardous materials and waste and contaminated media would be managed in accordance with applicable environmental compliance regulations and Tyndall AFB environmental management plans and guidelines. Operations would follow Tyndall AFB Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Plan measures. Design measures would be implemented to avoid/minimize indirect effects to wetlands and other surface waters. With implementation of permit requirements and management actions, the Proposed Action would not result in significant effects on groundwater, floodplains, surface waters, or wetlands.
Chapter 375 *Outdoor Recreation and Conservation Lands*	Develops comprehensive multipurpose outdoor recreation plans to document recreational supply and demand, describe current recreational opportunities, estimate need for additional recreational opportunities, and propose means to meet the identified needs.	The Proposed Action would not affect the state's development or evaluation of multipurpose outdoor recreation plans.
Chapter 376 *Pollutant Discharge Prevention and Removal*	Regulates transfer, storage, and transportation of pollutants, and cleanup of pollutant discharges.	The Proposed Action would follow the procedures in the Tyndall AFB Hazardous Material Emergency Planning and Response Plan and the Tyndall AFB SPCC Plan that establishes procedures, methods, equipment, and other criteria to both prevent and respond to discharges of oily and hazardous substances. Project-specific best management practices would be implemented for the construction and operation of the Proposed Action in accordance with stormwater discharge permit conditions. The Proposed Action would not alter the types of hazardous and other regulated materials used at Tyndall AFB. Site construction would disturb soils that are potentially contaminated with PFAS (see Section 3.5, *Water Resources*, Section 3.6, *Geology and Soil Resources*, and Section 3.9, *Hazardous Materials and Wastes*). All soil-disturbing and construction activities near or within TU539P-Sub would adhere to established guidelines per the DAF's memorandum

Florida Statute	Legal Scope	Consistency Evaluation
		for record with the FDEP to ensure that soil from Tyndall AFB does not exceed PFOS or PFOA standards (see Section 3.9.1.3, *Environmental Restoration Program Sites*, of the EA). The Proposed Action would not involve the transfer of pollutants between vessels; between onshore facilities and vessels; between offshore facilities and vessels; or between terminal facilities within jurisdiction of the state and state waters. No significant effects are anticipated from hazardous materials and wastes associated with the Proposed Action.
Chapter 377 *Energy Resources*	Addresses regulation, planning, and development of energy resources of the state.	Implementation of the Proposed Action would not cause unsupportable demands on available natural resources or energy supplies.
Chapter 379 *Fish and Wildlife Conservation*	Addresses management and protection of fish and wildlife in the state.	Up to 20 acres would be cleared and graded for construction and stormwater drainage. Approximately 13 of the 20 acres is mostly disturbed from previous development with the majority of vegetation limited to maintained grasses and forbs, except for a small number of trees. These areas have limited wildlife habitat value. The clearance of the remaining acreage would result in the long-term loss of approximately 6 acres of trees, shrubs, grasses, and forbs. Habitat loss would decrease food, shelter, and nesting/burrowing sites available to wildlife and could cause displacement of some individuals. However, the area of habitat affected would be relatively small, representing about 3.7 percent of all natural areas on the base (including surface water areas). In addition, much larger areas of similar vegetation and habitats occur adjacent to the base, including multiple conservation areas, such as approximately 633,000 acres of habitat available in the nearby Apalachicola National Forest. Adjacent habitats may be affected by runoff from new impervious surfaces. However, site designs would include stormwater drainage and management measures. Thus, runoff from the Proposed Action would not significantly affect surrounding vegetation or habitat.

Florida Statute	Legal Scope	Consistency Evaluation
		There is potential for wildlife mortality during construction and operational activities, most likely involving smaller, slow-moving species. Disturbances from noise may disrupt wildlife but would be intermittent and would not have long-term effects on wildlife. The DAF is conducting informal Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation with the USFWS regarding potential effects to federally protected species. No critical habitat is present at the site and no listed species have been documented, but the following have the potential to occur: tricolored bat, West Indian manatee, eastern black rail, eastern indigo snake, southern hog-nosed snake, alligator snapping turtle, gopher tortoise, monarch butterfly, Gulf sturgeon, Godfrey's butterwort, telephus spurge, and white birds-in-a-nest. If present, individual plants may be injured or destroyed by equipment, and animals may be directly affected by equipment or disturbed by noise. However, any mammals, reptiles, monarch butterflies, migratory birds, or eagles that may be in the area would be expected to move to adjacent habitat to avoid effects. The Proposed Action would not reduce the distribution or viability of protected species or critical habitats. The Proposed Action would not result in significant effects to any habitats, fish, wildlife, or federally protected species.
Chapter 380 *Land and Water Management*	Establishes land and water management policies to guide and coordinate local decisions relating to growth and development.	The Proposed Action would be developed consistent with local land and water management plans. The Proposed Action is subject to local permit, stormwater, and environmental requirements and review. The Proposed Action will require coordination with and authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the FDEP/NWFWMD.
Chapter 381 *Public Health, General Provisions*	Establishes public policy concerning the state's public health system.	The Proposed Action does not involve the construction of an on-site sewage treatment and disposal system. Construction activities associated with the Proposed Action are governed by regulations established by the Air Force Occupational Safety and Health Program and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. No appreciable change

