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## Programmatic Environmental Assessment

Addressing Upgrade of the Stormwater Drainage System Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico







January **2019** 

DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)/ FINDING OF NO PRACTICABLE ALTERNATIVE (FONPA) FOR THE PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ADDRESSING UPGRADE OF THE STORMWATER DRAINAGE SYSTEM AT KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO

9 Pursuant to provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act. 42 United States Code §§ 4321 10 to 4347, as amended, implementing Council on Environmental Quality Regulations; 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §§ 1500–1508; and 32 CFR § 989, Environmental Impact Analysis 11 12 Process, the United States Air Force (USAF) prepared a Programmatic Environmental 13 Assessment (PEA) to assess potential environmental consequences associated with 14 developing, upgrading, and maintaining stormwater drainage systems and conducting arroyo 15 repair and erosion control measures at Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB), Bernalillo County, New 16 Mexico.

17 The purpose of the Proposed Action is to meet current stormwater drainage system standards, reduce flooding and standing water issues, and address erosion and sedimentation that occur 18 19 on the installation. The Proposed Action is needed because existing stormwater drainage 20 facilities on Kirtland AFB have deteriorated to the point where extensive work is needed to 21 continuously reestablish an effective stormwater drainage system. Ditches, culverts, pipes and 22 retention basins annually experience sediment build-up and substantial erosion due to monsoon 23 storm events. Standing stormwater created by clogged ditches and flat ground surfaces poses 24 hazards to traffic and undermines roads, parking lots, and foundations. Outdoor storage areas 25 require berms and retention structures to control runoff. Revegetation and other measures are 26 needed to control discharges of suspended solids. The Proposed Action would reduce the 27 overall rate and volume of stormwater flows and detrimental effects of erosion and 28 sedimentation into surface waters. Outlet structures are nonexistent, causing erosion of arroyos 29 during storms. Arroyo work is required to repair erosion damage and reduce the potential for 30 additional damage in the future.

The PEA addressing upgrade of the stormwater drainage system at Kirtland AFB, New Mexico, attached hereto and incorporated herein, analyzes the potential impacts of developing, upgrading, and maintaining stormwater drainage systems and conducting arroyo repair and erosion control measures at the installation. The PEA considers all potential impacts of the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative. The PEA also considers cumulative environmental impacts with other projects within the Region of Influence.

#### 37 PROPOSED ACTION (PEA § 2.1, pages 2-1 to 2-3)

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The USAF proposes to develop, upgrade, and maintain stormwater drainage systems and 38 conduct arroyo repair and erosion control measures at Kirtland AFB. Figure 2-1 presents the 39 40 current stormwater drainage system and arroyos on the installation. Stormwater drainage 41 system activities would include developing stormwater systems where none exist, upgrading 42 and repairing existing systems, and future maintenance. These activities could include 43 excavating existing retention basins and culverts/gullies; constructing berms; constructing and 44 repairing gutters, curbs, and other drainage infrastructure; and any required repair, 45 maintenance, or cleaning of the stormwater pipe network. Arroyo repair activities could include

1 restabilizing, excavating, filling, lining arroyo banks, and constructing and repairing bridge

2 supports, box culverts, bank protection, and grade control structures to assist in stabilizing the3 arroyo bed.

#### 4 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE (PEA § 2.3, page 2-4)

5 The No Action Alternative was analyzed to provide a baseline of the existing environmental, social, and economic conditions the Proposed Action was compared against. Under the No 6 7 Action Alternative, Kirtland AFB would not develop, upgrade, and maintain stormwater drainage systems or conduct arroyo repairs. Stormwater drainage problems would worsen as existing 8 9 facilities silt up and deteriorate further; damage to roads, parking lots, and foundations would 10 increase, requiring costly repairs and worsening traffic hazards during heavy rains; and erosion 11 of the arroyos on the installation, negatively affecting Waters of the United States (i.e., Rio 12 Grande River) downstream of the installation, would continue. Severe deterioration could 13 negatively impact the ability to execute mission and training activities.

#### 14 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

15 Based on the scope of the Proposed Action, the following environmental resource areas were 16 eliminated from detailed analysis: airspace management, land use, visual resources, and 17 environmental justice (PEA § 3, pages 3-1 to 3-2). Under the Proposed Action, none of the 18 activities would result in a change to current airspace types, flight activities, or training. The 19 proposed activities would not result in a change in current land use designations or adversely 20 affect the existing visual landscape. No off-installation minority, low income, or youth 21 populations would be adversely impacted by the Proposed Action nor would they experience 22 disproportionately high and adverse impacts. As a result, USAF anticipates no short- or long-23 term impacts on airspace management, land use, visual resources, or environmental justice at 24 Kirtland AFB. Environmental analyses within the PEA focused on the following resource areas:

25 Noise (PEA § 3.1, pages 3-2 to 3-7). The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, short-26 term, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on the local noise environment from construction 27 activities. Additionally, the off-installation noise environment might experience intermittent, 28 short-term, minor, adverse impacts if construction activities occur in proximity to the installation 29 boundary where construction noise would propagate beyond the installation's boundary. All 30 construction-related noise impacts would be temporary and last only for the duration of each 31 construction period. Construction activities would occur during the daytime hours of 0700 to 32 1700 and best management practices (BMPs) to reduce adverse noise impacts on sensitive 33 noise receptors would be implemented.

34 Air Quality (PEA § 3.2, pages 3-7 to 3-11). The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, short-term, minor, adverse impacts on air quality. Kirtland AFB is within Bernalillo County, New 35 36 Mexico, which is in attainment status for all criteria pollutants, except carbon monoxide. 37 Emissions of criteria pollutants and greenhouse gases would be directly produced from activities 38 such as operation of heavy equipment, workers commuting daily to and from the project area in 39 their personal vehicles, heavy duty diesel vehicles hauling materials and debris to and from the 40 project area, and ground disturbance. However, such emissions would only be temporary in 41 nature and produced only when construction activities are occurring. Estimated air emissions 42 from the Proposed Action can be compared to the 100 tons per year (tpy) de minimis level. Emissions of all criteria pollutants would be well below the 100 tpy threshold. Projected carbon 43 44 monoxide emissions are 7.954 tpy; therefore, no conformity determination is required for the

1 Proposed Action. A fugitive dust control construction permit would be obtained for projects 2 disturbing 0.75 acre or more. The Federal General Conformity Rule does not apply to the 3 Proposed Action and neither an applicability determination nor a conformity analysis is required. 4 However, for analysis purposes, it was assumed up to 10 acres of land would be disturbed 5 annually by activities associated with the Proposed Action. Emissions of all criteria pollutants 6 would be well below the 100 tons per year threshold. Fugitive dust emissions would be reduced 7 with BMPs and environmental control measures specified in a fugitive dust control plan. It is not expected that emissions from construction would contribute to or affect local or regional 8 9 attainment status with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards nor would the Proposed 10 Action result in a significant impact on climate change.

Geological Resources (PEA § 3.3, pages 3-11 to 3-16). The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, short-term, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on local topography and soil resources. Activities would include grading, clearing, ditching or trenching, and boring of select areas on the installation. Project activities would implement techniques to minimize soil erosion and sedimentation by using appropriate BMPs and environmental protection measures. Additionally, each project activity would be reviewed to ensure proper erosion and sediment control measures are considered and incorporated into project designs.

Long-term, minor, beneficial impacts on local topography and soil resources would be anticipated to result from the Proposed Action, because these resources would likely benefit from improvements to the stormwater drainage system such as arroyo bank stabilization and landscape revegetation post-construction or -maintenance. Arroyo bank stabilization and landscape revegetation would also reduce the potential for soil erosion and loss.

The Proposed Action is not anticipated to change or result in short- or long-term impacts on regional geological features or cause an existing geologic feature to become unstable.

25 Water Resources (PEA § 3.4, pages 3-16 to 3-25). The Proposed Action would result in 26 intermittent, short-term, minor, adverse impacts from ground-disturbing activities. Ground-27 disturbing activities would require minimal amounts of water for dust suppression. Soil disturbance from construction activities has the potential to result in a minor disruption of natural 28 29 drainage patterns, contamination of stormwater discharge, and heavy sediment loading. Appropriate BMPs and environmental protection measures would be implemented to ensure 30 31 stormwater pollutants are contained to the maximum extent practical. Project-specific engineering design reviews and related studies would be conducted to determine if flood 32 33 elevations or velocities would affect upstream and downstream conditions. Development of new 34 stormwater drainage systems and upgrade of existing systems would be designed with 35 consideration for Unified Facilities Criteria Low Impact Design requirements to maintain or 36 restore the natural hydrologic functions of the area.

Long-term, minor, beneficial impacts on local and regional water resources would be anticipated to result from stormwater drainage improvements associated with the Proposed Action. Enhanced surface infiltration and subsurface water storage and recharge would result to surface waters on and downstream of the installation. The Proposed Action would reduce the overall rate and volume of stormwater flows and detrimental effects of erosion and sedimentation into surface waters.

Biological Resources (PEA § 3.5, pages 3-25 to 3-34). The Proposed Action would result in
 intermittent, short-term, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on biological resources. Crushing

1 and soil compaction would occur when vehicles and equipment access, park, and maneuver 2 around project areas. Impacts on vegetation would be minimized through the use of BMPs. 3 Disturbed sites would be revegetated with native vegetation reducing the establishment of 4 invasive species, preventing/controlling soil erosion, and providing stability for slopes. Increased 5 noise from construction activities would result in adverse impacts on state sensitive taxa. 6 However, noise would be intermittent and short term, and it is expected that when activities 7 cease, species sensitive to noise would resume normal activities. High-impact maintenance and 8 repair activities that require heavy equipment should be conducted outside the nesting season 9 to the extent possible to further reduce any adverse impact.

Stormwater drainage improvements would reduce the overall rate and volume of stormwater flows and detrimental effects of erosion and sedimentation into surface waters. Restabilizing arroyos and upgrading stormwater systems would improve the flow of floodwater resulting in improved water quality because less erosion and sedimentation would occur during a flood event. Better water quality equates to better aquatic habitat. Additionally, the arroyo repairs and stormwater improvements would promote bank stabilization, resulting in beneficial impacts on terrestrial habitat.

17 Cultural Resources (PEA § 3.6, pages 3-34 to 3-37). Because of the programmatic nature of 18 the PEA, the Area of Potential Effect is defined as the entire installation. No specific project 19 activities or locations have been determined at this time. As individual projects are developed, 20 project-specific National Environmental Policy Act analysis would be prepared and Section 106 21 consultation would occur at that time. The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, short-22 term, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on cultural resources. Because of the concentration 23 of cultural resources surrounding the natural arroyos and waterways, avoidance of known sites 24 would be taken into consideration when planning and developing stormwater drainage and 25 arroyo repair projects. If project activities would be conducted adjacent to or could not be 26 adjusted to avoid impacting an archaeological site, then consultation would occur and mitigation 27 measures would be developed in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic 28 Preservation Act.

Ground-disturbing activities would take into consideration the potential for discovery of previously undiscovered cultural resources. It is anticipated that proposed construction activities would occur within areas that have a high probability to encounter intact, subsurface cultural resources. It is recommended that subsurface archaeological surveys be conducted in areas where construction would impact undisturbed areas within or adjacent to arroyos. Should an inadvertent discovery of human or cultural remains occur, all project activities shall stop and procedures outlined in the Installation Cultural Resources Management Plan would be followed.

36 Paleontological Resources (PEA § 3.7, pages 3-37 to 3-39). The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, short-term, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on paleontological 37 38 resources. Because most of the fossils of ancient organisms discovered on the installation have 39 occurred in the areas surrounding the natural arroyos and waterways, avoidance of known sites 40 would be taken into consideration when planning and developing stormwater drainage and 41 arroyo repair projects. Because proposed construction activities would occur in areas that have 42 a higher probability to encounter subsurface paleontological resources, any ground-disturbing 43 would take into consideration the potential for the discovery of previously undiscovered 44 paleontological resources. In order to minimize potential impacts to unrecorded paleontological 45 deposits, it is recommended that subsurface surveys and monitoring be conducted in any area where the construction would impact undisturbed areas within or adjacent to arroyos. Should an inadvertent discovery of paleontological materials occur, all project activities shall would stop and operational procedures outlined in the Installation Cultural Resources Management Plan would be followed as they would for archaeological resources.

5 Infrastructure (PEA § 3.8, pages 3-39 to 3-43). The Proposed Action is not anticipated to 6 change or result in short- or long-term impacts on the electrical, natural gas and propane, liquid 7 fuel, sanitary sewer/wastewater, and communications systems. The Proposed Action would 8 result in intermittent, short-term, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on the transportation system, water supply system, stormwater handling, and solid waste management. During 9 10 construction activities, the number of construction-related vehicles accessing the installation would increase, and installation roadways would be used by haul and delivery trucks; however, 11 12 transportation is not expected to occur during peak travel times. Early coordination would 13 ensure necessary safety precautions are taken and would allow ample advance notice to 14 affected commuters and personnel.

15 Proposed construction and maintenance activities would require minimal amounts of water for dust suppression; however, this increase would be temporary and is not expected to exceed 16 17 existing capacity on the installation. Soil disturbance would result in disruption of natural 18 drainage patterns, contamination of stormwater discharge, and heavy sediment loading. 19 Implementation of BMPs would reduce these impacts. Construction debris generated would 20 consist primarily of recyclable and reusable building materials such as concrete, metals, and 21 removed vegetation. Should project activities be conducted within an area of known 22 contamination, waste would be properly characterized prior to disposal. All waste disposal 23 would be conducted in accordance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations. 24 Nonhazardous waste that is not recyclable or reusable would be transported to the Kirtland AFB 25 landfill for disposal.

Long-term, minor to moderate, beneficial impacts on stormwater handling would result by reducing the overall rate and volume of stormwater flows and detrimental effects of erosion and sedimentation. Development of new stormwater drainage systems and upgrade of existing systems would be designed with consideration for Unified Facilities Criteria Low Impact Design requirements to maintain or restore the natural hydrologic functions of the area.

31 Hazardous Materials and Wastes (PEA § 3.9, pages 3-44 to 3-50). The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, short-term, negligible, adverse impacts on hazardous materials and 32 33 wastes. Construction personnel would be made aware of the Environmental Management 34 System program, implement standard BMPs, and comply with existing standard operating procedures and applicable federal and state laws governing the use, generation, storage, and 35 36 transportation of hazardous materials. Construction equipment would be maintained according 37 to manufacturer's specifications and drip mats would be placed under parked equipment as 38 needed. All hazardous and petroleum wastes generated would be handled, stored, and 39 disposed of in accordance with all federal, state, and local regulations.

It is possible that unknown, potentially hazardous wastes could be discovered or unearthed during ground-disturbing activities. In such cases, personnel would immediately cease work, contact appropriate installation personnel, and await sampling and analysis results before taking any further action. Any unknown wastes determined to be hazardous would then be managed or disposed or in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. In the event a project associated with the Proposed Action would be conducted within or adjacent to an active restoration site, coordination with appropriate installation personnel would be conducted in order
to avoid any impact on or from the site. Construction personnel would attend Unexploded
Ordnance Awareness Training when project activities are conducted within or adjacent to a
Military Munitions Response Program site.

5 Safety (PEA § 3.10, pages 3-50 to 3-53). The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, 6 short-term, negligible, adverse impacts on human health and safety. Construction and 7 demolition activities would slightly increase the health and safety risk to personnel within the project area. The selected construction contractor would be required to develop a 8 9 comprehensive health and safety plan for each individual project containing site-specific 10 guidance and direction to prevent or minimize potential risks. Construction personnel would be responsible for compliance with applicable federal, state, and local safety regulations and would 11 12 be educated through daily briefings to review daily activities and potential hazards. Project 13 areas would be appropriately delineated and posted with access limited to construction and 14 maintenance personnel.

Long-term, minor, beneficial impacts on the safety of personnel and the public downstream of the installation would be anticipated. Improved storm drainage on the installation would lessen the probability of adverse impacts from a 100-year flood event, including the resultant damage and inherent safety risks therein.

19 Socioeconomics (PEA § 3.11, pages 3-53 to 3-55). The Proposed Action would result in 20 intermittent, short-term, negligible, beneficial impacts on socioeconomics. Direct and indirect, 21 beneficial impacts on the local economy of the Albuquergue Metropolitan Statistical Area would 22 result from increased payroll tax revenue and the purchase of construction materials and goods 23 in the area. Long-term, negligible to minor, beneficial impacts on the socioeconomic 24 environment at Kirtland AFB would result from improved conditions of stormwater drainage 25 systems and arroyo repair and corrosion control measures on the installation. Damage to roads, 26 parking lots, and foundations would decrease resulting in a reduction in costly repairs.

**Cumulative Impacts (PEA § 4, pages 4-1 to 4-14).** The USAF has concluded that no significant adverse cumulative impacts would result from activities associated with implementation of the Proposed Action when considered with past, present, or reasonably foreseeable future projects at Kirtland AFB and the Region of Influence.

#### 31 NOTICE OF POTENTIAL FLOODPLAIN INVOLVEMENT

As required by Executive Order 11988, *Floodplain Management*, and Air Force Instruction 327064, *Integrated Natural Resources Management*, early public notification for potential
floodplain impacts was provided in the *Albuquerque Journal* on Monday, 23 July 2018.

35 The Tijeras Arroyo and Arroyo del Coyote are located in the 100-year floodplain. Arroyo repair activities could include restabilizing, excavating, filling, and lining arroyo banks and constructing 36 37 and repairing bridge supports, box culverts, bank protection, and grade control structures to 38 assist in stabilizing the arroyo bed and banks. Gabion structures and rip-rap could be used to dissipate energy from flowing water and as grade control structures to provide the arroyo bed 39 40 and banks with stabilization and protection. Box culverts, typically precast or cast in place 41 concrete structures, could be constructed to improve the flow of floodwater resulting in improved 42 water quality because less erosion and sediment transfer would occur during a flood event. 43 Arroyo repair activities would be compatible with activities identified in the Tijeras Arroyo

- 1 Management Plan prepared by the Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority.
- 2 The Proposed Action would result in improved stormwater conveyance and a reduction in
- 3 erosion and sedimentation of surface waters.

#### 4 CONCLUSION

- 5 Based on the description of the Proposed Action as set for in the PEA, all activities were found 6 to comply with the criteria or standards of environmental quality and were coordinated with the
- 7 appropriate federal, state, and local agencies. The attached PEA and this FONSI/FONPA were
- 8 made available to the public for a 30-day review period. Agencies have been coordinated with
- 9 throughout the PEA development process and their comments were incorporated into the
- 10 analysis of potential environmental impacts performed as part of the PEA as appropriate.

#### 11 FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

- 12 Based on my review of the facts and analyses contained in the attached PEA, conducted under
- the provisions of National Environmental Policy Act, Council on Environmental Quality Regulations, and 32 CFR § 989, I conclude that the Proposed Action would not have a
- 15 significant environmental impact, either by itself or cumulatively, with other known projects.
- 16 Accordingly, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. The signing of this Finding of
- 17 No Significant Impact completes the environmental impact analysis process.

BRIAN C. LEE, GS-15, DAF Senior Civil Engineer, Air Force Global Strike Command Date

- 18 Attachment: Programmatic Environmental Assessment Addressing Upgrade of the Stormwater
- 19 Drainage System, Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico.

### **ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

ABCWUA	Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority	ER	Environmental Restoration	
ABW	Air Base Wing	ERP	Environmental Restoration Program	
ACAM	Air Conformity Applicability Model	ESA	Endangered Species Act	
ACM AEHD-AQD	asbestos-containing material	FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency	
AEND-AQD	Albuquerque Environmental Health Department Air Quality Division	FONPA	Finding of No Practicable Alternative	
AFB	Air Force Base	FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact	
AFGSC	Air Force Global Strike	FPPA	Farmland Protection Policy Act	
	Command	FY	fiscal year	
AFI	Air Force Instruction	GHG	greenhouse gas	
AFRL AMAFCA	Air Force Research Laboratory Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo	HWMP	Hazardous Waste Management Plan	
	Flood Control Authority	I	Interstate	
APE	Area of Potential Effect	ICRMP	Integrated Cultural Resources	
bgs	below ground surface		Management Plan	
BLM	Bureau of Land Management	IDP	Installation Development Plan	
BMP CEQ	best management practice Council on Environmental Quality	INMRP	Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan	
CFR	Council on Environmental Quality Code of Federal Regulations	LBP	lead-based paint	
CGP	construction general permit	LID	Low Impact Design	
CO	carbon monoxide	L <sub>max</sub>	maximum sound level	
CWA	Clean Water Act	mgd	million gallons per day	
dB	decibel(s)	MMRP	Military Munitions Response Program	
dBA	A-weighted decibel(s)	MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer	
DNL	day/night sound level		System	
DoD	Department of Defense	MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area	
DOE	Department of Energy	MSG/CEIEC	Mission Support Group/Civil	
EA	Environmental Assessment		Engineering Installation Management - Environmental	
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement		Management - Compliance	
EISA	Energy Independence and	MSGP	Multi-Sector General Permit	
EN O	Security Act	NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality	
EMS	Environmental Management System		Standards	
EO	Executive Order		continued on inside of back cover $\rightarrow$	

$\leftarrow$ continued from inside of front cover		SNL	Sandia National Laboratories	
NEPA	National Environmental Policy	SO <sub>2</sub>	sulfur dioxide	
NHPA	Act National Historic Preservation Act	SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan	
NMAC	New Mexico Administrative Code	TEAMS	Technical Evaluation Assessment Monitor Site	
NMDGF	New Mexico Department of Game and Fish	THPO	Tribal Historic Preservation	
NMED	New Mexico Environment Department	TMDL	Officer Total Maximum Daily Load	
NMSA	New Mexico Statutes Annotated	tpy	tons per year	
NOA	Notice of Availability	UFC	Unified Facilities Code	
NOx	nitrogen oxides	US	United States	
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System	USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers	
NRHP	National Register of Historic	USAF	United States Air Force	
	Places	USC	United States Code	
O₃ OSH	ozone occupational safety and health	USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency	
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health	USFS	United States Forest Service	
001//	Administration	USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife	
Pb	lead	001110	Service	
PCB	polychlorinated biphenyls	UTC	Urban Training Compound	
PEA	Programmatic Environmental Assessment	UXO VOC	unexploded ordnance volatile organic compound	
PJ/CRO	Pararescue/Combat Rescue Officer	VOO		
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	particulate matter equal to or less than 2.5 microns in diameter			
PM <sub>10</sub>	particulate matter equal to or less than 10 microns in diameter			
PPE	personal protective equipment			
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act			
RTI	Regional Training Institute			
SDWA	Safe Drinking Water Act			
SFG	Security Forces Group			
0.150				

SHPO State Historic Preservation Officer

1	Cover Sheet
2 3 4	Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment Addressing Upgrade of the Stormwater Drainage System at Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico
5 6	<b>Responsible Agencies:</b> United States Air Force (USAF), Air Force Global Strike Command, 377th Air Base Wing
7 8 9 10 11 12 13	<b>Cooperating Agencies:</b> USAF invited the participation of the Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority, Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority, Department of Energy, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and United States Army Corps of Engineers in the preparation of this Programmatic Environmental Assessment. The Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority and Federal Emergency Management Agency have accepted to be Cooperating Agencies. The United States Army Corps of Engineers has agreed to review the draft documents during the scoping and public review periods.
14	Affected Location: Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB), New Mexico
15	Report Designation: Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment
<ol> <li>16</li> <li>17</li> <li>18</li> <li>19</li> <li>20</li> <li>21</li> <li>22</li> <li>23</li> <li>24</li> <li>25</li> <li>26</li> <li>27</li> <li>28</li> <li>29</li> <li>30</li> <li>31</li> <li>32</li> <li>33</li> <li>34</li> </ol>	<b>Abstract:</b> USAF proposes to develop, upgrade, and maintain stormwater drainage systems and conduct arroyo repair and erosion control measures on USAF controlled lands at Kirtland AFB. Various portions of the stormwater drainage and arroyo systems on the installation are owned or maintained by either Kirtland AFB or the Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority; therefore, either organization could be conducting activities covered under the Proposed Action. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to meet current stormwater drainage system standards, reduce flooding and standing water issues, and address erosion and sedimentation transfer that occurs across the installation. The Proposed Action is needed because existing stormwater drainage facilities have deteriorated and clogged to the point where extensive work is needed to reestablish and maintain an effective stormwater drainage system. Ditches, culverts, pipes, and retention basins annually experience sediment build-up and substantial erosion due to monsoon storm events. Standing stormwater created by clogged ditches and flat ground surfaces poses hazards to traffic and undermines roads, parking lots, and foundations. Outdoor storage areas require berms and retention structures to control runoff. Revegetation and other measures are needed to control discharges of suspended solids. Outlet structures are nonexistent, causing erosion to arroyos during storms. Arroyo work is required to repair erosion damage and reduce the potential for additional damage in the future. The Proposed Action would reduce the velocity and energy of stormwater flows and detrimental effects of erosion and sedimentation into surface waters.
35 36 37 38 39	Under the No Action Alternative, Kirtland AFB would take no action. Kirtland AFB would not develop, upgrade, and maintain stormwater drainage systems or conduct arroyo repair and erosion control measures. Stormwater drainage problems would worsen as existing facilities silt up and deteriorate further; damage to roads, parking lots, and foundations would increase, requiring costly repairs and worsening traffic hazards during heavy rains; and erosion of the

requiring costly repairs and worsening traffic hazards during heavy rains; and erosion of the

arroyos on the installation would continue, negatively affecting Waters of the United States (i.e.,
 Rio Grande River) downstream of the installation.

3 This Programmatic Environmental Assessment analyzes the potential environmental impacts 4 associated with the Proposed Action and alternatives, including the No Action Alternative, and 5 aids in determining whether a Finding of No Significant Impact can be prepared or an 6 Environmental Impact Statement is required.

- 7 Written comments and inquiries regarding this document should be directed by mail to the
- 8 Kirtland AFB NEPA Program Manager, 377 MSG/CEIEC, 2050 Wyoming Boulevard SE, Suite
- 9 116, Kirtland AFB, New Mexico 87117-5270, or by email to *KirtlandNEPA@us.af.mil*.

## Draft

## PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ADDRESSING UPGRADE OF THE STORMWATER DRAINAGE SYSTEM AT KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico

**JANUARY 2019** 

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## 1 1. Purpose of and Need for the Proposed Action

### 2 1.1 Introduction

3 The United States Air Force (USAF) proposes to develop, upgrade, and maintain stormwater 4 drainage systems and conduct arroyo repair and erosion control measures on USAF controlled 5 lands at Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB), New Mexico. Various portions of the stormwater 6 drainage and arroyo systems on the installation are owned or maintained by either Kirtland AFB 7 or the Albuquergue Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA); therefore, either 8 organization could be conducting activities covered under the Proposed Action. This 9 Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) evaluates the potential environmental impacts 10 resulting from the Proposed Action and No Action Alternative.

This PEA was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 12 1969 (42 United States Code [USC] § 4321 et seq.) and the Council on Environmental Quality 13 (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] §§ 1500– 14 1508). The USAF is also required to consider USAF NEPA-implementing regulations, 32 CFR § 989, as amended.

## 16 1.2 Project Location and Kirtland AFB Background

Kirtland AFB is in Bernalillo County, southeast of the city of Albuquerque, New Mexico (see Figure 1-1). The installation encompasses 51,585 acres with elevations that range from 5,200 to almost 8,000 feet above mean sea level. The Manzanita Mountains on its eastern boundary rise to over 10,000 feet (KAFB 2018a). The land within the installation is owned by a variety of entities (see Table 1-1). USAF controls 44,052 acres of the land within Kirtland AFB. The northwest portion of Kirtland AFB is developed. The remaining portion of the installation is relatively undeveloped and is used for training and testing missions.

#### 24 Table 1-1. Kirtland AFB Land Ownership

Kirtland AFB Lands	Acres
USAF Fee Owned	25,612
United States Forest Service (USFS) withdrawn to the Department of Defense (DoD)	15,891
Bureau of Land Management (BLM) withdrawn to DoD	2,549
USAF Total (USAF Controlled Lands)	44,052
Department of Energy (DOE) Fee Owned	2,938
USFS withdrawn to DOE	4,595
DOE Total	7,533
GRAND TOTAL	51,585

Source: KAFB 2012

Surrounding land uses adjacent to Kirtland AFB include the USFS Cibola National Forest to the northeast and east; the Isleta Pueblo Reservation to the south; Bernalillo County developments to the southwest; residential and business areas of the city of Albuquerque to the west and north; and the Albuquerque International Sunport, hereafter referred to as the Sunport, directly to the northwest.





Kirtland AFB was established in the late 1930s as a training installation for the United States 1 2 (US) Army Air Corps. At that time, the installation was known as the Albuquerque Army Air 3 Base. The installation grew rapidly with the involvement of the United States in World War II as 4 a training site for aircrews for many of the country's bomber aircraft. In February 1942, 5 Albuquerque Army Air Base was renamed Kirtland Army Air Field in honor of Colonel Roy C. 6 Kirtland, one of the Army's earliest aviation pioneers. During this same year, the US Army Air 7 Corps established a training base, later to be known as Sandia Base, just east of Kirtland Army 8 Air Field. In 1947, the US Army Air Corps became the USAF, and Kirtland Army Air Field was 9 renamed Kirtland AFB.

10 In 1949, the USAF established its own Special Weapons Center and testing laboratory at 11 Kirtland Field near Sandia Base, which eventually became Phillips Laboratory and subsequently 12 the Air Force Weapons Laboratory (now the Air Force Research Laboratory [AFRL]). A majority 13 of the test and evaluation activities were conducted on a 46,000-acre tract in the Manzanita 14 Mountains, referred to as the New Mexico Proving Ground, on the southern portion of the 15 installation, which includes USFS lands withdrawn for DoD and DOE research, testing, and 16 development activities. The establishment of these activities at Kirtland AFB was considered 17 ideal due to its proximity to Los Alamos Laboratory and Sandia Base. The late 1940s and 18 1950s were expansion years as both Kirtland AFB and the adjacent Sandia Army Base played 19 increasing roles in the nation's defense efforts. New buildings, hangars, and the east-west 20 runway, which is now owned by the city of Albuquergue, were constructed. During this period, 21 air defense, weather, and atomic test squadrons operated from Kirtland AFB. In 1971, Kirtland 22 AFB and its adjoining military neighbors to the east, Sandia and Manzano Army Bases, were 23 merged to form what is known as Kirtland AFB.

24 Kirtland AFB is the sixth largest installation in the USAF. It is operated by 377th Air Base Wing 25 (ABW), a unit of Air Force Global Strike Command's 20th Air Force and the host unit at Kirtland 26 AFB. Missions at Kirtland AFB fall into four major categories: research, development, and 27 testing; readiness and training; munitions maintenance; and support to installation operations for 28 more than 100 mission partners. The primary mission of 377 ABW is to execute nuclear, 29 readiness, and support operations for American airpower. Kirtland AFB is a center for research, 30 development, and testing of nonconventional weapons, space and missile technology, laser 31 warfare and much more. Organizations involved in these activities include the Air Force Nuclear 32 Weapons Center, Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center, Space and Missile 33 Systems Center, Air Force Inspection Agency, Air Force Safety Center, AFRL, DOE, and Sandia National Laboratories (SNL). In addition, 377 ABW ensures readiness and training of 34 35 airmen for worldwide duty and operates the airfield for present and future USAF operations, 36 prepares personnel to deploy worldwide on a moment's notice, and keeps the installation 37 secure. Mission partners involved in these activities include the 58th Special Operations Wing, 38 150th Special Operations Wing (New Mexico Air National Guard), and USAF Pararescue 39 School.

## 1 **1.3 Purpose and Need**

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to meet current stormwater drainage system standards,
reduce flooding and standing water issues, and address erosion and sedimentation transfer that
occurs across the installation.

5 The Proposed Action is needed because existing stormwater drainage facilities on Kirtland AFB 6 have deteriorated and clogged to the point where extensive work is needed to reestablish and 7 maintain an effective stormwater drainage system. Ditches, culverts, pipes, and retention basins 8 annually experience sediment build-up and substantial erosion due to monsoon storm events. 9 Standing stormwater created by clogged ditches and flat ground surfaces poses hazards to 10 traffic and undermines roads, parking lots, and foundations. Outdoor storage areas require 11 berms and retention structures to control runoff. Revegetation and other measures are needed 12 to control discharges of suspended solids. Energy dissipation and grade control structures are 13 nonexistent, which allows substantial erosion of arroyos during storm events. Arroyo work is 14 required to repair erosion damage and reduce the potential for additional damage in the future. 15 The Proposed Action would reduce the velocity and energy of stormwater flows, which in turn 16 would reduce the detrimental effects of erosion and sedimentation into surface waters.

## 17 1.4 Scope of the Programmatic Environmental Assessment

18 The scope of this PEA includes the actions proposed; alternatives considered; a description of 19 the existing environment; and direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts. The scope of the 20 Proposed Action and the range of alternatives to be considered are presented in Section 2. The 21 USAF NEPA-implementing regulations, 32 CFR § 989 (as amended), require consideration of 22 the No Action Alternative, which is analyzed to provide the baseline against which the 23 environmental impacts of implementing the range of alternatives addressed can be compared. 24 The PEA identifies appropriate measures that are not already included in the Proposed Action 25 or alternatives in order to avoid, minimize, or reduce adverse environmental impacts, if 26 necessary.

27 A programmatic environmental document, such as this PEA, is prepared when an agency is 28 proposing to carry out a broad action, program, or policy. USAF has determined that stormwater 29 drainage system upgrades and arrovo repair activities are broad actions that could occur 30 intermittently across the installation. This PEA reduces duplication of effort by analyzing general 31 aspects of stormwater drainage system upgrade and arroyo repair activities and establishing a 32 framework for environmental impact analysis of future site-specific actions. The impacts of 33 future site-specific actions would be addressed in subsequent NEPA evaluations, per CEQ 34 regulations (40 CFR § 1502.20). The use of tiering allows future documents to be specific in 35 their analysis of individual stormwater drainage system upgrade or arroyo repair projects when 36 they are more fully developed and designed while referencing previous environmental analyses.

This PEA identifies the environmental impacts of the Proposed Action and No Action Alternative on affected resource areas. Per CEQ regulations (40 CFR § 1501.7[a][3]), only those resource areas that apply to the Proposed Action and alternatives are analyzed. The following resource areas are analyzed and discussed for potential impacts: Noise, Air Quality, Geological Resources, Water Resources, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Paleontological 1 Resources, Infrastructure, Hazardous Materials and Wastes, Safety, and Socioeconomics and

- 2 Environmental Justice.
- 3 1.4.1 NEPA Compliance Requirements

4 NEPA is a federal law requiring the analysis of potential environmental impacts associated with 5 proposed federal actions before the actions are taken. The intent of NEPA is to make decisions 6 informed by potential environmental consequences and take actions to protect, restore, or 7 enhance the environment. NEPA established the CEQ, which is responsible for ensuring federal 8 agency compliance with NEPA. CEQ regulations mandate all federal agencies use a prescribed 9 approach to environmental impact analysis. The approach includes an evaluation of the 10 potential environmental consequences associated with a proposed action and considers 11 alternative courses of action.

12 The process for implementing NEPA is outlined in 40 CFR §§ 1500–1508, Regulations for 13 Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act. These CEQ 14 regulations specify that an Environmental Assessment (EA) be prepared to determine whether a 15 Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is appropriate or if preparation of an Environmental 16 Impact Statement (EIS) is necessary. An EA considers the effects (direct, indirect, and 17 cumulative) of a proposed action on the natural and human environment. It uses a systematic, 18 interdisciplinary approach to evaluate a proposed action and possible alternatives and must 19 disclose all considerations to the public. An EA can aid in an agency's compliance with NEPA 20 when an EIS is unnecessary and facilitate preparation of an EIS when one is required.

21 Because this PEA includes the evaluation of actions proposed to occur within a 100-year 22 floodplain, if it is determined that a FONSI is appropriate, a Finding of No Practicable Alternative 23 (FONPA) and approval from Headquarters AFGSC would be required. In accordance with 24 32 CFR § 989 and Executive Order (EO) 11988, Floodplain Management, because the 25 proposed arroyo repair and erosion control measures would occur within a 100-year floodplain, 26 a FONPA would need to accompany the FONSI to discuss why no other practicable alternatives 27 exist to avoid impacts. Impacts would be reduced to the maximum extent practicable through 28 project design and implementation of environmental protection measures. In addition, 29 appropriate permits would be obtained from applicable regulatory agencies to address impacts 30 and determine potential mitigation, if required. As required by EO 11988 and Air Force 31 Instruction 32-7064, Integrated Natural Resources Management, early public notification for 32 potential floodplain impacts was provided in the Albuquerque Journal on Monday, 23 July 2018.

33 USAF regulations under 32 CFR § 989 provide procedures for environmental impact analysis 34 for the USAF to comply with NEPA and CEQ NEPA regulations. Air Force Policy Directive 35 32-70, Environmental Quality, states the USAF will comply with applicable federal, state, and 36 local environmental laws and regulations, including NEPA. If significant impacts are predicted 37 under NEPA, the USAF would decide whether to conduct mitigation to reduce impacts below 38 the level of significance, prepare an EIS, or abandon the Proposed Action. This PEA would also 39 be used to guide the USAF in implementing the Proposed Action in a manner consistent with 40 USAF standards for environmental stewardship should the Proposed Action be approved for 41 implementation.

#### 1 1.4.2 Intergovernmental and Stakeholder Coordination

2 NEPA requirements help ensure environmental information is made available to the public 3 during the decision-making process and prior to an action's implementation. A premise of NEPA 4 is that the quality of federal decisions will be enhanced if the public is involved in the planning 5 process. EO 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs, as amended by 6 EO 12416, requires federal agencies to provide opportunities for consultation by elected officials 7 of state and local governments that would be directly affected by a federal proposal. In 8 compliance with NEPA, Kirtland AFB notified relevant stakeholders about the Proposed Action 9 and alternatives (see Appendix A for stakeholder coordination materials). The notification 10 process provided these stakeholders the opportunity to cooperate with Kirtland AFB and provide 11 comments on the Proposed Action and alternatives.

12 Per the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and 13 implementing regulations (36 CFR § 800), and Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) 14 and implementing regulations (50 CFR § 17), including the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, findings of 15 effect and a request for concurrence were transmitted to the New Mexico State Historic 16 Preservation Officer (SHPO) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). New 17 Mexico SHPO responded that once the Areas of Potential Effect (APEs) for specific projects are 18 defined, it may be necessary to complete National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) 19 consultation. SHPO recommended that the Section 106 consultation be substantially complete 20 before preparing a FONSI for the PEA, and further recommended the development of a 21 programmatic agreement per 36 CFR 800.4.b.2 and 800.14 (HPD Log 107738). However, 22 because specific projects have not yet been determined, the development of a programmatic 23 agreement is not feasible at this time. Concurrence indicating a primary finding of no effect 24 was received from the USFWS under Consultation Code 02ENNM00-2018-SLI-1108. 25 Correspondence with the SHPO and USFWS is included in Appendix A.

26 The NHPA requires federal agencies to consult with federally recognized Native American tribes on proposed undertakings that have the potential to affect properties of cultural, historical, or 27 28 religious significance to the tribes. The tribal consultation process is distinct from NEPA 29 consultation or the intergovernmental coordination process, and it requires separate 30 consultation with all relevant tribes. The timelines for tribal consultation are also distinct from 31 those of other consultations. The Kirtland AFB point-of-contact for Native American tribes is the 32 Installation Commander. Consultation with the tribes was conducted concurrently with the 33 scoping and Draft PEA review periods. The Native American tribal governments coordinated or 34 consulted with regarding the Proposed Action are listed in Appendix A along with all USAF correspondence. Comments received from the various stakeholders and Native American tribes 35 36 are discussed below and were considered during preparation of this PEA (see **Appendix A**).

37 Scoping letters were provided to relevant federal, state, and local agencies and Native 38 American tribes notifying them that the USAF is preparing a PEA to evaluate the proposal to 39 develop, upgrade, and maintain stormwater drainage systems and conduct arroyo repair and 40 erosion control measures at Kirtland AFB. The agencies and tribes were requested to provide 41 information regarding impacts of the Proposed Action on the natural environment or other 42 environmental aspects that they feel should be included and considered in the preparation of 43 the PEA. During the scoping period, USAF received responses from two federal agencies

1 (USFS and BLM), three state agencies (New Mexico Environment Department [NMED], New 2 Mexico Department of Game and Fish [NMDGF], and New Mexico SHPO) and one Native 3 American Tribe (Santa Clara Pueblo). The USFS, BLM, and NMED had no concerns with the 4 Proposed Action. NMDGF provided recommendations to minimize impacts on wildlife that have 5 been included in the environmental consequences discussion in Section 3.5 of this PEA. SHPO 6 advised once APEs for specific projects are defined, it may be necessary to complete NRHP 7 consultation (HPD Log 107738). This comment has been included in the environmental 8 consequences discussion in Section 3.6 of this PEA. Santa Clara Pueblo requested to be a 9 consulting party in the preparation of this PEA. The federal, state, and local agencies and Native 10 American tribal governments coordinated or consulted with regarding the Proposed Action are 11 listed in **Appendix A** along with all correspondence.