Florida Statute	Legal Scope	Consistency Evaluation
		in the type, quantity, or disposal of solid wastes is expected. The Proposed Action would not affect public policy or management with regards to sanitation, communicable diseases, or public health.
Chapter 388 *Mosquito Control*	Addresses mosquito control efforts in the state.	The Proposed Action would not affect local mosquito control efforts or contribute to increased propagation of mosquitos.
Chapter 403 *Environmental Control*	Establishes public policy concerning environmental control in the state.	The construction and operations of the Proposed Action would include project-specific best management practices and pollution prevention measures. The Proposed Action is not expected to exceed applicable state water quality standards or have substantial and longer-term water quality effects. Air pollutant emissions associated with construction of the Proposed Action would not exceed DAF significance thresholds or cause exceedances of air quality standards. No long-term changes in air emissions are expected. Construction wastes and operational wastes would be collected, transported, recycled, and disposed of in compliance with applicable state and local regulations. The DAF would obtain and comply with all applicable permits as required by law.
Chapter 553 *Building Construction Standards*	Provides a mechanism for the uniform adoption, updating, amendment, interpretation, and enforcement of a single, unified state building code, to be called the Florida Building Code. Obtain a permit from the appropriate enforcing agency.	The Proposed Action would not affect the Building Construction Standards of the State of Florida. The DAF would obtain and comply with all applicable permits as required by law.
Chapter 582 *Soil and Water Conservation*	Provides for the control and prevention of soil erosion.	A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan would be developed and followed, and best management practices addressing erosion and sediment controls would be implemented to minimize effects to soils and water quality. The Proposed Action would be consistent with the current characteristic features of the area and landscape and would not result in any changes to land use. The Proposed Action would not affect soils or farmland within a Soil and Water Conservation District and would not convert prime farmland.

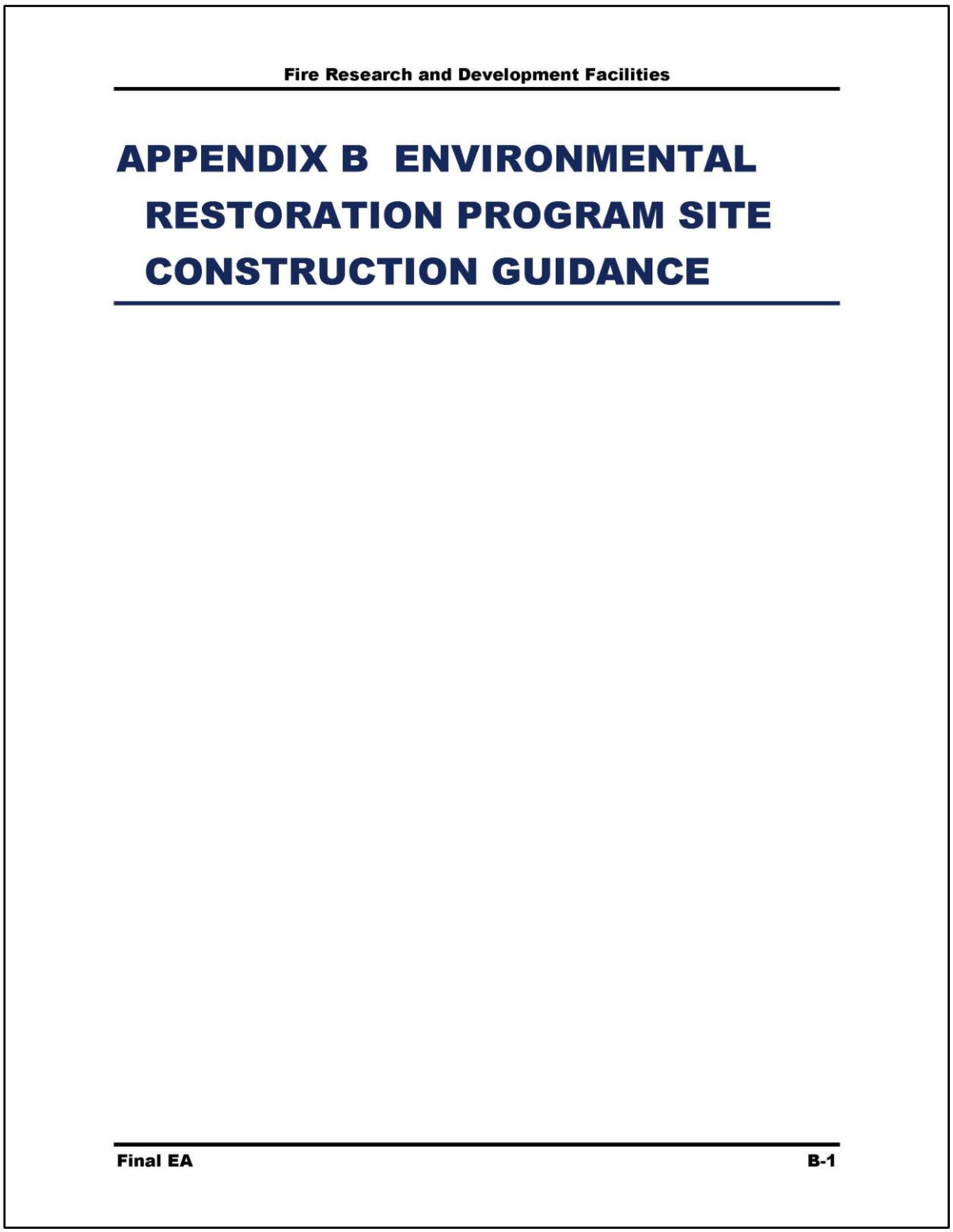
Florida Statute	Legal Scope	Consistency Evaluation
Chapter 597 *Aquaculture*	Establishes public policy concerning the cultivation of aquatic organisms.	The Proposed Action has no activities related to the cultivation of marine species in the study area. The Proposed Action activities would not affect aquaculture.

Source: Florida Statutes, as identified in table.

AFB = Air Force Base; CCCL = Coastal Construction Control Line; DAF = Department of the Air Force; EA = Environmental Assessment; ERP = Environmental Restoration Program; FDEP = Florida Department of Environmental Protection; NEPA = National Environmental Policy Act; NWFWMD = Northwest Florida Water Management District; PFAS = per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances; PFOA = perfluorooctanoic acid; PFOS = perfluorooctane sulfonate; SPCC = Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure; U.S. = United States; USFWS = Unites States Fish and Wildlife Service

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

APPENDIX E ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM CORRESPONDENCE



Fire Research and Development Facilities

APPENDIX B ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM SITE CONSTRUCTION GUIDANCE

Final EA B-1

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION 1 of 3 0101017-001-EI/93 PERMIT STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

3 August 2021

SAF/IEE
1665 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330-1665

Dear Interim Secretary Hamilton:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you on July 21, 2021 regarding permitting requirements for Tyndall AFB reconstruction. I appreciate your support for this continuing effort as the Air Force remains committed to basing three F-35 squadrons at Tyndall starting in the fall of 2023.

The enclosure provides for your review a Memorandum for Record documenting the agreement we reached in our telephone conversation. If you are comfortable that it accurately reflects the terms of our agreement, please sign and return to me to reflect our mutual understanding. I will then return a record copy back to you with both of our signatures. I look forward to continuing to work with you and your team as the Air Force continues to reconstruct Tyndall into a first Twenty-First Century Installation.

Sincerely,

CORRELL.MARK.A.1157490385 Digitally signed by CORRELL.MARK.A.1157490385 Date: 2021.08.03 13:00:13 -04'00'

MARK A. CORRELL, P.E.
Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force
(Environment, Safety, and Infrastructure)

Attachment:
Memorandum for Record

cc:
SAF/IE

B-2

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Soil Management Pursuant to the Tyndall Rebuild Program

Background

1. Following the devastation of Hurricane Michael in October 2018, the Department of the Air Force (Air Force) is executing a rebuild of Tyndall Air Force Base and the beddown of a new F-35 mission.

2. The Air Force has determined that the rebuild and beddown efforts at Tyndall Air Force Base are vitally important to national security, and that those efforts can be accomplished in a manner protective of Florida's environment. Further, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) recognizes the critical importance of the rebuild at Tyndall Air Force Base, both for our national defense strategy and our communities in Northwest Florida.

3. On 26 February 2021, the Air Force made application to the Florida Department Environmental Protection (FDEP) for an Environmental Resources Permit (Permit) for military construction in Zone 1 of Tyndall Air Force Base.

4. The considerations in this Memorandum for the Record (Memorandum) reflect the desire of FDEP to prevent soil from Tyndall Air Force Base that exceeds FDEP's provisional soil cleanup target levels for Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) from being placed off-base, including in any state unlined landfill. They similarly reflect the Air Force's requirements to carry out construction activities consistent with any applicable federal, state, and local requirements to which the United States Government is subject, and Office of the Secretary of Defense and Air Force policies.