12 1.4.3 Public and Agency Review of Draft PEA

13 A Notice of Availability (NOA) for the Draft PEA will be published in the Albuquergue Journal 14 announcing the availability of the Draft PEA. Letters will be provided to relevant federal, state, 15 and local agencies and Native American tribal governments informing them that the Draft PEA 16 is available for review. The publication of the NOA will initiate a 30-day comment period. A copy 17 of the Draft PEA will be made available for review at the San Pedro Public Library at 5600 18 Trumbull Avenue SE, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87108. A copy of the Draft PEA will also be 19 made available for review online at http://www.kirtland.af.mil under the Environment Information 20 tab. At the closing of the public review period, applicable comments from the general public and 21 interagency and intergovernmental coordination/consultation will be incorporated into the 22 analysis of potential environmental impacts performed as part of the PEA, where applicable, 23 and included in **Appendix A** of the Final PEA.

## 24 **1.5 Cooperating Agencies**

25 In accordance with CEQ regulations (40 CFR § 1508.5), a cooperating agency may be any federal agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to environmental 26 27 impacts expected from a proposal. An agency's jurisdiction by law (40 CFR § 1508.15) refers to 28 an agency's authority to approve, veto, or finance all or part of a proposal. An agency's special 29 expertise (40 CFR § 1508.26) refers to its statutory responsibility, agency mission, or program 30 experience. Responsibilities of a cooperating agency (40 CFR § 1501.6b) include early 31 participation in the NEPA process; developing information and preparing portions of the PEA for 32 which the cooperating agency has special expertise, at the request of the lead agency; and 33 providing staff support to enhance the lead agency's interdisciplinary capability. USAF invited 34 the participation of the Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (ABCWUA), 35 AMAFCA, DOE, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and United States Army 36 Corps of Engineers (USACE) in the preparation of this PEA. ABCWUA and FEMA have 37 accepted to be Cooperating Agencies. USACE has agreed to review the draft documents during 38 the scoping and public review periods.

39 During preparation of this PEA, Cooperating Agencies were provided an opportunity to review 40 and comment on the Preliminary Draft PEA. ABCWUA and FEMA provided comments during 41 their review and were provided a Check Draft version of the PEA to confirm their comments 42 were addressed sufficiently. FEMA concurred with how their comments were addressed and ABCWUA stated they had no additional comments. ABCWUA further stated that although their comments were not specifically addressed, they realize that no specific projects have been developed at this time and they will continue to work with the installation during project development. Correspondence between Kirtland AFB and the Cooperating Agencies is included

5 in **Appendix A**.

## 1 2. Proposed Action and Alternatives

2 As discussed in Section 1.4.1, the NEPA process provides for an evaluation of potential 3 environmental consequences associated with a proposed action and considers alternative 4 courses of action. Reasonable alternatives must satisfy the purpose of and need for the 5 Proposed Action, as defined in Section 1.3. In addition, CEQ guidance recommends the 6 inclusion of a No Action Alternative against which potential impacts would be compared. While 7 the No Action Alternative would not satisfy the purpose of or need for the Proposed Action, it is 8 analyzed in detail in accordance with USAF NEPA-implementing regulations (32 CFR § 989, as 9 amended).

### 10 2.1 Proposed Action

11 USAF proposes to develop, upgrade, and maintain stormwater drainage systems and conduct 12 arroyo repair and erosion control measures on USAF controlled lands at Kirtland AFB. Figure 13 2-1 presents the current stormwater drainage system and arroyos on the installation. Various 14 portions of the stormwater drainage and arroyo systems on the installation are owned or 15 maintained by either Kirtland AFB or AMAFCA; therefore, either organization could be conducting activities covered under the Proposed Action. Stormwater drainage system activities 16 17 would include developing stormwater systems where none exist, upgrading and repairing 18 existing systems, and future maintenance. Project activities could include excavating existing 19 retention basins and culverts/gullies; constructing berms; constructing and repairing gutters, 20 curbs, and other drainage infrastructure; and any required repair, maintenance, or cleaning of 21 the stormwater pipe network. Arroyo repair and erosion control activities could include 22 restabilizing, excavating, filling, and lining arroyo banks, and constructing and repairing bridge 23 supports, box culverts, bank protection, grade control and energy dissipation structures, stilling 24 basins, and other structures to assist in stabilizing the arroyo integrity and grades.

25 Stormwater Drainage Systems, Development of new stormwater drainage systems and 26 upgrade of existing systems would include ditching/trenching; installation of reinforced concrete pipe, vegetation, environmentally-friendly soil stabilizers, rip-rap, and gabion structures; and 27 28 construction of drop inlets, flow control structures, and retention structures. Ditching/trenching 29 would require use of a backhoe or trencher to excavate a linear trench to install a pipe or other 30 infrastructure. Trench lining, using reinforcement technologies such as trench boxes, would 31 stabilize the trench during excavation and installation of pipes and other infrastructure. Pipes 32 would be settled in the trench and surrounded with bedding material. Reinforced concrete pipe 33 would be installed to assist in channelizing and diverting water flow where necessary.

Culverts, fully enclosed structures that run underneath a road to allow water to flow from one side of the road to another, would be installed, which would require excavation of the road. In order to prevent erosion, vegetation would be planted, environmentally-friendly soil stabilizers would be applied, or rip-rap, consisting of loose stone, would be used to form a foundation for breakwater or other structures. Gabion structures, consisting of a wire mesh cage filled with cobble or small boulder material, could be used to dissipate energy from flowing water and provide bed protection or bank stabilization.

#### Draft PEA Addressing Upgrade of the Stormwater Drainage System at Kirtland AFB PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES



2 Figure 2-1. Stormwater Drainage Systems, Arroyos, Flood Zones, and Surface Waters on Kirtland AFB

1

1 A drop inlet is an access point to underground storm drains. It is usually precast concrete with a 2 grate between the gutter and the inlet to keep debris out of the storm sewer lines. Installation of 3 drop inlets would accompany construction of gutters and require excavation and storm drains to 4 be present. Flow control structures are designed to control stormwater runoff. These structures 5 trap sediment, dissipate energy, and can be used to redirect water around problem areas. 6 Retention structures are lined, excavated areas for water to collect when it rains. Outlet 7 structures are usually constructed of concrete with metal grates that lead from detention and 8 retention basins into the storm sewer or other destination. Together, these structures reduce the 9 amount of sediment going to the storm sewer and help manage stormwater flow.

10 Stormwater drainage system maintenance activities would include cleaning, excavating, 11 regrading, filling, and backfilling. Debris would be cleaned from existing stormwater drains and 12 drainage infrastructure by snaking, water blasting, or using hand tools or other equipment. 13 Excessive soil would be removed by excavating, and regrading would be conducted to change 14 the elevation of an area to direct water flow and allow for better drainage away from structures. 15 Filling consists of filling an area that has been impacted by erosion and backfilling consists of 16 refilling an excavated area with the material that was taken out during excavation or with other 17 material if specified. Excavating, regrading, filling, and backfilling would require the use of a 18 backhoe and other heavy equipment.

**Arroyo Repair.** Arroyo repair and erosion control activities could include restabilizing, excavating, filling, and lining arroyo banks and constructing and repairing bridge supports, box culverts, bank protection, and grade control structures to assist in stabilizing the arroyo bed and banks. Gabion structures and rip-rap could be used to dissipate energy from flowing water and as grade control structures to provide the arroyo bed and banks with stabilization and protection. Box culverts, typically precast or cast in place concrete structures, could be constructed to protect the arroyo bed and banks.

26 As previously stated, various portions of the stormwater drainage and arroyo systems on the 27 installation are owned or maintained by either Kirtland AFB or AMAFCA; therefore, either 28 organization could be conducting activities covered under the Proposed Action. ABCWUA owns 29 and maintains sanitary sewer lines on the installation, several of which traverse tributaries or are 30 adjacent to the Tijeras Arroyo. The three organizations would continue to coordinate their 31 activities in order to ensure no negative impacts would result to the other's activities or systems. 32 It is assumed that an average of 3 acres of land would typically be disturbed annually by 33 activities associated with the Proposed Action; however, it is conservatively assumed that the Proposed Action could disturb up to 10 acres of land annually. 34

## 35 **2.2 Selection Standards**

In accordance with 32 CFR § 989.8(c), the development of selection standards is an effective mechanism for the identification, comparison, and evaluation of reasonable alternatives. The following selection standards were developed to be consistent with the purpose of and need for the Proposed Action and to address pertinent mission, environmental, safety, and health factors. The following selection standards were used to identify reasonable alternatives for analysis in the PEA:

- Enable Kirtland AFB to reduce flooding and standing water issues, reestablish an effective stormwater drainage system, and reduce damaging erosion to arroyos.
- Be compatible with the mission and training at the installation. Stormwater drainage
   system development may not adversely impact installation testing and training activities.
- Be compatible with future development needs identified in the 2016 Installation
   Development Plan (IDP).
- Result in no adverse impacts on adjacent communities and properties.
- 8 Meet current criteria/scope specified in:
- 9 o Air Force Manual 32-1084, *Facilities Requirements*
- 10 o EO 13693, Planning for Federal Sustainability in the Next Decade
- 11 o EO 11988, Floodplain Management
- EO 13807, Establishing Discipline and Accountability in the Environmental Review
   and Permitting Process for Infrastructure
- 14 o Section 438 of the Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA) of 2007.
- Meet current standards and optimize stormwater flow on the installation.
- Meet or exceed erosion and sediment control requirements of the National Pollutant
   Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction General Permit (CGP) Regulation
   (40 CFR § 122).
- Be compatible with the activities identified in the Tijeras Arroyo Management Plan
   prepared by AMAFCA (AMAFCA 2017).
- Avoid environmental resources such as protected plant or animal species habitat or known cultural resources.
- Consider Bird/Wildlife Aircraft Strike Hazard concerns by reducing the potential for standing water adjacent to the runways.

### 25 **2.3 No Action Alternative**

26 Under the No Action Alternative, Kirtland AFB would not develop, upgrade, and maintain 27 stormwater drainage systems or conduct arroyo repairs and erosion control measures. 28 Stormwater drainage problems would worsen as existing facilities silt up and deteriorate further; 29 damage to roads, parking lots, and foundations would increase, requiring costly repairs and 30 worsening traffic hazards during heavy rains; and erosion of the arroyos on the installation, 31 negatively affecting Waters of the United States (i.e., Rio Grande River) downstream of the 32 installation, would continue. Severe deterioration could negatively impact the ability to execute 33 mission and training activities.

The No Action Alternative would not meet the purpose of and need for the Proposed Action as described in **Section 1.3**; however, the USAF Environmental Impact Analysis Process (32 CFR § 989.8[d]) requires consideration of the No Action Alternative. In addition, CEQ guidance recommends inclusion of the No Action Alternative in an EA to assess any
 environmental consequences that may occur if the Proposed Action is not implemented.
 Therefore, this alternative will be carried forward for detailed analysis in this PEA. The No Action
 Alternative also serves as a baseline against which the Proposed Action can be compared.

# 5 2.4 Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Detailed 6 Analysis

No practical alternatives to the Proposed Action were identified because of the programmatic nature of the PEA. Alternatives, such as performing the proposed activities on only a portion of the installation, performing only the stormwater drainage system activities, or performing only the proposed arroyo repair activities, were not considered viable alternatives because they would not fully meet the purpose and need of the Proposed Action or satisfy the selection standards.

## 13 **2.5 Comparative Summary of Impacts**

14 **Table 2-1** presents a summary of the impacts anticipated under the Proposed Action and the 15 No Action Alternative.

#### 1 Table 2-1. Summary of Potential Impacts

Affected Resource	Proposed Action	No Action Alternative
Noise	The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, short-term, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on the local noise environment. Activities associated with the Proposed Action would require the use of heavy construction equipment, which can cause an increase in sound above the ambient level. The off-installation noise environment might experience intermittent, short-term, minor, adverse impacts if construction associated with the Proposed Action occurred in proximity to the installation boundary; however, the Sunport lies between these locations and any noise from construction activities would be overshadowed by the noise created by commercial and military aircraft overflights.	The No Action Alternative would not result in any new or additional impacts.
Air Quality	The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, short-term, minor, adverse impacts on air quality. Emissions would be directly produced from activities such as operation of heavy equipment, workers commuting daily to and from job sites in their personal vehicles, heavy duty diesel vehicles hauling materials and debris to and from the job sites, and ground disturbance. However, such emissions would only be produced when construction associated with the Proposed Action is occurring, which is anticipated to be sporadic. Construction activities would incorporate best management practices (BMPs) and environmental control measures (e.g., wetting the ground surface) to minimize fugitive particulate matter air emissions. Additionally, work vehicles are assumed to be well maintained and to use diesel particulate filters to reduce particulate matter air emissions.	The No Action Alternative would not result in any new or additional impacts.
Geological Resources	<ul> <li>The Proposed Action would result in short- and long-term impacts. Ground-disturbing activities would result in intermittent, short-term, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on local topography and soil resources. Activities would include grading, clearing, ditching or trenching, and boring of select areas on the installation. Project activities would implement techniques to minimize soil erosion and sedimentation by using appropriate BMPs and environmental protection measures. Additionally, each project activity would be reviewed to ensure proper erosion and sediment control measures are considered and incorporated into project designs.</li> <li>Long-term, minor, beneficial impacts on local topography and soil resources would be anticipated. These resources would likely benefit from improvements to the stormwater drainage system such as arroyo bank stabilization and landscape revegetation. Arroyo bank stabilization and landscape revegetation would also be expected to reduce the potential for soil erosion and loss.</li> <li>No short- or long-term impacts on regional geology or geological hazards are anticipated to occur.</li> </ul>	The No Action Alternative would result in stormwater drainage problems becoming worse as existing facilities silt up and erosion of arroyos on the installation continues.

Affected Resource	Proposed Action	No Action Alternative
Water Resources	<ul> <li>The Proposed Action would result in short- and long-term impacts. Intermittent, short-term, minor, adverse impacts would result from ground-disturbing activities associated with the Proposed Action; however, these impacts would be reduced by incorporating measures to promote stormwater retention and re-use and implementation of BMPs and environmental protection measures.</li> <li>Long-term, minor, beneficial impacts on local and regional water resources would be anticipated to result from the Proposed Action. Enhanced surface infiltration and subsurface water storage and recharge would occur on and downstream of the installation. The Proposed Action would reduce the velocity and energy of stormwater flows and detrimental effects of erosion and sedimentation into surface waters.</li> </ul>	The No Action Alternative would result in stormwater drainage problems becoming worse as existing facilities silt up and deteriorate further; damage to roads, parking lots, and foundations would increase, requiring costly repairs; and erosion of arroyos on and downstream of the installation would continue.
Biological Resources	The Proposed Action would result in short- and long-term impacts. Ground-disturbing activities would result in intermittent, short-term, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on grassland and juniper grassland vegetation. Direct effects on vegetation from crushing and indirect effects from soil compaction and potential for establishment of invasive species would occur. However, revegetation of disturbed sites with native species would support a native plant community. Temporary, minor degradation of wildlife habitat and a small amount of permanent habitat loss would result; however, stormwater drainage system upgrades would improve stream flow and result in beneficial impacts on aquatic habitat and species in the long-term. Additionally, arroyo repairs and stormwater improvements would promote bank stabilization and reduce erosion, resulting in beneficial impacts on terrestrial habitat. No impacts on federally and state listed species would occur due to physical improvements. Increased noise from construction activities would result in short-term, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on wildlife. However, noise would be intermittent and short-term and it is expected that when activities cease, species sensitive to noise would resume normal activities. High-impact maintenance and repair activities that require heavy equipment should be conducted outside the nesting season to the extent possible to further reduce any adverse impact.	The No Action Alternative would allow stormwater drainage problems to worsen and erosion of arroyos to continue resulting in adverse impacts on vegetation and wildlife habitat through increased erosion and sedimentation.

#### Table 2-1. Summary of Potential Impacts (continued)

Affected Resource	Proposed Action	No Action Alternative
Cultural Resources	The Proposed Action could result in intermittent, short-term, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on cultural resources. As individual projects are developed, project-specific NEPA analysis would be prepared and Section 106 consultation would occur at that time. Ground-disturbing activities have the potential to result in an adverse effect on known cultural resources because of the concentration of cultural resources surrounding the natural arroyos and waterways. Avoidance of known cultural resources sites would be taken into consideration when planning and developing stormwater drainage and arroyo repair projects. However, if project activities would be conducted adjacent to or cannot be adjusted to avoid impacting an archaeological site, then consultation with the SHPO/Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) would occur, and mitigation measures would be developed in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA. It is recommended that any ground-disturbing activities take into consideration the potential for the discovery of previously undiscovered cultural resources. It is anticipated that proposed construction activities would occur within areas that have a high probability to encounter intact, subsurface cultural resources of cultural resources. In order to minimize the potential impacts to unrecorded cultural deposits, it is recommended that subsurface archaeological surveys be conducted in any area where the construction would impact undisturbed areas within or adjacent to arroyos. Should an inadvertent discovery of human or cultural remains occur, all project activities shall stop, the Cultural Resources Program Manager would be notified, and procedures outlined in the current Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) would be followed. This would ensure no adverse impacts would occur on the newly discovered cultural resources,	The No Action Alternative would not result in any new or additional impacts. Continued erosion could unearth and damage or remove cultural resources.
Paleontological Resources	The Proposed Action could result in intermittent, short-term, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on paleontological resources. Most of the fossils of ancient organisms discovered on the installation have occurred in areas surrounding natural arroyos and waterways. Considering the project aims to construct, repair, and maintain the stormwater drainage systems within Kirtland AFB, the proposed construction activities would occur within areas that have a higher probability to encounter subsurface paleontological resources. Avoidance of known paleontological resources sites would be taken into consideration when planning projects. Additionally, it is recommended that any ground-disturbing activities take into consideration the potential for the discovery of previously undiscovered paleontological resources. To minimize potential impacts on unrecorded paleontological deposits, subsurface surveys and monitoring should be conducted in any area where the construction would impact undisturbed areas within or adjacent to arroyos.	The No Action Alternative would not result in any new or additional impacts. Continued erosion could unearth and damage or remove paleontological materials.

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Affected Resource	Proposed Action	No Action Alternative
Paleontological Resources (continued)	Should an inadvertent discovery of paleontological materials occur, all project activities shall stop, the Kirtland AFB Cultural Resources Program Manager would be notified, and operational procedures outlined in the ICRMP would be followed as they would for archaeological resources. This would ensure no adverse impacts would occur on the newly discovered paleontological resources.	
Infrastructure	The Proposed Action would result in short- and long-term impacts on the transportation system. Intermittent, short-term, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on area roadways would occur because of an increase in the number of construction-related vehicles accessing the installation; however, haul and delivery truck transportation is not expected to occur during peak travel times. Long-term, minor, beneficial impacts would result from project activities such as constructing and repairing gutters, curbs, and bridge supports. These activities would reduce costly repairs to roadways and improve transportation on the installation. The Proposed Action is not anticipated to change or result in short- or long-term impacts on the electrical, natural gas and propane, liquid fuel, sanitary sewer/wastewater, and communications utility systems. Intermittent, short-term, negligible to minor, adverse impacts are expected on the water supply system, stormwater handling, and solid waste management. Ground-disturbing activities would require minimal amounts of water, primarily for dust suppression; however, this increase would be temporary and would not be expected to exceed existing capacity. Soil disturbance has the potential to result in a minor disruption of natural drainage patterns, contamination of stormwater discharge, and heavy sediment loading; however, implementation of BMPs would reduce these impacts. Minimal amounts of solid waste would be generated; however, construction debris would consist primarily of recyclable and reusable building materials and removed vegetation. Should project activities be conducted within an area of known contamination, waste would be properly characterized prior to disposal. Waste disposal would be conducted in accordance with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Materials that could be recycled or reused would be diverted from landfills to the greatest extent possible. Long-term, minor to moderate, beneficial impacts would result by reducing the velocity and energy of st	The No Action Alternative would resul in stormwater drainage problems becoming worse as existing facilities silt up and deteriorate further; damage to roads, parking lots, and foundations would increase, requiring costly repairs and worsening traffic hazards during heavy rains; and erosion of the arroyos on the installation would continue.
Affected Resource	Proposed Action	No Action Alternative
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Hazardous Materials and Wastes	laterials and hazardous materials and wastes. Activities would require the use of small quantities of hazardous	
Safety	The Proposed Action would result in short-term, negligible, adverse and long-term, negligible to minor, beneficial impacts on the safety of contractors, military personnel, and the public. Activities associated with the Proposed Action would slightly increase the health and safety risk to personnel within the project area. Contractor personnel would be responsible for compliance with applicable federal, state, and local safety regulations and would be educated through daily briefings to review daily activities and potential hazards. Project areas would be fenced and signs would be posted to notify visitors and personnel of planned and ongoing construction or maintenance activities. Long-term, minor, beneficial impacts on the safety of personnel and the public would be anticipated. Improved storm drainage on the installation would lessen the probability of a 100-year flood event, including the resultant damage and inherent safety risks therein.	The No Action Alternative would not result in any new or additional impacts.
Socioeconomics	The Proposed Action would result in short- and long-term, negligible to minor, beneficial impacts on the socioeconomic environment. Direct and indirect, beneficial impacts would result from increased payroll tax revenue and the purchase of construction materials and goods in the area. Damage to roads, parking lots, and foundations would decrease resulting in a reduction in costly repairs. The temporary increase of construction workers on the installation would represent a small increase in the total number of persons working on the installation and no additional facilities would be necessary to accommodate the workforce.	The No Action Alternative would not result in new or additional impacts; however, repairs and renovations to the stormwater drainage system would become more costly to execute the longer they are delayed.

# Table 2-1. Summary of Potential Impacts (continued)

# Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences

This section of the PEA describes the natural and human environments that exist within Kirtland AFB and the consequences of the Proposed Action and No Action Alternative on affected resources within those environments. Only those resources that have the potential to be affected by any of the alternatives considered are described, as per CEQ guidance (40 CFR § 1501.7[3]).

8 Specific criteria for evaluating the potential environmental impacts of the Proposed Action and 9 No Action Alternative are discussed by resource area. The significance of an action is measured 10 in terms of its context and intensity. The context and intensity of potential environmental impacts 11 are described in terms of duration, the magnitude of the impact, and whether they are adverse 12 or beneficial, as summarized below:

- Short-term or long-term. In general, short-term impacts are those that would occur only with respect to a particular activity, for a finite period, or only during the time required for construction or installation activities. Long-term impacts are those that are more likely to be persistent and chronic.
- Significant, moderate, minor, negligible, or no impact. These relative terms are used to characterize the magnitude or intensity of an impact. Significant impacts are those effects that would result in substantial changes to the environment (as defined by 40 CFR § 1508.27) and should receive the greatest attention in the decision-making process. Less than significant impacts are those that would be slight but detectable.
- Adverse or beneficial. An adverse impact is one having unfavorable or undesirable
   outcomes on the man-made or natural environment. A beneficial impact is one having
   positive outcomes on the man-made or natural environment.

Based upon the scope of the Proposed Action, resource areas with no impacts were identified
through a preliminary screening process. The following describes those resource areas not
being carried forward for detailed analysis, along with the rationale for their elimination:

- Airspace Management. Airspace management is not addressed in this PEA because none of the proposed activities would result in a change to current airspace types, flight activities, or training and no changes to current aircraft operations would occur. As a result, USAF anticipates no short- or long-term impacts on airspace management at Kirtland AFB. Therefore, airspace management will not be carried forward for detailed analysis.
- Land Use. Land use is not addressed in this PEA because none of the proposed activities would result in a change in the current land use designations identified in the 2016 IDP. As a result, USAF anticipates no short- or long-term impacts on land use at Kirtland AFB. Therefore, land use will not be carried forward for detailed analysis.

- Visual Resources. Visual resources are not addressed in this PEA because none of the proposed activities would result in a change to the visual environment on or off the installation. As a result, USAF anticipates no short- or long-term impacts on visual resources at Kirtland AFB. Therefore, visual resources will not be carried forward for detailed analysis.
- 6 Environmental Justice. EO 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice 7 in Minority and Low-Income Populations, and EO 13045, Protection of Children from 8 Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks, require that all federal agencies address 9 the potential effects of policies on minorities, low-income populations, and children. 10 Environmental justice is not addressed in this PEA because the Proposed Action is not anticipated to cause disproportionately high and adverse health or environmental effects 11 12 on minority or low-income populations or children. Because of the distance of the project 13 area from off-installation populated areas, no off-installation minority, low income, or 14 youth populations would be adversely impacted by the Proposed Action, nor would they 15 experience disproportionately high and adverse impacts. As a result, USAF anticipates 16 no short- or long-term impacts on any minority or low-income populations or children. 17 Therefore, environmental justice will not be carried forward for detailed analysis.

# 18 **3.1 Noise**

19 Sound is a particular auditory impact produced by a given source, for example, the sound of rain 20 on a rooftop. Noise is any sound that is undesirable because it interferes with communication, is 21 intense enough to damage hearing, or is otherwise annoying. Noise and sound share the same 22 physical aspects, but noise is considered a disturbance while sound is defined as an auditory 23 impact. Noise can be intermittent or continuous, steady or impulsive, and can involve any 24 number of sources and frequencies. Noise can be readily identifiable or generally nondescript. 25 Human response to increased sound levels varies according to the source type, characteristics 26 of the sound source, distance between the source and receptor, receptor sensitivity, and time of 27 day. Affected receptors are specific (e.g., residential areas, schools, places of worship, 28 hospitals) or broad (e.g., nature preserves, designated districts) areas in which occasional or 29 persistent sensitivity or noise above ambient levels exists. These receptors are generally 30 referred to as sensitive noise receptors.

Sound levels vary with time. For example, the sound increases as an aircraft approaches, then falls and blends into the ambient sound environment, or background, as the aircraft recedes into the distance. Because of this variation, it is often convenient to describe a particular noise "event" by its highest or maximum sound level ( $L_{max}$ ). However,  $L_{max}$  describes only one dimension of an event; it provides no information on the cumulative noise exposure generated by a sound source. In fact, two events with identical  $L_{max}$  levels may produce different total noise exposures. One may be of short duration, while the other may last much longer.

Human response to noise varies, as do the metrics used to quantify it. Generally, sound levels can be measured with instruments that record instantaneous sound levels in decibels (dB). A-weighted decibel (dBA) is the unit used to characterize sound levels that can be sensed by the human ear. "A-weighted" denotes the adjustment of the frequency range to what the average human ear can sense when experiencing an audible event. The lower threshold of

- 1 audibility is generally within the range of 10 to 25 dBA for normal hearing. The threshold of pain
- 2 occurs at the upper boundary of audibility, which is normally in the region of 135 dBA3 (USEPA 1981a).
- **Table 3-1** compares common sounds and shows how they rank in terms of auditory impacts. As shown, a whisper is normally 30 dBA and considered to be very quiet while an air conditioning unit 20 feet away is considered an intrusive noise at 60 dBA. Noise levels can become annoying at 80 dBA and very annoying at 90 dBA. To the human ear, each 10 dBA increase seems twice as loud (USEPA 1981b).

Noise Level (dBA)	Common Sounds	Effect
10	Just audible	Negligible
30	Soft whisper (15 feet)	Very quiet
50	Light auto traffic (100 feet)	Quiet
60	Air conditioning unit (20 feet)	Intrusive
70	Noisy restaurant or freeway traffic	Telephone use difficult
80	Alarm clock (2 feet)	Annoying
90	Heavy truck (50 feet) or city traffic	Very annoying Hearing damage (8 hours)
100	Garbage truck	Very annoying
110	Pile drivers	Strained vocal effort
120	Jet takeoff (200 feet) or auto horn (3 feet)	Maximum vocal effort
140	Carrier deck jet operation	Painfully loud

9 Table 3-1. Sound Levels and Human Response

Source: USEPA 1981a

10 Under the Noise Control Act of 1972, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) established workplace standards for noise. The minimum requirement states that 11 12 constant noise exposure must not exceed 90 dBA over an 8-hour period. The highest allowable 13 sound level to which workers can be constantly exposed is 115 dBA, and exposure to this level 14 must not exceed 15 minutes within an 8-hour period. These standards limit instantaneous 15 exposure, such as impact noise, to 140 dBA. If noise levels exceed these standards, employers 16 are required to provide hearing protection equipment that reduces sound levels to acceptable 17 limits.

18 The average day/night sound level (DNL) metric is a measure of the total community noise 19 environment. DNL is the average A-weighted sound level over a 24-hour period, with a 10 dBA 20 adjustment added to the nighttime levels (between 2200 and 0700 hours). This adjustment is an 21 effort to account for increased human sensitivity to nighttime noise events. DNL was endorsed 22 by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) for use by federal agencies 23 and was adopted by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. DNL is an 24 accepted unit for quantifying annoyance to humans from general environmental noise, including 25 construction noise. Land use compatibility and incompatibility are determined by comparing the predicted DNL at a site with the recommended land uses. Noise levels occurring at night generally produce a greater annoyance than those of the same levels occurring during the day. It is generally agreed that people perceive intrusive noise at night as being 10 dBA louder than those occurring during the day, at least in terms of its potential for causing community annoyance.

6 The federal government established noise guidelines and regulations for the purpose of 7 protecting citizens from potential hearing damage and from various other adverse physiological, 8 psychological, and social effects associated with noise. According to the US Army, Federal 9 Aviation Administration, and US Department of Housing and Urban Development criteria, 10 residential units and other noise-sensitive land uses are "clearly unacceptable" in areas 11 where noise exposure exceeds 75 dBA, "normally unacceptable" in regions exposed to 12 noise between 65 and 75 dBA, and "normally acceptable" in areas exposed to noise of 13 65 dBA or less. For outdoor activities, USEPA recommends 55 dBA as the sound level below 14 which there is no reason to suspect that the general population would be at risk from any of the 15 effects of noise (USEPA 1974).

### 16 3.1.1 Affected Environment

17 The ambient sound environment at Kirtland AFB is affected mainly by USAF and civilian aircraft 18 operations, automotive vehicles, and live-fire weapons. In the heavily developed northwestern 19 portion of the installation, the commercial and military aircraft operations at the Sunport are the 20 primary source of noise. Figure 3-1 presents the existing DNL noise contours for the Sunport 21 plotted in 5-dB increments, ranging from 65 to 75 dBA DNL. Secondary sources of noise, such 22 as vehicle travel, industrial activities, and military training, also contribute to the louder ambient 23 sound environment of the northwestern portion of the installation compared to other portions of 24 Kirtland AFB. The ambient sound environment of the remaining portions of the installation is 25 quieter because development is less concentrated. Intermittent noises from military training, 26 mainly military vehicles, live-fire weapons, and explosives training, dominate the ambient sound 27 environment of these portions of Kirtland AFB.

28 Most sensitive noise receptors that could potentially be exposed to noise from installation 29 activities are on or proximate to the northwestern and northern portions of Kirtland AFB. For 30 example, several schools for the city of Albuquerque are on or proximate to the northwestern 31 portion of the installation. There are also several medical centers and hospitals in this region. All 32 Kirtland AFB housing and community functions are within the northwestern portion of the 33 installation, and several residential neighborhoods in the city of Albuquergue are proximate to 34 the northwest and northern boundaries of the installation. No other portions of Kirtland AFB 35 contain or are proximate to sensitive noise receptors (KAFB 2016).

#### 36 3.1.2 Environmental Consequences

#### 37 3.1.2.1 PROPOSED ACTION

The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, short-term, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on the local Kirtland AFB noise environment. The activities associated with the Proposed Action would require the use of heavy construction equipment, which can cause an increase in sound that is well above the ambient level. These activities are described in detail in **Section 2.1.1.** Such activities would occur annually as needs are identified. The off-installation noise environment might experience intermittent, short-term, minor, adverse impacts if construction associated with the Proposed Action occurred in proximity to the Kirtland AFB boundary where construction noise would propagate beyond the installation's boundary; however, the Sunport lies between these locations and any noise from construction activities would be overshadowed by the noise created by commercial and military aircraft overflights (see **Figure 3-1**).

8 Noise decreases with distance; therefore, adverse impacts from construction noise are typically 9 confined to within 0.5 mile of a project area. **Table 3-2** presents noise levels associated with 10 common types of construction equipment that can exceed the ambient sound levels by 20 to 25 11 dBA in an urban environment and up to 30 to 35 dBA in a remote area. All construction-related 12 noise impacts would last only for the duration of each construction period and would occur 13 during the daytime hours of 0700 to 1700.

Construction Equipment	Lmax at 50 feet	Lmax at 500 feet	L <sub>max</sub> at 1,500 feet
Backhoe	78	58	48
Chain Saw	84	64	54
Compactor (Ground)	83	63	53
Concrete Mixer Truck	79	59	49
Concrete Pump Truck	81	61	51
Concrete Saw	90	70	60
Crane	81	61	51
Dozer	82	62	52
Excavator	81	61	51
Front End Loader	79	59	49
Grapple (Backhoe)	87	67	57
Impact Pile Drive	101	81	71
Jack Hammer	89	69	59
Pavement Scarifier	90	70	60
Pneumatic Tools	85	65	55
Vacuum Excavator	85	65	55

14 Table 3-2. Predicted Noise Levels for Construction Equipment

Source: FHWA 2006

15 When project activities are proposed, Kirtland AFB personnel would identify the sensitive noise

receptors, such as schools, hospitals, housing, and places of worship proximal to the work site. 16 17 Project activities occurring on the northwestern and northern portions of the installation would 18 have the greatest potential to impact sensitive noise receptors. Construction workers would 19 implement BMPs to reduce adverse noise impacts on these receptors, as needed. Noise from 20 construction equipment could be managed using mufflers and temporarily placing noise 21 dampening barriers (e.g., sound screens) around construction sites. Noise levels from 22 construction sites would vary depending on the types of equipment being used on a given day, 23 the topography of the area where the project would occur, the distance between the receptor 24 and the generating source, and the presence of trees or buildings.



Figure 3-1. DNL Noise Contours for the Albuquerque International Sunport

1 Because Kirtland AFB is adjacent to the Sunport and is an active military installation that 2 supports aircraft and live-fire weapons training, the intermittent increases in construction noise 3 would be a fraction of the noise generated routinely on the installation. Additionally, construction 4 noise occurring within the heavily developed northwestern portion of Kirtland AFB would be less 5 noticeable than construction noise occurring elsewhere on the installation because of the louder 6 ambient noise environment of this portion of the installation. While construction noise might be 7 more noticeable on the portions of Kirtland AFB that are less developed, there are no sensitive 8 noise receptors that would be exposed to these increased levels of noise. Therefore, the 9 Proposed Action would not be expected to result in a significant impact on sensitive noise 10 receptors or the noise environment.

# 11 3.1.2.2 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

12 Under the No Action Alternative, Kirtland AFB would not develop, upgrade, and maintain 13 stormwater drainage systems or conduct arroyo repair and erosion control measures, and the 14 existing conditions discussed in **Section 3.1.1** would remain unchanged. No new noises would 15 be introduced to the on- and off-installation noise environments; therefore, no new noise 16 impacts would occur. Noise associated with emergency repairs because of stormwater damage 17 from deteriorated and non-existent stormwater infrastructure would continue.

# 18 3.2 Air Quality

19 Air quality is defined by the concentration of various pollutants in the atmosphere at a given 20 location. Under the Clean Air Act, the six pollutants defining air quality, called "criteria 21 pollutants," include carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), nitrogen dioxide, ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), 22 suspended particulate matter (measured less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter  $[PM_{10}]$ 23 and less than or equal to 2.5 microns in diameter [PM2.5]), and lead (Pb). CO, SO2, Pb, and 24 some particulates are emitted directly into the atmosphere from emissions sources. Nitrogen 25 dioxide, O<sub>3</sub>, and some particulates are formed through atmospheric chemical reactions that are 26 influenced by weather, ultraviolet light, and other atmospheric processes. Volatile organic 27 compounds (VOCs) and nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) emissions are used to represent O<sub>3</sub> generation 28 because they are precursors of O<sub>3</sub>.

29 USEPA has established National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) (40 CFR § 50) for criteria pollutants. NAAQS are classified as primary or secondary. Primary standards protect 30 against adverse health effects; secondary standards protect against welfare effects, such as 31 32 damage to farm crops and vegetation and damage to buildings. Some pollutants have short-33 term and long-term standards. Short-term standards are designed to protect against acute, or 34 short-term, health effects, while long-term standards were established to protect against chronic 35 health effects. The state of New Mexico has established its own ambient air quality standards 36 for the criteria pollutants, which in some cases are more stringent than the NAAQS.

Areas that are and have historically been in compliance with the NAAQS or have not been evaluated for NAAQS compliance are designated as attainment areas. Areas that violate a federal air quality standard are designated as nonattainment areas. Areas that have transitioned from nonattainment to attainment are designated as maintenance areas and are required to adhere to maintenance plans to ensure continued attainment. The maintenance designation can be removed from an area if the area demonstrates to the USEPA it can consistently remain
 below NAAQS for more than 20 years.

The USEPA General Conformity Rule applies to federal actions occurring in nonattainment or maintenance areas when the total direct and indirect emissions of nonattainment pollutants (or their precursors) exceed specified thresholds. The emissions thresholds that trigger requirements for a conformity analysis are called *de minimis* levels. *De minimis* levels (in tons per year [tpy]) vary by pollutant and also depend on the severity of the nonattainment status for the air quality management area in question.

9 NMED Air Quality Bureau oversees programs for permitting the construction and operation of
10 new or modified stationary source air emissions in the state of New Mexico. The NMED Air
11 Quality Bureau has delegated authority over air quality in Bernalillo County to the Albuquerque
12 Environmental Health Department Air Quality Division (AEHD-AQD).

13 Fugitive Dust Control Regulation. AEHD-AQD has fugitive dust control requirements in 14 20.11.20 New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC), Fugitive Dust Control. A fugitive dust 15 control construction permit is required for projects disturbing 0.75 acre or more and the 16 demolition of buildings containing more than 75,000 cubic feet of space. As stated in 17 20.11.20.12 NMAC, General Provisions, each person shall use reasonably available control 18 measures or any other effective control measure during active operations or on inactive 19 disturbed surface areas, as necessary, to prevent the release of fugitive dust, whether or not the 20 person is required by 20.11.20 NMAC to obtain a fugitive dust control permit.

21 Climate Change and Greenhouse Gases. Global climate change refers to long term 22 fluctuations in temperature, precipitation, wind, sea level, and other elements of Earth's climate 23 system. Ways in which the Earth's climate system may be influenced by changes in the 24 concentration of various gases in the atmosphere have been discussed worldwide. Of particular 25 interest, greenhouse gases (GHGs) are gas emissions that trap heat in the atmosphere. These 26 emissions occur from natural processes and human activities. Scientific evidence indicates a 27 trend of increasing global temperature over the past century because of an increase in GHG 28 emissions from human activities. The climate change associated with this global warming is 29 predicted to produce negative economic and social consequences across the globe.

# 30 3.2.1 Affected Environment

31 Kirtland AFB is in Bernalillo County, New Mexico, which is within the Albuquerque-Mid Rio 32 Grande Intrastate Air Quality Control Region. The Albuquerque-Mid Rio Grande Intrastate Air 33 Quality Control Region also includes portions of Sandoval and Valencia counties, New Mexico 34 (NMED 2017). Bernalillo County is designated by USEPA as unclassified/attainment for all 35 criteria pollutants, except CO. The county was designated as nonattainment for CO until 1996 36 when it was redesignated as maintenance because CO concentrations decreased and no 37 longer exceeded NAAQS (USEPA 2017a). CO concentrations continued to steadily decrease in 38 the region over the next 20 years, so the AEHD-AQD submitted a CO Limited Maintenance Plan 39 to USEPA. The CO Limited Maintenance Plan is an option provided by USEPA for areas that 40 demonstrated CO levels will remain below 85 percent of the CO NAAQS. Bernalillo County is 41 still under a CO maintenance plan and a CO conformity applicability analysis is required.