Considerations. In accordance with our telephone conversation on July 21, 2021, this Memorandum documents our agreement with the following additional considerations for the Permit as well as any other Environmental Resource Permits associated with the rebuild and beddown activities at Tyndall Air Force Base.

1. While the scope of the Air Force's permit application was limited to Zone 1, the site for purposes of this Memorandum will encompass Tyndall Air Force Base.

2. FDEP will incorporate by reference this Memorandum into any approved Environmental Resource Permit associated with the rebuild and beddown activities at Tyndall Air Force Base, including the Air Force's Permit application dated 26 February 2021 for military construction activities in Zone 1. FDEP will process its approval of the Zone 1 application as quickly as possible based on the existing application content and provisions of this Memorandum.

B-3

3. The Air Force will screen for PFOA and PFOS in areas of known releases of Aqueous Film Forming Foam in accordance with Department of Defense and Air Force policy using the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's online calculator using the reference dose (RFd) of 2E-05 mg.kg-day.

4. Consistent with Air Force guidance and U.S. Army Corps of Engineer (USACE) contract language, soil that meets Air Force screening criteria for PFOS and PFOA, but which may not meet Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) provisional standards, shall remain on site for unrestricted use. Any on-site location, long-term storage, and (re)use of this soil shall be in accordance with Air Force contract provisions, Air Force requirements, and applicable federal, state, and local regulations to which the United States Government is subject.

5.Soil that does not meet Air Force screening criteria for PFOS/PFOA will be handled in accordance with USACE contract requirements and applicable federal and state regulations.

Shawn Hamilton
Digitally signed by Shawn Hamilton
Date: 2021.08.03 14:04:47 -04'00'

SHAWN HAMILTON
Interim Secretary
Florida Department of Environmental Protection

CORRELL.MARK.A.1157490385
Digitally signed by CORRELL.MARK.A.1157490385
Date: 2021.08.03 13:00:34 -04'00'

MARK A. CORRELL, P.E.
Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force
(Environment, Safety, and Infrastructure)

B-4

APPENDIX F LIST OF PREPARERS

Government Agency Development Team	
Name/Title	**Role**
Ricqui Brager	USACE
Grace Keesling	AFCEC/CIE, NEPA Manager
Maj Blanch	AFCEC/CFS
Lt Col Shallcross	AFCEC/CFS
Edwin Wallace	Tyndall AFB, NEPA Manager

Contractor Development Team			
Name/Title	**Project Role**	**Subject Area**	**Qualifications**
Jay Austin Noise Analyst M.S. Environmental Science B.A. Biology	Section Author	Noise	25 Years Environmental Science
Quentina Borgic Geospatial Technician/Archaeologist M.S. Geographic Information Science and Technology B.A. Anthropology and Geography	Geospatial	Document Maps	24 Years Geospatial, Cultural Resources, Environmental Science
Chris Crabtree Air Quality Meteorologist B.A. Environmental Studies	Section Author	Air Quality	27 Years Environmental Science
Rick Combs Environmental Scientist M.S. Biology B.S. Biology B.S. Business Administration	Section Author	Biological Resources	23 Years Environmental Science
Denise Delancey Technical Editor B.A. English/Communications	Production	Document Production	21 Years Technical Editing
Peggy Farrell, CHMM, QEP, PMP Environmental Scientist M.S. Natural Sciences and Environmental Studies B.A. Biology and Environmental Studies	Section Author	Public Health and Safety Transportation	46 Years Environmental Science
Jason Koralewski Senior Archaeologist M.A. Anthropology B.A. Anthropology	Section Author	Cultural Resources	30 Years Archaeology, Environmental Science
Vincent Passaro Environmental Scientist M.S. Environmental Science B.S. Fish and Wildlife Science	Section Author	Hazardous Materials and Wastes	25 Years Environmental Science
Amy Sands Assistant Project Manager M.A.S. Environmental Policy B.S. Environmental Science	Quality Assurance	Document Review	22 Years Environmental Science

Name/Title	Project Role	Subject Area	Qualifications
Heather Stepp Environmental Scientist B.S. Environmental Engineering Technology	Production	Document Review Document Production	28 Years Editing, Document Production, Environmental Science
Brian Tutterow Environmental Scientist B.S. Biology	Project Manager Section Author	Document Review Water Resources Geology and Soil Resources Land Use Infrastructure	27 Years Environmental Science
Jennifer Wallin Environmental Scientist M.S. Environmental Toxicology B.S. Biology	Production	Document Production	26 Years Editing, Document Production, Environmental Science
Jessica Welsh Technical Editor B.A. Journalism	Production	Document Production	26 Years Editing, Document Production
Allison Williams Environmental Scientist M.S. Environmental Management B.S. Environmental Health and Safety	Section Author	Air Quality	5 Years Environmental Science