Kirtland AFB manages multiple air quality permits, including 20.11.41 NMAC, Construction 1 2 Permits; 20.11.21 NMAC, Open Burning; 20.11.20 NMAC, Fugitive Dust Control; and 20.11.40 3 NMAC, Source Registrations. All of these permits include operating or emissions limits to 4 ensure compliance with the Clean Air Act. Kirtland AFB must also comply with all 20.11 NMAC 5 requirements to include 20.11.42 NMAC Title V Operating Permit #527-RN1, which covers most 6 of the permitted stationary emission sources on the installation. These sources include 7 emergency generators, fire pump engines, boilers, water heaters, fuel storage tanks and fuel 8 dispensing systems, gasoline service stations, surface coating operations, aircraft engine 9 testing, fire training, remediation activities, mulching activities, miscellaneous chemical usage, 10 and open detonation of munitions for military training and research and development. Table 3-3 presents the 2017 stationary air emissions inventory for Kirtland AFB. 11

12 Table 3-3. Calendar Year 2017 Stationary Air Emissions Inventory for Kirtland AFB

Actual Emissions	NO <sub>x</sub>	VOC	CO	SO <sub>2</sub>	PM₁₀
	(tpy)	(tpy)	(tpy)	(tpy)	(tpy)
	6.03	41.15	5.60	0.34	0.68

13 Kirtland AFB also holds a Fugitive Dust Control Programmatic Permit, Permit No. 8091-P, with 14 the AEHD-AQD that covers routine heavy equipment activities. The permit includes BMPs such 15 as watering during ground-disturbing activities, using soil stabilization agents for dust 16 suppression, and decreasing speed limits on unpaved roads.

17 *Climate Change and Greenhouse Gases.* Ongoing global climate change has the potential to 18 increase average temperatures and cause more frequent, intense, and prolonged droughts in 19 the southwest United States including New Mexico (Garfin et al. 2014). These changes to 20 regional climate patterns could result in regional changes to flooding frequency, vegetation 21 types, vegetation growth rates, wildfire potential, groundwater depth, and potable water 22 availability.

# 23 3.2.2 Environmental Consequences

#### 24 3.2.2.1 PROPOSED ACTION

25 The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, short-term, minor, adverse impacts on air 26 quality. Such activities would occur annually as maintenance, upgrade, and repair needs are 27 identified. Emissions of criteria pollutants and GHGs would be directly produced from activities 28 such as operation of heavy equipment, workers commuting daily to and from job sites in their 29 personal vehicles, heavy duty diesel vehicles hauling materials and debris to and from the job 30 sites, and ground disturbance. However, such emissions would only be produced when the 31 construction associated with the Proposed Action is occurring, which is anticipated to be 32 sporadic during any given year.

The air pollutant of greatest concern is particulate matter, such as fugitive dust. The quantity of uncontrolled fugitive dust emissions from a construction site is proportional to the area of land being worked and the level of activity. Minor fugitive dust emissions would be produced from the amount of land disturbance associated with the Proposed Action. Fugitive dust air emissions would be greatest during the initial site grading and excavation and would vary day to day depending on the work phase, level of activity, and prevailing weather conditions. Particulate
 matter emissions would also be produced from the combustion of fuels in vehicles and
 equipment needed for construction.

Construction would incorporate BMPs and environmental control measures (e.g., wetting the 4 5 ground surface) to minimize fugitive particulate matter air emissions. Additionally, work vehicles 6 are assumed to be well maintained and to use diesel particulate filters to reduce particulate 7 matter air emissions. All projects must comply with 20.11.20 NMAC, Fugitive Dust Control, to 8 prevent the release of fugitive dust. USAF would obtain a fugitive dust control construction 9 permit from AEHD-AQD each time a stormwater drainage system and arroyo repair and erosion 10 control project is proposed if the action is subject to the 20.11.20 NMAC permitting threshold. Application for the fugitive dust control construction permit would require USAF to develop a 11 12 fugitive dust control plan, which would outline specific dust control measures that would be 13 implemented during construction. These BMPs and environmental control measures could 14 reduce uncontrolled particulate matter emissions from a construction site by approximately 50 15 percent depending upon the number of BMPs and environmental control measures required and 16 the potential for particulate matter air emissions. Kirtland AFB's existing fugitive dust control 17 programmatic permit for routine heavy equipment activities, Permit No. 8091-P, would provide 18 coverage for future maintenance activities associated with the Proposed Action. Per 19 20.11.20.12 NMAC, the USAF would also use reasonably available fugitive dust control 20 measures during any construction activity associated with the Proposed Action, whether or not a 21 fugitive dust control permit was required.

USAF's Air Conformity Applicability Model (ACAM) was used to estimate the annual air emissions from the construction associated with representative stormwater drainage system and arroyo repair and erosion control projects. For the purposes of this air quality analysis, it was assumed up to 10 acres of land would be disturbed annually by the activities associated with the Proposed Action. **Table 3-4** summarizes the anticipated air emissions, and **Appendix B** contains the detailed ACAM report.

Table 3-4. Estimated Annual Air Emissions from Construction Associated with the Proposed
 Action

Estimated Annual	(LDY) $(LDY)$ $(LDY)$ $(LDY)$ $(LDY)$	РМ <sub>2.5</sub>	GHG				
Air Emissions		(tру)	(tpy)				
	8.522	1.353	7.954	0.018	28.101	0.210	1,750.0

Notes: Pb emissions are not included because they are negligible for the types of emission sources under this Proposed Action.

All air emissions have been estimated using the USAF ACAM. Actual construction equipment and operating periods are expected to produce lesser emissions than those estimated in this table. A 50 percent control factor to PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions has been applied because fugitive dust emissions would be reduced with BMPs and environmental control measures specified in a project's fugitive dust control plan.

30 As noted in Section 3.2.1, Bernalillo County is designated by USEPA as unclassified/attainment

31 for all criteria pollutants, except CO. With the exception of CO, the general conformity rule does

32 not apply to the Proposed Action. As demonstrated in **Table 3-4**, estimated CO emissions are

33 well below the 100 tpy threshold for a conformity determination. Projected CO emissions would

34 be 7.954 tpy; therefore, a conformity determination is not required for the Proposed Action.

35 Fugitive dust emissions would be reduced with BMPs and environmental control measures

1 specified in a fugitive dust control plan. As such, a 50 percent control factor to  $PM_{10}$  and  $PM_{2.5}$ 2 emissions has been applied in **Table 3-4**. Therefore, the Proposed Action would not be 3 expected to result in a significant impact on air quality.

4 Climate Change and Greenhouse Gases. Construction associated with the Proposed Action 5 would emit approximately 1,705 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent during a given year. By 6 comparison, this amount of carbon dioxide equivalent is approximately the GHG footprints of 83 7 single family houses with two cars per home (USEPA 2018). As such, this annual emission of 8 GHGs would not meaningfully contribute to the potential effects of global climate change. 9 Therefore, the Proposed Action would not be expected to result in a significant impact on 10 climate change.

11 Ongoing changes to climate patterns in the southwestern United States are described in 12 **Section 3.2.1**. These climate changes are unlikely to affect USAF's ability to implement the 13 Proposed Action. Because global climate change could increase the severity of flooding on 14 Kirtland AFB, the Proposed Action would serve as a climate change resiliency action to lessen 15 potential damage to infrastructure and the severity of flooding impacts in vulnerable areas.

#### 16 3.2.2.2 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Under the No Action Alternative, Kirtland AFB would not develop, upgrade, and maintain stormwater drainage systems or conduct arroyo repair and erosion control measures; therefore, the existing conditions discussed in **Section 3.2.1** would remain unchanged and no new air emissions would be produced. The No Action Alternative would not result in any new or additional impacts on air quality.

# 22 **3.3 Geological Resources**

Geological resources consist of the Earth's surface and subsurface materials. Within a given physiographic province, these resources typically are described in terms of topography and physiography, geology, soils, and, where applicable, geologic hazards. Topography and physiography pertain to the general shape and arrangement of the land surface, including its height and the position of its natural and human-made features. Geology is the study of the Earth's composition and provides information on the structure and configuration of surface and subsurface features.

Soils are the unconsolidated materials overlying bedrock or other parent material. Soils typically are described in terms of their complex type, slope, and physical characteristics. Differences among soil types, in terms of their structure, elasticity, strength, shrink-swell potential, and erosion potential, affect their abilities to support certain applications or uses. In appropriate cases, soil properties must be examined for their compatibility with particular construction activities or types of land use.

Farmland is protected under the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) of 1981. The intent of the FPPA is to minimize the extent that federal programs contribute to the unnecessary conversion of high-quality farmland to non-agricultural uses. The FPPA also ensures that federal programs are administered in a manner that, to the extent practicable, is compatible with private, state, and local government programs and policies to protect farmland. The implementing procedures of the FPPA (7 CFR § 658) require federal agencies to evaluate the
adverse effects (direct and indirect) of their activities on farmland, which includes prime
farmland, unique farmland, and farmland of statewide or local importance, and to consider
alternative actions that could avoid adverse effects.

#### 5 3.3.1 Affected Environment

6 Regional Geology. The Rio Grande Rift is a zone of faults and sediment-filled basins extending 7 from south-central Colorado across New Mexico and into northern Mexico. The rift is a defining 8 physiographic feature of central New Mexico and the approximately 3,000-square-mile 9 Albuquerque Basin (also referred to as the Middle Rio Grande Basin). This basin is comprised of 10 three discrete sub-basins each containing more than 14,000 feet of rift-filled valley deposition 11 accrued over millions of years. Along the margins of the basin, sediment deposits thin out to 12 depths as low as 3,000 feet in areas where tectonic activity formed and uplifted mountains 13 (USGS 2003).

14 Kirtland AFB is situated near the east-central edge of the Albuquerque Basin, along the margins 15 of the Sandia and Manzanita Mountains. The geology of Kirtland AFB is defined by the vertical 16 displacement between the rock units exposed at the top of these mountains and areas west and 17 southwest towards the Rio Grande River (hereafter, referred to as Rio Grande) and its tributaries. 18 The subsurface environment underlying Kirtland AFB is complex because of the gradual filling of 19 the basin with sediments deposited by river and stream (fluvial), slopes and mountain fronts 20 (alluvial-colluvial), wind (eolian), and volcanic activity in the form of lava or ash. Sediment 21 deposition was further complicated by the large-scale faulting of the Albuquerque Basin that 22 occurred approximately 5 to 11 million years ago (SNL 2017a).

The portion of the Albuquerque Basin underlying Kirtland AFB is primarily composed of poorly consolidated alluvial-colluvial sediments. The exposed bedrock in the eastern part of the installation generally consists of igneous (i.e., granite) and metamorphic rock, overlain by non-corresponding deposits of marine carbonate rock (i.e., limestone, sandstone, and shale) (KAFB 2018a).

28 Topography and Soils. The east-central portion of the Albuquerque Basin (locally referred to as 29 East Mesa) extends west and southwest from the steep foothills and slopes of the Sandia and 30 Manzanita Mountains to the gently sloping areas near the Rio Grande. Similarly, the topography 31 of Kirtland AFB ranges from the mountainous terrain of the Cibola National Forest Withdrawn 32 Area in the east to the relatively flat mesa in the west. Elevations range from nearly 8,000 feet 33 above mean sea level in the Manzanita Mountains to approximately 5,200 feet above mean sea 34 level on the mesa. The greatest change in elevation occurs in the centrally located Coyote 35 Canyon and along the far eastern boundary of Kirtland AFB. The ground surface slope across 36 the installation generally occurs in a west to southwest direction.

Regionally, the soils of the Albuquerque Basin vary from fine-grained clays and silts near river
channels to well-drained sands and sandy loams on plateaus and highlands. Soils associated
with Kirtland AFB predominately consist of sand and loam with varying amounts of gravel,
cobble, or stone. Nearly all soils on the installation are well drained, and some are susceptible
to erosion, particularly in areas with topographic relief (KAFB 2018a).

- 1 **Table 3-5** describes the soil characteristics for areas of Kirtland AFB that directly support the
- 2 USAF mission. **Figure 3-2** displays the location of these soils on the installation.
- 3 Table 3-5. Soil Characteristics of USAF Controlled Lands at Kirtland AFB

Soil Series	Slope	Runoff
Bluepoint loamy fine sand	1 to 9%	low
Embudo gravelly fine sandy loam	0 to 5%	very low
Embudo-Tijeras complex	0 to 9%	very low to medium
Gila fine sandy loam	0 to 2%	low
Ildefonso gravelly sandy loam	1 to 9%	low
Laporte-Rock Outcrop-Escabosa complex	5 to 20%	medium
Latine sandy loam	1 to 5%	low
Madurez loamy fine sand	1 to 5%	low
Madurez-Wink Association	1 to 7%	very low to low
Nickel-Latene Association	1 to 30%	low to medium
Pino-Rock outcrop Association	3 to 15%	very high
Rock outcrop (various)	15 to 80%	high to very high
Salas complex	20 to 80%	high
Seis-Silver complex	10 to 40%	very high
Seis very cobbly loam	0 to 15%	medium
Silver and Witt soils	5 to 9%	high to very high
Tesajo-Millet stony sandy loam	3 to 20%	low to medium
Tijeras gravelly fine sandy loam	1 to 5%	low
Tome very fine sandy loam	0 to 2%	medium
Wink fine sandy loam	0 to 5%	very low
Source: USDA-NRCS 2017	1	1

None of the soils listed in **Table 3-5** are classified as prime farmland, unique farmland, or
farmland of statewide or local importance pursuant to the FPPA (USDA-NRCS 2018).
Additionally, Kirtland AFB is not currently utilized for agriculture, nor is any agricultural use
planned in the future.

**Geological Hazards.** Earthquake activity or seismicity is generally caused by displacement across active faults. Earthquakes are more prevalent in areas with a high-level of tectonic activity such as volcanic regions and fault zones. Landslides or mudslides are also commonly associated with tectonically active zones. Landslides include a wide range of ground movements and are typically caused by multiple, overlapping environmental factors (e.g., rockfalls, deep failure of slopes, land modifications, earthquakes, and storms).

More commonly known as the Tijeras fault zone, the Tijeras-Cañoncito fault system consists of several northeast-oriented, sub-vertical faults that form the eastern edge of the Albuquerque Basin. The Tijeras fault zone is part of this regionally extensive group of faults. The southern end of the Tijeras fault zone converges with the southern Sandia and Hubbell Spring fault zones beneath Kirtland AFB near Tijeras Arroyo (USGS 2002). Frequent, low magnitude and intensity earthquakes are common occurrences for the Albuquerque region, including Kirtland AFB.



Figure 3-2. Soils on Kirtland AFB

Accordingly, the United States Geological Survey rates the seismic hazard of this area as "moderate" based upon a measurement of expected building damage in an earthquake scenario. Similarly, the International Conference of Building Officials Uniform Building Code classifies the region as having a moderate potential for damage to structures from seismic activity (USGS 2008).

#### 6 3.3.2 Environmental Consequences

#### 7 3.3.2.1 PROPOSED ACTION

8 The Proposed Action would result in short- and long-term impacts on topography and soil 9 resources. No short- or long-term impacts on regional geology or geological hazards are 10 anticipated to occur. The Proposed Action is not anticipated to change or result in short- or long-11 term impacts on regional geological features or cause an existing geologic feature to become 12 unstable. Therefore, regional geology and geological hazards are not discussed further.

13 **Topography and Soils.** The Proposed Action is expected to result in intermittent, short-term. 14 negligible to minor, adverse impacts on local topography and soil resources. Construction and 15 maintenance activities associated with the Proposed Action would include ground disturbance 16 or excavation to remove or expand existing storm drainage infrastructure and install new 17 infrastructure; grading to route, redirect, or retain surface water runoff during storm events; the installation of grade control structures such as box culverts for arroyo bank stabilization; or 18 19 earthwork to direct or control surface water runoff. These activities would include grading, 20 clearing, ditching or trenching, and boring of select areas on the installation. Ground-disturbing 21 activities would expose soils and increase their susceptibility to water and wind erosion.

22 Over time, the Proposed Action could also result in the gradual alteration of topography 23 downstream of select project locations because of minor changes in the direction, rate, and 24 volume of surface water flows. To a lesser extent, maintenance activities under the Proposed Action would similarly change the topography in select areas of the installation. These impacts 25 26 would be reduced by the implementation of appropriate BMPs and environmental protection 27 measures. Additionally, the use of heavy equipment or vehicles could result in soil compaction, 28 altering their normal function relative to water storage, infiltration, or filtration; however, 29 construction activities associated with the Proposed Action would take the attributes of the 30 topography and underlying soil types within a project area into consideration in the design of 31 each potential project.

32 Project activities would implement techniques to minimize soil erosion and sedimentation by 33 using appropriate BMPs and environmental protection measures. As applicable, Kirtland AFB 34 would obtain coverage under the 2017 NPDES CGP for projects that individually or cumulatively 35 disturb 1 acre or more of land. The CGP requires the preparation, approval, and implementation of site-specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs) prior to construction, including 36 37 appropriate structural and non-structural erosion, sediment, and waste control BMPs (USEPA 2017b). In accordance with the current CGP, the Kirtland AFB Municipal Separate Storm Sewer 38 39 System (MS4) Stormwater Management Plan, and the Kirtland AFB Multi-Sector General Permit 40 (MSGP) SWPPP, each project activity would be reviewed to ensure proper erosion and 41 sediment control measures are considered and incorporated into project designs. Under the 42 Proposed Action, these measures would be specific to individual projects, but may include:

compost blankets, mulching, rip-rap, watering, seeding and sodding, geotextiles, and
 slope drains for erosion control

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 compost filter berms and socks; fiber rolls or berms; temporary sediment basins, rock dams, filters, chambers, or traps; silt fences; and storm drain inlet protection for sediment control.

6 Under the Proposed Action, all project activities would comply with EISA Section 438 (refer to 7 Section 3.4) and employ Low Impact Design (LID) practices to maintain or restore a site's 8 pre-development hydrology. Site-specific LID features would further enhance stormwater 9 retention and infiltration onsite thereby reducing the potential for soil loss via erosion (USEPA 10 2009). Similarly, soil compaction would be minimized via implementation of standard BMPs. For 11 example, staging areas for equipment and construction materials would utilize existing gravel, 12 paved, or mowed areas to the extent practicable. All project activities that disturb 0.75-acre or 13 more would also obtain a fugitive dust control construction permit from Bernalillo County (see 14 Section 3.2). Each permit would include site-specific BMPs for dust control and suppression 15 such as watering, the use of soil stabilization agents, and vehicle speed limits on unpaved 16 roads. Therefore, the Proposed Action would not be expected to result in a significant impact on 17 the local topography or soil resources.

Long-term, minor, beneficial impacts on local topography and soil resources would be anticipated to result from the Proposed Action. Upon completion of the Proposed Action, these resources would likely benefit from improvements to the stormwater drainage system such as arroyo bank stabilization and landscape revegetation post-construction or post-maintenance. Arroyo bank stabilization and landscape revegetation would also be expected to reduce the potential for soil erosion and loss.

# 24 3.3.2.2 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Under the No Action Alternative, Kirtland AFB would not develop, upgrade, and maintain stormwater drainage systems or conduct arroyo repair and erosion control measures, and the existing conditions discussed in **Section 3.3.1** would remain unchanged. Additionally, implementation of the No Action Alternative would result in stormwater drainage problems becoming worse as existing facilities silt up and erosion of the arroyos on the installation continues.

# 31 **3.4 Water Resources**

Water resources are natural and man-made sources of water that are available for use by, and for the benefit of, humans and the environment. Water resources relevant to Kirtland AFB's location in New Mexico include groundwater, surface water, floodplains, and wetlands. Evaluation of water resources examines the quantity and quality of the resource and its demand for various purposes and ensures compliance with the Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 USC § 1251 et seq. (1972).

38 *Groundwater.* Groundwater is water that exists in the saturated zone beneath the Earth's 39 surface that collects and flows through aquifers. Groundwater is an essential resource that 40 functions to recharge surface water and is used for drinking, irrigation, and industrial purposes. Groundwater typically can be described in terms of depth from the surface, aquifer or well
 capacity, water quality, recharge rate, and surrounding geologic formations. The state of New
 Mexico passed ground and surface water protection objectives subject to the Water Quality Act,

4 New Mexico Statutes Annotated (NMSA) 74-6, under 20.6.2 NMAC.

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Groundwater quality and quantity are regulated under several federal and state programs. The federal Underground Injection Control regulations, authorized under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), require a permit for the discharge or disposal of fluids into a well. The federal Sole Source Aquifer regulations, also authorized under the SDWA, protect aquifers that are critical to water supply. The state of New Mexico passed state drinking water rules, which incorporate the federal SDWA regulations, under 20.7.10 NMAC and regulates water rights under NMSA 72-1.

11 Surface Water. Surface water includes natural, modified, and man-made water confinement 12 and conveyance features above groundwater that may or may not have a defined channel and 13 discernable water flow. These features are generally classified as streams, springs, wetlands, 14 natural and artificial impoundments (e.g., ponds, lakes), and constructed drainage canals and 15 ditches. Stormwater is surface water generated by precipitation events that may percolate into 16 permeable sufficial sediments or flow across the top of impervious or saturated sufficial areas, a 17 condition known as runoff. Stormwater is an important component of surface water systems 18 because of its potential to introduce sediments and other contaminants that could degrade 19 surface waters, such as lakes, rivers, or streams. Proper management of stormwater flows, 20 which can be intensified by high proportions of impervious surfaces associated with buildings, 21 roads, and parking lots, is important to the management of surface water guality and natural 22 flow characteristics.

The CWA establishes federal limits, through the NPDES permit process, for regulating point (end of pipe) and non-point (stormwater) discharges of pollutants into the Waters of the United States and quality standards for surface waters. The term "Waters of the United States" has a broad meaning under the CWA and incorporates deep water aquatic habitats and special aquatic habitats (including wetlands). Sections 401 and 404 of the CWA regulate the discharge of dredged or fill materials into the Waters of the United States, including wetlands.

29 USEPA's MS4 program addresses pollution from stormwater runoff conveyed by an MS4 and 30 discharged into rivers and streams. Common pollutants include oil and grease from roadways, 31 pesticides from lawns, sediment from construction sites, and trash and other inappropriately 32 disposed of waste materials. In compliance with provisions of the CWA, operators of stormwater 33 discharges associated with industrial activities are authorized to discharge to Waters of the 34 United States in accordance with the eligibility and Notice of Intent requirements, effluent 35 limitations, inspection requirements, and other conditions set forth in the 2015 MSGP. The 36 USEPA currently regulates large (equal to or greater than 1 acre) construction activity through 37 the 2017 CGP, which provides coverage for a period of 5 years.

EISA Section 438 (42 USC § 17094) establishes into law stormwater design requirements for federal development projects that disturb a footprint of greater than 5,000 square feet. EISA Section 438 requirements are independent of stormwater requirements under the CWA. The project footprint consists of all horizontal hard surface and disturbed areas associated with project development. Under these requirements, pre-development site hydrology must be 1 maintained or restored to the maximum extent technically feasible with respect to temperature,

2 rate, volume, and duration of flow. Pre-development hydrology would be modeled or calculated

3 using recognized tools and must include site-specific factors, such as soil type, ground cover,

4 and ground slope.

5 Additionally, LID features need to be incorporated into new construction activities to comply with 6 the restrictions on stormwater management promulgated by EISA Section 438. LID is a 7 stormwater management strategy designed to maintain site hydrology and mitigate the adverse 8 impacts of stormwater runoff and non-point source pollution. LIDs can manage the increase in 9 runoff between pre- and post-development conditions on the project site through interception, 10 infiltration, storage, and evapotranspiration processes before the runoff is conveyed to receiving 11 Examples of LID methods include bio-retention, permeable pavements, waters. 12 cisterns/recycling, and green roofs (DoD 2010).

*Floodplains*. Floodplains are areas of low, level ground present along rivers, stream channels, 13 14 or coastal waters that are subject to periodic or infrequent inundation because of rain or melting 15 snow. Floodplain ecosystem functions include natural moderation of floods, flood storage and 16 conveyance, groundwater recharge, nutrient cycling, water quality maintenance, and provision 17 of habitat for a diversity of plants and animals. Flood potential is evaluated by FEMA, which 18 defines the 100-year floodplain as an area within which there is a 1 percent chance of 19 inundation by a flood event in a given year, or a flood event in the area once every 100 years. 20 The risk of flooding is influenced by local topography, the frequencies of precipitation events, 21 the size of the watershed above the floodplain, and upstream development. Federal, state, and 22 local regulations often limit floodplain development to passive uses, such as recreation and 23 conservation activities, to reduce the risks to human health and safety. EO 11988, Floodplain 24 Management, requires federal agencies to determine whether a proposed action would occur 25 within a floodplain and directs them to avoid floodplains to the maximum extent possible 26 wherever there is a practicable alternative.

27 3.4.1 Affected Environment

28 Groundwater. Kirtland AFB is within the limits of the Rio Grande Underground Water Basin, 29 which is defined as a natural resources area and designated as a "declared underground water 30 basin" by the state of New Mexico. The average depth to groundwater beneath Kirtland AFB is 31 450 to 550 feet below ground surface (bgs). The Rio Grande Basin's source of groundwater is 32 the Santa Fe Aquifer, which has an estimated 2.3 billion acre-feet of recoverable water. This 33 aguifer is most likely recharged east of the installation in the Manzanita Mountains where the 34 sediment soil materials favor rapid infiltration (KAFB 2018a). The regional aquifer is used for the 35 installation's water supply. Kirtland AFB has a water right that allows it to divert approximately 36 6,400 acre-feet of water, or approximately 2 billion gallons, per year from the underground 37 aquifer (KAFB 2016). In 2017, Kirtland AFB pumped 2,283 acre-feet (744 million gallons) of 38 water from the regional aquifer (KAFB 2018b).

Surface Water. Kirtland AFB is within the Rio Grande watershed. The Rio Grande is the major surface hydrologic feature in central New Mexico, flowing north to south through Albuquerque, approximately 5 miles west of the installation. Surface water resources on Kirtland AFB reflect its dry climate. The average annual rainfall in Albuquerque is 9 inches, with half of the average

annual rainfall occurring from July to October during heavy thunderstorms. Surface water
 generally occurs in the form of stormwater sheet flow that drains into small gullies during heavy
 rainfall events (KAFB 2018a). Surface water generally flows across the installation in a westerly
 direction toward the Rio Grande.

5 The two main surface water drainage channels on Kirtland AFB are the Tijeras Arroyo and the smaller Arroyo del Coyote, which joins the Tijeras Arroyo approximately 1 mile west of the 6 7 Tijeras Arroyo Golf Course (see Figure 2-1). The Tijeras Arroyo and Arroyo del Coyote are 8 tributaries to the Rio Grande. They flow intermittently during heavy thunderstorms and the 9 spring snowmelt, but most of the water percolates into alluvial deposits or is lost to the 10 atmosphere via evapotranspiration. The Tijeras Arroyo, which is dry for most of the year, is the 11 primary surface channel that drains surface water from Kirtland AFB to the Rio Grande. 12 Precipitation reaches the Tijeras Arroyo through a series of storm drains, flood canals, and 13 small, mostly unnamed arroyos. Nearly 95 percent of the precipitation that flows through the 14 Tijeras Arroyo evaporates before it reaches the Rio Grande. The remaining 5 percent is equally 15 divided between groundwater recharge and runoff (KAFB 2018a, USAF 1991).

16 The topography of Kirtland AFB causes stormwater runoff to either percolate into the ground or 17 flow towards the Rio Grande. During heavy precipitation, stormwater on the installation is 18 collected via a series of storm drains, flood canals and small, mostly unnamed, arroyos that 19 eventually drain to Tijeras Arroyo or Arroyo del Coyote. Stormwater in the developed area 20 drains into small culverts towards Gibson Boulevard along the installation boundary. There are 21 also four detention ponds in the area. Stormwater in the industrial/laboratory areas discharges 22 through surface runoff or three large culverts that drain toward the Tijeras Arroyo on the south 23 (KAFB 2018a).

There are 10 wetlands supplied by at least 15 naturally occurring springs on Kirtland AFB;
however, no Jurisdictional Determinations have been made concerning these water features.
There are no natural lakes or rivers on Kirtland AFB; however, six man-made ponds have been
created on the Tijeras Arroyo Golf Course.

Kirtland AFB operates under three NPDES Permits: the MSGP for industrial activities, the MS4
 permit for stormwater conveyances from installation development, and the CGP for construction
 projects. Stormwater runoff on the installation predominantly flows through the drainage
 patterns created by natural terrain and paved surfaces. In some areas, runoff is directed through
 ditches and piping, with direct discharges into a receiving stream or surface water body.

33 Issued in December 2015, the MSGP, Permit No. NMR050001, focuses on facilities and 34 industry sector-specific BMP requirements. It requires the installation to have a SWPPP and 35 includes specific requirements for implementing control measures (e.g., minimize exposure, 36 good housekeeping, maintenance, spill prevention and response), conducting self-inspections and visual assessments of discharges, taking corrective actions, and conducting training, as 37 38 appropriate. Kirtland AFB has 10 outfalls (i.e., five MS4 and five MSGP) on the installation. 39 Because of the semi-arid climate in Albuquerque, wet weather samples are typically collected in 40 July, August, September, and October when flow is present and storm event criteria are met. 41 These months are categorized as the installation's four quarterly sample events; however,

collection and monitoring of data for all four quarters is not always possible due to the semi-arid
 climate.

3 According to the 2017 MSGP Annual Report being prepared by Kirtland AFB, Outfalls D and E 4 are subject to wet weather monitoring. For the 2017 reporting period, only one sample was 5 collected from Outfall E and no samples were collected from Outfall D. Although average 6 benchmark values could not be calculated, the Outfall E results indicated that the sample 7 contained elevated levels of magnesium. Other Sector K (hazardous waste treatment storage or 8 disposal) parameters were below the benchmark concentrations. Magnesium has been elevated 9 in past sampling years at that outfall; however, the concentrations were consistent with naturally 10 occurring background levels. Past results for Outfall D indicated concentrations of iron and total 11 suspended solids that exceed the applicable Sector L (landfills and land application sites) 12 benchmark values in past reporting years; however, the concentrations appear consistent with 13 naturally occurring background levels. Kirtland AFB is working with an environmental consultant 14 to identify improvements to Outfall D that would increase the number of wet weather samples 15 collected in this outfall. A thorough site inspection was conducted for Sectors K and L to verify 16 that structural control measures and BMPs were implemented to the maximum extent 17 practicable (Branson 2018).

18 Kirtland AFB is a co-permittee to the city of Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, for compliance with 19 the Middle Rio Grande Watershed Based MS4 General Permit No. NMR04A000. The MS4 20 permit, issued in September 2015, regulates stormwater sediment and pollutant discharges 21 from the municipality sources of the installation. The MS4 collects and conveys stormwater from 22 storm drains, pipes, and ditches and discharges into the Tijeras Arroyo and the city of 23 Albuquerque's MS4. Kirtland AFB has developed a Stormwater Management Plan as required 24 by the MS4 permit.

According to the 2017 MS4 Annual Report, Kirtland AFB is still in the data collection phase and began collecting data and tracking dissolved oxygen, sediment control, and bacteria reduction levels in 2015 and will perform trend analysis when enough data is available. Programs to manage the use of pesticides and fertilizers have been in place on the installation since 2007 (KAFB 2017a).

30 Finally, Kirtland AFB operates under a 2017 CGP (#NMR100000), which expires 16 February 31 2022. It includes several guidelines to implement erosion and sedimentation control, pollution 32 prevention, and stabilization on construction sites of 1 acre or more. If a project at Kirtland AFB 33 is subject to the CGP requirements, the contractor must develop a site-specific SWPPP and 34 provide the plan to the 377th Mission Support Group/Civil Engineering Installation Management 35 - Environmental Management - Compliance (MSG/CEIEC) for review and approval. Upon approval, both the contractor and Kirtland AFB must submit Notices of Intent and be granted 36 37 approval from USEPA before work begins.

Floodplains. The 100-year floodplain on the installation is associated with the Arroyo del
 Coyote and Tijeras Arroyo (see Figure 2-1). Arroyo del Coyote and Tijeras Arroyo floods occur
 infrequently and are characterized by high peak flows, small volumes, and short durations
 (KAFB 2018a). As stated in Section 2.1 various portions of the stormwater drainage and arroyo
 systems on the installation are owned or maintained by either Kirtland AFB or AMAFCA.

#### 1 3.4.2 Environmental Consequences

#### 2 3.4.2.1 PROPOSED ACTION

The Proposed Action would result in short- and long-term impacts on local and regional water resources on and downstream of the installation. Intermittent, short-term, minor, adverse impacts would result from ground-disturbing activities associated with the Proposed Action; however, these impacts would be reduced by incorporating LIDs to promote stormwater retention and re-use and implementation of BMPs and environmental protection measures.

8 Long-term, minor, beneficial impacts on local and regional water resources would be anticipated
9 to result from stormwater drainage improvements associated with the Proposed Action.
10 Enhanced surface infiltration and subsurface water storage and recharge would occur. The
11 Proposed Action would reduce the velocity and energy of stormwater flows and detrimental
12 effects of erosion and sedimentation into surface waters.

Groundwater. The Proposed Action would result in short- and long-term impacts on 13 14 groundwater. Ground-disturbing activities associated with the Proposed Action would result in 15 an intermittent, short-term, negligible, adverse impact on groundwater. Construction and 16 demolition activities would require minimal amounts of water, primarily for dust suppression. This water would be obtained from the Kirtland AFB water supply system. The annual water use 17 (approximately 2,495 acre-feet) for the installation is well below the 6,000 acre-feet withdrawal 18 19 allowed per year in the Water Rights Agreement with the state of New Mexico; therefore, it is 20 anticipated that sufficient water resources would be available on the installation.

21 The Proposed Action would not affect the quality of regional groundwater resources. The 22 average depth to groundwater beneath Kirtland AFB is 450 to 550 feet; therefore, groundwater 23 would not be encountered during construction activities associated with the Proposed Action. 24 Because of the depth to groundwater, it is also not anticipated that any potential petroleum or 25 hazardous material spills during construction would reach groundwater. Recharge of the Santa 26 Fe Aguifer most likely occurs east of the installation in the Manzanita Mountains and would not 27 be affected by the Proposed Action. Proper housekeeping, maintenance of equipment, and 28 containment of fuels and other potentially hazardous materials would be conducted to minimize 29 the potential for a release of fluids. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Action would not 30 be expected to result in a significant impact on groundwater.

Long-term, minor, beneficial impacts on groundwater reservoirs underlying Kirtland AFB would result from improved surface water infiltration, storage, and recharge.

33 Surface Water. The Proposed Action would result in short- and long-term impacts on surface waters. Ground-disturbing activities associated with the Proposed Action would result in an 34 35 intermittent, short-term, negligible to minor, adverse impact on surface water. If project activities 36 are subject to CGP requirements (i.e., surface disturbance equal to or greater than 1 acre), the contractor must develop a site-specific SWPPP and provide the plan to 377 MSG/CEIEC for 37 38 review and approval. Upon approval, both the contractor and Kirtland AFB must submit Notices 39 of Intent and be granted approval from USEPA before work can begin. All BMPs outlined in the 40 SWPPP would be implemented prior to any ground disturbance thereby reducing any adverse 41 impact on surface water. The goal of the SWPPP is to reduce or eliminate stormwater pollution from construction activities by planning and implementing appropriate pollution control practices to protect water quality. Soil disturbance from construction and demolition activities has the potential to result in a minor disruption of natural drainage patterns, contamination of stormwater discharge, and heavy sediment loading. Development of new stormwater drainage systems and upgrade of existing systems would be designed with consideration for the Unified Facilities Code (UFC) LID requirements, in accordance with EISA Section 438, to maintain or restore the natural hydrologic functions of the area.

Construction activities would include the use of equipment; petroleum, oil, and lubricants; and 8 9 hazardous materials that would be stored on site. The selected construction contractor would 10 follow industry-standard BMPs during construction activities, which would include routine 11 inspection of containers for proper condition and labeling; proper maintenance of equipment; 12 use of drip pans and absorbent mats at refueling locations to collect leaks or spills; adherence 13 to the guidelines outlined in the Kirtland AFB Hazardous Waste Management Plan (HWMP); 14 and adherence to federal, state, and local regulations regarding the storage, use, and 15 transportation of hazardous materials. Additionally, it is expected that the selected construction 16 contractor would use good housekeeping measures such as installing silt fencing and 17 performing street cleaning around construction areas to reduce the potential for erosion and 18 equipment track out.

19 The Proposed Action would not generate contaminants or directly contribute to pollutant loads 20 subject to a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). Given the high rates of surface water infiltration 21 and evapotranspiration at Kirtland AFB, it is not likely TMDL-regulated contaminants would 22 reach impaired waterway segments.

23 The Proposed Action would not adversely affect Waters of the United States pursuant to the 24 CWA. Any work proposed to occur within or adjacent to such waters would be carried out in 25 compliance with Section 404 of the Act. Because the Tijeras Arroyo and Arroyo del Coyote are 26 classified as ephemeral streams, it is anticipated that Kirtland AFB, AMAFCA, or the selected 27 contractor would obtain necessary permits prior to project implementation. Therefore, assuming 28 adherence to BMPs and environmental control measures, the Proposed Action would not be 29 expected to result in a significant impact on surface waters. Restabilization and revegetation of areas, along with other BMPs to abate runoff and wind erosion, would result in a long-term, 30 31 minor, beneficial impact on erosion and runoff. The Proposed Action would result in improved 32 stormwater conveyance and a reduction in erosion and sedimentation of surface waters.

33 Floodplains. The Proposed Action would result in short- and long-term impacts on local and 34 regional floodplains. Upgrades to culverts, lining channels with rock or concrete, installation of 35 stormwater drainage inlets, or creating retention structures would result in a short-term, minor, adverse impact on floodplains. However, project-specific engineering design reviews and 36 37 related studies would be conducted as necessary to determine if flood elevations or velocities 38 would affect upstream and downstream conditions. For example, a hydrology and hydraulics 39 study could be performed to model the flow of water during different rainfall events and predict 40 anticipated changes to the function and extent of a watershed and stream. Kirtland AFB, 41 AMAFCA, and ABCWUA would continue to coordinate their activities in order to ensure no negative impacts would result to the other's activities or systems. Therefore, the Proposed
 Action would not be expected to result in a significant adverse impact on floodplains.

The Proposed Action would result in a long-term, minor, beneficial impact on floodplains. Development of new stormwater drainage systems and upgrade of existing systems would occur on USAF controlled lands on Kirtland AFB. Arroyo repair and erosion control measures would occur within the floodplains associated with Tijeras Arroyo and Arroyo del Coyote on Kirtland AFB. Project activities (e.g., arroyo bank stabilization and culvert improvement) would reduce erosion and abate stormwater runoff. The Proposed Action would result in improved stormwater conveyance and a reduction in erosion and sedimentation of surface waters.

### 10 3.4.2.2 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Under the No Action Alternative, Kirtland AFB would not develop, upgrade, and maintain stormwater drainage systems or conduct arroyo repair and the existing conditions discussed in **Section 3.4.1** would remain unchanged. Additionally, implementation of the No Action Alternative would result in stormwater drainage problems becoming worse as existing facilities silt up and deteriorate further; damage to roads, parking lots, and foundations would increase, requiring costly repairs; and erosion of the arroyos on and downstream of the installation would continue.

# 18 **3.5 Biological Resources**

Biological resources include native or naturalized plants and animals and the habitats in which they occur, and native or introduced species found in landscaped or disturbed areas. Laws protecting wildlife include the ESA, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940. Protected species are defined as those listed as threatened, endangered, or proposed or candidate for listing by USFWS or the NMDGF. Federal species of concern are not protected by law; however, these species could become listed, and are therefore given consideration when addressing biological resource impacts of an action.

Sensitive habitats include those areas designated by the USFWS as critical habitat protected by the ESA and sensitive ecological areas as designated by state or federal rulings. Sensitive habitats also include wetlands, plant communities that are unusual or of limited distribution, and important seasonal use areas for wildlife (e.g., migration routes, breeding areas, crucial summer/winter habitats).

The New Mexico Wildlife Conservation Act (NMSA 17-2-37) authorizes NMDGF to create a list of endangered or threatened wildlife within the state, and to take steps to protect and restore populations of species on the list. Actions causing the death of a state endangered animal are in violation of the Wildlife Conservation Act. In addition, USFWS and NMDGF maintain lists of species considered to be particularly sensitive or at risk.

# 36 3.5.1 Affected Environment

Kirtland AFB lies at the intersection of four major North American biotic provinces: the Great
Plains, Great Basin, Rocky Mountains, and Chihuahuan Desert. Vegetation and wildlife found
within the installation are influenced by each of these provinces, with the Great Basin being the
most dominant influence. Elevations range from approximately 5,000 feet in the west to almost

8,000 feet in the Manzanita Mountains, providing a variety of ecosystems. Five canyons 1 2 (i.e., Lurance, Sol se Mete, Bonito, Otero, and Madera) are in the eastern portion of the 3 installation; a few smaller canyons occur on Manzano Base. Kirtland AFB is situated near three 4 regional natural areas: the Sandia Mountain Wilderness Area, Sandia Foothills Open Space, 5 and Rio Grande Valley State Park. The Sandia Mountain Wilderness Area, encompassing 6 37,877 acres, lies approximately 5 miles north of the eastern portion of the installation. This 7 area is home to many species of plants and animals and supports an important raptor migration 8 route (KAFB 2018a).

9 Kirtland AFB has an Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) in place, which 10 was updated in 2018. The INRMP provides interdisciplinary strategic guidance for natural 11 resources management on the installation for a period of 5 years. It is integrated with other planning functions and supports the military mission. The INRMP is focused on the achievement 12 13 of 10 specific goals for the protection and improvement of the natural environment. The goals 14 were formulated from a comprehensive analysis of mission requirements, regulatory 15 requirements, the condition of the natural resources on Kirtland AFB, and a consideration of the 16 value of the resources to the people who live and work on the installation. Implementation of the 17 INRMP ensures that the installation continues to support present and future mission 18 requirements while preserving, improving, and enhancing ecosystem integrity (KAFB 2018a).

19 Vegetation. Four main plant communities occur on Kirtland AFB: grassland (includes 20 sagebrush steppe and juniper woodlands), piñon-juniper woodlands, ponderosa pine 21 woodlands, and riparian/wetland/arroyo. In addition to the four main plant communities, Kirtland 22 AFB also has improved areas, which refers to those areas that are landscaped/maintained 23 throughout the installation. Figure 3-3 presents the distribution of the vegetation communities 24 on the installation. Grassland and piñon-juniper woodlands are the dominant vegetative 25 communities on the installation. The riparian/wetland/arroyo community is confined to drainages 26 and isolated areas inundated by surface water during part of the year. The ponderosa pine 27 woodland community is found along the eastern boundary of the installation (KAFB 2018a).

28 Grassland Community. This community is found between elevations of 5,200 and 29 5,700 feet at Kirtland AFB. The grassland community on the installation is further 30 delineated into two community types: sagebrush steppe in the western portion of the installation and juniper woodlands in the eastern portion. In sagebrush steppe, the 31 32 understory is less dense, with cryptogamic crust covering areas of exposed ground. The 33 juniper woodlands are similar to the grasslands to the east, except for the greater 34 abundance of one-seeded juniper. The presence of this shrubby tree creates a savanna-35 like habitat in an otherwise treeless area. Juniper woodlands are found at a slightly 36 higher elevation than the surrounding grassland. This habitat type provides a transition 37 into piñon-juniper woodlands. Common grass species include ring muhly, Indian ricegrass, sixweeks grama, black grama, blue grama, and spike dropseed. Shrubs 38 39 commonly found in the grassland community include sand sagebrush, winterfat, and 40 broom snakeweed. Other species include purple threeawn, sixweeks threeawn, hairy 41 grama, mesa dropseed, four-wing saltbush, Apache plume, plains prickly pear, and 42 soapweed yucca. Transitional shrublands are common between grassland and piñon-juniper woodland communities, with many species from both communities
 inhabiting these areas (KAFB 2018a).

- *Piñon-Juniper Woodland Community*. The piñon-juniper woodland community ranges
   in elevation from 6,300 to 7,500 feet. This plant community is primarily composed of
   Colorado piñon pine and juniper, with an understory of shrubs and grasses. At most
   elevations, this community consists of open woodland with blue grama and, to a lesser
   degree, side-oats grama dominating the understory. Other species associated with this
   plant community are Rocky Mountain juniper, broom snakeweed, rubber rabbitbrush,
   threadleaf groundsel, and alderleaf mountain mahogany (KAFB 2018a).
- Ponderosa Pine Woodland Community. The ponderosa pine woodland community is typically found in the highest elevations of the eastern portion of the installation. It is typically found between 7,600 and 7,988 feet. Common species include ponderosa pine, Colorado piñon pine, Rocky Mountain juniper, and Gambel oak. Intermingled with these species are creeping barberry, New Mexican locust, and snowberry. One-seeded juniper, hoptree, and alderleaf mountain mahogany are also present in ponderosa pine woodland (KAFB 2018a).
- *Riparian/Wetland/Arroyo Community.* The riparian/wetland/arroyo community consists of species that have a greater moisture requirement than species common to the other communities on the installation. These plant communities are found along the Tijeras Arroyo, Arroyo del Coyote, and at the various springs throughout the installation. Common species include cottonwood, hoptree, Apache plume, yerba mansa, and saltcedar. Most of the small, scattered wetlands on Kirtland AFB are in good condition and occur in conjunction with other plant communities (KAFB 2018a).
- Improved Areas. Approximately 1,980 acres are considered improved areas and are generally on the northern portion of the installation. These areas are landscaped or maintained. Kirtland AFB promotes water conservation landscaping by using xeriscape methods combined with native plant materials. Landscaping may be an involved process or something as simple as the upkeep of natural vegetation through weeding and mowing (KAFB 2018a).
- The proposed stormwater drainage system development, upgrade, and maintenance activities would primarily occur in the grassland and juniper grassland communities, as well as the improved areas of the installation. The proposed arroyo repair and erosion control activities would occur in the riparian/wetland/arroyo community.

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Figure 3-3. Vegetation Communities on Kirtland AFB

1 Wildlife Species and Habitat. Wildlife species found on Kirtland AFB are representative of the 2 species' diversity common to the regional ecosystem (e.g., grassland, juniper woodland, 3 piñon-juniper woodland, and ponderosa pine woodlands) and species common in grassland and 4 semi-developed areas. Species can be transient and travel between communities, inhabit 5 several communities, or exist in transitional areas between vegetation communities. Native 6 fauna includes terrestrial and aquatic vertebrates and invertebrates. Terrestrial vertebrates 7 include species such as large and small mammals, birds, amphibians, and reptiles. The only 8 aquatic habitats on lands managed by Kirtland AFB are the small ponds at Tijeras Golf Course 9 and isolated wetlands (KAFB 2018a).

10 Mammals commonly found on the installation include the desert cottontail, black-tailed jack 11 rabbit, spotted ground squirrel, rock squirrel, Gunnison's prairie dog, silky pocket mouse, Ord's 12 kangaroo rat, banner-tailed kangaroo rat, Merriam's kangaroo rat, western harvest mouse, deer 13 mouse, white-footed deer mouse, northern grasshopper mouse, porcupine, black bear, and 14 mule deer. Mammalian predators found in association with these species include the coyote, 15 badger, kit fox, striped skunk, mountain lion, and bobcat (KAFB 2018a).

16 Reptiles and amphibians commonly found on the installation include the New Mexico whiptail 17 lizard, short-horned lizard, lesser earless lizard, bull snake, western diamondback rattlesnake, 18 prairie rattlesnake, desert massasauga, glossy snake, western box turtle, Woodhouse's toad, 19 and red spotted toad. Many of the amphibian species have extensive periods of dormancy 20 during dry conditions and rapid breeding cycles when temporary ponds occur after rains (KAFB 2018a).

Birds that could commonly occur on the installation include the horned lark, scaled quail, mourning dove, greater roadrunner, American crow, northern mockingbird, western meadowlark, wild turkey, brown-headed cowbird, and house finch. Raptor species known to occur or that may potentially occur include the northern harrier, red-tailed hawk, Swainson's hawk, ferruginous hawk, American kestrel, and western burrowing owl. Additionally, turkey vultures are common scavengers in the area (Peterson 2010). The nesting season for most bird species that occur at Kirtland AFB runs from 1 March to 30 September.

29 Threatened and Endangered and State Listed Species. The USFWS and NMDGF maintain 30 lists of plant and animal species that have been classified, or are potential candidates for 31 classification, as threatened or endangered in Bernalillo County (see Table 3-6). According to 32 the 2018 USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation Report, five threatened or 33 endangered species could occur on Kirtland AFB or in the surrounding region (USFWS 2018). 34 All five of these species have final designated or proposed critical habitat; however, there are no 35 critical habitats on or near Kirtland AFB. No federally threatened or endangered species have 36 been identified on the installation. Based on the data provided in the Biota Information System 37 of New Mexico, there are 17 species listed by NMDGF as threatened or endangered 38 (BISON-M 2017).

Common Name	Scientific Name	NMDGF	USFWS	Critical Habitat
Spotted Bat	Euderma maculatum	Т	-	-
Meadow Jumping Mouse	Zapus luteus luteus	Е	Е	Y
Brown Pelican	Pelecanus occidentalis	Е	-	-
Common Black Hawk	Buteogallus anthracinus	Т	-	-
Bald Eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Т	-	-
Aplomado Falcon	Falco femoralis	Е	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus	Т	-	-
Arctic Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus tundrius	Т	-	-
Least Tern	Sternula antillarum	Е	-	-
Neotropic Cormorant	Phalacrocorax brasilianus	Т	-	-
Yellow-billed Cuckoo (western pop)	Coccyzus americanus occidentalis	-	т	Proposed
Mexican Spotted Owl	Strix occidentalis lucida	-	Т	Y
Broad-billed Hummingbird	Cynanthus latirostris	Т	-	-
White-eared Hummingbird	Hylocharis leucotis	Т	-	-
Southwestern Willow Flycatcher	Empidonax traillii extimus	Е	Е	Y
Bell's Vireo	Vireo bellii	Т	-	-
Gray Vireo	Vireo vicinior	Т	-	-
Baird's Sparrow	Ammodramus bairdii	Т	-	-
Rio Grande Silvery Minnow	Hybognathus amarus	Е	Е	Y

1 Table 3-6. Threatened and Endangered Species in Bernalillo County

Notes: E=Endangered; T=Threatened; Y=Yes Source: BISON-M 2017

2 The five federally listed species that could occur on the installation, the New Mexico meadow jumping mouse, Mexican spotted owl, southwestern willow flycatcher, yellow-billed cuckoo, and 3 4 Rio Grande silvery minnow, do not have suitable habitat and have not been identified on the 5 installation. The New Mexico meadow jumping mouse prefers large wet meadows within floodplains. A 2016 survey conducted at Kirtland AFB did not detect the mouse or find desirable 6 7 habitat for the species (KAFB 2018a). The Mexican spotted owl may migrate through Kirtland 8 AFB at certain times of the year; however, this species is not known to utilize Kirtland AFB for 9 extended periods of time. The southwestern willow flycatcher and yellow-billed cuckoo prefer 10 riparian and forested habitat not found on the installation. The Rio Grande silvery minnow is a 11 riverine fish that prefers low-gradient creeks and small to large rivers with slow to moderate 12 flow. It is only found in one reach of the Rio Grande in New Mexico, which is off-installation 13 (NatureServe 2017).

The 2018 USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation Official Species and Habitat List was received on 20 July 2018 under Consultation Code 02ENNM00-2018-SLI-1108. It was determined that there are no federally listed threatened or endangered species or critical habitat occurring within the project area (USFWS 2018). However, to ensure no impact, an updated species list from USFWS is required to be obtained within 90 days of starting construction activities.

- Of those species known to occur in Bernalillo County, two state threatened species have the potential to occur on Kirtland AFB (KAFB 2018a). Biological surveys are conducted annually in order to monitor federal-listed, state-listed, and other special status species presence on Kirtland AFB. **Table 3-7** and the following text discuss species that are known to occur on the installation and are excerpted from the 2018 INRMP, unless otherwise noted.
- 6 Table 3-7. Kirtland AFB Species with Special Status

Species	Federal Status	State Status	
Gray Vireo	-	Threatened	
Peregrine Falcon	Species of Concern	Threatened	
Loggerhead Shrike	-	Species of Greatest Conservation Need	
Mountain Plover	-	Sensitive taxa	
Western Burrowing Owl	Species of Concern	-	
Long-legged Myotis	-	Sensitive taxa	
Western Small-footed Myotis	-	Sensitive taxa	
Gunnison's Prairie Dog	-	Sensitive taxa	
Golden Eagle	Bald/Golden Eagle Protection Act	-	

Notes: myotis = bat

- *Gray vireo*. The gray vireo, a state-threatened species, is a small migratory songbird.
   They occur in colonies in several locations on Kirtland AFB throughout the withdrawn area. The highest density of colonies is within lower elevation piñon-juniper habitat from Coyote Canyon south to the Isleta boundary at elevations ranging from 5,900 to 6,600 feet. Gray vireo populations have increased on Kirtland AFB because of fire suppression activities and the subsequent increase of piñon-juniper stands.
- Peregrine falcon. The peregrine falcon, a state threatened species and federal species of concern, is a medium to large raptor. On Kirtland AFB, suitable nesting cliffs are in the canyons of the withdrawn area. The species is observed hunting throughout the entire installation. Threats to peregrine falcons include use of pesticides, predation, electrical line electrocution, and noise impacts from installation activities.
- 18 Loggerhead shrike. The loggerhead shrike, a state species of greatest conservation 19 need, is a small migratory songbird that occurs in grasslands west of the withdrawn 20 area. The species is a year-round resident of Kirtland AFB; however, nesting shrikes are 21 no longer found on the installation. The species breeds in grazed areas that have 22 exposed ground and sparse vegetation and are not in close proximity to developed 23 areas. The species is commonly encountered adjacent to Manzano Base and along the 24 southern portion of the installation near the Starfire Optical Range, Giant Reusable Air 25 Blast Simulator, and Chestnut sites.
- Mountain plover. The mountain plover, a state sensitive taxa, is a small migratory songbird. The plover occurs in grasslands, typically within prairie dog towns. Potential nesting and brood-rearing habitat for the mountain plover at Kirtland AFB is limited to the southern grasslands directly north of the Pueblo of Isleta. Impacts to the mountain plover

population on the installation are a result of decreased Gunnison's prairie dog
 towns/colonies within the southern portion of the installation.

- Western burrowing owl. The western burrowing owl, a federal species of concern, is a small ground owl. Burrowing owls are migratory; however, some owls may occur on the installation during mild winters. The species is found on Kirtland AFB within developed areas where grasses are less dense and afford a greater line of sight for protection from predators and prey detection. Populations of burrowing owls have greatly decreased on the installation. Threats to the population include a decrease of the Gunnison's prairie dog population and incompatible land use
- Long-legged myotis and western small-footed myotis. Two bat species identified on Kirtland AFB, the long-legged myotis and western small-footed myotis, are state sensitive taxa. Habitat on the installation suitable for these species includes cliffs and abandoned mines throughout the withdrawn area. The species are nocturnal and feed on insects near water or rocky cliffs. Threats to the two species include a decrease of surface water and white-nose syndrome.
- Gunnison's prairie dog. The Gunnison's prairie dog, a state sensitive taxa, is a rodent within the squirrel family that occurs in colonies or towns. They are primarily within grasslands in the northern half of Kirtland AFB and in the cantonment area. Threats to the population include periodic plague epidemics and loss of habitat.
- Golden eagle. The golden eagle is a raptor, federally protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, which occurs on Kirtland AFB. Because of the size of the golden eagle, they are ranked at the top of the food chain as apex predators of avian species. Golden eagles have been observed during avian surveys conducted on the installation and nests have been identified on cliffs within the withdrawn area. Threats to the species include use of pesticides, predation, electrical line electrocution, and noise impacts from installation activities.
- It is assumed that all of the special status species that occur on the installation could occurwithin areas associated with the Proposed Action.

*Critical Habitat*. Critical habitats are those areas of land, air, or water that are essential for
 maintaining or restoring threatened or endangered plant or animal populations. Neither the
 NMDGF nor USFWS has designated or identified any critical habitat on Kirtland AFB.

Although not considered critical habitat, surveys and literature indicate that important habitats on the installation include: wetlands, which are rare in this region; prairie dog towns, which provide nesting habitat for the western burrowing owl; and areas between 5,900 and 6,600 feet containing open juniper woodlands, which are used as nesting habitat by the gray vireo (KAFB 2018a).

- 37 3.5.2 Environmental Consequences
- 38 3.5.2.1 PROPOSED ACTION

The Proposed Action would result in short- and long-term impacts on local and regionalbiological resources on and downstream of the installation.

**Vegetation.** The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, short-term, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on grassland and juniper grassland vegetation. Direct effects on vegetation from removal and crushing and indirect effects from soil compaction and potential for establishment of invasive species would occur. However, long-term, beneficial impacts would result from revegetation of disturbed sites with native species supporting the native plant community on the installation.

7 Crushing and soil compaction would occur when vehicles and equipment access, park, and 8 maneuver around areas requiring upgrade, maintenance, or repair. These impacts would also 9 occur during ditching and trenching for new and upgraded stormwater systems, as well as 10 excavating, regrading, and filling/backfilling during maintenance and arroyo repair. Additionally, 11 ground disturbance and transport of construction equipment could increase the potential for 12 establishment of invasive plant species. Adverse impacts on vegetation would be minimized 13 through the use of appropriate BMPs, such as cleaning construction equipment prior to entering 14 the project area. In accordance with EO 13112, Invasive Species, active measures would be 15 implemented to help prevent and control dissemination of invasive plant species during 16 ground-disturbing activities. Revegetation of disturbed sites with native vegetation would further 17 reduce the establishment of invasive species.

18 Wildlife Species and Habitat. The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, short-term, 19 minor, adverse impacts on wildlife species and habitat. Stormwater drainage system 20 development, upgrade, and maintenance and arroyo repair activities would result in temporary, 21 minor degradation of wildlife habitat. Near- and in-water activities (i.e., culvert installation and 22 arroyo repair) could result in direct and indirect impacts on aquatic species and their habitats 23 from increases in erosion and sedimentation. In addition, hazardous materials could be 24 inadvertently released into aquatic habitats during upgrade and repair activities. These actions 25 would temporarily degrade aquatic habitat and directly and indirectly affect aquatic species. 26 Adherence to BMPs and the project-specific SWPPPs would minimize sedimentation and 27 reduce the risk of the release of hazardous materials into aquatic systems. All upland areas 28 disturbed would be vegetated to prevent and control soil erosion, and to provide stability to final 29 slopes. Vegetation establishment would be initiated as soon as practical.

30 Long-term, minor, beneficial impacts on aquatic and terrestrial habitat would result from 31 stormwater drainage improvements associated with the Proposed Action. Stormwater drainage 32 improvements would reduce the velocity and energy of stormwater flows and detrimental effects 33 of erosion and sedimentation into surface waters. Restabilizing arroyos and upgrading 34 stormwater systems would improve the flow of floodwater resulting in improved water quality 35 because less erosion and sedimentation would occur during a flood event. Better water quality 36 equates to better aquatic habitat. Additionally, the arroyo repairs and stormwater improvements 37 would promote bank stabilization, resulting in beneficial impacts on terrestrial habitat.

Temporary displacement of mobile wildlife from noise, lighting, and other disturbances would occur from upgrade and repair activities. High-impact maintenance and repair activities that require heavy equipment could cause more-mobile mammals, reptiles, and birds, including breeding migratory birds, to temporarily relocate to nearby similar habitat. This disturbance is expected to be minor and it is assumed that displaced wildlife would return soon after activities

- 1 conclude. However, in order to avoid nest abandonment, these activities should occur outside of
- 2 nesting season for migratory birds, typically 1 March to 30 September. These impacts would be
- 3 short-term and BMPs would be implemented to minimize adverse impacts.
- 4 Individuals of smaller, less-mobile species could be inadvertently killed or injured during ground-
- 5 disturbing activities or transportation of equipment and personnel. Burrowing animals, such as 6 burrowing owls, rodents, and reptiles, could be impacted. However, vehicles associated with
- 7 maintenance and repair activities are used primarily on the established roads, which limits the
- 8 potential for impacts on burrowing species.
- 9 Threatened and Endangered and State Listed Species. The Proposed Action would result in 10 no short- or long-term impacts on federally and state listed species. To ensure no impact, an 11 updated species list from USFWS is required to be obtained within 90 days of starting any 12 construction activities (USFWS 2018). Intermittent, short-term, negligible to minor, adverse 13 impacts on state sensitive taxa could occur as a result of the Proposed Action (see Table 3-7).
- 14 Stormwater drainage system development, upgrade, and maintenance and arroyo repair and 15 erosion control activities may disrupt or modify behavior (including breeding and nesting) as a 16 result of increased noise or other disturbances. However, noise would be intermittent and 17 temporary in nature. It is expected that when activities cease, species sensitive to noise would 18 resume normal activities. Therefore, while activities may temporarily disturb individuals or 19 populations, these effects are expected to be negligible. High-impact maintenance and repair activities that require heavy equipment should be conducted outside the nesting season, 20 21 typically 1 March to 30 September, to the maximum extent possible.
- If trees or shrubs suitable for bat roosting are cleared during the bat birthing or pup-rearing season (June to August), there is a risk that young bats could inadvertently be harmed or killed. Should vegetation removal need to occur during the bat birthing or pup-rearing season, a survey would be conducted by qualified personnel and areas containing young bats would be avoided until the roost is no longer occupied. With implementation of these BMPs, it is anticipated that the Proposed Action would not result in adverse impacts on the long-legged myotis and western small-footed myotis.
- 29 3.5.2.2 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE
- 30 Under the No Action Alternative, Kirtland AFB would not develop, upgrade, and maintain 31 stormwater drainage systems or conduct arroyo repairs. Stormwater drainage problems would 32 worsen and erosion of the arroyos on the installation would continue, affecting vegetation, 33 wildlife habitat, and wildlife and protected species. Wildlife and protected species use surface 34 waters and riparian areas for nesting or foraging. Water quality can affect them directly when 35 they drink and indirectly when they feed on insects that spend part of their lives growing in 36 water.

# 37 3.6 Cultural Resources

The term 'cultural resource' refers to any prehistoric or historic resources, such as
archaeological sites, traditional cultural properties, districts, objects, and historic
buildings/structures. The term 'historic property' refers specifically to a cultural resource that has

been determined to be eligible for inclusion to the NRHP. These resources are protected and identified under several federal laws and EOs. Five classes of historic properties are defined for listing in the NRHP: buildings, sites, districts, structures, and objects (26 CFR § 60.3). Federal laws include the NHPA (1966), the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act (1974), the American Indian Religious Freedom Act (1978), the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (1979), and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (1990).

7 Under Section 106 of the NHPA, the USAF is required to assess the effects of undertakings 8 prior to initiation to ensure that there would be no adverse effects on historic properties 9 (36 CFR § 800). Under this process, USAF evaluates the NRHP eligibility of resources within 10 the proposed undertaking's APE and assesses the possible effects of the proposed undertaking 11 on historic resources and determines if consultation with the SHPO and other parties, such as a THPO, is necessary. The APE is defined as the geographic area(s) "within which an 12 13 undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic 14 properties, if any such properties exist." Title 36 CFR § 60.4 defines the criteria used to 15 establish significance and eligibility for the NRHP. Section 110 of the NHPA requires USAF to 16 complete an inventory of historic properties on its land (36 CFR §§ 60, 63, 78, 79, and 800).

# 17 3.6.1 Affected Environment

18 In compliance with Section 110 of the NHPA, Kirtland AFB conducted an installation-wide 19 survey of cultural resources in the early 2000s. Additional cultural resources surveys, as 20 required by Section 106 of the NHPA, have been conducted on Kirtland AFB from the 1970s to 21 present. A total of 740 archaeological sites have been identified within the boundaries of the 22 installation. No traditional cultural properties have been identified within Kirtland AFB (Reynolds 2018).

24 Prehistoric archaeological sites on the installation contain artifacts such as ceramics, ground 25 stone, lithics, and tools. Historic archaeological sites contain artifact scatters and structural remains related to military activities, mining, and ranching. Many of these sites occur within the 26 27 undeveloped portion of the installation. There is a potential to encounter surface artifacts in 28 these areas, which are protected under various federal regulations. The locations of these sites 29 are protected and not disclosed to the general population. In addition to archaeological sites, a 30 total of 583 historic properties, including bridges and culverts, were evaluated for NRHP eligibility and 271 were found to be eligible (Reynolds 2018). 31

32 The two major drainages on Kirtland AFB are Tijeras Arroyo and the watershed of Arroyo del 33 Covote. Smaller drainages are on the west side of Four Hills and along the lower slopes west of 34 Mount Washington. Both major drainages are ephemeral and flow during spring snowmelt or 35 after summer thunderstorms. Previous surveys show that the highest archaeological site density 36 occurs adjacent to these arroyos. Approximately 30 percent of the known archaeological sites, 37 some of the most significant sites on the installation, are within or adjacent to the arroyos. 38 Human occupation encountered in these areas spans from the Folsom Period (9000 BC) 39 through the Recent Historic Period (1960 AD). In addition to known archaeological sites, there is 40 a high potential for the inadvertent discovery of additional cultural resources within the arroyos 41 and floodplains (Reynolds 2018).

A geoarchaeological study of Kirtland AFB documented intact buried cultural resources along the arroyos and terraces, particularly west of the withdrawn area. These cultural resources are often buried by alluvium and eolian (windblown) sediments, which protect the cultural resources from various disturbances (e.g., bioturbation and erosion). The terraces bordering the lower portion of Tijeras Arroyo expose piedmont-slope alluvium over ancient Rio Grande alluvium. As previous research suggests, these alluvial deposits have the potential to contain intact buried cultural material along the lower side slopes and floodplain of the arroyo.

8 Sites that have been rapidly covered with sediments (such as alluvial deposits) often contain *in* 9 *situ* deposits with better organic preservation and offer the greatest potential for establishing 10 local cultural chronologies. The landforms that are most likely to contain these intact cultural 11 materials are predominantly located along arroyos and within dunes along the floodplain and 12 arroyo terraces. These intact subsurface archaeological deposits are often present in areas 13 where no surface artifacts are present (KAFB 2009a).

14 The typical depth of archaeological sites on Kirtland AFB range from 1.6 to 3.3 feet. 15 Stratigraphic profiles show potential cultural deposits at a depth of up to 9.8 feet along Tijeras 16 Arroyo. Unless artifacts are detected in cut banks or erosional surfaces, many buried sites go 17 undetected during standard archaeological pedestrian surveys. As a result, subsurface 18 archaeological testing and monitoring is recommended for proposed actions in these areas in 19 order to detect any possible intact, buried cultural resources. Most inadvertent discoveries of 20 subsurface archaeological deposits on Kirtland AFB were identified along Tijeras Arroyo and 21 Arroyo del Coyote. Therefore, these are the locations where archaeological testing and 22 monitoring are most appropriate (KAFB 2009a).

23 Kirtland AFB has an ICRMP in place, which was completed in 2009 and is currently being 24 updated. The ICRMP is an integral part of the installation's comprehensive plan and addresses 25 the cultural resources on the installation. It integrates the Cultural Resources Management 26 Program with ongoing mission activities and the property managed by Kirtland AFB, allows for 27 the identification of conflicts between mission activities and cultural resources management, and 28 provides guidelines for mitigating any such conflicts. The ICRMP provides guidelines and 29 standard operating procedures to non-technical managers and planners in order to comply with 30 the installation's legal responsibilities for the preservation of significant archaeological and 31 historic resources (KAFB 2009b).

Because of the programmatic nature of this PEA, the APE is defined as the entire installation.
 No specific activities or locations have been determined at this time. As individual projects are
 developed, project-specific NEPA analysis would be conducted and Section 106 consultation
 would occur at that time.

36 3.6.2 Environmental Consequences

# 37 3.6.2.1 PROPOSED ACTION

38 The Proposed Action could result in intermittent, short-term, negligible to minor, adverse 39 impacts on cultural resources. As specific projects are developed, separate NEPA analysis and 40 Section 106 consultation would occur. The Proposed Action has the potential to result in an 41 adverse effect on known cultural resources because of the concentration of cultural resources surrounding the natural arroyos and waterways within Kirtland AFB; therefore, these are the locations where archaeological testing and monitoring would be most appropriate. Avoidance of known cultural resources sites would be taken into consideration when planning and developing stormwater drainage and arroyo repair projects. However, if project activities would be conducted adjacent to or could not be adjusted to avoid impacting a known archaeological site, then consultation with the SHPO/THPO would occur and mitigation measures would be developed in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA.

8 Typical mitigation measures include the following:

- consultation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
- development of a Memorandum of Agreement outlining the approach to minimize adverse effects on the resources
- 12 partial or complete excavation of the resource
- development and implementation of a mitigation plan to offset the destruction of the resource.

15 Furthermore, it is recommended that any ground-disturbing activities take into consideration the 16 potential for the discovery of previously undiscovered cultural resources. Considering the project 17 aims to construct, repair, and maintain the drainage systems within Kirtland AFB, the proposed 18 construction activities would occur within areas that have a high-probability to encounter intact. 19 subsurface cultural resources. Areas within or adjacent to the arroyos on the installation have 20 the highest incidence of inadvertent discoveries of cultural resources. Additionally, the known 21 sites in these areas are some of the most significant sites on the installation. In order to 22 minimize the potential impacts to unrecorded cultural deposits, it is recommended that 23 subsurface archaeological surveys be conducted in any area where the construction would 24 impact undisturbed areas within or adjacent to arroyos.

Should an inadvertent discovery of human or cultural remains occur, all project activities shall stop, the Kirtland AFB Cultural Resources Program Manager would be notified, and operational procedures outlined in the current ICRMP would be followed. This would ensure no adverse impacts would occur on the newly discovered cultural resources.

### 29 3.6.2.2 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

30 Under the No Action Alternative, Kirtland AFB would not develop, upgrade, and maintain 31 stormwater drainage systems or conduct arroyo repair and erosion control measures, and the 32 existing conditions discussed in **Section 3.6.1** would remain unchanged. Continued erosion 33 could unearth and damage or remove cultural resources.

# 34 **3.7** Paleontological Resources

Paleontological resources are fossils, the remains of prehistoric plants and animals, that are important scientific and educational resources because of their use in 1) documenting the presence and evolutionary history of particular groups of extinct or extant organisms, 2) reconstructing the environments in which these organisms lived, and 3) determining the relative ages of the strata in which they occur and the geologic events that resulted in the
deposition of the sediments that formed these strata. Fossils, used in conjunction with geology,
 provide clues to help determine what ancient environments were like. Paleontological remains

3 may be associated with archaeological sites, such as the bones of ancient bison. In these

4 cases, the remains may be considered both archaeological and paleontological resources.

5 The American Antiquities Act of 1906 is the first law to establish that "objects of antiquity" on 6 public lands are important public resources. It obligates federal agencies that manage the public 7 lands to preserve for present and future generations the historic, scientific, commemorative, and 8 cultural values of the archaeological and historic sites and structures on these lands. The act 9 imposes penalties for removing or destroying antiquities and has been interpreted to protect 10 paleontological resources.

#### 11 3.7.1 Affected Environment

12 Paleontological resources are not uncommon at Kirtland AFB. The discovery of various fossils 13 has served an important role in the study of past life and evolutionary theory. Fossils of ancient 14 organisms dating back to the Paleozoic are found in the Sandia Formation and Madera Group 15 limestones in the Los Moyos and Wild Cow formations. These specimens consist of various 16 floral and faunal fossil assemblages. Fossils from more recent deposits of the late Cenozoic 17 (Pliocene and Pleistocene to recent) have also been discovered near the installation. Pliocene 18 and Pleistocene fossils found in the gravels and sand deposits by the Rio Grande and exposed 19 in the area of Tijeras Arroyo include glyptodont, ground sloths, horse, and camel (KAFB 2009a).

A geoarchaeological study of Kirtland AFB documented that late Pleistocene and early Holocene fauna were found on the installation in older alluvium and along Coyote Canyon. A bison skull dating from 5600 to 5700 BP (before present) was found in an eroding cutbank in Tijeras Arroyo. Additional bison bones were found preserved in middle to late Holocene alluvial deposits in Coyote Canyon. Paleontological specimens were identified in deeply buried alluvial strata exposed in arroyo cut banks 9.8 to 13.1 feet below the modern surface (KAFB 2009a).

#### 26 3.7.2 Environmental Consequences

#### 27 3.7.2.1 PROPOSED ACTION

28 The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, short-term, negligible to minor, adverse 29 impacts on paleontological resources. Based upon the geoarchaeological study, the Proposed 30 Action has the potential to result in an adverse effect on paleontological resources because 31 most of the fossils of ancient organisms discovered on Kirtland AFB have occurred in the areas 32 surrounding the natural arroyos and waterways. Avoidance of known paleontological resources 33 sites would be taken into consideration when planning and developing stormwater drainage and 34 arroyo repair projects. However, it is recommended that any ground-disturbing activities take 35 into consideration the potential for the discovery of previously undiscovered paleontological 36 resources. Considering the project aims to construct, repair, and maintain the drainage systems 37 within Kirtland AFB, the proposed construction activities would occur in areas that have a higher 38 probability to encounter subsurface paleontological resources. Areas within or adjacent to the 39 arroyos on the installation have the highest incidence of inadvertent discoveries of 40 paleontological resources. In order to minimize potential impacts to unrecorded paleontological

- 1 deposits, it is recommended that subsurface surveys and monitoring be conducted in any area
- 2 where the construction would impact undisturbed areas within or adjacent to arroyos.

Should an inadvertent discovery of paleontological materials occur, all project activities shall stop, the Kirtland AFB Cultural Resources Program Manager would be notified, and operational procedures outlined in the ICRMP would be followed as they would for archaeological resources. This would ensure no adverse impacts would occur on the newly discovered paleontological resources.

8 3.7.2.2 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

9 Under the No Action Alternative, Kirtland AFB would not develop, upgrade, and maintain 10 stormwater drainage systems or conduct arroyo repair and erosion control measures, and the 11 existing conditions discussed in **Section 3.7.1** would remain unchanged. Continued erosion 12 could unearth and damage or remove paleontological materials.

#### 13 **3.8 Infrastructure**

Infrastructure consists of the systems and physical structures that enable a population in a specified area to function. Infrastructure is wholly man-made, with a high correlation between the type and extent of infrastructure and the degree to which an area is characterized as "urban" or developed. The availability of infrastructure and its capacity to support growth are generally regarded as essential to the economic growth of an area. The infrastructure information in this section was primarily obtained from the 2016 IDP and provides a brief overview of each infrastructure component and comments on its existing general condition.

The infrastructure components discussed in this section include transportation, utilities, and solid waste management. Transportation is defined as the system of roadways, highways, and transit services near the installation and could be reasonably expected to be potentially affected by the Proposed Action. Utilities include electrical, natural gas, liquid fuel, water supply, sanitary sewer/wastewater, stormwater handling, and communications systems. Solid waste management primarily relates to the availability of landfills to support a population's residential, commercial, and industrial needs.

#### 28 3.8.1 Affected Environment

#### 29 Transportation

Numerous modes of transportation are available at Kirtland AFB, including air, mass transit, and federal and state highway access. The Sunport, along the northwestern boundary of the installation, provides commercial and public aviation and military support, particularly for USAF and Air Force Reserve units. The airfield at the Sunport consists of two commercial carrier runways and one runway dedicated to general aviation (ABQ Sunport 2018). The Albuquerque Transit Department, ABQ RIDE, provides and operates public bus services throughout the city. Several bus routes regularly service Kirtland AFB (ABQ RIDE 2018).

The installation is approximately 4 miles east of Interstate (I)-25 and approximately 1.5 miles south of I-40. It is served from interstate highways and many state and local roads. The city of Albuquerque street grid includes several major arterials that tie directly into the installation, including Eubank Boulevard, Wyoming Boulevard, Carlisle Boulevard, and Truman Street.
 These roadways serve north-south traffic flows. The east-west trending major arterial directly to
 the north of the installation is Gibson Boulevard. Other east-west arterials north of the
 installation include Zuni Boulevard and Central Avenue, the historic Route 66.

5 There are currently eight gated entrances from the city of Albuquerque to Kirtland AFB including 6 Carlisle Gate, Truman Gate, Maxwell Gate, Gibson Gate, Wyoming Gate, Eubank Gate, and 7 Hickam Gate. The eighth gate is the South Valley Gate, which is at Ira Sprecker Road south of 8 the Sunport. The Hickam Gate, also known as the Contractor Gate, is the truck inspection gate. 9 All other gates are entry/egress points for personnel working or living on the installation (KAFB 10 2016). The Gibson, Wyoming, Carlisle, Hickam, and South Valley gates currently have 11 restricted hours.

There are approximately 430 miles of paved roads and 230 miles of unpaved roads on Kirtland AFB. Major arterials include Wyoming Boulevard, Gibson Boulevard, and Frost Street. Major east/west routes consist of Hardin Boulevard, Randolph Avenue, and Aberdeen Avenue. Minor arterials include Pennsylvania Street and 20th Street, which serve the SNL facilities. The primary transportation route to the southern portion of the installation is Pennsylvania Street (KAFB 2016).

#### 18 Utility Systems

19 *Electrical System.* Kirtland AFB purchases electrical power from the Western Area Power 20 Administration. Electric lines are placed above and below ground, feeding the 20 substations on 21 the installation. The installation's average yearly consumption is approximately 407,010 kilowatt 22 hours (KAFB 2016).

Natural Gas and Propane. Natural gas is supplied by Coral Energy and delivered in New Mexico Gas Company pipelines supplying the industrial complex, family housing, and heating plants on the installation. There are approximately 496,000 linear feet of natural gas mains on the installation (KAFB 2016). Rural portions of the installation do not receive natural gas service and rely on propane, which is delivered to and stored in local propane storage tanks.

Liquid Fuel. Liquid fuels are supplied to Kirtland AFB by contractors. The primary liquid fuels supplied include JP-8 (jet propellant [fuel] – type 8), diesel, and unleaded gasoline. Fuels are purchased in bulk, delivered to the installation by tanker truck, and stored in various-sized storage tanks across the installation. Liquid fuels at Kirtland AFB are primarily used to power military aircraft and ground-based vehicles (KAFB 2016).

Water Supply System. Water is supplied to Kirtland AFB by six groundwater wells and two distribution systems that have a collective water-pumping maximum capacity of 8.1 million gallons per day (mgd). The installation pumps an average of 5.5 mgd of treated, potable water through 160 miles of distribution mains (KAFB 2016). There are also approximately 50 miles of non-potable water pipeline serving the Tijeras Golf Course and providing water for fire protection.

39 Kirtland AFB has the right to divert approximately 6,400 acre-feet per year from the 40 underground aquifer, which is equal to approximately 2 billion gallons of water (KAFB 2016). In 2017, Kirtland AFB pumped a total of 744 million gallons (2,283 acre-feet) of water. The
installation can also purchase water from the ABCWUA to meet demand during peak periods;
however, the amount of water purchased from the city has been negligible since 1998, and
Kirtland AFB did not purchase any water from the city in 2017 (KAFB 2018b).

5 Sanitary Sewer/Wastewater System. Kirtland AFB does not have its own sewage treatment 6 facility. Instead, the sanitary sewer system on the installation, which consists of approximately 7 491,000 linear feet of collection mains, transports wastewater to the city of Albuquerque 8 treatment facility. The permissible discharge rate for Kirtland AFB is fixed at 70,805,000 gallons 9 per month. The installation discharges an average of approximately 1.4 mgd, or approximately 10 42 million gallons per month (KAFB 2016). Some facilities in remote areas and other portions of 11 the installation are not serviced by the sanitary sewer system; these facilities use isolated, 12 onsite septic systems to dispose of wastewater.

13 Stormwater Handling. Most stormwater on the installation flows through the drainage patterns 14 created by the natural topography and terrain. When required by project design, a retention 15 basin is typically installed to maintain and collect stormwater. The northern portion of the 16 installation, including housing, discharges by sheet flow and culverts toward Gibson Boulevard 17 along the Kirtland AFB and city of Albuguergue boundary. Most of the stormwater collected on 18 the installation is discharged through sheet flow, culverts, or open channel flow towards Tijeras 19 Arroyo on the southern portion of the installation. Kirtland AFB is included in the existing MSGP. 20 MS4, and CGP for authorization for stormwater discharge (KAFB 2016).

**Communications System.** The communication network on Kirtland AFB was constructed as two separate systems that were later connected to provide redundancy. The main information transfer node is on the west side of the installation. This facility is in need of additional capacity and expansion if the installation expands mission requirements. The Communication Main Switch Facility is on the east side of the installation. There are future projects to upgrade the copper cable. The network fiber in the installation communication system is in the process of being upgraded (KAFB 2016).

#### 28 Solid Waste Management

Solid waste generated at Kirtland AFB is collected by a contractor and disposed of at the city of
 Albuquerque's Cerro Colorado Landfill. The Cerro Colorado Landfill receives approximately
 1,700 tpy from Kirtland AFB (Wheelock 2018).

32 Kirtland AFB operates a construction and demolition waste-only landfill on the installation. This 33 landfill accepts only construction and demolition waste from permitted contractors working on 34 the installation, has a total gross capacity of 10.2 million cubic yards, and has a net waste 35 capacity of 7.2 million cubic yards. As of 31 December 2017, the remaining capacity of the landfill is 2.47 million cubic yards. In 2016 and 2017, an average of 30,834 tons of construction 36 37 and demolition waste per year were deposited into this landfill (Wheelock 2018). As of June 38 2012, the recycling of construction and demolition waste on the installation has been codified 39 into the Kirtland AFB Construction Waste Management specification (Section 01 74 19) for all USAF construction and demolition projects on the installation. 40

- 1 Green waste generated from land clearing or ground maintenance on the installation is brought
- 2 to the Kirtland AFB landfill for chipping. A Memorandum of Agreement with the ABCWUA has
- 3 been established to exchange this chipped green waste for finished compost, which is used
- 4 across the installation for landscaping purposes.

Kirtland AFB manages a recycling program to reduce the amount of solid waste sent to landfills.
The installation recycles scrap metal under the Qualified Recycling Program and collects
corrugated cardboard from over 70 drop-off points across the installation. Per the DoD Strategic

- 8 Sustainability Performance Plan, the diversion rate goal is 60 percent by fiscal year (FY) 2015
- 9 and thereafter through FY 2020.

#### 10 3.8.2 Environmental Consequences

11 3.8.2.1 PROPOSED ACTION

#### 12 Transportation

13 The Proposed Action would result in short- and long-term impacts on the transportation system. 14 Demolition, construction, and maintenance activities associated with the Proposed Action are 15 expected to result in intermittent, short-term, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on area 16 roadways because of a temporary increase in the number of construction-related vehicles 17 accessing Kirtland AFB. However, early coordination with Kirtland AFB organizations would 18 ensure necessary safety precautions are taken and would allow ample advance notice to 19 affected commuters and personnel. Typical construction-related traffic would include delivery 20 trucks, haul trucks, and passenger vehicles.

It is anticipated that all haul and delivery vehicles would access the installation at Hickam Street from Gibson Boulevard. During construction activities, installation roadways would be used by haul and delivery trucks; however, transportation is not expected to occur during peak travel times. No disruption in the flow of traffic on the installation is expected. Therefore, the Proposed Action would not be expected to result in a significant impact on transportation.

The Proposed Action would result in long-term, minor, beneficial impacts on the transportation system. Project activities such as constructing and repairing gutters, curbs, and bridge supports would reduce costly repairs to roadways and improve transportation on the installation.

#### 29 Utility Systems

The Proposed Action is not anticipated to change or result in short- or long-term impacts on the following utility systems: electrical, natural gas and propane, liquid fuel, sanitary sewer/wastewater, and communications. No equipment or construction vehicles would utilize the installation's liquid fuel supply. Therefore, these utility systems are not discussed further.

Water Supply System. The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, short-term, negligible to minor, adverse impacts on the water supply system. The proposed construction and maintenance activities would require minimal amounts of water, primarily for dust suppression. Although water demand would increase slightly from construction and periodic maintenance activities, this increase would be temporary and would not be expected to exceed existing capacity. Kirtland AFB is allowed to divert up to 6,000 acre-feet (2 billion gallons) of water per year and in 2017 pumped only 2,283 acre-feet (744 million gallons) of water, which is less than half of what is permitted; therefore, sufficient water resources would be available on the
installation. Therefore, the Proposed Action would not be expected to result in a significant
impact on the water supply system.

4 Stormwater Handling. The Proposed Action would result in short- and long-term impacts on 5 stormwater handling on Kirtland AFB. Soil disturbance from construction and demolition activities has the potential to result in intermittent, short-term, minor, adverse impacts on 6 7 stormwater handling by disruption of natural drainage patterns, contamination of stormwater 8 discharge, and heavy sediment loading. Implementation of BMPs and environmental protection 9 measures described in Section 3.4.2.1 would reduce these impacts. Therefore, the Proposed 10 Action would not be expected to result in a significant impact on the stormwater handling 11 system.

12 The Proposed Action would result in long-term, minor to moderate, beneficial impacts on 13 stormwater handling by reducing the velocity and energy of stormwater flows and detrimental 14 effects of erosion and sedimentation. Development of new stormwater drainage systems and 15 upgrade of existing systems would be designed with consideration for the UFC LID 16 requirements, in accordance with EISA Section 438, to maintain or restore the natural 17 hydrologic functions of the area.

#### 18 Solid Waste Management

19 The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, short-term, negligible, adverse impacts on 20 solid waste management. Construction activities associated with the Proposed Action would 21 generate minimal amounts of solid waste. Construction debris generated would consist primarily 22 of recyclable and reusable building materials, such as concrete, metals (e.g., piping and wiring), 23 and vegetation. Should project activities be conducted within an area of known contamination, 24 waste would be properly characterized prior to disposal. Waste disposal would be conducted in 25 accordance with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations. To reduce the amount of 26 waste disposed of at the landfill, materials that could be recycled or reused would be diverted 27 from landfills to the greatest extent possible. Site-generated scrap materials would be separated 28 and recycled off site. Clean fill material, ground-up asphalt, and broken-up cement would be 29 diverted from the landfills and reused whenever possible.

The weights of all materials diverted for recycling or reuse would be reported to the Kirtland AFB Quality Recycling Program to be credited toward the DoD-mandated construction and demolition diversion rate of 60 percent. Nonhazardous construction and demolition waste that is not recyclable or reusable would be transported to the Kirtland AFB construction and demolition waste landfill for disposal. Therefore, the Proposed Action would not be expected to result in a significant impact on solid waste management.

#### 36 3.8.2.2 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Under the No Action Alternative, Kirtland AFB would not develop, upgrade, and maintain stormwater drainage systems or conduct arroyo repair and soil erosion measures, and the existing conditions discussed in **Section 3.8.1** would remain unchanged. Additionally, the No Action Alternative would result in stormwater drainage problems becoming worse as existing facilities silt up and deteriorate further; damage to roads, parking lots, and foundations would increase, requiring costly repairs and worsening traffic hazards during heavy rains; and erosion
 of the arroyos on the installation would continue.

#### **3 3.9 Hazardous Materials and Wastes**

Hazardous materials are defined by 49 CFR § 171.8 as "hazardous substances, hazardous
wastes, marine pollutants, elevated temperature materials, materials designated as hazardous
in the Hazardous Materials Table (49 CFR § 172.101), and materials that meet the defining
criteria for hazard classes and divisions" in 49 CFR § 173. Transportation of hazardous
materials is regulated by the US Department of Transportation regulations within
49 CFR §§ 105–180.

10 Hazardous wastes are defined by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) at 11 42 USC § 6903(5), as amended by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments, as: "a solid waste. or combination of solid wastes, which because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, 12 13 chemical, or infectious characteristics may (a) cause, or significantly contribute to an increase 14 in, mortality or an increase in serious irreversible, or incapacitating reversible, illness; or 15 (b) pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, or disposed of, or otherwise managed." Certain types of 16 17 hazardous wastes are subject to special management provisions intended to ease the 18 management burden and facilitate the recycling of such materials. These are called universal 19 wastes and their associated regulatory requirements are specified in 40 CFR § 273. Four types 20 of waste are currently covered under the universal waste regulations: hazardous waste 21 batteries, hazardous waste pesticides that are either recalled or collected as part of waste 22 pesticide collection programs, hazardous waste thermostats, and hazardous waste lamps.

23 A toxic substance is a chemical or mixture of chemicals that may present an unreasonable risk 24 of injury to health or the environment. These substances include asbestos-containing materials 25 (ACMs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and lead-based paint (LBP). USEPA is given 26 authority to regulate these substances by the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 USC § 53). 27 USEPA has established regulations regarding asbestos abatement and worker safety under 28 40 CFR § 763, with additional regulations concerning emissions at 40 CFR § 61. Whether from 29 LBP abatement or other activities, depending on the quantity or concentration, the disposal of the LBP waste is regulated by the RCRA at 40 CFR § 260. The disposal of PCBs is addressed 30 31 in 40 CFR §§ 750 and 761. The presence of toxic substances, including describing their locations, quantities, and condition, assists in determining the significance of a proposed action. 32

33 DoD developed the Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) to facilitate thorough 34 investigation and cleanup of contaminated sites on military installations (i.e., active installations, 35 installations subject to Base Realignment and Closure, and Formerly Used Defense Sites). The 36 Installation Restoration Program and Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) are 37 components of the ERP. The Installation Restoration Program requires each DoD installation to 38 identify, investigate, and clean up hazardous waste disposal or release sites. The MMRP 39 addresses non-operational rangelands that are suspected or known to contain unexploded 40 ordnance (UXO), discarded military munitions, or munitions constituent contamination. A 41 description of ERP activities provides a useful gauge of the condition of soils, water resources, 42 and other resources that might be affected by contaminants. It also aids in the identification of 1 properties and their usefulness for given purposes (e.g., activities dependent on groundwater

usage might be restricted until remediation of a groundwater contamination plume has beencompleted).

- 4 DOE developed the Office of Environmental Restoration and Waste Management in 1989. The 5 goal of this office is to implement DOE's policy of ensuring that past, present, and future 6 operations do not threaten human health or environmental health and safety. The DOE 7 Environmental Management Office was reorganized in 1999 to implement procedures to meet 8 these goals through five underlying offices. The Office of Site Closure is responsible for 9 achieving closure of Environmental Restoration (ER) sites in a manner that is safe, 10 cost-effective, and coordinated with stakeholders. As a facility operated for DOE under the 11 Albuquerque Operations Office, SNL is part of this program. The current investigation being 12 conducted at SNL under the ER program is intended to determine the nature and extent of 13 hazardous and radioactive contamination and to restore any sites where such materials pose a 14 threat to human health or the environment.
- For the USAF, Air Force Policy Directive 32-70, *Environmental Quality*, and Air Force Regulation 32-7000 series incorporate the requirements of all federal regulations and other AFIs and DoD Directives for the management of hazardous materials, hazardous wastes, and toxic substances.

#### 19 3.9.1 Affected Environment

Environmental Management System. Kirtland AFB has implemented an EMS program in accordance with International Organization for Standardization 14001 Standards; EO 13693, Planning for Federal Sustainability in the Next Decade; and AFI 32-7001, Environmental Management. The EMS policy prescribes to protect human health, natural resources, and the environment by implementing operational controls, pollution prevention environmental action plans, and training.

All personnel, to include contractors, are made aware of the Kirtland AFB EMS program. All project-related activities should be conducted in a manner that is consistent with relevant policies and objectives identified in the installation's EMS program. Project Managers shall ensure that all personnel are aware of environmental impacts associated with their activities and reduce those impacts by practicing pollution prevention techniques.

31 Hazardous Materials and Petroleum Products. AFI 32-7086, Hazardous Materials 32 Management, establishes procedures and standards that govern management of hazardous 33 materials throughout the USAF to be in compliance with the Emergency Planning and 34 Community Right to Know Act. AFI 32-7086 applies to all USAF personnel who authorize, 35 procure, issue, use, or dispose of hazardous materials, and to those who manage, monitor, or 36 track any of those activities.

Kirtland AFB has identified the 377 MSG/CEIEC as the responsible entity to oversee hazardous
 material tracking on the installation. Part of their responsibilities is to control the procurement
 and use of hazardous materials to support USAF missions, ensure the safety and health of
 personnel and surrounding communities, and minimize USAF dependence on hazardous
 materials. 377 MSG/CEIEC is charged with managing hazardous materials to reduce the

- amount of hazardous waste generated on the installation in accordance with the Kirtland AFB
   HWMP.
- 3 The installation's Pest Management Plan establishes the strategy and methods for conducting a 4 safe. effective, and environmentally sound integrated pest management program that reduces 5 pollution and other risk factors associated with the use of pesticides (KAFB 2016b). The Kirtland 6 AFB Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures Plan provides operating procedures to 7 prevent the occurrence of spills, control measures to prevent spills from entering surface waters, 8 and countermeasures to contain and cleanup the effects of an oil spill that could impact surface 9 waters (KAFB 2012b). Contractors bringing hazardous materials onto the installation must notify 10 the 377 MSG/CEIEC Hazardous Material Program Team by submitting a completed Hazardous 11 Material Worksheet and a list of all materials along with their associated Safety Data Sheets.

12 *Toxic Substances.* Components of the existing stormwater system are not suspected to contain ACMs, LBP, or PCBs.

Hazardous and Petroleum Wastes. USAF maintains an HWMP as directed by AFI 32-7042, Waste Management. This plan describes the roles and responsibilities of all entities at Kirtland AFB with respect to the waste stream inventory, waste analysis plan, hazardous waste management procedures, training, emergency response, and pollution prevention. The HWMP establishes the procedures to comply with applicable federal, state, and local standards for solid waste and hazardous waste management.

Kirtland AFB is a large-quantity generator of hazardous waste (Handler Identification
 #NM9570024423). Kirtland AFB and DOE/SNL maintain separate RCRA permits for all current
 operations that generate hazardous waste.

23 Environmental Restoration Program. There are 287 ERP sites and 6 area of concern sites 24 throughout Kirtland AFB. These sites include known and suspected soil and groundwater 25 contamination associated with landfills, oil/water separators, drainage areas, septic systems, fire 26 training areas, and spill areas. Kirtland AFB is working to cleanup most sites to residential 27 standards and to obtain no further action required approval from NMED. Once sites achieve the 28 no further action required approval, they are closed because they no longer represent 29 constraints for land use. Active ERP sites are in various stages of remediation and some sites, 30 such as the former landfills, may require more than 30 years of monitoring before closure can 31 be obtained (KAFB 2016).

Kirtland AFB also has 24 MMRP sites, with 7 remaining active. These sites are former impact
 areas that are primarily located along the outer perimeter and center of the installation. The
 sizes, types of munitions debris, and potential for UXO varies by location (KAFB 2013a, KAFB
 2013b).

The DOE actively manages 11 open ER sites on Kirtland AFB that require or may require corrective action. These sites are on DOE-leased lands and include three groundwater areas of concern and eight solid waste management units. When such sites are no longer active, DOE personnel determine if a site meets NMED criteria for acceptable levels of risk to human health and the environment. If the criteria are met, DOE submits a Corrective Action Complete

- 1 proposal to NMED to modify its RCRA permit accordingly. As necessary, remediation is
- 2 performed to meet NMED criteria for Corrective Action Complete status (SNL 2017b).
- 3 **Figure 3-4** presents the location of active ERP, MMRP, and DOE ER sites on Kirtland AFB.
- 4 3.9.2 Environmental Consequences
- 5 3.9.2.1 PROPOSED ACTION
- 6 The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, short-term, negligible, adverse impacts on7 hazardous materials and wastes.

8 Environmental Management System. The Proposed Action would not result in short- or long-9 term impacts on the installation's EMS program. Installation personnel conducting maintenance 10 activities would continue to implement standard BMPs and comply with existing standard 11 operating procedures and applicable federal and state laws governing the use, generation, 12 storage, and transportation of hazardous materials. Contractors associated with construction 13 activities would be made aware of the installation's EMS program by reviewing the 14 environmental commitment statement and ensuring that construction activities are conducted in 15 accordance with the policy and objectives of the EMS program. Contractors would ensure that 16 employees are aware of environmental impacts and would reduce those impacts by practicing 17 pollution prevention techniques. Therefore, the Proposed Action would not be expected to result 18 in a significant impact on the EMS program.

Hazardous Materials and Petroleum Products. The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, short-term, negligible, adverse impacts should any hazardous materials or petroleum products be released into the environment. Construction equipment would use small quantities of hazardous materials and petroleum products such as solvents, hydraulic fluid, oil, antifreeze, and other hazardous materials. Hazardous materials could be used for minor equipment servicing and repair activities. The severity of a potential impact from an accidental release would vary based upon the extent of a release and the substance(s) involved.

26 Under the Proposed Action, Kirtland AFB, AMAFCA, and construction contractors would ensure 27 the handling and storage of any hazardous materials and petroleum products is carried out in 28 compliance with applicable laws and regulations<sup>1</sup>. Implementation of the Proposed Action would 29 adhere to applicable management plans such as the installation's Integrated Pest Management 30 Plan and Spill Prevention and Countermeasure Control Plan. The severity of a potential impact 31 from an accidental release would vary based upon the extent of a release and the substance(s) 32 involved. In accordance with the Kirtland AFB SWPPP, each project associated with the 33 Proposed Action would be reviewed to ensure proper erosion and sediment control measures are considered and incorporated into project designs. Additionally, projects that would 34 individually or cumulatively disturb 1 or more acres of land would obtain coverage under the 35 2017 NPDES CGP prior to construction. The CGP requires preparation and implementation of 36 37 site-specific SWPPPs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Kirtland AFB, AMAFCA, and construction contractors would be subject to applicable laws and regulations pertaining to hazardous materials and wastes, as well as installation-specific protocols and procedures. These requirements would be written into contracts in accordance with the Kirtland AFB HWMP.

Draft PEA Addressing Upgrade of the Stormwater Drainage System at Kirtland AFB AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES



Figure 3-4. Active ERP, MMRP, and DOE ER Sites on Kirtland AFB

1 No storage tanks or hazardous materials and petroleum products storage areas would be 2 affected under the Proposed Action. Although construction activities under the Proposed Action 3 may require the temporary use of aboveground storage tanks onsite for power generation or 4 equipment fuel, their use and maintenance would comply with applicable federal, state, and 5 local laws and regulations, to include secondary containment. Aboveground storage tanks 6 would be used temporarily and removed from each site upon project completion. Therefore, the 7 Proposed Action would not be expected to result in a significant impact on hazardous materials 8 management.

9 Toxic Substances. The Proposed Action would not result in the introduction or generation of 10 toxic substances because components of the existing stormwater system are not suspected to 11 contain ACMs, LBP, or PCBs.

12 Hazardous and Petroleum Wastes. The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, 13 short-term, negligible, adverse impacts on the generation of hazardous and petroleum wastes. 14 Construction activities would require the use of hazardous materials and petroleum products, 15 which would result in the generation of hazardous wastes and used petroleum products. 16 Hydraulic fluids and petroleum products would be used in the vehicles and equipment 17 supporting construction. Implementation of BMPs and environmental protection measures would 18 reduce the potential for an accidental release of these materials. All construction equipment 19 would be maintained according to the manufacturer's specifications and drip mats would be 20 placed under parked equipment as needed. Further, all hazardous and petroleum wastes 21 generated from the Proposed Action would be handled, stored, and disposed of in accordance 22 with the Kirtland AFB HWMP and federal, state, and local regulations.

It is possible that unknown, potentially hazardous wastes could be discovered or unearthed during implementation of the Proposed Action. In such cases, Kirtland AFB, AMAFCA, and construction contractors would immediately cease work, contact appropriate installation personnel, and await sampling and analysis results before taking any further action. Unknown wastes or soils determined to be contaminated or hazardous would be managed or disposed of in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. Therefore, the Proposed Action would not be expected to result in a significant impact on hazardous and petroleum waste management.

30 Environmental Restoration Program. The Proposed Action could result in intermittent, short-31 term, negligible, adverse impacts on or from ERP, MMRP, and DOE ER sites. The Proposed 32 Action could adversely affect the human or natural environment should a project involving 33 excavation intercept an ERP, MMRP, or DOE ER site. In such cases, the Proposed Action could 34 result in contaminant migration via one or more environmental media (i.e., air, water, or soil 35 pathways); however, the projects under the Proposed Action are not anticipated to occur within or adjacent to any ERP, MMRP, or DOE ER sites. In the event that a project associated with the 36 37 Proposed Action would be conducted within or adjacent to an active ERP or DOE ER site, 38 coordination with appropriate installation personnel would be conducted in order to avoid any 39 impact on or from the site. Should a project associated with the Proposed Action be conducted 40 within or adjacent to an MMRP site, all project personnel would attend a 30-minute UXO 41 Awareness Training. Therefore, the Proposed Action would not be expected to result in a 42 significant impact on or from ERP, MMRP, or DOE ER sites.

#### 1 3.9.2.2 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

2 Under the No Action Alternative, Kirtland AFB would not develop, upgrade, and maintain 3 stormwater drainage systems or conduct arroyo repair and erosion control measures, and the 4 existing conditions discussed in **Section 3.9.1** would remain unchanged.

#### 5 3.10 Safety

A safe environment is one in which there is no, or an optimally reduced, potential for death,
serious bodily injury or illness, or property damage. Human health and safety address workers'
and public health and safety during and following construction, demolition, and training
activities.

10 Site safety requires adherence to regulatory requirements imposed for the benefit of employees 11 and the public. Site safety includes implementation of engineering and administrative practices 12 that aim to reduce risks of illness, injury, death, and property damage. The health and safety of 13 onsite military and civilian workers are safeguarded by numerous DoD and military 14 branch-specific requirements designed to comply with standards issued by federal OSHA, 15 USEPA, and state occupational safety and health agencies. These standards specify health and 16 safety requirements, the amount and type of training required for workers, the use of personal 17 protective equipment (PPE), administrative controls, engineering controls, and permissible 18 exposure limits for workplace stressors.

19 Health and safety hazards can often be identified and reduced or eliminated before an activity 20 begins. Necessary elements for an accident-prone situation or environment include the 21 presence of the hazard itself, together with the exposed (and possibly susceptible) population or 22 public. The degree of exposure depends primarily on the proximity of the hazard to the 23 population. Hazards include transportation, maintenance, and repair activities, and the creation 24 of a noisy environment or a potential fire hazard. The proper operation, maintenance, and repair 25 of vehicles and equipment carry important safety implications. Any facility or human-use area 26 with potential explosive or other rapid oxidation process creates unsafe environments due to 27 noise or fire hazards for nearby populations. Noisy environments can also mask verbal or 28 mechanical warning signals such as sirens, bells, and horns.

#### 29 3.10.1 Affected Environment

30 **Contractor Safety.** All contractors performing construction and demolition activities are 31 responsible for following federal and state of New Mexico safety regulations and are required to 32 conduct construction and demolition activities in a manner that does not increase risk to workers 33 or the public.

New Mexico is one of several states that administers its own occupational safety and health (OSH) program according to the provision of the federal OSHA of 1970, which permits a state to administer its own OSH program if it meets all of the federal requirements regarding the program's structure and operations. The New Mexico Occupational Health and Safety Bureau program has the responsibility of enforcing Occupational Health and Safety Regulations within the state of New Mexico. Its jurisdiction includes all private and public entities such as city, county, and state government employees. Federal employees are excluded as they are covered
 by federal OSHA regulations.

3 OSH programs address the health and safety of people at work. OSH regulations cover 4 potential exposure to a wide range of chemical, physical, and biological hazards, and ergonomic 5 stressors. The regulations are designed to control these hazards by eliminating exposure to the 6 hazards via administrative or engineering controls, substitution, or use of PPE. Occupational 7 health and safety is the responsibility of each employer, as applicable. Employer responsibilities 8 are to review potentially hazardous workplace conditions; monitor exposure to workplace 9 chemical (e.g., asbestos, lead, hazardous substances), physical (e.g., noise propagation, falls), 10 and biological (e.g., infectious waste, wildlife, poisonous plants) agents, and ergonomic 11 stressors; recommend and evaluate controls (e.g., prevention, administrative, engineering, 12 PPE) to ensure exposure to personnel is eliminated or adequately controlled; and ensure a 13 medical surveillance program is in place to perform occupational health physicals for those 14 workers subject to the use of respiratory protection or engaged in hazardous waste, asbestos, 15 lead, or other work requiring medical monitoring.

16 *Military Personnel Safety.* Each branch of the military has its own policies and regulations that 17 act to protect its workers, despite their work location. AFI 91-202, The US Air Force Mishap 18 Prevention Program, "establishes mishap prevention program requirements, assigns 19 responsibilities for program elements, and contains program management information." In order 20 to meet the goals of minimizing loss of USAF resources and protecting military personnel, 21 mishap prevention programs should address groups at increased risk for mishaps, injury or 22 illness; a process for tracking incidents; funding for safety programs; metrics for measuring 23 performance; safety goals; and methods to identify safety BMPs.

24 **Public Safety.** Kirtland AFB has its own emergency services department. The emergency 25 services department provides the installation with fire suppression, crash response, rescue, 26 emergency medical response, hazardous substance protection, and emergency response 27 planning and community health and safety education through the dissemination of public safety 28 information to the installation. The Veterans Affairs Medical Center hospital and the 377th 29 Medical Groups' Outpatient Clinic are the primary military medical facilities at Kirtland AFB. 30 Several other hospitals and clinics, which are devoted to the public, are off-installation in the city 31 of Albuquerque. These facilities include the Heart Hospital of New Mexico, University of New 32 Mexico Hospital, and Kaseman Presbyterian Hospital (Google 2018).

33 The Albuquerque Fire Department provides fire suppression, crash response, rescue, 34 emergency medical response, and hazardous substance response to the nearby city of 35 Albuquerque. The department has 664 full-time, uniformed firefighter/emergency medical technicians; 22 fire engine companies; 7 frontline and 2 reserve fire ladder companies; 36 37 9 wildland fire or brush trucks; 3 frontline and 1 reserve hazardous material response units; 38 1 mobile command unit; and 20 frontline rescue and 7 rescue reserve medical response 39 ambulances (AFD 2017). The city of Albuquerque also has approximately 831 sworn police 40 officers available to provide law enforcement services (APD 2017). The Southeast Area 41 Command (Phil Chacon Memorial Substation) borders the northwest corner of Kirtland AFB. A 42 mutual service agreement is in place between the city of Albuquerque and Kirtland AFB.

#### 1 3.10.2 Environmental Consequences

#### 2 3.10.2.1 PROPOSED ACTION

3 The Proposed Action would result in short- and long-term impacts. Construction activities 4 associated with the Proposed Action would result in short-term, negligible, adverse impacts on 5 the safety of contractors, military personnel, and the public.

6 Long-term, minor, beneficial impacts on the safety of personnel and the public downstream of 7 Kirtland AFB would be anticipated. Improved storm drainage on the installation would lessen the 8 probability of adverse impacts from a 100-year flood event, including the resultant damage and 9 inherent safety risks therein.

10 Contractor Safety. The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, short-term, negligible, 11 adverse impacts on contractor safety. Construction and demolition activities associated with the 12 Proposed Action would slightly increase the health and safety risk to personnel within the 13 project area. The selected construction contractor would be required to develop a 14 comprehensive health and safety plan for each individual project containing site-specific 15 guidance and direction to prevent or minimize potential risks. These plans would include, at a 16 minimum, emergency response and evacuation procedures; operational manuals; PPE 17 recommendations (e.g., breathing and hearing protection); protocols and procedures for 18 handling, storing, and disposing of hazardous materials and wastes; information on the effects 19 and symptoms of potential exposures; and guidance with respect to hazard identification. 20 Contractor personnel would be responsible for compliance with applicable federal, state, and 21 local safety regulations and would be educated through daily briefings to review daily activities 22 and potential hazards. Therefore, the Proposed Action would not be expected to result in a 23 significant impact on contractor safety.

Military Personnel Safety. The Proposed Action would result in intermittent, short-term, negligible, adverse impacts on the health and safety of military personnel. Construction activities associated with the Proposed Action would comply with all applicable safety requirements and installation-specific protocols and procedures therein. The project areas would be appropriately delineated and posted with access limited to construction and maintenance personnel. Therefore, the Proposed Action would not be expected to result in a significant impact on military personnel safety.

31 Public Safety. The Proposed Action is not expected to result in short- or long-term adverse 32 impacts on public health and safety. Because the proposed construction and demolition 33 activities would occur within the boundaries of Kirtland AFB, an active military installation that is 34 not open to the public, the Proposed Action would not pose a safety risk to the public or 35 off-installation areas. Further, the project areas would be appropriately delineated and posted 36 with access limited to construction and maintenance personnel. Therefore, the Proposed Action 37 is not expected to result in a significant impact on public safety.

#### 38 3.10.2.2 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Under the No Action Alternative, Kirtland AFB would not develop, upgrade, and maintain
 stormwater drainage systems or conduct arroyo repair and erosion control measures, and the

existing conditions discussed in **Section 3.10.1** would remain unchanged. Additionally, the No Action Alternative would result in stormwater drainage problems becoming worse as existing facilities silt up and deteriorate further; damage to roads, parking lots, and foundations would increase, requiring costly repairs and worsening traffic hazards during heavy rains; and erosion of the arroyos on the installation would continue. This could potentially result in greater safety hazards to installation personnel and the public.

#### 7 3.11 Socioeconomics

8 Socioeconomics is the relationship between economics and social elements, such as population 9 levels and economic activity. Factors that describe the socioeconomic environment represent a 10 composite of several inter-related and non-related attributes. There are several factors that can 11 be used as indicators of economic conditions for a geographic area, such as demographics, 12 median household income, unemployment rates, percentage of families living below the poverty 13 level, employment, and housing data. Data on employment identify gross numbers of 14 employees, employment by industry or trade, and unemployment trends. Data on industrial, 15 commercial, and other sectors of the economy provide baseline information about the economic 16 health of a region.

#### 17 3.11.1 Affected Environment

The Albuquerque Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is considered the region of influence for socioeconomic effects of the Proposed Action. The population of the Albuquerque MSA, defined by the US Census Bureau for the 2010 US Census as Bernalillo, Sandoval, Torrance, and Valencia counties, was 887,077 people. The state of New Mexico's population totaled 2,059,179 in 2010 (USCB 2010a).

23 The population of Bernalillo County was 662,564 in 2010, representing 32 percent of the total 24 population for the state of New Mexico. The population of Bernalillo County grew 19 percent 25 from 2000 to 2010, while during this same time period Sandoval County experienced a 46.3 26 percent increase in population, Torrance County experienced a 3.1 percent decrease, and 27 Valencia County grew by 15.7 percent. The growth rate in the Albuquergue MSA from 2000 to 28 2010 (24.5 percent) was much greater than the growth rate of the state of New Mexico 29 (13.2 percent) and of the United States (9.7 percent) over the same time period. However, 30 Torrance County was not included in the Albuquergue MSA for the 2000 US Census; therefore, 31 when added to the 2000 US Census data for the Albuquerque MSA this represents a 21.6 32 percent increase in population. Table 3-8 presents the 2000 and 2010 population data (USCB 33 2000, USCB 2010a).

34 **Employment Characteristics.** The three largest industries in the Albuquerque MSA in terms of 35 percentage of the workforce employed within the industry are the educational services, and health care and social assistance industry (26 percent); the professional, scientific, and 36 37 management, and administrative and waste management services industry (13 percent); and 38 the retail trade industry (12 percent). The construction industry represents 7 percent of the 39 workforce (USCB 2012-2016). In April 2018, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported a 40 4.1 percent unemployment rate in the Albuquerque MSA while the United States had an 41 unemployment rate of 3.7 percent (BLS 2018).

- Table 3-8. Population in the Region of Influence as Compared to New Mexico and the United 1 2
- States (2000 and 2010)

Location	2000	2010	Percent Change
United States	281,421,906	308,745,538	9.7%
New Mexico	1,819,046	2,059,179	13.2%
Albuquerque MSA	712,738	887,077	24.5%*
Bernalillo County	556,678	662,564	19.0%
Sandoval County	89,908	131,561	46.3%
Valencia County	66,152	76,569	15.7%
Torrance County	16,911	16,383	-3.1%

Source: USCB 2000, USCB 2010a

Note: \*Torrance County was not included in the Albuquerque MSA in the 2000 US Census. When the 2000 population of Torrance County is added to the 2000 population of the Albuquerque MSA, this represents a 21.6 percent increase in population.

3 Kirtland AFB. During FY 2016, 22,010 individuals were employed by Kirtland AFB, of which 4 4,173 were active-duty personnel. Direct payroll expenditures from the installation totaled over 5 \$2.4 billion. When non-payroll expenditures associated with Kirtland AFB are included, total 6 expenditures exceeded \$6.7 billion, with DoD expenditures representing approximately 7 \$3.3 billion of that total (KAFB 2017b).

#### 8 3.11.2 Environmental Consequences

#### 9 3.11.2.1 PROPOSED ACTION

10 The Proposed Action would result short- and long-term beneficial impacts. Construction 11 activities associated with the Proposed Action would result in a short-term, negligible, beneficial 12 impact on socioeconomics. Direct and indirect, beneficial impacts would result from increased 13 payroll tax revenue and the purchase of construction materials and goods in the area resulting 14 in a short-term, negligible, beneficial impact on the local economy of the Albuquerque MSA. The 15 proposed construction activities would occur intermittently over several years and only require a small number of construction workers for each activity; therefore, the existing construction 16 17 industry within the Albuquergue MSA should adequately provide enough workers to support 18 construction activities associated with the Proposed Action. The temporary increase of 19 construction workers at Kirtland AFB would represent a small increase in the total number of 20 persons working on the installation, but no additional facilities (e.g., housing, schools) would be 21 necessary to accommodate the workforce.

22 Long-term, negligible to minor, beneficial impacts on the socioeconomic environment at Kirtland AFB would result from improved conditions of stormwater drainage systems and 23 24 arroyos through the development, upgrade, and maintenance of stormwater drainage systems 25 and arroyo repair and erosion control measures on the installation. Damage to roads, parking 26 lots, and foundations would decrease under the Proposed Action, resulting in a reduction in 27 costly repairs. No long-term changes in employment would result under the Proposed Action. 28 Therefore, the Proposed Action would not be expected to result in a significant impact on the 29 socioeconomic environment.

#### 1 3.11.2.2 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

2 Under the No Action Alternative, Kirtland AFB would not develop, upgrade, and maintain 3 stormwater drainage systems or conduct arroyo repair and erosion control measures. The

4 existing conditions discussed in **Section 3.11.1** would remain unchanged. However, repairs and

- 5 renovations to the stormwater drainage system would become more costly to execute the longer
- 6 they are delayed.

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### 1 4. Cumulative Impacts

2 CEQ defines cumulative impacts as "the impact on the environment which results from the 3 incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable 4 future actions regardless of what agency (federal or non-federal) or person undertakes such 5 other actions" (40 CFR § 1508.7). Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but 6 collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time by various agencies 7 (i.e., federal, state, and local) or individuals. Informed decision-making is served by 8 consideration of cumulative impacts resulting from projects that are proposed, under 9 construction, recently completed, or anticipated to be implemented in the reasonably 10 foreseeable future. Reasonably foreseeable future actions consist of activities that have been 11 approved and can be evaluated with regard to their impacts.

This section briefly summarizes past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects within the same general geographic scope as the Proposed Action. The geographic scope of the analysis varies by resource area. For example, the geographic scope of the cumulative impacts on noise, geological resources, and safety is narrow and focused on the location of the resource. The geographic scope of air quality, infrastructure, and socioeconomics is broader and considers more county- or region-wide activities.

The past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects, identified below, make up the cumulative impact scenario for the Proposed Action. The Proposed Action's impacts on the individual resource areas analyzed in **Sections 3.1** through **3.11** are added to the cumulative impact scenario to determine the cumulative impacts of the Proposed Action. In accordance with CEQ guidance, the impacts of past actions are considered in aggregate as appropriate for each resource area without delving into the historical details of individual past actions.

#### 24 4.1 Impact Analysis

25 4.1.1 Past Actions

26 Kirtland AFB has been used for military missions since the 1930s and has continuously been 27 developed as DoD missions, organizations, needs, and strategies have evolved. Development 28 and operation of training ranges have impacted thousands of acres with synergistic and 29 cumulative impacts on soil, wildlife habitats, water quality, and noise. Beneficial impacts also 30 have resulted from the operation and management of the installation including increased 31 employment and income for Bernalillo County, the city of Albuquerque, and its surrounding 32 communities; restoration and enhancement of sensitive resources such as Coyote Springs 33 wetland areas; consumptive and nonconsumptive recreation opportunities; and increased 34 knowledge of the history and pre-history of the region through numerous cultural resources 35 surveys and studies.

#### 36 4.1.2 Present and Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions

37 Kirtland AFB is a large military installation that is continually evolving. Projects that were 38 examined for potential cumulative impacts are included in **Table 4-1**.

#### 1 Table 4-1. Present and Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions at Kirtland AFB

Project Name	Description	Potential Relevance to Proposed Action		
Military Projects	Military Projects			
New Military Training Activities	The 210 RED HORSE Squadron would construct a permanent laydown yard on the Base Exercise Evaluation Skills Training Area to store equipment to be used during monthly training activities. Monthly training activities involve the disturbance of up to 40 acres of ground and include the use of the abandoned diri airstrip to practice demolishing, denying access to, and reconstructing airstrips; construction of forward operating bases to allow other units to train with the 210 RED HORSE Squadron tearing them down; and dirt movement for heavy-equipment training. This recurring training could last up to 5 days and involve approximately 120 personnel. The Pararescue/Combat Rescue Officer (PJ/CRO) school is proposing to construct an Urban Training Compound (UTC) on 25 acres within the Coyote Canyon Training Area. The UTC would consist of the placement of connexes on a gravel base to simulate a mock village similar to those found in the Middle East. Training activities would include small team tactics, climbing, and emergency medical. During training activities would include small team tactics, so and blanks/simunitions. When the UTC is not scheduled for use by PJ/CRO, it would be open for use by other groups. Therefore, it is anticipated that the UTC could be used on a monthly basis. USAF is proposing to begin firing .50-caliber M107 Barrett sniper rifles and M2 machine guns at Small Arms Range East. An existing building south of Forest Road 44 would be demolished in order to provide line of sight from the firing point to the target array. Approximately 240 acres would be cleared by tree removal and thinning to create firebreaks along Forest Roads 40, 408, 530B, and 53. Small Arms Range East would continue to be available for training operations and deployment qualification 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The 377th Security Forces Group (SFG) would begin using the M583A1 parachute illumination round at the M203 Range. This round has a burst height of 500 to 700 feet above ground surface when fired vertically, a candle burn	Creation of firebreaks/ cleared paths in the vicinity of the M203 Range have the potential to be in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap		

Project Name	Description	Potential Relevance to Proposed Action
Military Projects (cor		
Additional Development, Testing, Use, and Training at the Technical Evaluation Assessment Monitor Site (TEAMS)	The Defense Threat Reduction Agency and USAF propose to enhance the testing and training capabilities and use, as well as the functionality, of the TEAMS. Specifically, the proposed facilities and activities include a new radiological source storage facility, a mock train station, in- kind replacement of current TEAMS temporary buildings with permanent buildings, and potential increase in testing and training event personnel levels by up to 50 percent. Approximately 2.7 acres would be affected during construction activities.	Potential to be in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap
Construction, Operation, and Maintenance of a New Fire Station	USAF proposes to construct, operate, and maintain a new Fire Station south of the intersection of Pennsylvania Street and Powerline Road. The proposed structure would be approximately 7,300 square feet in size and one story high with three high-bay drive-through apparatus stalls.	Potential to be in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap
Demolition and Construction of Military Support Facilities	USAF proposes to demolish and construct, operate, and maintain several military personnel support facilities in the northwestern portion of the installation. The areas include the Visiting Officer Quarters, the Main Enlisted Dormitory Campus, the Noncommissioned Officer Academy, and Dormitory Campus 2. This project would include the demolition of facilities totaling approximately 498,000 square feet and construction of facilities totaling approximately 389,000 square feet, resulting in a net decrease of approximately 109,000 square feet of building space on the installation. Approximately 36 acres would be impacted by construction and demolition activities.	Potential to be in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap
Building Demolition at Kirtland AFB	USAF is in the process of demolishing 23 buildings totaling approximately 105,000 square feet to make space available for future construction and to fulfill its mission as installation host through better site utilization. None of the buildings proposed for demolition are currently occupied or used by installation personnel.	Potential to be in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap
Security Forces Complex	USAF proposes to construct, operate, and maintain a 42,500-square-foot security forces complex to provide adequate space and modern facilities to house all 377 SFG administrative and support functions in a consolidated location. The 377 SFG functions that would be transferred to the new security forces complex include a base operations center with command and control facility, administration and office space, training rooms, auditorium or assembly room, guard mount, hardened armory for weapons and ammunition storage, confinement facilities, law enforcement, logistics warehouse, general storage, vehicle garage with maintenance area, and associated communications functions. One existing building (879 square feet) within the footprint of the proposed security forces complex would be demolished. This project would result in an increase of 41,621 square feet of building space on the installation.	Potential to be in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap

#### Table 4-1. Present and Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions at Kirtland AFB (continued)

Project Name	Description	Potential Relevance to Proposed Action		
Military Projects (cor	Military Projects (continued)			
Construct New Military Working Dog Facility	USAF proposes to construct, operate, and maintain a new military working dog facility that consists of 14 indoor/outdoor kennels, four isolation kennels, storage and staff space, restrooms, food storage room, a covered walkway, and a veterinarian examining room, totaling 8,000 square feet. A parking area with 25 spaces and new access roads would also be constructed as part of the project. Demolition of facilities totaling 2,520 square feet would also be included in this project, resulting in a net increase of 5,480 square feet of building space on the installation.	Potential to be in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap		
New Deployable Structures Laboratory	AFRL is proposing to construct a new 4,125-square-foot high-bay addition to the southeast corner of Building 472. Proposed new construction would include structural pads on columns and trusses for anchoring an active gravity off-load support frame; high precision environmental controls (temperature and humidity with low air currents); Gantry crane; and optically diffuse wall coatings for the high precision optical motion metrology system (videogrammetry).	Potential to be in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap		
Enhanced Use Lease	Kirtland AFB is in the process of leasing 107 acres of USAF property along Gibson Boulevard to Thunderbird Kirtland Development, Ltd., to develop a research park with office, industrial, laboratory, retail, and hospital facilities.	Potential to be in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap		
Navigation Technology Satellite Integration Laboratory	AFRL is proposing to construct a 10,000-square-foot high bay laboratory south of Building 590. The facility would contain office space; Near Field Antenna Range and control room; vault; security vestibule; restrooms; loading dock; and conference, break, storage, communications, and mechanical rooms.	Potential to be in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap		
High Power Joint Electromagnetic Non-Kinetic Strike Laboratory	AFRL is proposing to construct a 5,000-square-foot addition to Building 332 to include a heavy laboratory with shielding, a light laboratory, and office space to support new electromagnetics research.	Potential to be in the project vicinity; potential for construction overlap		
21st Explosive Ordnance Division Expansion	The 21st Explosive Ordnance Division proposes facility expansion and site improvements for the Weapons of Mass Destruction Company Complex. This unit currently operates from a 90-acre property leased by the US Army within Kirtland AFB. The current site has seven structures, six of which are substandard and do not have adequate fire protection. The 21st Explosive Ordnance Division proposes to expand this site to a total of 280 acres, add three permanent structures totaling 40,000 square feet, demolish five of the six substandard structures (75,000 square feet), add two temporary storage containers, tie in to nearby utilities, construct water tanks for fire suppression, and construct several concrete pads for training activities. This project would result in a decrease of 35,000 square feet of building space on the installation.	Potential to be in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap		

#### Table 4-1. Present and Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions at Kirtland AFB (continued)

Project Name	Description	Potential Relevance to Proposed Action
Military Projects (con	ntinued)	
Kirtland Exhaust Helium Gas Recovery Facility	AFRL is proposing to construct a 3,700-square-foot facility between Buildings 580 and 581 to recover helium gas exhaust from experiments occurring within these buildings. The recovered gas would be reliquefied for reuse in the laboratories.	Potential to be in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap
Wildland Fire Management Plan	USAF proposes to implement the Tier 1 Wildland Fire Management Plan for Kirtland AFB. The plan includes development of a wildland fire training and certification program, funding for a wildland fire vehicle and equipment replacement program, and implementation of a fuels management program. Fuels management would reduce wildland fire hazard via prescribed fire, mechanical vegetation management, wildland fire infrastructure maintenance and development, and timber inventory monitoring.	No potential to be in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap
Renewable Energy Projects	USAF proposes to develop renewable energy projects at Kirtland AFB. The proposed project would include the installation of various renewable energy technologies installation-wide, up to a 20 megawatt solar photovoltaic array, and rooftop/carport solar photovoltaic systems.	Potential to be in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap
Realign Gibson Boulevard	USAF proposes to realign Gibson Boulevard from Louisiana Boulevard to the Gibson Gate because of an increase in security incidents at the Gibson Gate. The current access road is a five-lane extension of Gibson Boulevard. The Proposed Action would close the extension of Gibson Boulevard east of Louisiana Boulevard and reroute the Gibson Gate ingress/egress routes farther south on Louisiana Boulevard. The new four-lane roadway would be approximately 1,500 linear feet and include installation of street lights and appropriate stormwater drainage controls. The route to the Gibson Gate would change from a straight roadway to a serpentine roadway. Construction of the new roadway would be phased in order to allow continued access to the installation and Wherry Elementary using the current extension of Gibson Boulevard and during construction activities. Upon completion of the new roadway, the extension of Gibson Boulevard and associated street lights would be removed and curbing would be installed at the intersection of Gibson and Louisiana Boulevards to close the roadway. Construction is anticipated to begin the first quarter of FY 2019 and take approximately 6 months to complete.	Potential to be in project vicinity; no potential for construction overlap
Zia Park Area Development Plan	Zia Park is comprised of land bounded by Gibson Boulevard to the north, Pennsylvania Street to the east, Hardin Boulevard to the south, and Kirtland Road and Louisiana Boulevard to the west. Zia Park encompasses approximately 300 acres of land east of the airfield, in the center of the installation. Within the next 5 years, the New Mexico Army National Guard's 515th Regional Training Institute (RTI) proposes to relocate from Santa Fe to the area adjacent to the PJ/CRO Campus within Zia Park. The plan for Zia Park also includes the creation of an east-west vehicular connection for the installation in order to establish a cohesive community core.	Potential to be in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap; increased personnel with relocation of the 515 RTI

 Table 4-1. Present and Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions at Kirtland AFB (continued)

Project Name	Description	Potential Relevance to Proposed Action	
Military Projects (cor	Military Projects (continued)		
Zia Park Area Development Plan (continued)	Proposed projects include relocation of the 515 RTI; expansion of the PJ/CRO Campus; development of vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle circulation; parking; and community facilities such as the medical/dental clinics, pharmacy, dining facility, unaccompanied housing, outdoor recreational facilities, and a state-of-the art physical fitness center. Proposed activities are projected to occur up to 20 years into the future and would complete the long-term vision for Zia Park.		
Non-Military Projects			
AMAFCA Louisiana- Gibson Regional Drainage Facility	AMAFCA proposes to construct a 30-acre-foot drainage facility on Kirtland AFB at the southeast quadrant of the Louisiana/Gibson intersection in order to collect and limit stormwater runoff. Currently, stormwater flow off Kirtland AFB is not controlled and causes damage downstream of the installation, contributing to flooding in the San Pedro/Gibson area. Proposed to begin in the fourth quarter of FY 2018.	Potential to be in project vicinity; no potential for construction overlap	
ABCWUA Water Treatment Facility on Kirtland AFB	To accommodate future growth in Bernalillo County, ABCWUA proposes to construct a wastewater treatment plant on Kirtland AFB. This project is proposed to occur between 2027 and 2037 on approximately 60 acres of land near the western boundary of the installation, south of Tijeras Arroyo.	Potential to be in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap	
Juan Tabo Hills West	Juan Tabo Hills West is Phase 4 of the Voltera Village community and sits on approximately 25 acres near Juan Tabo Boulevard and the Tijeras Arroyo. Phase 4 would consist of 250 single-family lots.	Not in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap	
Sunport South Business Park (formerly Valle del Sol)	Sunport South Business Park is a proposed 330-acre business park expected to attract manufacturing, fabrication, warehousing, and distribution centers. It would be multi-modal to include access to the Sunport and an active rail spur. An additional 200 acres would be reserved for bike trails and walking paths. The site is south of the Sunport.	Not in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap	
Sunport Boulevard Extension	The New Mexico Department of Transportation has proposed an expansion project for Sunport Boulevard from Broadway Boulevard to I-25, consisting of constructing a four-lane median divided urban arterial roadway. The roadway is approximately 0.5 mile in length and would contain twin bridges over the existing AMAFCA South Diversion Channel and twin bridges over Edmunds Street.	Not in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap	

#### Table 4-1. Present and Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions at Kirtland AFB (continued)

Project Name	Description	Potential Relevance to Proposed Action		
Non-Military Projects	Non-Military Projects (continued)			
Mesa del Sol Master Plan	Mesa del Sol is a 12,900-acre, mixed-use master planned community. It is bound by the Sunport along the northwestern edge, Kirtland AFB on the north and east, the Isleta reservation to the south, and I-25 to the west. The community would be built over 40 years and would cover 9,000 of the 12,900 acres. It is proposed to include 3,200 acres for park and open space; 4,400 acres for residential and supporting retail; 413 acres of office space; and 800 acres for schools, including university branches.	Not in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap		
Albuquerque International Sunport Projects	The Sunport began the Terminal Improvement Project in February 2017. This project will refurbish and upgrade the ticketing, baggage claim, and exterior areas of the terminal. It is anticipated to take approximately 15 months to complete. Development began on the Destination Sunport project in March 2017. The project will transform decommissioned Runway 17/35, approximately 80 acres, into space for aviation and aerospace businesses, high tech companies, and retail. The Aviation Center of Excellence is the centerpiece of the development, which also features "The Landing" a 10-acre strip along Gibson Boulevard that would contain retail businesses. Future projects planned for the Sunport over the next 20 years include rehabilitation of various runways, taxiways, and aprons; installation/expansion of aprons and taxiways; removal/closure of taxiways; construction of an Aircraft Rescue Firefighting Facility; removal of the Belly Freight Building; construction of an addition to Concourse B; and construction of a Federal Inspection Services/International Terminal.	Not in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap		
I-25 and Rio Bravo Interchange	The New Mexico Department of Transportation is currently reconstructing the I-25 and Rio Bravo Interchange and the Rio Bravo roadway corridor from University to the AMAFCA channel. Improvements include a new intersection layout at I-25/Rio Bravo and new roadway pavement and features within the right-of-way infrastructure including multi-modal improvements.	Not in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap		
Valle de Oro Phase II	The USFWS is proposing to conduct restoration, development, and management activities on Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge in Bernalillo County. The refuge is 570 acres primarily located between 2nd Street SW and the Rio Grande in the South Valley, approximately 3.5 miles southwest of Kirtland AFB. Proposed activities include habitat restoration; construction of a visitor's center, a parking lot, trails, and roads; vegetation and wildlife management; construction and management of AMAFCA stormwater drainage facilities, including a swale and water quality structures; and, in partnership with Mid-Rio Grande Conservancy District, align the Barr Interior Drain.	Potential to be in project vicinity; potential for construction overlap		

#### Table 4-1. Present and Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions at Kirtland AFB (continued)

#### 1 4.2 Cumulative Impact Analysis by Resource Area

#### 2 4.2.1 Noise

3 The noise generated by construction and maintenance activities of the Proposed Action would 4 be intermittent, short-term, and temporary in nature. By adhering to the BMPs listed within this 5 PEA and the city of Albuquergue's noise ordinance, the noise impacts generated by the 6 Proposed Action and present and reasonably foreseeable future projects would result in only 7 temporary increases in ambient noise levels during construction activities. Therefore, the 8 Proposed Action, when combined with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future 9 projects (see Table 4-1), would not result in significant cumulative impacts on sensitive noise 10 receptors or the noise environment at Kirtland AFB or regionally.

#### 11 4.2.2 Air Quality

12 Construction and maintenance activities under the Proposed Action would result in low levels of 13 air emissions, well below the *de minimis* threshold limits, would not be regionally significant, and 14 would be intermittent, short-term, and temporary in nature. BMPs outlined in Section 3.2, 15 including dust suppression, stabilization of previously disturbed areas, and shutting down 16 machinery and equipment when not in use for extended periods of time, are also consistent with 17 those adhered to within the city of Albuquergue and would minimize impacts. These BMPs are 18 typical measures listed within fugitive dust control construction permits issued by AEHD-AQD. 19 Therefore, the Proposed Action, when combined with other past, present, and reasonably 20 foreseeable future projects (see **Table 4-1**), would not result in significant cumulative impacts on 21 air quality at Kirtland AFB or regionally.

#### 22 4.2.3 Geological Resources

23 The Proposed Action would neither reduce prime farmland soils or agricultural production nor 24 would it affect the local or regional geology. Ground-disturbing activities associated with the 25 Proposed Action and present and reasonably foreseeable future projects would expose soils 26 and increase their susceptibility to water and wind erosion. Over time, these activities could also 27 result in the gradual alteration of topography downstream of select project locations because of 28 minor changes in the direction, rate, and volume of surface water flows. Additionally, the use of 29 heavy equipment or vehicles could result in soil compaction, altering their normal function 30 relative to water storage, infiltration, or filtration; however, construction activities associated with 31 the Proposed Action and present and reasonably foreseeable future projects would take the 32 attributes of the topography and underlying soil types within a project area into consideration in 33 the design of each potential project.

34 Kirtland AFB and AMAFCA would continue to coordinate activities on the installation in order to 35 ensure neither negatively impacts the other's activities or systems on and off the installation and 36 activities proposed in this PEA would be compatible with the Tijeras Arroyo Management Plan 37 prepared by AMAFCA. BMPs outlined in Section 3.3, including those outlined in Fugitive Dust 38 Control Permits, CGPs, and the development and implementation of SWPPPs, are also 39 consistent with those adhered to within the city of Albuquerque and would be implemented to 40 control erosion during ground-disturbing activities, which would minimize impacts. Therefore, 41 the Proposed Action, when combined with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable

future projects (see **Table 4-1**), would not result in significant cumulative impacts on geologyand soils.

#### 3 4.2.4 Water Resources

4 The Proposed Action would result short- and long-term impacts on local and regional water resources on and downstream of the installation. Adverse impacts would result from ground-5 6 disturbing activities associated with the Proposed Action and present and reasonably 7 foreseeable future projects; however, these impacts would be reduced by incorporating LIDs to 8 promote stormwater retention and re-use and implementation of BMPS and environmental 9 protection measures. Stormwater drainage improvements would result in improved stormwater 10 conveyance and a reduction in erosion and sedimentation of surface waters on and downstream 11 of the installation.

12 Construction areas associated with the Proposed Action and present and reasonably 13 foreseeable future projects on the installation and within the city of Albuquergue require all 14 construction activities, regardless of size, to implement BMPs to ensure that stormwater 15 pollutants are contained to the maximum extent practical and do not enter storm drainage 16 systems. Project-specific CGP would be required for project areas larger than 1 acre; therefore, 17 site-specific SWPPPs would be developed and all BMPs outlined therein would be implemented 18 prior to any ground disturbance thereby reducing any adverse impact on surface waters. Soil 19 disturbance from construction and demolition activities have the potential to result in a minor 20 disruption of natural drainage patterns, contamination of stormwater discharge, and heavy 21 sediment loading. Development of new stormwater drainage systems and upgrade of existing 22 systems would be designed with consideration for the UFC LID requirements, in accordance 23 with EISA Section 438, to maintain or restore the natural hydrologic functions of the area.

24 Short-term, adverse impacts on surface waters would be controlled through implementation of 25 typical BMPs for equipment use and emergency equipment repair, such as containment of fuels 26 and other potentially hazardous materials, secondary containment, and keeping spill kits onsite 27 during construction and maintenance activities. The Proposed Action and projects presented in 28 Table 4-1 would be conducted in accordance with environmental considerations, including 29 implementation of stormwater and erosion control as well as water conservation (e.g., using low 30 flow toilets, etc.) measures. Therefore, the Proposed Action, when combined with other past, 31 present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects, would not result in a significant cumulative 32 impact on water resources.

#### 33 4.2.5 Biological Resources

34 Construction and maintenance activities under the Proposed Action and present and reasonably 35 foreseeable future projects on the installation and within the city of Albuquergue would result in 36 impacts on vegetation crushing and soil compaction during ground-disturbing activities, which 37 could result in establishment of invasive species. Adverse impacts on vegetation would be 38 minimized through the use of appropriate BMPs, such as cleaning construction equipment prior 39 to entering the project area and measures would be implemented to help prevent and control 40 dissemination of invasive plant species during ground-disturbing activities. Revegetation of 41 disturbed sites with native vegetation would further reduce the establishment of invasive 42 species.

1 Project activities that require heavy equipment could cause mobile mammals, reptiles, and 2 birds, including breeding migratory birds, to temporarily relocate to nearby similar habitat. This 3 disturbance is expected to be minor and it is assumed that displaced wildlife would return soon 4 after activities conclude. Additionally, project activities would be scheduled to occur outside of 5 the nesting season of 1 March to 30 September in order to reduce impacts on migratory birds. 6 Although growth and development can be expected to continue outside of Kirtland AFB and 7 within the surrounding natural areas, significant adverse impacts on these resources would not 8 be expected.

9 Stormwater drainage improvements would reduce the velocity and energy of stormwater flows 10 and detrimental effects of erosion and sedimentation into surface waters. Restabilizing arroyos 11 and upgrading stormwater systems would improve the flow of floodwater resulting in improved 12 water quality because less erosion and sedimentation would occur during a flood event. 13 Improvements would promote bank stabilization, resulting in beneficial impacts on terrestrial 14 habitat. Therefore, the Proposed Action, when combined with other past, present, and 15 reasonably foreseeable future projects (see Table 4-1), would not result in a significant 16 cumulative impact on biological resources.

#### 17 4.2.6 Cultural Resources

18 The Proposed Action has the potential to result in an adverse effect on known cultural resources 19 because of the concentration of cultural resources surrounding the natural arroyos and 20 waterways within Kirtland AFB; therefore, these are the locations where archaeological testing 21 and monitoring would be most appropriate. Avoidance of known cultural resources sites would 22 be taken into consideration when planning and developing stormwater drainage and arroyo 23 repair projects and present and reasonably foreseeable future projects on the installation and 24 within the city of Albuquerque. However, if project activities would be conducted adjacent to or 25 could not be adjusted to avoid impacting an archaeological site, then consultation with the 26 SHPO/THPO would occur, and mitigation measures would be developed in accordance with 27 Section 106 of the NHPA.

28 BMPs outlined in Section 3.6, to include compliance with all requirements and management 29 measures identified in the Kirtland AFB ICRMP are typical measures and would ensure that 30 inadvertent discoveries of cultural resources during project activities are properly addressed and 31 would minimize impacts. If the footprint of a project area associated with the Proposed Action 32 and present and reasonably foreseeable future projects on the installation and within the city of 33 Albuquerque could not be adjusted to avoid impacting a site, then consultation with the 34 SHPO/THPO would occur and mitigation measures would be developed in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA. 35

Should an inadvertent discovery of human or cultural remains occur on Kirtland AFB, all project activities shall stop, the Kirtland AFB Cultural Resources Program Manager would be notified, and operational procedures outlined in the ICRMP would be followed. Should an inadvertent discovery occur within the city of Albuquerque, all project activities would stop and the discovery would be reported to the SHPO for assistance and further guidance. Therefore, the Proposed Action, when combined with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects (see **Table 4-1**), would not result in a significant cumulative impact on cultural resources.

#### 1 4.2.7 Paleontological Resources

2 Based upon the geoarchaeological study at Kirtland AFB, the Proposed Action has the potential to result in an adverse effect on paleontological resources, because most of the fossils of 3 4 ancient organisms discovered on the installation and in the surrounding region have occurred in 5 the areas surrounding the natural arroyos and waterways. Avoidance of known paleontological 6 resources sites would be taken into consideration when planning and developing the Proposed 7 Action and present and reasonably foreseeable future actions on the installation and within the 8 city of Albuquerque. However, it is recommended that any ground-disturbing activities take into 9 consideration the potential for the discovery of previously undiscovered paleontological 10 resources. Considering the Proposed Action aims to construct, repair, and maintain the 11 drainage systems within Kirtland AFB, the proposed construction activities would occur within 12 areas that have a higher probability to encounter subsurface paleontological resources. Areas 13 within or adjacent to the arroyos on the installation and within the city of Albuquergue have the 14 highest incidence of inadvertent discoveries of paleontological resources. In order to minimize 15 potential impacts to unrecorded paleontological deposits, it is recommended that subsurface 16 surveys and monitoring be conducted in any area where construction activities would impact 17 undisturbed areas within or adjacent to arroyos.

18 Should an inadvertent discovery of paleontological materials occur on Kirtland AFB, all project 19 activities shall stop, the Kirtland AFB Cultural Resources Program Manager would be notified, 20 and operational procedures outlined in the ICRMP would be followed as they would for 21 archaeological resources. Should an inadvertent discovery occur within the city of Albuquergue, 22 all project activities would stop and the discovery would be reported to the New Mexico Museum 23 of Natural History for assistance and further guidance. Therefore, the Proposed Action, when 24 combined with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects (see Table 4-1), 25 would not result in a significant cumulative impact on paleontological resources.

#### 26 4.2.8 Infrastructure

27 The Proposed Action has the potential to adversely impact the following infrastructure: 28 transportation, water resources, stormwater handling, and solid waste. These impacts are 29 anticipated to be intermittent, short-term, and temporary in nature. BMPs outlined in Section 30 **3.7**, to include timing vehicle traffic to avoid peak travel hours and diverting materials that could 31 be recycled or reused from landfills to the greatest extent possible, would further reduce any 32 impacts. These BMPs are typical measures adhered to for construction projects on the 33 installation and within the city of Albuquerque. Upgrade and construction of new infrastructure 34 on and off the installation (see Table 4-1) would result in beneficial impacts from improved 35 energy efficiency. Therefore, the Proposed Action, when combined with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects, would not result in a significant cumulative impact on 36 37 infrastructure.

#### 38 4.2.9 Hazardous Materials and Wastes

The Proposed Action and present and reasonably foreseeable actions on Kirtland AFB and within the city of Albuquerque would result in intermittent, short-term, temporary increases in the use of hazardous materials and petroleum products and generation of waste. BMPs outlined in **Section 3.8**, to include proper vehicle maintenance, proper procurement of hazardous

materials, and proper disposal of hazardous wastes would minimize impacts. The Proposed 1 2 Action, as well as present and reasonably foreseeable future projects at Kirtland AFB and within 3 the city of Albuquerque (see Table 4-1), would incorporate measures to limit or control 4 hazardous materials and waste into their design and operation plans. Therefore, the Proposed 5 Action, when combined with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects, 6 would not result in a significant cumulative impact on hazardous materials and wastes.

#### 7 4.2.10 Safety

8 No adverse cumulative impacts on health and safety would be expected from the Proposed 9 Action and present and reasonably foreseeable future projects on the installation and within the 10 city of Albuquerque. Adherence to established procedures, including the use of PPE, fencing 11 project areas and posting signs, and compliance with OSH, DoD, and OSHA standards would 12 reduce or eliminate health and safety impacts on contractors, military personnel, and the 13 general public. These procedures are typical for construction projects on the installation and 14 within the city of Albuquerque. Therefore, the Proposed Action, when combined with other past, 15 present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects (see Table 4-1), would not result in a 16 significant cumulative impact on health and safety.

#### 17 4.2.11 Socioeconomics

18 The Proposed Action, when combined with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable 19 actions on Kirtland AFB and within the city of Albuquerque, would continue to result in short-20 term, beneficial impacts on the region's economy through the purchase of construction materials 21 and providing employment for construction personnel during project activities. Therefore, the 22 Proposed Action, when combined with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future 23 projects (see **Table 4-1**), would not result in a significant cumulative impact on socioeconomics.

#### 24 4.3 **Unavoidable Adverse Impacts**

- 25 Unavoidable adverse impacts would result from the Proposed Action. None of these impacts 26 would be significant.
- 27 **Energy.** The Proposed Action would require the use of fossil fuels, a non-renewable natural 28 resource, during construction and maintenance activities. The use of non-renewable resources 29 is an unavoidable occurrence, although not considered significant.
- 30 Geological Resources. Construction activities associated with the Proposed Action would 31 result in temporary soil disturbance; however, implementation of BMPs and erosion- and 32 sedimentation-control measures would limit environmental impacts. Although soil disturbance 33 would be unavoidable, the impact on geological resources would be negligible.
- 34 Hazardous Materials and Wastes. The use and generation of hazardous materials and wastes 35 during construction and maintenance activities would be unavoidable; however, the materials 36 and wastes would be handled in accordance with federal, state, and local policies and would not
- 37 be expected to result in significant impacts.

# 4.4 Compatibility of the Proposed Action with the Objectives of Federal, Regional, and Local Land Use Plans, Policies, and Controls

4 The Proposed Action would occur entirely within Kirtland AFB. Construction and maintenance 5 activities would not be incompatible with any current land uses on or adjacent to the installation. 6 Kirtland AFB, AMAFCA, and ABCWUA would continue to coordinate activities on the installation 7 in order to ensure neither negatively impacts the other's activities or systems on and off the 8 installation and proposed activities would be compatible with the Tijeras Arroyo Management 9 Plan prepared by AMAFCA. The Proposed Action would not conflict with any applicable off-10 installation land use ordinances and would follow all applicable permitting, building, and safety 11 requirements.

# 4.5 Relationship between Short-Term Uses and Long-Term Productivity

The relationship between short-term uses and enhancement of long-term productivity from implementation of the Proposed Action is evaluated from the standpoint of short-term effects and long-term effects. Short-term uses of the biophysical components of the human environment include direct construction-related disturbances and direct impacts associated with an increase in population and activity that occurs over a period of less than 5 years. Long-term uses of the human environment include those impacts occurring over a period of more than 5 years, including permanent resource loss.

The Proposed Action would not require short-term resource uses that would result in long-term compromises of productivity. The Proposed Action would not result in intensification of land use at Kirtland AFB or within the surrounding area. Implementation of the Proposed Action would not represent a loss of open space. Therefore, it is anticipated that the Proposed Action would not result in any adverse cumulative impacts on land use or aesthetics.

#### 26 4.6 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources

27 Irreversible and irretrievable resource commitments are related to the use of non-renewable 28 resources and the impacts that the use of these resources would have on future generations. 29 Irreversible impacts primarily result from use or destruction of a specific resource that cannot be 30 replaced within a reasonable timeframe (e.g., energy and minerals). The irreversible and 31 irretrievable commitment of resources that would result from the Proposed Action involve the 32 consumption of material resources used for construction, energy resources, biological 33 resources, and human labor resources. The use of these resources is considered to be 34 permanent.

35 *Material Resources.* Material resources used for the Proposed Action would potentially include 36 concrete and various construction materials and supplies. The materials that would be 37 consumed are not in short supply, would not limit other unrelated construction activities, and 38 would not be considered significant. Energy Resources. Energy resources used for the Proposed Action would be irretrievably lost. This includes petroleum-based products (e.g., gasoline and diesel). During construction and maintenance activities, gasoline and diesel would be used for the operation of vehicles and construction equipment. Consumption of these energy resources would not place a significant demand on their availability in the region; therefore, less than significant impacts would be expected.

**Biological Resources.** The Proposed Action would result in a negligible loss of vegetation and wildlife habitat. Direct effects on vegetation from vegetation removal and crushing and indirect effects from soil compaction and potential for establishment of invasive species would occur; however, revegetation of disturbed sites with native species would support a native plant community in the long-term. Minimal loss of wildlife would occur because of the Proposed Action; however, this would not constitute a significant adverse impact on biological resources.

- 13 Human Resources. The use of human resources for construction and maintenance activities is
- 14 considered an irretrievable loss only in that it would preclude such personnel from engaging in
- 15 other work activities. However, the use of human resources for the Proposed Action represents
- 16 employment opportunities and is considered beneficial.

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Intergovernmental and Stakeholder Coordination



# Federal, State, and Local Agencies – Cooperating Agency Letters

Ms. Susan Lacy DOE/NNSA Sandia Field Office PO Box 5400 Albuquerque NM 87187

Mr. John Weckerle DOE/NNSA Office of General Counsel PO Box 5400 Albuquerque NM 87187

Mr. George Macdonnell, Chief Environmental Resources Section US Army Corps of Engineers 4101 Jefferson Plaza NE Albuquerque NM 87109

Mr. Tony Robinson, Regional Administrator Federal Emergency Management Agency Region VI FRC 800 North Loop 288 Denton TX 76209-3698

Mr. Jerry Lovato, Executive Engineer Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority 2600 Prospect Avenue NE Albuquerque NM 87107

Mr. Mark Sanchez, Executive Director Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority PO Box 568 Albuquerque NM 87103-0568

## **Cooperating Agency Letters**



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE GLOBAL STRIKE COMMAND

23 Jan 18

#### MEMORANDUM FOR DOE/NNSA/SANDIA FIELD OFFICE (SFO) ATTN: MS. SUSAN LACY

FROM: HQ AFGSC/A4C 841 Fairchild Avenue Barksdale AFB LA 71110

SUBJECT: Cooperating Agency Request for Restoration and Modernization of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) on Kirtland AFB, NM

1. The Air Force requests SFO's formal participation in the preparation of a programmatic environmental assessment (PEA) to restore the MS4 that discharges from Kirtland AFB into the Tijeras Arroyo and the Rio Grande, as prescribed in the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations, 40 CFR Part 1501.6, *Cooperating Agencies*.

2. Kirtland AFB's MS4 requires extensive work to maintain compliance with their MS4 Permit by restoring the system and modernize it to prevent future damage and. The Proposed Action will:

a. Remove sedimentation buildup in all ditches, culverts, pipes, and retention basins;

b. Install/repair all berms, retention structures, and erosion control vegitation in retention basins and other exterior stormwater storage areas to control runoff and discharges of suspended solids;

c. Install/repair outlet structures and erosion control features in arroyos;

3. As a cooperating agency, the Air Force requests SFO participate in various portions of the PEA development as may be required. Specifically, the Air Force asks for your support by:

a. Participating in the scoping process;

b. Assuming responsibility, upon request by the Air Force, for developing information and preparing analyses on issues for which SFO has special expertise;

c. Making staff support available to enhance interdisciplinary review capability;

d. Responding, in writing, to this request.

4. The Air Force requires that the support of cooperating agency be timely to avoid unnecessary delays in the NEPA process. For further questions regarding this memo, our point of contact is Ms. Martha Garcia, 377 MSG/CEIEC, at (505) 846-6446, or martha.garcia.3@us.af.mil.

BRIAN C. LEE, GS-15, DAF Senior Civil Engineer



23 Jan 18

## MEMORANDUM FOR DOE/NNSA OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL ATTN: MR. JOHN WECKERLE

FROM: HQ AFGSC/A4C 841 Fairchild Avenue Barksdale AFB LA 71110

SUBJECT: Cooperating Agency Request for Restoration and Modernization of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) on Kirtland AFB, NM

1. The Air Force requests NNSA's formal participation in the preparation of a programmatic environmental assessment (PEA) to restore the MS4 that discharges from Kirtland AFB into the Tijeras Arroyo and the Rio Grande, as prescribed in the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations, 40 CFR Part 1501.6, *Cooperating Agencies*.

2. Kirtland AFB's MS4 requires extensive work to maintain compliance with their MS4 Permit by restoring the system and modernize it to prevent future damage and. The Proposed Action will:

a. Remove sedimentation buildup in all ditches, culverts, pipes, and retention basins;

b. Install/repair all berms, retention structures, and erosion control vegitation in retention basins and other exterior stormwater storage areas to control runoff and discharges of suspended solids;

c. Install/repair outlet structures and erosion control features in arroyos;

3. As a cooperating agency, the Air Force requests NNSA participate in various portions of the PEA development as may be required. Specifically, the Air Force asks for your support by:

a. Participating in the scoping process;

b. Assuming responsibility, upon request by the Air Force, for developing information and preparing analyses on issues for which NNSA has special expertise;

c. Making staff support available to enhance interdisciplinary review capability;

d. Responding, in writing, to this request.

4. The Air Force requires that the support of cooperating agency be timely to avoid unnecessary delays in the NEPA process. For further questions regarding this memo, our point of contact is Ms. Martha Garcia, 377 MSG/CEIEC, at (505) 846-6446, or martha.garcia.3@us.af.mil.

BRIAN C. LEE, GS-15, DAF Senior Civil Engineer



23 Jan 18

## MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF, ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES SECTION (MR. MACDONELL) USACE, ALBUQUERQUE DISTRICT (CESPA-PM-LE)

FROM: HQ AFGSC/A4C 841 Fairchild Avenue Barksdale AFB LA 71110

SUBJECT: Cooperating Agency Request for Restoration and Modernization of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) on Kirtland AFB, NM

1. The Air Force requests USACE's formal participation in the preparation of a programmatic environmental assessment (PEA) to restore the MS4 that discharges from Kirtland AFB into the Tijeras Arroyo and the Rio Grande, as prescribed in the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations, 40 CFR Part 1501.6, *Cooperating Agencies*.

2. Kirtland AFB's MS4 requires extensive work to maintain compliance with their MS4 Permit by restoring the system and modernize it to prevent future damage and. The Proposed Action will:

a. Remove sedimentation buildup in all ditches, culverts, pipes, and retention basins;

b. Install/repair all berms, retention structures, and erosion control vegitation in retention basins and other exterior stormwater storage areas to control runoff and discharges of suspended solids;

c. Install/repair outlet structures and erosion control features in arroyos;

3. As a cooperating agency, the Air Force requests USACE participate in various portions of the PEA development as may be required. Specifically, the Air Force asks for your support by:

a. Participating in the scoping process;

b. Assuming responsibility, upon request by the Air Force, for developing information and preparing analyses on issues for which USACE has special expertise;

c. Making staff support available to enhance interdisciplinary review capability;

d. Responding, in writing, to this request.

4. The Air Force requires that the support of cooperating agency be timely to avoid unnecessary delays in the NEPA process. For further questions regarding this memo, our point of contact is Ms. Martha Garcia, 377 MSG/CEIEC, at (505) 846-6446, or martha.garcia.3@us.af.mil.

BRIAN C. LEE, GS-15, DAF Senior Civil Engineer



23 Jan 18

#### MEMORANDUM FOR REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR (MR. TONY ROBINSON) FEMA, REGION VI

FROM: HQ AFGSC/A4C 841 Fairchild Avenue Barksdale AFB LA 71110

SUBJECT: Cooperating Agency Request for Restoration and Modernization of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) on Kirtland AFB, NM

1. The Air Force requests FEMA's formal participation in the preparation of a programmatic environmental assessment (PEA) to restore the MS4 that discharges from Kirtland AFB into the Tijeras Arroyo and the Rio Grande, as prescribed in the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations, 40 CFR Part 1501.6, *Cooperating Agencies*.

2. Kirtland AFB's MS4 requires extensive work to maintain compliance with their MS4 Permit by restoring the system and modernize it to prevent future damage and. The Proposed Action will:

a. Remove sedimentation buildup in all ditches, culverts, pipes, and retention basins;

b. Install/repair all berms, retention structures, and erosion control vegitation in retention basins and other exterior stormwater storage areas to control runoff and discharges of suspended solids;

c. Install/repair outlet structures and erosion control features in arroyos;

3. As a cooperating agency, the Air Force requests FEMA participate in various portions of the PEA development as may be required. Specifically, the Air Force asks for your support by:

a. Participating in the scoping process;

b. Assuming responsibility, upon request by the Air Force, for developing information and preparing analyses on issues for which FEMA has special expertise;

c. Making staff support available to enhance interdisciplinary review capability;

d. Responding, in writing, to this request.

4. The Air Force requires that the support of cooperating agency be timely to avoid unnecessary delays in the NEPA process. For further questions regarding this memo, our point of contact is Ms. Martha Garcia, 377 MSG/CEIEC, at (505) 846-6446, or martha.garcia.3@us.af.mil.

BRIAN C. LEE, GS-15, DAF Senior Civil Engineer



23 Jan 18

## MEMORANDUM FOR EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, ALBUQUERQUE METROPOLITAN ARROYO FLOOD CONTROL AUTHORITY (MR. JERRY LOVATO)

FROM: HQ AFGSC/A4C 841 Fairchild Avenue Barksdale AFB LA 71110

SUBJECT: Cooperating Agency Request for Restoration and Modernization of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) on Kirtland AFB, NM

1. The Air Force requests AMAFCA's formal participation in the preparation of a programmatic environmental assessment (PEA) to restore the MS4 that discharges from Kirtland AFB into the Tijeras Arroyo and the Rio Grande, as prescribed in the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations, 40 CFR Part 1501.6, *Cooperating Agencies*.

2. Kirtland AFB's MS4 requires extensive work to maintain compliance with their MS4 Permit by restoring the system and modernize it to prevent future damage and. The Proposed Action will:

a. Remove sedimentation buildup in all ditches, culverts, pipes, and retention basins;

b. Install/repair all berms, retention structures, and erosion control vegitation in retention basins and other exterior stormwater storage areas to control runoff and discharges of suspended solids;

c. Install/repair outlet structures and erosion control features in arroyos;

3. As a cooperating agency, the Air Force requests AMAFCA participate in various portions of the PEA development as may be required. Specifically, the Air Force asks for your support by:

a. Participating in the scoping process;

b. Assuming responsibility, upon request by the Air Force, for developing information and preparing analyses on issues for which AMAFCA has special expertise;

c. Making staff support available to enhance interdisciplinary review capability;

d. Responding, in writing, to this request.

4. The Air Force requires that the support of cooperating agency be timely to avoid unnecessary delays in the NEPA process. For further questions regarding this memo, our point of contact is Ms. Martha Garcia, 377 MSG/CEIEC, at (505) 846-6446, or martha.garcia.3@us.af.mil.

BRIAN C. LEE, GS-15, DAF Senior Civil Engineer



23 Jan 18

## MEMORANDUM FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ALBUQUERQUE-BERNALILLO COUNTY WATER UTILITY AUTHORITY (MR. MARK SANCHEZ)

## FROM: HQ AFGSC/A4C 841 Fairchild Avenue Barksdale AFB LA 71110

SUBJECT: Cooperating Agency Request for Restoration and Modernization of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) on Kirtland AFB, NM

1. The Air Force requests ABCWUA's formal participation in the preparation of a programmatic environmental assessment (PEA) to restore the MS4 that discharges from Kirtland AFB into the Tijeras Arroyo and the Rio Grande, as prescribed in the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations, 40 CFR Part 1501.6, *Cooperating Agencies*.

2. Kirtland AFB's MS4 requires extensive work to maintain compliance with their MS4 Permit by restoring the system and modernize it to prevent future damage and. The Proposed Action will:

a. Remove sedimentation buildup in all ditches, culverts, pipes, and retention basins;

b. Install/repair all berms, retention structures, and erosion control vegitation in retention basins and other exterior stormwater storage areas to control runoff and discharges of suspended solids;

c. Install/repair outlet structures and erosion control features in arroyos;

3. As a cooperating agency, the Air Force requests ABCWUA participate in various portions of the PEA development as may be required. Specifically, the Air Force asks for your support by:

a. Participating in the scoping process;

b. Assuming responsibility, upon request by the Air Force, for developing information and preparing analyses on issues for which ABCWUA has special expertise;

c. Making staff support available to enhance interdisciplinary review capability;

d. Responding, in writing, to this request.

4. The Air Force requires that the support of cooperating agency be timely to avoid unnecessary delays in the NEPA process. For further questions regarding this memo, our point of contact is Ms. Martha Garcia, 377 MSG/CEIEC, at (505) 846-6446, or martha.garcia.3@us.af.mil.

BRIAN C. LEE, GS-15, DAF Senior Civil Engineer

# **Cooperating Agency Responses**



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY ALBUQUERQUE DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS 4101 JEFFERSON PLAZA NE ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87109-3435

26 February 2018

Planning, Project and Program Management Division Planning Branch Environmental Resources Section

377 MSG/CEIEC ATTN: Ms. Martha Garcia 2050 Wyoming Blvd. SE Kirtland AFB, NM 87117

SUBJECT: Cooperating Agency Request for Restoration and Modernization of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) on Kirtland AFB, NM

Dear Ms. Garcia:

Thank you for your request for the US Army Corps of Engineers Albuquerque District to participate in your project as a cooperating agency. The Environmental Resources Section is available to do a cursory review of documents as part of the scoping process. However, given our budgetary constraints and other funded workload, we are unable to assume responsibility for developing information and preparing analyses on issues and are unable to make staff support available for interdisciplinary review without a formal project agreement in place.

If you are in need of additional support, members of our organization would be available to meet with you to further discuss the project and could prepare a budget estimate and schedule. If you are interested in setting up a formal project agreement with our agency, you can contact the Albuquerque District Military and IIS Section Project Manager, Ms. Amanda Tapia-Pittman at 505-342-3210 or Amanda.A.Tapia-Pittman@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

George MacDonell Chief, Environmental Resources Section

From:	GARCIA, MARTHA E CIV USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEI
To:	Bare, Michelle
Subject:	FW: Preliminary Cooperating Agency Inquiry
Date:	Thursday, April 12, 2018 11:19:46 AM

#### Michelle,

I believe I might have failed to send this to you. ABCWUA requested to be counted as a CA. -MEG

-----Original Message----

From: Stomp, John M. <jstomp@abewua.org> Sent: Friday, December 15, 2017 9:33 AM To: GARCIA, MARTHA E CIV USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIE <martha.garcia.3@us.af.mil>; Billings, Rick M. <rbillings@abewua.org> Cc: BARE, MICHELLE P CTR USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIE <michelle bare.ctr@us.af.mil>; CICCARELLI, CARL, J GS-14 USAF AFGSC 377 ABW/JA <carl.ciccarelli@us.af.mil> Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Preliminary Cooperating Agency Inquiry

#### Martha:

We would like to be a Cooperating Agency as we are planning a wastewater treatment facility on KAFB adjacent to the Tijeras Arroyo. We are contemplating using the treated effluent for aquifer storage and recovery by discharging and allowing it to infiltrate into the aquifer. Please coordinate with Rick Billings of the Water Authority on the Cooperative Agreement. Thank you very much. John

----Original Message-----From: GARCIA, MARTHA E CIV USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIE [mailto:martha.garcia.3@us.af.mi]] Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2017 12:19 PM To: Stomp, John M. <jstomp@abcwua.org> Ce: BARE, MICHELLE P CTR USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIE <michelle.bare.ctr@us.af.mil>; CICCARELLJ, CARL J GS-14 USAF AFGSC 377 ABW/JA <carl.ciccarelli@us.af.mil> Subject: Preliminary Cooperating Agency Inquiry

#### Good afternoon, Mr. Stomp.

I am with the NEPA Office at Kirtland AFB. We are developing a programmatic storm drainage and Tijeras arroyo work Environmental Assessment and are in the process of determining our Cooperating Agencies (CAs).

Per CEQ regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508) we are required to invite anyone with "jurisdiction by law and/or special expertise" to be a CA. The CEQ regs also state that an agency being invited must be legally capable of entering into an agreement to become a CA. Because of the Tijeras Arroyo Interceptor, Kirtland AFB thinks you should be invited; so I am respectfully requesting ABCWUA's interpretation on " an agency being invited must be legally capable of entering into an agreement to become a CA", in order to determine whether or not to send you a formal CA Letter.

Any input you can provide would be greatly appreciated. Respectfully, Martha E. Garcia Kirtland AFB NEPA Program Manager 377 MSG/CEIEC Phone: 505-846-6446 DSN: 246-6446

From:	GARCIA, MARTHA E CIV USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIE
To:	"Javnes, Kevin"
Cc:	CLARK, MELISSA B GS-13 USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIE; BARE, MICHELLE P CTR USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEI
Subject:	RE: FEMA Region 6 - cooperating agency status - Kirtland MS4 Project
Date:	Friday, February 9, 2018 7:37:00 AM
Attachments:	Final DOPAA KAFB Upgrade to Storm Drainage Systems.pdf

Good morning Kevin,

I, too, am so sorry we kept missing each other's calls. Thank you for taking the time to send me an email.

I certainly understand and fully support the higher priorities your Agency is engaged in right now. By requesting a letter be sent to FEMA, I was thinking of your Agency's special expertise and experience with flooding, so I think the document reviews would be most beneficial. I have attached our tentatively "Final DOPAA" to this email.

I was hoping FEMA might be able to provide high level "sanity checks" and/or call out any faulty impact analysis should you see it. My main goal is to ensure Kirtland AFB avoid planning any future actions in/to the arroyo that would then cause flooding issues to ourselves and folks upstream/downstream.

I will be out of the office until 20 Feb, so I have copied my Supervisor – Ms. Clark – and my contract support person – Ms. Bare should you wish to discuss anything prior to my return.

Thank you very much for your time reviewing this document and any future assistance you are able to provide.

Respectfully, Martha E. Garcia NEPA Program Manager 377 MSG/CEIEC 2050 Wyoming Boulevard, SE Building 20685, Suite 116a Kirtland AFB, NM 87117 Phone: 505-846-6446 DSN: 246-6446 Email: martha.garcia.3@us.af.mil

From: Jaynes, Kevin [mailto:Kevin.Jaynes@fema.dhs.gov]
Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2018 1:12 PM
To: GARCIA, MARTHA E CIV USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIE <martha.garcia.3@us.af.mil>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] FEMA Region 6 - cooperating agency status - Kirtland MS4 Project

Afternoon Martha,

Sorry we keep missing each other.

For the request we received, FEMA is interested in the offer to participate, but would first like to get a little more from your perspective on expectations, timing and level of effort.

FEMA is an non-regulatory agency, we have no major environmental laws to uphold/enforce. We do and are involved extensively with floodplain mapping and insurance as you are probably very aware from the NFIP program and flood rate maps.

My questions are along the lines of what you would expect from FEMA as far as timing of the project, travel or meetings, and duration. My regional staff and I are still very engaged with the Hurricane Harvey recovery and response in Texas and any more on our list of things to do is tough. We certainly have experience in working with other agencies primarily in the document review category for content and the like, but would have very little to offer by way of field investigative or engineering support. If there are any preliminary write ups or project descriptions that we could preview to see how we could best assist, that you could share, it would be most appreciated.

I will be in and out of the office today until 4 p.m. central and then off tomorrow (Friday 2/9), Should be back in the office Monday.

Look forward to talking to you.

Kevin Jaynes, Regional Environmental Officer FEMA Region 6 800 N. Loop 288, Denton, TX 76209 Desk (940)-383-7224 Cell (940)-230-5126 Kevin.jaynes@fema.dhs.gov

U.S. Department of Humeland Security FEMA Region 6 800 North Loop 288 Denton, TX. 76209-3698



April 3, 2018

Brian C. Lee, Senior Civil Engineer Department of the Air Force HQ AFGSC/A4C 841 Fairchild Avenue Barksdale AFB, LA 71110

RE: Cooperating Agency Request for Restoration and Modernization of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) on Kirtland AFB, NM

Dear Brian C. Lee,

I am in receipt of your letter from January 23, 2018, formally requesting the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 6 participation in the preparation of a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for evaluation of storm water drainage features associated with Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Mr. Kevin Jaynes, Regional Environmental Officer, has been in communication with Ms. Martha Garcia, NEPA Program Manager, Kirtland Air Force Base as to the status of the PEA and the level of effort and availability that FEMA Region 6 Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) staff could assist. The understanding is that the document is progressing well within schedule and that FEMA would provide value in the effort by offering to participate as a cooperating agency to provide interdisciplinary review of the preliminary document as required and requested. It is FEMA's understanding that this effort would be within the coming 4 to 6 weeks and be coordinated through Ms. Garcia and Mr. Jaynes to execute that review request.

FEMA Region 6 certainly appreciates your invitation to provide support in the spirit of the National Environmental Policy Act and Unified Federal Review and looks forward to the production of a quality document which will be of value to your efforts. Please encourage Ms. Garcia to continue communicating and coordinating with Mr. Jaynes at (940) 230-5126 or kevin.jaynes@fema.dhs.gov to ensure that we are able to assist to the best of our ability.

Sincerely,

efe Mitigation Division Director

www.foma.om

cc: Kevin Jaynes, Regional Environmental Officer, FEMA Region 6 Kristin Fontenot, Director, FEMA Office of Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation

A-12

From:	Jaynes, Kevin
To:	GARCIA, MARTHA E CIV USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIE
Subject:	[Non-DoD Source] RE: FEMA R6 comments
Date:	Friday, September 14, 2018 10:55:32 AM
Attachments:	Undeliverable Approve Check Draft PEA - KAFB Upgrade to Storm Drainage Systems - SUSPENSE Monday 24 September 2018.msg

Martha,

Have reviewed my comments back against the PEA, I am comfortable with the CRM section and that SHPO consultation has and will continue. Thank you.

The voting was kicked back to my email, so hopefully it went through.

Kevin Jaynes, Regional Environmental Officer FEMA Region 6 800 N. Loop 288, Denton, TX 76209 Desk (940)-383-7224 Cell (940)-230-5126 Kevin.jaynes@fema.dhs.gov

From: GARCIA, MARTHA E CIV USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIE [mailto:martha.garcia.3@us.af.mil]
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 9:48 AM
To: Jaynes, Kevin <Kevin.Jaynes@fema.dhs.gov>
Subject: RE: FEMA R6 comments

Will do.

From: Jaynes, Kevin <Kevin Jaynes@fema.dhs.gov> Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 8:44 AM To: GARCIA, MARTHA E CIV USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIE <martha.garcia.3@us.af.mil> Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: FEMA R6 comments

Thanks, If there is anything that is off-track or doesn't make sense, please let me know.

KJ

From: GARCIA, MARTHA E CIV USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIE [mailto:martha.garcia.3@us.af.mil] Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 9:39 AM To: Jaynes, Kevin <<u>Kevin.Jaynes@fema.dhs.gov</u>> Subject: RE: FEMA R6 comments

Kevin,

No problem. I was going to check in with you today, just to make sure my firewall didn't block your email.

Thank you for taking the time to review, I appreciate your input.

## V/R

Martha E. Garcia NEPA Program Manager 377 MSG/CEIEC 2050 Wyoming Boulevard, SE Building 20685, Suite 116a Kirtland AFB, NM 87117 Phone: 505-846-6446 DSN: 246-6446 Email: martha.garcia.3@us.af.mil

From: Jaynes, Kevin <<u>Kevin Jaynes@fema.dhs.gov</u>> Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 8:09 AM To: GARCIA, MARTHA E CIV USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIE <<u>martha.garcia.3@us.af.mil</u>> Subject: [Non-DoD Source] FEMA R6 comments

Martha, Attached for your consideration.

Thanks again for the opportunity, and my apologies for not being as timely. Hurricane Harvey response/recovery is still demanding so much of my time and resources.

v/r

Kevin Jaynes, Regional Environmental Officer FEMA Region 6 800 N. Loop 288, Denton, TX 76209 Desk (940)-383-7224 Cell (940)-230-5126 Kevin.jaynes@fema.dhs.gov

From:	Stomp, John M.
To:	GARCIA, MARTHA E CIV USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIE
Cc:	Billings, Rick M.
Subject:	[Non-DoD Source] RE: Check Draft PEA - KAFB Upgrade to Storm Drainage Systems - SUSPENSE Monday 24 September 2018
Date:	Wednesday, November 14, 2018 8:07:23 AM
Attachments:	image001.ong image003.ong image004.ong

#### Martha:

I really appreciate your patience because Rick has not returned and may not return. I looked at the comments briefly including the Programmatic EA and don't have any additional comments. Our comments were not specifically addressed, but realizing that no specific projects have been identified at this point means we will need to continue to work with KAFB. As you know, there are significant erosion issues along the Tijeras arroyo that affect the Water Authority's Tijeras interceptor some of which has caused emergency actions on the part of the Water Authority due to grading and drainage issues not being adequately addressed upstream. Thanks for the opportunity to work with you on this and please let me know if we need to meet or discuss further. Happy Thanksgiving! John

John M. Stomp III Chief Operating Officer Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority P.O. Box 568 | Albuquerque NM | 87103-0568 505.289.3150 (office) jstomp@abcwua.org

From: GARCIA, MARTHA E CIV USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIE <martha.garcia.3@us.af.mil> Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 3:25 PM To: Stomp, John M. <jstomp@abcwua.org> Cc: Billings, Rick M. <rbillings@abcwua.org> Subject: RE: Check Draft PEA - KAFB Upgrade to Storm Drainage Systems - SUSPENSE Monday 24 September 2018

#### Good afternoon Mr. Stomp,

I'm finally getting time to circle back to this project. I had originally put it out for a back check of comments in mid-September. I know you were hoping to have a chance to back check Mr. Billing's comments in early October. Then I realized, I might not have actually sent the attached documents to you. At any rate, if Mr. Billings is still out, would you be able to look at his comments and let me know if there are any which might still need to be resolved?

Respectfully,

Martha E. Garcia

NEPA Program Manager

377 MSG/CEIEC

2050 Wyoming Boulevard, SE

Building 20685, Suite 116a

Kirtland AFB, NM 87117

Phone: 505-846-6446

DSN: 246-6446

Email: martha.garcia.3@us.af.mil

# Federal, State, and Local Agencies – Scoping Letters

Ms. Amy Leuders Southwest Regional Director US Fish & Wildlife Service PO Box 1306 Albuquerque NM 87103-1306

Ms. Priscilla J. Avila Acting Regional Director and Regional Environmental Specialist Bureau of Indian Affairs Southwest Regional Office 1001 Indian School Road NW Albuquerque NM 87104

Ms. Danita Burns, District Manager Bureau of Land Management New Mexico State Office Albuquerque District Office 100 Sun Avenue NE, Suite 330 Pan American Building Albuquerque NM 87109-4676

Ms. Jennifer L. Faler, Area Manager Bureau of Reclamation Albuquerque Area Office 555 Broadway NE, Suite 100 Albuquerque NM 87102-2352

Mr. Stephen Spencer Regional Environmental Officer US Department of Interior Office of Environmental Policy & Compliance - Albuquerque Region 1001 Indian School Road NW, Suite 348 Albuquerque NM 87104

Mr. Kelvin L. Solco, Regional Administrator Federal Aviation Administration Southwest Region 10101 Hillwood Parkway Fort Worth TX 76177-1524

Ms. Pearl Armijo, District Conservationist Natural Resources Conservation Service Albuquerque Service Center 100 Sun Avenue NE, Suite 160 Albuquerque NM 87109 Mr. George Macdonnell, Chief Environmental Resources Section US Army Corps of Engineers 4101 Jefferson Plaza NE Albuquerque NM 87109

Ms. Anne L. Idsal, Regional Administrator US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 1445 Ross Avenue Fountain PI 12th Floor, Suite 1200 Dallas TX 75202-2733

Ms. Cheryl Prewitt, Regional Environmental Coordinator US Forest Service Southwestern Region 333 Broadway Boulevard SE Albuquerque NM 87102-3407

Ms. Susan Lacy DOE/NNSA Sandia Field Office PO Box 5400 Albuquerque NM 87187

Mr. John Weckerle DOE/NNSA Office of General Counsel PO Box 5400 Albuquerque NM 87187

The Honorable Martin Heinrich US Senate 400 Gold Avenue SW, Suite 1080 Albuquerque NM 87102

The Honorable Tom Udall US Senate 400 Gold Avenue SW, Suite 300 Albuquerque NM 87102

The Honorable Steve Pearce US House of Representatives 3445 Lambros Loop NE Los Lunas NM 87031 The Honorable Michelle Lujan Grisham US House of Representatives 400 Gold Avenue SW, Suite 680 Albuquerque NM 87102

The Honorable Ben R. Luján US House of Representatives 1611 Calle Lorca, Suite A Santa Fe NM 87505

Dr. Jeff Pappas, PhD State Historic Preservation Officer and Director New Mexico Historic Preservation Division Department of Cultural Affairs Bataan Memorial Building 407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236 Santa Fe NM 87501

Mr. Aubrey Dunn Commissioner of Public Lands New Mexico State Land Office 310 Old Santa Fe Trail Santa Fe NM 87501

Mr. Matt Wunder, Chief Conservation Services New Mexico Department of Game and Fish PO Box 25112 Santa Fe NM 87504

Mr. Clyde Ward, Assistant Commissioner for Commercial Resources New Mexico State Land Office PO Box 1148 Santa Fe NM 87504

Ms. Jennifer L. Hower Office of General Counsel & Environmental Policy New Mexico Environment Department 1190 St. Francis Drive, Suite N4050 Santa Fe NM 87505

Mr. Jeff M. Witte, Director/Secretary New Mexico Department of Agriculture 3190 S. Espina Las Cruces NM 88003 Mr. Ken McQueen, Cabinet Secretary New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department 1220 South St. Francis Drive Santa Fe NM 87505

Development Management/Department Director Bernalillo County Planning Section 111 Union Square SE, Suite 100 Albuquerque NM 87102

Department Director City of Albuquerque Planning Department PO Box 1293 Albuquerque NM 87103

Board of Directors Mid-Region Council of Governments 809 Copper Avenue NW Albuguergue NM 87102

Ms. Julie Morgas Baca, Bernalillo County Manager Bernalillo County Manager's Office One Civic Plaza NW, 10th Floor Albuquerque NM 87102

Ms. Alicia Manzano Interim Director of Communications City of Albuquerque Office of the Mayor PO Box 1293 Albuquerque NM 87103

Bernalillo County Board of Commissioners One Civic Plaza NW, 10th Floor Albuquerque NM 87102

Albuquerque City Councilmembers One Civic Plaza NW, 9th Floor, Suite 9087 Albuquerque NM 87102

Mr. Jerry Lovato, Executive Engineer Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority 2600 Prospect Avenue NE Albuquerque NM 87107

## Example Scoping Letter



## DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE 377TH AIR BASE WING (AFGSC)

Colonel Richard W. Gibbs, USAF Commander 377th Air Base Wing 2000 Wyoming Blvd SE Kirtland Air Force Base NM 87117

Ms. Danita T. Burns, District Manager Bureau of Land Management New Mexico State Office Albuquerque District Office Pan American Building 100 Sun Avenue NE, Suite 330 Albuquerque NM 87109-4676

Dear Ms. Burns

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations, and the United States Air Force (USAF) NEPA regulations, the USAF is preparing a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) to evaluate the proposal to develop, upgrade, and maintain stormwater drainage systems and conduct arroyo repair and damage-avoiding measures at Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB). Stormwater drainage system activities would include developing stormwater systems where none exist, upgrading and repairing existing systems, and future maintenance. Development of new stormwater drainage systems and upgrade of existing systems would include: ditching/trenching, the installation of reinforced concrete pipe, vegetation, environmentally-friendly soil stabilizers, rip-rap, and gabion structures, and the construction of drop inlets, flow control structures, and retention structures. Arroyo repair activities could include restabilizing, excavating, filling, and lining arroyo banks, and constructing/repairing box culverts, bank protection, and grade control structures to assist in stabilizing the arroyo bed and banks.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to upgrade stormwater drainage systems on Kirtland AFB to meet current standards, reduce flooding and standing water issues, and address erosion and sedimentation issues that occur on the installation. The Proposed Action is needed because existing stormwater drainage facilities on Kirtland AFB have deteriorated to the point where extensive work is needed to reestablish an effective stormwater drainage system. Ditches, culverts, and pipes have sedimented and retention basins are eroded and sedimented. Standing stormwater created by clogged ditches and flat ground surfaces poses hazards to traffic and undermines roads, parking lots, and foundations. Outdoor storage areas require berms and retention structures to control stormwater runoff. Revegetation and other measures are needed to control discharges of suspended solids. Outlet structures are nonexistent, causing erosion of

arroyos during storms. Arroyo work is required to repair erosion damage and reduce the potential for additional damage in the future.

If you have additional information regarding impacts of the Proposed Action on the natural environment or other environmental aspects of which we are unaware, we would appreciate receiving such information for inclusion and consideration during the NEPA compliance process. A copy of the Final Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives for the PEA Addressing Upgrade of the Stormwater Drainage System at Kirtland AFB is available at *http://www.kirtland.af.mil* under the "Environment" button at the bottom of the webpage. We look forward to and welcome your participation in this process. Please respond within 30 days of receipt of this letter to ensure your concerns are adequately addressed in the PEA.

Please send your written responses to the NEPA Program Manager, 377 MSG/CEIEC, 2050 Wyoming Boulevard SE, Suite 116, Kirtland AFB, NM 87117 or via email to KirtlandNEPA@us.af.mil.

Sincerely

Richard W. DJ

RICHARD W. GIBBS, Colonel, USAF Commander

## Federal, State, and Local Agencies – Scoping Letter Responses

 

 From:
 377 MSG/CETE NEPA Environmental

 To:
 Bare, Michelle

 Subject:
 PW: DOPAA for the PEA Addressing Upgrade of the Stormwater Drainage System

 Date:
 Tuesday, May 8, 2018 8:03:04 AM

 Attachments:
 irrrage001.pnq image003.pnq image004.png

 From: Prewitt, Cheryl -FS <cprewitt@fs.fed.us>

 South Magday:
 May 7, 2018 1:00 PM

Sent: Monday, May 7, 2018 1:00 PM To: 377 MSG/CEIE NEPA Environmental <KirtlandNEPA@us.af.mil> Cc: Prewitt, CheryI -FS <cprewitt@fs.fed.us> Subject: [Non-DoD Source] DOPAA for the PEA Addressing Upgrade of the Stormwater Drainage System Dear Sir or Madam,

I reviewed the Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives for the Programmatic Environmental Assessment Addressing Upgrade of the Stormwater Drainage System at Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico.

The Forest Service has no concerns regarding the proposed actions at this time.

I look forward to reviewing the EA.

Thank you for including the Forest Service in your planning process.

Sincerely, Cheryl Prewitt

# 7

Cheryl Prewitt Regional Environmental Coordinator Forest Service Southwestern Region p: 505-842-3454 cprewitt@fs.fed.us 333 Broadway Blvd SE Albuquerque, NM 87102 www.fs.fed.us

Garing for the land and serving people

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GOVERNOR Susana Martinez



DIRECTORAND SECRETARY TO THE COMMISSION Alexandra Sandoval

DEPUTY DIRECTOR Donald L. Jaramillo

# STATE OF NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF GAME & FISH

One Wildlife Way, Santa Fe, NM 87507 Post Office Box 25112, Santa Fe, NM 87504 Tel: (505) 476-8000 | Fax: (505) 476-8123 For information call: (888) 248-6866

www.wildlife.state.nm.us

STATE GAME COMMISSION PAUL M. KIENZLE III Chairman Albuquerque

BILL MONTOYA Moe: Chairman Ato CRAIG PETERSON Farmington RALPH RAMOS Las Cruces BOB RICKLEFS Cimarron ELIZA BETH A. RYAN Rosuell THOMAS "DICK" SALOPEN Las Cruces

11 May 2018

NEPA Program Manager 377 MSG/CEIEC 2050 Wyoming Blvd SE Suite 118 Kirtland AFB, NM 87117

# RE: Kirtland Air Force Base Stormwater drainage and arroyo repair; NMDGF No. 18438

Dear NEPA Program Manager:

The Department of Game and Fish (Department) has reviewed your request for information regarding the above referenced project, and provides the following recommendations to minimize or eliminate impacts to wildlife.

Open trenches and ditches can trap small mammals, amphibians and reptiles, and can cause injury to large mammals. Periods of highest activity for many of these species include night time, summer months, and wet weather.

- Trench during the cooler months (October March).
- Trenching and back-filling should occur concurrently to minimize the amount of open trench at any given time. Avoid leaving trenches open overnight.
- Where trenches cannot be back-filled within 8 hours, construct escape ramps at the ends and at least every 300 feet or at close as 100 feet where endangered or threatened species are present. Escape ramps can be short lateral trenches, earthen ramps, or wooden planks sloping to the surface. The slope should be less than 45 degrees. Alternatively, open trenches can be covered with boards or other sturdy materials to exclude wildlife.
- Inspect trenches that have been left open at minimum of every 8 hours, and remove animals
  prior to back-filling, especially where threatened, endangered, or sensitive species occur.
  Release the animals at least 100 yards from the trench, unless it will be closed immediately
  after the inspection
- Divert water around construction site whenever possible.

MEMA Program Manager 14 May 1018 Page (2

- Preserve natural areas within the project site. Strive to maintain the natural drainage system
  of the site, including natural stream channels, wetlands, and floodplains. Design, construct,
  and maintain the site to protect or restore the natural hydrology.
- Following construction, disturbed areas should be re-vegetated using native species that
  approximate pre-disturbance plant community composition or native plant communities
  appropriate for the site. Short-term erosion control seed mixes are available for temporary
  control of surface erosion during project implementation; native mixes should be used for
  temporary as well as permanent erosion control. Native plants and materials should also be
  used for landscaping. All seed mixtures should be certified as weed-free. Contact the
  Department for a list of native plant materials vendors for New Mexico.
- Maintain a vegetated buffer zone along all watercourses and ephemeral arroyos to minimize erosion and sediment delivery.
- Use properly engineered drainage swales and other vegetated channel systems instead of storm sewers, lined channels, curbs, and gutters. Vegetated swales should be gently sloped (4:1) so that small wildlife is able to maneuver them.
- Efforts should be made during construction to minimize impacts on vegetative communities Existing mads and rights-of-way should be used for all transportation. Off-road driving should be avoided. Staging areas should be located in previously disturbed sites and kept as small as possible.

With implementation of these recommendations during construction, the Department believes that this project as proposed is unlikely to adversely affect wildlife or wildlife habitats.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed project. If you have any questions, please contact Malia Volke, Ph.D., Aquatic and Riparian Habitat Specialist, at malia.volke@state.nm.us or 505-476-8160.

Sincerely,

Malia

Malia Volke, Ph.D., Aquatic and Riparian Habitat Specialist Ecological and Environmental Planning Division

cc: USFWS NMES Field Office Chuck Schultz, NMDGF Northwest Regional Habitat Biologist



## STATE OF NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

Susana Martinez Governor BATAAN MEMORIAL BUILDING 407 GALISTEO STREET, SUITE 236 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501 PHONE (505) 827-6320 FAX (505) 827-6338

May 21, 2018

Colonel Richard W. Gibbs, USAF Commander 377<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing 2000 Wyoming Blvd SE Kirtland Air Force Base 87117

Re: Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) storm water drainage system upgrade Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) (HPD log 107738)

Dear Colonel Gibbs:

On behalf of the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer, (SHPO) want to thank you for notifying our office of the aforementioned undertaking, and an invitation to consult under Section 106 (aka Section 306108 Title 54 USC) of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). This letter provides SHPO comments for the undertaking and recommendations on how we may proceed with the Section 106 consultation.

I was unable to locate the PEA on Kirtland's website, but reviewed the undertaking's Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives (DOPAA). While the DOPAA provides a general overview of the undertaking, it does not provide enough information to assess the undertaking's effect to historic properties.

Our records show that most of KAFB has been surveyed to identify and evaluate historic properties. It is not clear, however, that KAFB has completed consultation on these properties' eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Once the undertaking's direct areas of potential effects (APE) are defined, it may be necessary to complete NRHP evaluations.

Section 106 consultation must be substantially complete before a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the environmental assessment. SHPO recommends that KAFB develop a programmatic agreement (PA) per 36 CFR 800.4.b.2 and 800.14, the implementing regulations for Section 106. The PA should be developed in consultation with the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation (ACHP), the SHPO, and other parties. The benefit of a PA is that it may define exemptions from Section 106 consultation as well as allow for phased identification and evaluation as APEs are defined and affects can be assessed. It may also define standard treatments that may be used to resolve adverse effects, if any, to historic properties. SHPO agrees that meetings to discuss the undertaking and the development of a PA will be productive. Please propose a range of times and dates that you or your representatives may be able to meet, and we will do our best to accommodate.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding these comments. I can be reached by telephone at (505) 827-4225 or by email at <u>bob.estes@state.nm.us</u>

Sincerely,

Bob Esto

Bob Estes Ph.D. HPD staff Archaeologist Log: 107738

CC: David H. Reynolds Kirtland AFB Cultural Resources and Natural Resources Program Manager 377 MSG/CEIEC 2050 Wyoming Blvd SE Building 20685 Room 119a Kirtland AFB, 87117-5663



SUSANA MARTINEZ Governor

JOHN A. SANCHEZ Lieutenant Governor

## State of New Mexico ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

## Office of the Secretary

Harold Runnels Building

1190 Saint Francis Drive, PO Box 5469

Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469 Telephone (505) 827-2855 Fax (505) 827-2836

www.env.mm.gov



BUTCH TONGATE Cabinet Secretary

> J. C. BORREGO Deputy Secretary

May 22, 2018

NEPA Program Manager 377 MSG/CEIEC 2050 Wyoming Blvd SE Suite 116 Kirtland AFB, NM 87117 By email to: KirtlandNEPA@us.af.mil

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) has reviewed the scoping letter for the proposed Kirtland Airforce Base Stormwater Drainage Updates and offers the following comments:

## NMED Drinking Water Bureau

New Mexico Environment Department Drinking Water Bureau (NMED DWB) does not anticipate any negative impact to public water supply wells resulting from implementation of this project. The Montessa Park Tanto Well and Kirtland Air Force Base Well #4 and Well #16 lie within 1,000 feet of the project area. The project may provide additional protection from surface runoff for these active public water supply wells.

## NMED Ground Water Quality Bureau

The project is not expected to have any adverse impacts on ground water quality in the area of the potential effect. However, implementation of the project may involve the use of heavy equipment thereby leading to a possibility of contaminant releases (e.g., fuel, hydraulic fluid, etc.) associated with equipment malfunctions. The GWQB advises all parties involved in the project to be aware of notification requirements for accidental discharges contained in 20.6.2.1203 NMAC. Compliance with the notification and response requirements will further ensure the protection of ground water quality in the vicinity of the project.

A copy of the Ground and Surface Water Protection Regulations, 20.6.2 NMAC, is available at <a href="http://164.64.110.239/nmac/parts/title20/20.006.0002.pdf">http://164.64.110.239/nmac/parts/title20/20.006.0002.pdf</a>.

## **NMED Petroleum Storage Tank Bureau Comments**

Staff have searched our databases for facilities and releases that may affect or be affected by KAFB's stormwater drainage upgrades. There may be additional facilities or releases that could affect or be affected by the project that we do not have records for or for which records are incomplete. Instructions for searching our online records are given at the end of these comments. If you have further questions, please call the Petroleum Storage Tank Bureau at 505-476-4397. As it is not clear where all stormwater drainage upgrades will occur from the information given, please evaluate whether these facilities will be affected by or affect your project.

Albuquerque Frequency Surveillence (sic) Unit, Bldg 20599, Wyoming and Pennsylvania Rds, Kirtland AFB, Facility 26437. According to PSTB records, there was one UST here that has been removed. This is a leaked tank site at which no further action is currently required.



Mesa FAB Bldg 858EF, 1515 Eubank SE, Albuquerque, Facility ID 30432. PSTB records show 24 above ground storage tanks, 13 of which have been removed or separated from this facility and made into their own facilities, 10 of which are exempt from regulation by PSTB, and one of which is currently in use. This is a leak site whose status is listed as Investigation, Federal Facility. Again, if you need more information, please contact the Petroleum Storage Tank Bureau.



Lightning Lab Bldg 888 2, 1515 Eubank Blvd SE, Albuquerque, Facility 54676. PSTB database shows one UST currently in use. Not listed as a LUST site.



Veterans Affairs Hospital, 1501 San Pedro Dr SE, Albuquerque, Facility ID 31480. PSTB tank database shows 18 USTs, 10 of which have been removed and 8 of which are currently in use. This facility has a record of two releases. No further action is required for either release currently.


Aircraft Service International, Inc, 3113 Yale Blvd SE, Albuquerque. PSTB databases show four USTs, all of which have been removed. This is a LUST site with two releases. No further action is currently required for either release.



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Albuquerque Sunport Jet A Fuel Farm, 2200 Sunport Blvd SE, Albuquerque, Facililty ID 54563. PSTB records show two USTs currently in use. Not listed as having any releases.



In addition, PSTB's tank database lists the following facilities. As it is not clear where these facilities are located or where all stormwater drainage upgrades will occur from the information given, please evaluate whether these facilities will be affected by or affect your project:

- Kirtland Air Force Base -No1032, Building 1032, Kirtland AFB, Facility 51863. Four above ground storage tanks currently in use, not listed as a LUST site.
- Kirtland Air Force Base 701, Building 702, Kirtland AFB, Facility Id 51862. One above ground storage tank currently in use is listed at this facility, not listed as a LUST site.
- Kirtland Air Force Base 20147, Building 20147, AAFEES East Express, Kirtland AFB, Facility 51865. Four ASTs listed, currently in use. Not listed as a LUST site.
- Kirtland Air Force Base 20359, Building 20359, Kirtland AFB., Facility 51866. Four ASTs listed, currently in use. Not listed as a LUST site.
- Kirtland Air Force Base 27500, Building 27500, Kirtland AFB, Facility 51867. One AST listed, currently in use. Not listed as a LUST site.
- Kirtland Air Force Base 381, Building 381, Kirtland AFB, Facility 51928. Two ASTs listed, currently in use. Not listed as a LUST site.
- Kirtland West Side Express Bldg 972, AAFEES West Express, 2090 Truman ST SE, Kirtland AFB. Two ASTs listed, currently in use. Not listed as a LUST site.
- Kirtland AFB Well #16, Bldg 25951, Randolph Ave & Ridgecrest Ave, Kirtland AFB. One AST listed, currently in use. Not listed as a LUST site.
- Kirtland AFB, DISA, Bldg #323, Carlisle Blvd SE & Hamilton, Kirtland AFB. One AST listed, currently in use. Not listed as a LUST site.

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# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Albuquerque District Office 100 Sun Ave., N.E. Pan American Bldg., Suite 330 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109 www.blm.gov/nm



In Reply Refer to: 1790 (A0100)

June 21, 2018

NEPA Program Manager 377 MSG/CEIE 2050 Wyoming Boulevard SE, Suite 116 Kirtland Air Force Base NM 87117

Attn: NEPA Program Manager

Dear Colonel Gibbs,

I received your letter regarding the Programmatic Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the proposal to develop, upgrade, and maintain stormwater drainage systems and conduct arroyo repair and damage-avoiding measures at Kirtland Air Force Base. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) does not have any comments at this time.

If you have, any questions please feel free to contact me at (505) 761-8951.

Sincerely, Danita Burns District Manager

### Endangered Species Act Section 7 Determination of No Effect



### DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE 377TH CIVIL ENGINEER DIVISION (AFGSC)

20 July 2018

DETERMINATION OF EFFECT FOR ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT REQUIREMENTS

FROM: 377 MSG/CEIEC 2050 Wyoming Blvd SE Kirtland AFB NM 87117

SUBJECT: Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7 Compliance for Stormwater Drainage Systems Maintenance and Arroyo Improvements on Kirtland Air Force Base

In accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB) has conducted an effect determination for the Stormwater Drainage Systems Maintenance and Arroyo Improvements on Kirtland Air Force Base project. All interrelated and interdependent actions were analyzed during the project review.

The 2018 United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) Official Species and Habitat List was received on 20 July 2018 (Consultation Code: 02ENNM00-2018-SLI-1108). The following table details the effect determination and rationale used for analysis of potential impacts to federally listed endangered species and critical habitat as a result of the proposed project.

Species/Critical Habitat	Effect Determination	Rationale
New Mexico Jumping Mouse Zapus hudsonius luteus	No Effect	Kirtland AFB conducted a New Mexico Jumping Mouse survey in 2016 and determined the species is not present nor is there suitable habitat within the proposed action area.
Mexican Spotted Owl Strix occidentalis lucida	No effect	The Mexican spotted owl may migrate through Kirtland AFB at certain times of the year; however, this species is not known to nest or utilize the proposed action area.
Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Empidonax traillii kucida	No effect	The southwestern willow flycatcher occupies the riparian area within the Rio Grande and its associated floodplain. These areas are not located within the proposed action area.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo Coccyzus americanus	No Effect	The yellow-billed cuckoo occupies riparian woodlands with cottonwoods. While this habitat occurs on Kirtland AFB in the proposed action area, on-going avian surveys have not identified this species on the installation.
Rio Grande Silvery Minnow Hybognathus amarus	No effect	Rio Grande silvery minnow is a riverine fish that prefers low- gradient creeks and small to large rivers with slow to moderate flow. It is only found within one reach of the Rio Grande. This reach is not located within the proposed action area.

Kirtland AFB has determined that the project will have no effect to federally listed endangered species or critical habitat. An updated species list from the USFWS is required within 90 days prior to initiation of any construction activities.

REYNOLDS.DAVID.HI Digitally signed by REYNOLDS.DAVID.HIL Digitally signed by REYNOLDS.DAVID.HILL1408909402 David H. Reynolds Natural Resources Program Manager

Attachment:

USFWS IPaC Official Species and Habitat List Consultation Code: 02ENNM00-2018-SLI-1108



# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office 2105 Osuna Road Ne Albuquerque, NM 87113-1001 Phone: (305) 346-2523 Fax: (305) 346-2542 http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/NewMexico/ http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/ES\_Lists\_Man2.html

In Reply Refer To: Consultation Code: 02ENNM00-2018-SLI-1108 Event Code: 02ENNM00-2018-E-02312 Project Name: Stormwater/Arroyo PEA July 20, 2018

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

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for your recent request for information on federally listed species and important wildlife habitats that may occur in your project area. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has responsibility for certain species of New Mexico wildlife under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 as amended (16 USC 1531 et seq.), the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) as amended (16 USC 701-715), and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) as amended (16 USC 668-668c). We are providing the following guidance to assist you in determining which federally imperiled species may or may not occur within your project area and to recommend some conservation measures that can be included in your project design.

### FEDERALLY-LISTED SPECIES AND DESIGNATED CRITICAL HABITAT

Attached is a list of endangered, threatened, and proposed species that may occur in your project area. Your project area may not necessarily include all or any of these species. Under the ESA, it is the responsibility of the Federal action agency or its designated representative to determine if a proposed action "may affect" endangered, threatened, or proposed species, or designated critical habitat, and if so, to consult with the Service further. Similarly, it is the responsibility of the Federal action agency or project proponent, not the Service, to make "no effect" determinations. If you determine that your proposed action will have "no effect" on threatened or endangered species or their respective critical habitat, you do not need to seek concurrence with the Service. Nevertheless, it is a violation of Federal law to harm or harass any federally-listed threatened or endangered fish or wildlife species without the appropriate permit. If you determine that your proposed action may affect federally-listed species, consultation with the Service will be necessary. Through the consultation process, we will analyze information contained in a biological assessment that you provide. If your proposed action is associated with Federal funding or permitting, consultation will occur with the Federal agency under section 7(a) (2) of the ESA. Otherwise, an incidental take permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA (also known as a habitat conservation plan) is necessary to harm or harass federally listed threatened or endangered fish or wildlife species. In either case, there is no mechanism for authorizing incidental take "after-the-fact." For more information regarding formal consultation and HCPs, please see the Service's Consultation Handbook and Habitat Conservation Plans at www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/index.html#consultations.

The scope of federally listed species compliance not only includes direct effects, but also any interrelated or interdependent project activities (e.g., equipment staging areas, offsite borrow material areas, or utility relocations) and any indirect or cumulative effects that may occur in the action area. The action area includes all areas to be affected, not merely the immediate area involved in the action. Large projects may have effects outside the immediate area to species not listed here that should be addressed. If your action area has suitable habitat for any of the attached species, we recommend that species-specific surveys be conducted during the flowering season for plants and at the appropriate time for wildlife to evaluate any possible project-related impacts.

### **Candidate Species and Other Sensitive Species**

A list of candidate and other sensitive species in your area is also attached. Candidate species and other sensitive species are species that have no legal protection under the ESA, although we recommend that candidate and other sensitive species be included in your surveys and considered for planning purposes. The Service monitors the status of these species. If significant declines occur, these species could potentially be listed. Therefore, actions that may contribute to their decline should be avoided.

Lists of sensitive species including State-listed endangered and threatened species are compiled by New Mexico state agencies. These lists, along with species information, can be found at the following websites:

Biota Information System of New Mexico (BISON-M): www.bison-m.org

New Mexico State Forestry. The New Mexico Endangered Plant Program: www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SFD/ForestMgt/Endangered.html

New Mexico Rare Plant Technical Council, New Mexico Rare Plants: nmrareplants.unm.edu

Natural Heritage New Mexico, online species database: nhnm.unm.edu

### WETLANDS AND FLOODPLAINS

Under Executive Orders 11988 and 11990, Federal agencies are required to minimize the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands and floodplains, and preserve and enhance their natural and beneficial values. These habitats should be conserved through avoidance, or mitigated to ensure that there would be no net loss of wetlands function and value.

We encourage you to use the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps in conjunction with ground-truthing to identify wetlands occurring in your project area. The Service's NWI program website, www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html integrates digital map data with other resource information. We also recommend you contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for permitting requirements under section 404 of the Clean Water Act if your proposed action could impact floodplains or wetlands.

### MIGRATORY BIRDS

The MBTA prohibits the taking of migratory birds, nests, and eggs, except as permitted by the Service's Migratory Bird Office. To minimize the likelihood of adverse impacts to migratory birds, we recommend construction activities occur outside the general bird nesting season from March through August, or that areas proposed for construction during the nesting season be surveyed, and when occupied, avoided until the young have fledged.

We recommend review of Birds of Conservation Concern at website www.fws.gov/ migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Management/BCC.html to fully evaluate the effects to the birds at your site. This list identifies birds that are potentially threatened by disturbance and construction.

### BALD AND GOLDEN EAGLES

The bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) was delisted under the ESA on August 9, 2007. Both the bald eagle and golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) are still protected under the MBTA and BGEPA. The BGEPA affords both eagles protection in addition to that provided by the MBTA, in particular, by making it unlawful to "disturb" eagles. Under the BGEPA, the Service may issue limited permits to incidentally "take" eagles (e.g., injury, interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior nest abandonment). For information on bald and golden eagle management guidelines, we recommend you review information provided at www.fws.gov/midwest/eagle/guidelines/bgepa.html.

On our web site www.fws.gov/southwest/es/NewMexico/SBC\_intro.cfm, we have included conservation measures that can minimize impacts to federally listed and other sensitive species. These include measures for communication towers, power line safety for raptors, road and highway improvements, spring developments and livestock watering facilities, wastewater facilities, and trenching operations.

We also suggest you contact the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, and the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department, Forestry Division for information regarding State fish, wildlife, and plants.

07/20/2018

Thank you for your concern for endangered and threatened species and New Mexico's wildlife habitats. We appreciate your efforts to identify and avoid impacts to listed and sensitive species in your project area. For further consultation on your proposed activity, please call 505-346-2525 or email nmesfo@fws.gov and reference your Service Consultation Tracking Number.

Attachment(s):

· Official Species List

07/20/2018

# **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:

New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office 2105 Osuna Road Ne Albuquerque, NM 87113-1001 (505) 346-2525 Event Code: 02ENNM00-2018-E-02312

07/20/2018

# **Project Summary**

Consultation Code:	02ENNM00-2018-SLI-1108
Event Code:	02ENNM00-2018-E-02312
Project Name:	Stormwater/Arroyo PEA
Project Type:	LAND - DRAINAGE
Project Description:	The USAF is proposing to deve

scription: The USAF is proposing to develop, upgrade, and maintain stormwater drainage systems and conduct arroyo repair and damage-avoiding measures at Kirtland AFB. Stormwater drainage system activities would include developing stormwater systems where none exist, upgrading and repairing existing systems, and future maintenance. These activities could include excavating existing retention basins and culverts/gullies; constructing berms; constructing and repairing gutters, curbs, and other drainage infrastructure; and clearing drainage pipes. Arroyo repair activities could include restabilizing, excavating, filling, and lining arroyo banks and constructing and repairing box culverts, bank protection, and grade control structures to assist in stabilizing the arroyo bed.

### Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <u>https://www.google.com/maps/place/35.00725527083509N106.46808812118992W</u>



Counties: Bernalillo, NM

Event Code: 02ENNM00-2018-E-02312

07/20/2018

# **Endangered Species Act Species**

There is a total of 5 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<sup>1</sup>, 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.

 <u>NOAA Fisheries</u>, 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
New Mexico Meadow Jumping Mouse Zapus hudsonius luteus There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7965	Endangered
Birds	
NAME	STATUS
Mexican Spotted Owl Strix occidentalis Incida There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8196</u>	Threatened
Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Empidonax traillil extimus There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6749</u>	Endangered
Yellow-billed Cuckoo Coccyzus americanus Population: Western U.S. DPS There is <b>proposed</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3911</u>	Threatened

Event Code: 02ENNM00-2018-E-02312

# 07/20/2018

### Fishes

NAME	STATUS
Rio Grande Silvery Minnow Hybognathus amarus Population: Wherever found, except where listed as an experimental population There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1391</u>	Endangered
Critical habitats	

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION. 4

### Native American Tribes – Scoping Letters

Governor Kurt Riley Pueblo of Acoma PO Box 309 Acoma Pueblo NM 87034

Governor Dwayne Herrera Pueblo of Cochiti PO Box 70 Cochiti Pueblo NM 87072

Chairman Timothy L. Nuvangyaoma Hopi Tribal Council PO Box 123 Kykotsmovi AZ 86039

Governor J. Robert Benavides Pueblo of Isleta PO Box 1270 Isleta NM 87022

Governor Paul S. Chinana Pueblo of Jemez PO Box 100 Jemez Pueblo NM 87024

President Levi Pesata Jicarilla Apache Nation PO Box 507 Dulce NM 87528

Governor Virgil A. Siow Pueblo of Laguna PO Box 194 Laguna NM 87026

President Arthur "Butch" Blazer Mescalero Apache Tribe PO Box 227 Mescalero NM 88340

Governor Phillip A. Perez Pueblo of Nambe Route 1 Box 117-BB Santa Fe NM 87506

President Russell Begaye Navajo Nation PO Box 7440 Window Rock AZ 86515 Governor Peter Garcia, Jr. Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo PO Box 1099 San Juan Pueblo NM 87566

Governor Craig Quanchello Pueblo of Picuris PO Box 127 Peñasco NM 87553

Governor Joseph M. Talachy Pueblo of Pojoaque 78 Cities of Gold Santa Fe NM 87506

Governor Richard Bernal Pueblo of Sandia 481 Sandia Loop Bernalillo NM 87004

Governor Anthony Ortiz Pueblo of San Felipe PO Box 4339 San Felipe Pueblo NM 87001

Governor Terrence Garcia Pueblo of San Ildefonso 02 Tunyo Po Santa Fe NM 87506

Governor Glenn Tenorio Pueblo of Santa Ana 2 Dove Road Santa Ana Pueblo NM 87004

Governor J. Michael Chavarria Pueblo of Santa Clara PO Box 580 Española NM 87532

Governor Thomas Moquino, Jr. Pueblo of Santo Domingo PO Box 99 Santo Domingo Pueblo NM 87052

Governor Gilbert Suazo, Sr. Pueblo of Taos PO Box 1846 Taos NM 87571 Governor Frederick Vigil Pueblo of Tesuque Route 42 Box 360-T Santa Fe NM 87506

Chairman Ronnie Lupe White Mountain Apache Tribe PO Box 700 Whiteriver AZ 85941

Governor Carlos Hisa Ysleta del Sur Pueblo 117 S Old Pueblo Road PO Box 17579-Ysleta Station El Paso TX 79907

Governor Anthony Delgarito Pueblo of Zia 135 Capitol Square Drive Zia Pueblo NM 87053-6013 Governor Val R. Panteah, Sr. Pueblo of Zuni PO Box 339 Zuni NM 87327

Chairman Jeff Haozous Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma Route 2, Box 121 Apache OK 73006

Chairman Harold Cuthair Ute Mountain Ute Tribe PO Box JJ Towaoc CO 81334-0248

### Example Tribal Scoping Letter



### DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE 377TH AIR BASE WING (AFGSC)

Colonel Richard W. Gibbs, USAF Commander 377th Air Base Wing 2000 Wyoming Blvd SE Kirtland Air Force Base NM 87117

Governor Carlos Hisa Ysleta del Sur Pueblo 117 S Old Pueblo Road PO Box 17579-Ysleta Station El Paso TX 79907

Dear Governor Hisa

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations, and the United States Air Force (USAF) NEPA regulations, the USAF is preparing a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) to evaluate the proposal to develop, upgrade, and maintain stormwater drainage systems and conduct arroyo repair and damage-avoiding measures at Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB). Stormwater drainage system activities would include developing stormwater systems where none exist, upgrading and repairing existing systems, and future maintenance. Development of new stormwater drainage systems and upgrade of existing systems would include: ditching/trenching, the installation of reinforced concrete pipe, vegetation, environmentally-friendly soil stabilizers, rip-rap, and gabion structures, and the construction of drop inlets, flow control structures, and retention structures. Arroyo repair activities could include restabilizing, excavating, filling, and lining arroyo banks, and constructing/repairing box culverts, bank protection, and grade control structures to assist in stabilizing the arroyo bed and banks.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to upgrade stormwater drainage systems on Kirtland AFB to meet current standards, reduce flooding and standing water issues, and address erosion and sedimentation issues that occur on the installation. The Proposed Action is needed because existing stormwater drainage facilities on Kirtland AFB have deteriorated to the point where extensive work is needed to reestablish an effective stormwater drainage system. Ditches, culverts, and pipes have sedimented and retention basins are eroded and sedimented. Standing stormwater created by clogged ditches and flat ground surfaces poses hazards to traffic and undermines roads, parking lots, and foundations. Outdoor storage areas require berms and retention structures to control stormwater runoff. Revegetation and other measures are needed to control discharges of suspended solids. Outlet structures are nonexistent, causing erosion of arroyos during storms. Arroyo work is required to repair erosion damage and reduce the potential for additional damage in the future.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800) and Executive Order 13175, *Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments*, the USAF would like to initiate government-to-government consultation to allow you or your designee the opportunity to identify any comments, concerns, and suggestions relevant to the NEPA compliance process concerning the Proposed Action. A copy of the Final Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives for the PEA Addressing Upgrade of the Stormwater Drainage System at Kirtland AFB is available at *http://www.kirtland.af.mil* under the "Environment" button at the bottom of the webpage. As we move forward through this process, we welcome your participation and input.

Please contact my office at (505) 846-7377 if you would like to meet to discuss the proposed project or proceed with the Section 106 consultation.

Sincerely

ichard W

RÍCHARD W. GIBBS, Colonel, USAF Commander

### Native American Tribes – Scoping Response Letters

From:	GARCIA, MARTHA E CIV USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIE
To:	Danny D. Naranio
Cc:	CLARK, MELISSA B GS-13 USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIE; REYNOLDS, DAVID H GS-12 USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIEC
Subject:	RE: Upgrade of the Storm water Drainage System at KAFB consultation
Date:	Friday, May 11, 2018 11:22:22 AM
Attachments:	Final DOPAA KAFB Upgrade to Storm Drainage Systems Reduced.pdf

Good morning Danny,

I believe we met when Kirtland AFB came up to discuss the Military Training PEA activities back in 2016. Hope you have been well.

I am attaching the following document on this action: the Final DOPAA.

As soon as we get a Draft PEA to review, I will make sure you receive a copy to review as well.

I look forward to working with you again.

V/R

Martha E. Garcia

NEPA Program Manager

377 MSG/CEIEC

2050 Wyoming Boulevard, SE

Building 20685, Suite 116a

Kirtland AFB, NM 87117

Phone: 505-846-6446

DSN: 246-6446

Email: martha.garcia.3@us.af.mil

From: Danny D. Naranjo <ddnaranjo@santaclarapueblo.org> Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 10:19 AM To: 377 MSG/CEIE NEPA Environmental <KirtlandNEPA@us.af.mil> Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Upgrade of the Storm water Drainage System at KAFB consultation

Good morning, we have received a letter for consultation on the above stated project and we have concerns with the project and would like to be a consulting party. If you can send me any other information on the project for review I would greatly appreciate it thank you.

Danny Naranjo Land and Cultural Resources Technician ddnaranjo@santaclarapueblo.org (505)692-6285 Ext.#1234

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 From:
 GARCIA, MARTHA E CIV USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIE

 To:
 Bare, Michelle

 Subject:
 FW: Upgrade of the Storm water Drainage System at KAFB consultation

 Date:
 Tuesday, June 5, 2018 1:59:20 PM

From: GARCIA, MARTHA E CIV USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIE Sent: Tuesday, June 5, 2018 1:39 PM To: 'Danny D. Naranjo' <ddnaranjo@santaclarapueblo.org>

Cc: REYNOLDS, DAVID H GS-12 USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIEC <david.reynolds.37@us.af.mil> Subject: RE: Upgrade of the Storm water Drainage System at KAFB consultation

Hi Danny,

You are correct. DOPAAs typically don't contain much specific information on the individual resource areas, that information will come in the body of the EA when we actually start analyzing impacts to the various resource areas.

Right now this is being written as a programmatic EA, which means we don't have specific actions, or locations for those actions, determined. When we do these, we typically look at possible impacts to resource areas from a 30,000 foot level.

I believe it is our intention to put a requirement in the Cultural Resource Section that states as specific projects are developed in the future, Section 106 consultations will be required on a projectby-project basis.

When the next version of the document is prepared, I will forward it to you, so you can see how we are handling Cultural Resources from a programmatic level.

Let Dave or I know if you have any other concerns at this time.

V/R

Martha E. Garcia

NEPA Program Manager

377 MSG/CEIEC

2050 Wyoming Boulevard, SE

Building 20685, Suite 116a

Kirtland AFB, NM 87117

Phone: 505-846-6446

DSN: 246-6446

Email: martha.garcia.3@us.af.mil

From: Danny D. Naranjo <<u>ddnaranjo@santaclarapueblo.org</u>> Sent: Wednesday, May 30, 2018 11:39 AM To: GARCIA, MARTHA E CIV USAF AFGSC 377 MSG/CEIE <<u>martha.garcia.3@us.af.mil</u>> Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Upgrade of the Storm water Drainage System at KAFB consultation

Good Morning after reviewing the document this was little mention of cultural / historic resources within the project area. Has a class III resources survey taken place in the proposed areas? If so we would like to request a copy of the report to help with our consultation efforts. We would like to know if any cultural resources will be effected during the project, and what is being done to protect these resources? Any other information you can provide me regarding this project and cultural resources in the area will be greatly appreciated. Thank you in advanced.

- Danny Naranjo

## Federal, State, and Local Agencies – Public Notice Letters

Ms. Amy Leuders Southwest Regional Director US Fish & Wildlife Service PO Box 1306 Albuquerque NM 87103-1306

Ms. Priscilla J. Avila Acting Regional Director and Regional Environmental Specialist Bureau of Indian Affairs Southwest Regional Office 1001 Indian School Road NW Albuquerque NM 87104

Ms. Danita Burns, District Manager Bureau of Land Management New Mexico State Office Albuquerque District Office 100 Sun Avenue NE, Suite 330 Pan American Building Albuquerque NM 87109-4676

Ms. Jennifer L. Faler, Area Manager Bureau of Reclamation Albuquerque Area Office 555 Broadway NE, Suite 100 Albuquerque NM 87102-2352

Mr. Stephen Spencer Regional Environmental Officer US Department of Interior Office of Environmental Policy & Compliance - Albuquerque Region 1001 Indian School Road NW, Suite 348 Albuquerque NM 87104

Mr. Kelvin L. Solco, Regional Administrator Federal Aviation Administration Southwest Region 10101 Hillwood Parkway Fort Worth TX 76177-1524

Ms. Pearl Armijo, District Conservationist Natural Resources Conservation Service Albuquerque Service Center 100 Sun Avenue NE, Suite 160 Albuquerque NM 87109 Mr. George Macdonnell, Chief Environmental Resources Section US Army Corps of Engineers 4101 Jefferson Plaza NE Albuquerque NM 87109

Ms. Anne L. Idsal, Regional Administrator US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 1445 Ross Avenue Fountain PI 12th Floor, Suite 1200 Dallas TX 75202-2733

Ms. Cheryl Prewitt, Regional Environmental Coordinator US Forest Service Southwestern Region 333 Broadway Boulevard SE Albuquerque NM 87102-3407

Ms. Susan Lacy DOE/NNSA Sandia Field Office PO Box 5400 Albuquerque NM 87187

Mr. John Weckerle DOE/NNSA Office of General Counsel PO Box 5400 Albuquerque NM 87187

The Honorable Martin Heinrich US Senate 400 Gold Avenue SW, Suite 1080 Albuquerque NM 87102

The Honorable Tom Udall US Senate 400 Gold Avenue SW, Suite 300 Albuquerque NM 87102

The Honorable Xochiti Torres Small US House of Representatives PO Box 2250 Las Cruces NM 88004 The Honorable Debra Haaland US House of Representatives PO Box 25443 Albuquerque NM 87125

The Honorable Ben R. Luján US House of Representatives 1611 Calle Lorca, Suite A Santa Fe NM 87505

Dr. Jeff Pappas, PhD State Historic Preservation Officer and Director New Mexico Historic Preservation Division Department of Cultural Affairs Bataan Memorial Building 407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236 Santa Fe NM 87501

Ms. Stephanie Garcia Richard Commissioner of Public Lands New Mexico State Land Office 310 Old Santa Fe Trail Santa Fe NM 87501

Mr. Matt Wunder, Chief Conservation Services New Mexico Department of Game and Fish PO Box 25112 Santa Fe NM 87504

Mr. Clyde Ward, Assistant Commissioner for Commercial Resources New Mexico State Land Office PO Box 1148 Santa Fe NM 87504

Ms. Jennifer L. Hower Office of General Counsel & Environmental Policy New Mexico Environment Department 1190 St. Francis Drive, Suite N4050 Santa Fe NM 87505

Mr. Jeff M. Witte, Director/Secretary New Mexico Department of Agriculture 3190 S. Espina Las Cruces NM 88003 Mr. Ken McQueen, Cabinet Secretary New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department 1220 South St. Francis Drive Santa Fe NM 87505

Development Management/Department Director Bernalillo County Planning Section 111 Union Square SE, Suite 100 Albuquerque NM 87102

Department Director City of Albuquerque Planning Department PO Box 1293 Albuquerque NM 87103

Board of Directors Mid-Region Council of Governments 809 Copper Avenue NW Albuquerque NM 87102

Ms. Julie Morgas Baca, Bernalillo County Manager Bernalillo County Manager's Office One Civic Plaza NW, 10th Floor Albuquerque NM 87102

Ms. Alicia Manzano Director of Communications City of Albuquerque Office of the Mayor PO Box 1293 Albuquerque NM 87103

Bernalillo County Board of Commissioners One Civic Plaza NW, 10th Floor Albuquerque NM 87102

Albuquerque City Councilmembers One Civic Plaza NW, 9th Floor, Suite 9087 Albuquerque NM 87102

Mr. Jerry Lovato, Executive Engineer Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority 2600 Prospect Avenue NE Albuquerque NM 87107

### Example Public Notice Letter



### DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE 377TH AIR BASE WING (AFGSC)

Colonel Richard W. Gibbs, USAF Commander 377th Air Base Wing 2000 Wyoming Blvd SE Kirtland Air Force Base NM 87117

Ms. Danita T. Burns, District Manager Bureau of Land Management New Mexico State Office Albuquerque District Office Pan American Building 100 Sun Avenue NE, Suite 330 Albuquerque NM 87109-4676

Dear Ms. Burns

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations, and the United States Air Force (USAF) NEPA regulations, the USAF has prepared a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) to evaluate the proposal to develop, upgrade, and maintain stormwater drainage systems and conduct arroyo repair and erosion control measures on USAF controlled lands at Kirtland AFB. Stormwater drainage system activities would include developing stormwater systems where none exist, upgrading and repairing existing systems, and future maintenance. Project activities could include excavating existing retention basins and culverts/gullies; constructing berms; constructing and repairing gutters, curbs, or other drainage infrastructure; and any required repair, maintenance, or cleaning of the stormwater pipe network. Arroyo repair and erosion control activities could include restabilizing, excavating, filling, and lining arroyo banks, and constructing and repairing bridge supports, box culverts, bank protection, grade control and energy dissipation structures, stilling basins, and other structures to assist in stabilizing the arroyo integrity and grades.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to meet current stormwater drainage system standards, reduce flooding and standing water issues, and address erosion and sedimentation transfer that occurs across the installation. The Proposed Action is needed because existing stormwater drainage facilities on Kirtland AFB have deteriorated and clogged to the point where extensive work is needed to reestablish and maintain an effective stormwater drainage system. Ditches, culverts, pipes, and retention basins annually experience sediment build-up and substantial erosion due to monsoon storm events. The Proposed Action would reduce the velocity and energy of stormwater flows, which in turn would reduce the detrimental effects of erosion and sedimentation into surface waters.

In accordance with Executive Order (EO) 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs, as amended, by EO 12416, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs, I am requesting your participation in the NEPA document review and comment process. As required by EO 11988, Floodplain Management, and Air Force Instruction 32-7064, Integrated Natural Resources Management, early public notification for potential floodplain impacts was provided in the Albuquerque Journal on Monday, 23 July 2018. Copies of the Draft PEA and the proposed Finding of No Significant Impact/Finding of No Practicable Alternative (FONSI/FONPA) are available at http://www.kirtland.af.mil under the "Environment" button at the bottom of the webpage. If, after review of the Draft PEA and proposed FONSI/FONPA, you have additional information regarding impacts of the Proposed Action on the natural environment or other environmental aspects of which we are unaware, we would appreciate receiving such information for inclusion and consideration during the NEPA process. Please respond within 30 days of receipt of this letter to ensure your concerns are adequately addressed in the PEA.

Please send your written responses to the NEPA Program Manager, 377 MSG/CEIEC, 2050 Wyoming Boulevard SE, Suite 116, Kirtland AFB NM 87117, or via email to *KirtlandNEPA@us.af.mil.* 

Sincerely

RICHARD W. GIBBS, Colonel, USAF Commander

### Example Section 7 Letter – Public Notice Period



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE 377TH AIR BASE WING (AFGSC)

Colonel Richard W. Gibbs, USAF Commander 377th Air Base Wing 2000 Wyoming Boulevard SE Kirtland Air Force Base NM 87117

Ms. Amy Leuders, Regional Director US Fish & Wildlife Service Southwest Regional Office PO Box 1306 Albuquerque NM 87103-1306

Dear Ms. Leuders

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations, and the United States Air Force (USAF) NEPA regulations, the USAF has prepared a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) to evaluate the proposal to develop, upgrade, and maintain stormwater drainage systems and conduct arroyo repair and erosion control measures on USAF controlled lands at Kirtland AFB. Stormwater drainage system activities would include developing stormwater systems where none exist, upgrading and repairing existing systems, and future maintenance. Project activities could include excavating existing retention basins and culverts/gullies; constructing berms; constructing and repairing gutters, curbs, or other drainage infrastructure; and any required repair, maintenance, or cleaning of the stormwater pipe network. Arroyo repair and erosion control activities could include restabilizing, excavating, filling, and lining arroyo banks, and constructing and repairing bridge supports, box culverts, bank protection, grade control and energy dissipation structures, stilling basins, and other structures to assist in stabilizing the arroyo integrity and grades.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to meet current stormwater drainage system standards, reduce flooding and standing water issues, and address erosion and sedimentation transfer that occurs across the installation. The Proposed Action is needed because existing stormwater drainage facilities on Kirtland AFB have deteriorated and clogged to the point where extensive work is needed to reestablish and maintain an effective stormwater drainage system. Ditches, culverts, pipes, and retention basins annually experience sediment build-up and substantial erosion due to monsoon storm events. The Proposed Action would reduce the velocity and energy of stormwater flows, which in turn would reduce the detrimental effects of erosion and sedimentation into surface waters.

In accordance with Executive Order (EO) 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs, as amended by EO 12416, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs, I am requesting your participation in the NEPA document review and comment process. As required

by EO 11988, *Floodplain Management*, and Air Force Instruction 32-7064, *Integrated Natural Resources Management*, early public notification for potential floodplain impacts was provided in the Albuquerque Journal on Monday, 23 July 2018. Copies of the Draft PEA and the proposed Finding of No Significant Impact/Finding of No Practicable Alternative (FONSI/FONPA) are available at *http://www.kirtland.af.mil* under the "Environment" button at the bottom of the webpage. If, after review of the Draft PEA and proposed FONSI/FONPA, you have additional information regarding impacts of the Proposed Action on the natural environment or other environmental aspects of which we are unaware, we would appreciate receiving such information for inclusion and consideration during the NEPA process. Please respond within 30 days of receipt of this letter to ensure your concerns are adequately addressed in the PEA.

Pursuant to Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), Kirtland AFB conducted an effect determination for this project. All interrelated and interdependent actions were analyzed during that review. The 2018 USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation Official Species and Habitat List was received on 20 July 2018 under Consultation Code 02ENNM00-2018-SLI-1108. It was determined that there are no federally listed threatened or endangered species or critical habitat and no state-listed threatened or endangered species occurring within the project area. However, to ensure no impact, an updated species list from the USFWS would be obtained within 90 days of the start of construction activities.

Please send your written responses to the NEPA Program Manager, 377 MSG/CEIEC, 2050 Wyoming Boulevard SE, Suite 116, Kirtland AFB NM 87117, or via email to *KirtlandNEPA@us.af.mil.* 

Sincerely

RICHARD W. GIBBS, Colonel, USAF Commander

### Example Section 106 Letter – Public Notice Period



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE 377TH AIR BASE WING (AFGSC)

Colonel Richard W. Gibbs, USAF Commander 377th Air Base Wing 2000 Wyoming Boulevard SE Kirtland Air Force Base NM 87117

Jeff Pappas, PhD State Historic Preservation Officer and Director New Mexico Historic Preservation Division Department of Cultural Affairs Bataan Memorial Building 407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236 Santa Fe NM 87501

Dear Dr. Pappas

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations, and the United States Air Force (USAF) NEPA regulations, the USAF has prepared a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) to evaluate the proposal to develop, upgrade, and maintain stormwater drainage systems and conduct arroyo repair and erosion control measures on USAF controlled lands at Kirtland AFB. Stormwater drainage system activities would include developing stormwater systems where none exist, upgrading and repairing existing systems, and future maintenance. Project activities could include excavating existing retention basins and culverts/gullies; constructing berms; constructing and repairing gutters, curbs, or other drainage infrastructure; and any required repair, maintenance, or cleaning of the stormwater pipe network. Arroyo repair and erosion control activities could include restabilizing, excavating, filling, and lining arroyo banks, and constructing and repairing bridge supports, box culverts, bank protection, grade control and energy dissipation structures, stilling basins, and other structures to assist in stabilizing the arroyo integrity and grades.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to meet current stormwater drainage system standards, reduce flooding and standing water issues, and address erosion and sedimentation transfer that occurs across the installation. The Proposed Action is needed because existing stormwater drainage facilities on Kirtland AFB have deteriorated and clogged to the point where extensive work is needed to reestablish and maintain an effective stormwater drainage system. Ditches, culverts, pipes, and retention basins annually experience sediment build-up and substantial erosion due to monsoon storm events. The Proposed Action would reduce the velocity and energy of stormwater flows, which in turn would reduce the detrimental effects of erosion and sedimentation into surface waters.

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (36 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 800), as amended, Kirtland AFB transmitted a consultation letter to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). The SHPO responded that once the Areas of Potential Effect (APEs) for specific projects are defined, it may be necessary to complete National Register of Historic Places consultation. The SHPO recommended that Section 106 consultation be substantially complete before preparing a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and further recommended the development of a programmatic agreement (PA) per 36 CFR 800.4.b.2 and 800.14 (HPD Log 107738). However, because specific projects have not yet been determined, the development of a PA is not feasible at this time. Because of the programmatic nature of the PEA, the APE is defined as the entire installation. No specific activities or locations have been determined at this time. As individual projects are developed, project-specific NEPA analysis would be conducted and Section 106 consultation would occur at that time.

Copies of the Draft PEA and the proposed FONSI/Finding of No Practicable Alternative (FONPA) are available at *http://www.kirtland.af.mil* under the "Environment" button at the bottom of the webpage. If, after review of the Draft PEA and proposed FONSI/FONPA, you have additional information regarding impacts of the Proposed Action on the natural environment or other environmental aspects of which we are unaware, we would appreciate receiving such information for inclusion and consideration during the NEPA process. Please respond within 30 days of receipt of this letter to ensure your concerns are adequately addressed in the PEA.

Please send your written responses to the NEPA Program Manager, 377 MSG/CEIEC, 2050 Wyoming Boulevard SE, Suite 116, Kirtland AFB NM 87117, or via email to *KirtlandNEPA@us.af.mil.* 

Sincerely

RICHARD W. GIBBS, Colonel, USAF Commander

### Native American Tribes – Public Notice Letters

Governor Kurt Riley Pueblo of Acoma PO Box 309 Acoma Pueblo NM 87034

Governor Dwayne Herrera Pueblo of Cochiti PO Box 70 Cochiti Pueblo NM 87072

Chairman Timothy L. Nuvangyaoma Hopi Tribal Council PO Box 123 Kykotsmovi AZ 86039

Governor J. Robert Benavides Pueblo of Isleta PO Box 1270 Isleta NM 87022

Governor Paul S. Chinana Pueblo of Jemez PO Box 100 Jemez Pueblo NM 87024

President Levi Pesata Jicarilla Apache Nation PO Box 507 Dulce NM 87528

Governor Virgil A. Siow Pueblo of Laguna PO Box 194 Laguna NM 87026

President Arthur "Butch" Blazer Mescalero Apache Tribe PO Box 227 Mescalero NM 88340

Governor Phillip A. Perez Pueblo of Nambe Route 1 Box 117-BB Santa Fe NM 87506

President Russell Begaye Navajo Nation PO Box 7440 Window Rock AZ 86515 Governor Peter Garcia, Jr. Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo PO Box 1099 San Juan Pueblo NM 87566

Governor Craig Quanchello Pueblo of Picuris PO Box 127 Peñasco NM 87553

Governor Joseph M. Talachy Pueblo of Pojoaque 78 Cities of Gold Santa Fe NM 87506

Governor Richard Bernal Pueblo of Sandia 481 Sandia Loop Bernalillo NM 87004

Governor Anthony Ortiz Pueblo of San Felipe PO Box 4339 San Felipe Pueblo NM 87001

Governor Terrence Garcia Pueblo of San Ildefonso 02 Tunyo Po Santa Fe NM 87506

Governor Glenn Tenorio Pueblo of Santa Ana 2 Dove Road Santa Ana Pueblo NM 87004

Governor J. Michael Chavarria Pueblo of Santa Clara PO Box 580 Española NM 87532

Governor Thomas Moquino, Jr. Pueblo of Santo Domingo PO Box 99 Santo Domingo Pueblo NM 87052

Governor Gilbert Suazo, Sr. Pueblo of Taos PO Box 1846 Taos NM 87571 Governor Frederick Vigil Pueblo of Tesuque Route 42 Box 360-T Santa Fe NM 87506

Chairman Ronnie Lupe White Mountain Apache Tribe PO Box 700 Whiteriver AZ 85941

Governor Carlos Hisa Ysleta del Sur Pueblo 117 S Old Pueblo Road PO Box 17579-Ysleta Station El Paso TX 79907

Governor Anthony Delgarito Pueblo of Zia 135 Capitol Square Drive Zia Pueblo NM 87053-6013 Governor Val R. Panteah, Sr. Pueblo of Zuni PO Box 339 Zuni NM 87327

Chairman Jeff Haozous Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma Route 2, Box 121 Apache OK 73006

Chairman Harold Cuthair Ute Mountain Ute Tribe PO Box JJ Towaoc CO 81334-0248

### Example Tribal Public Notice Letter



### DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE 377TH AIR BASE WING (AFGSC)

Colonel Richard W. Gibbs, USAF Commander 377th Air Base Wing 2000 Wyoming Boulevard SE Kirtland Air Force Base NM 87117

Governor Carlos Hisa Ysleta del Sur Pueblo 117 S Old Pueblo Road PO Box 17579-Ysleta Station El Paso TX 79907

Dear Governor Hisa

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations, and the United States Air Force (USAF) NEPA regulations, the USAF has prepared a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) to evaluate the proposal to develop, upgrade, and maintain stormwater drainage systems and conduct arroyo repair and erosion control measures on USAF controlled lands at Kirtland AFB. Stormwater drainage system activities would include developing stormwater systems where none exist, upgrading and repairing existing systems, and future maintenance. Project activities could include excavating existing retention basins and culverts/gullies; constructing berms; constructing and repairing gutters, curbs, or other drainage infrastructure; and any required repair, maintenance, or cleaning of the stormwater pipe network. Arroyo repair and erosion control activities could include restabilizing, excavating, filling, and lining arroyo banks, and constructing and repairing bridge supports, box culverts, bank protection, grade control and energy dissipation structures, stilling basins, and other structures to assist in stabilizing the arroyo integrity and grades.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to meet current stormwater drainage system standards, reduce flooding and standing water issues, and address erosion and sedimentation transfer that occurs across the installation. The Proposed Action is needed because existing stormwater drainage facilities on Kirtland AFB have deteriorated and clogged to the point where extensive work is needed to reestablish and maintain an effective stormwater drainage system. Ditches, culverts, pipes, and retention basins annually experience sediment build-up and substantial erosion due to monsoon storm events. The Proposed Action would reduce the velocity and energy of stormwater flows, which in turn would reduce the detrimental effects of erosion and sedimentation into surface waters.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800), the USAF would like to initiate government-to-government consultation to allow you or your designee the opportunity to identify any comments, concerns, and

suggestions relevant to the NEPA compliance process concerning the Proposed Action. Copies of the Draft PEA and proposed Finding of No Significant Impact/Finding of No Practicable Alternative are available at *http://www.kirtland.af.mil* under the "Environment" button at the bottom of the webpage. For technical information, please contact my NEPA Program Manager, Ms. Martha E. Garciá, directly at martha.garcia.3@us.af.mil or (505) 846-6446.

Please contact my office at (505) 846-7377 if you would like to meet to discuss the proposed project or proceed with the Section 106 consultation.

Sincerely

RICHARD W. GIBBS, Colonel, USAF Commander



# B

Air Quality Support Documentation



# AIR CONFORMITY APPLICABILITY MODEL REPORT RECORD OF CONFORMITY ANALYSIS (ROCA)

**1. General Information:** The Air Force's Air Conformity Applicability Model (ACAM) was used to perform an analysis to assess the potential air quality impacts associated with the action in accordance with the Air Force Instruction 32-7040, Air Quality Compliance And Resource Management; the Environmental Impact Analysis Process (EIAP, 32 CFR 989); and the General Conformity Rule (GCR, 40 CFR 93 Subpart B). This report provides a summary of the ACAM analysis.

a. Action Location: Base: KIRTLAND AFB County(s): Bernalillo Regulatory Area(s): Albuquerque, NM

**b. Action Title:** Programmatic Environmental Assessment Addressing Upgrade of the Stormwater Drainage System at Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB), New Mexico

### c. Project Number/s (if applicable):

### d. Projected Action Start Date: 1/2019

### e. Action Description:

**Stormwater Drainage Systems.** Development of new stormwater drainage systems and upgrade of existing systems would include ditching/trenching; installation of reinforced concrete pipe, vegetation, environmentally-friendly soil stabilizers, rip-rap, and gabion structures; and construction of drop inlets, flow control structures, and retention structures. Ditching/trenching would require use of a backhoe or trencher to excavate a linear trench to install a pipe or other infrastructure. Trench lining, using reinforcement technologies such as trench boxes, would stabilize the trench during excavation and installation of pipes and other infrastructure. Pipes would be settled in the trench and surrounded with bedding material. Reinforced concrete pipe would be installed to assist in channelizing and diverting water flow where necessary.

Culverts, fully enclosed structures that run underneath a road to allow water to flow from one side of the road to another, would be installed, which would require excavation of the road. In order to prevent erosion, vegetation would be planted, environmentally-friendly soil stabilizers would be applied, or rip-rap, consisting of loose stone, would be used to form a foundation for breakwater or other structures. Gabion structures, consisting of a wire mesh cage filled with cobble or small boulder material, could be used to dissipate energy from flowing water and provide bed protection or bank stabilization.

A drop inlet is an access point to underground storm drains. It is usually precast concrete with a grate between the gutter and the inlet to keep debris out of the storm sewer lines. Installation of drop inlets would accompany construction of gutters and require excavation and storm drains to be present. Flow control structures are designed to control stormwater runoff. These structures trap sediment, dissipate energy, and can be used to redirect water around problem areas. Retention structures are lined, excavated areas for water to collect when it drains. Outlet structures are usually constructed of concrete with metal grates that lead from detention and retention basins into the storm sewer or other destination. Together, these structures reduce the amount of sediment going to the storm sewer and help manage stormwater flow.

Maintenance activities would include cleaning, excavating, regrading, filling, and backfilling. Debris would be cleaned from existing stormwater drains and drainage infrastructure by snaking, water blasting, or using hand tools or other equipment. Excessive soil would be removed by excavating, and regrading would be conducted to change the elevation of an area to direct water flow and allow for better drainage away from structures. Filling consists of filling an area that has been impacted by erosion and backfilling consists of refilling an excavated area with the material that was taken out during excavation or with other material if specified. Excavating, regrading, filling, and backfilling would require the use of a backhoe and other heavy equipment.

**Arroyo Repair.** Arroyo repair activities could include restabilizing, excavating, filling, and lining arroyo banks and constructing and repairing bridge supports, box culverts, bank protection, and grade control structures to assist in stabilizing the arroyo bed and banks. Gabion structures and rip-rap could be used to dissipate energy from flowing water and as grade control structures to provide the arroyo bed and banks with stabilization and

# AIR CONFORMITY APPLICABILITY MODEL REPORT **RECORD OF CONFORMITY ANALYSIS (ROCA)**

protection. Box culverts, typically precast or cast in place concrete structures, could be constructed to protect the arroyo bed and banks.

Various portions of the stormwater drainage and arroyo systems on the installation are owned or maintained by either Kirtland AFB or AMAFCA. ABCWUA owns and maintains sanitary sewer lines on the installation, several of which traverse tributaries or are adjacent to the Tijeras Arroyo. The three organizations would continue to coordinate their activities in order to ensure no negative impacts would result to the other's activities or systems. It is assumed that up to 3 acres of land would typically be disturbed annually by activities associated with the Proposed Action; however, it is conservatively assumed that up to 10 acres of land could be disturbed annually.

### f. Point of Contact:

Name:	Timothy Didlake
Title:	Contractor
Organization:	HDR
Email:	timothy.didlake@hdrinc.com
Phone Number:	(484) 612-1124

2. Analysis: Total combined direct and indirect emissions associated with the action were estimated through ACAM on a calendar-year basis for the "worst-case" and "steady state" (net gain/loss upon action fully implemented) emissions. General Conformity under the Clean Air Act, Section 1.76 has been evaluated for the action described above according to the requirements of 40 CFR 93, Subpart B.

Based on the analysis, the requirements of this rule are:

\_ applicable \_X\_\_ not applicable

### **Conformity Analysis Summary:**

2019				
Pollutant	Action Emissions (ton/yr)	GENERAL CONFORMITY		
		Threshold (ton/yr)	Exceedance (Yes or No)	
Albuquerque, NM				
VOC	1.353			
NOx	8.522			
СО	7.954	100	No	
SOx	0.018			
$\mathbf{PM}^{10}$	56.201			
PM <sup>2.5</sup>	0.419			
Pb	0.000			
NH3	0.004			
CO2e	1705.0			

### 2020 - (Steady State)

Pollutant	Action Emissions (ton/yr)	GENERAL CONFORMITY	
		Threshold (ton/yr)	Exceedance (Yes or No)
Albuquerque, NM			
VOC	0.000		
NOx	0.000		
СО	0.000	100	No
SOx	0.000		
PM <sup>10</sup>	0.000		
PM <sup>2.5</sup>	0.000		
Pb	0.000		
NH3	0.000		
CO2e	0.0		

2010

# AIR CONFORMITY APPLICABILITY MODEL REPORT RECORD OF CONFORMITY ANALYSIS (ROCA)

None of estimated emissions associated with this action are above the conformity threshold values established at 40 CFR 93.153 (b); Therefore, the requirements of the General Conformity Rule are not applicable.

Jundly T. Cillille

Timothy Didlake, Contractor

25 July 2018

DATE

### **1. General Information**

### - Action Location

Base: KIRTLAND AFB County(s): Bernalillo Regulatory Area(s): Albuquerque, NM

- Action Title: Programmatic Environmental Assessment Addressing Upgrade of the Stormwater Drainage System at Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB), New Mexico
- Project Number/s (if applicable):
- Projected Action Start Date: 1/2019

### - Action Purpose and Need:

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to upgrade stormwater drainage systems on Kirtland AFB to meet current standards, reduce flooding and standing water issues, and address erosion and sedimentation issues that occur on the installation.

The Proposed Action is needed because existing stormwater drainage facilities on Kirtland AFB have deteriorated to the point where extensive work is needed to reestablish an effective stormwater drainage system. Ditches, culverts, and pipes have sedimented and retention basins are eroded and sedimented. Standing stormwater created by clogged ditches and flat ground surfaces poses hazards to traffic and undermines roads, parking lots, and foundations. Outdoor storage areas require berms and retention structures to control stormwater runoff. Revegetation and other measures are needed to control discharges of suspended solids. Outlet structures are nonexistent, causing erosion of arroyos during storms. Arroyo work is required to repair erosion damage and reduce the potential for additional damage in the future.

### - Action Description:

**Stormwater Drainage Systems.** Development of new stormwater drainage systems and upgrade of existing systems would include ditching/trenching; installation of reinforced concrete pipe, vegetation, environmentally-friendly soil stabilizers, rip-rap, and gabion structures; and construction of drop inlets, flow control structures, and retention structures. Ditching/trenching would require use of a backhoe or trencher to excavate a linear trench to install a pipe or other infrastructure. Trench lining, using reinforcement technologies such as trench boxes, would stabilize the trench during excavation and installation of pipes and other infrastructure. Pipes would be settled in the trench and surrounded with bedding material. Reinforced concrete pipe would be installed to assist in channelizing and diverting water flow where necessary.

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### - Point of Contact

Name:	Timothy Didlake
Title:	Contractor
Organization:	HDR
Email:	timothy.didlake@hdrinc.com
Phone Number:	(484) 612-1124

### - Activity List:

	Activity Type	Activity Title
2.	Construction/Demolition	All construction and demolition associated with the Proposed Action

## 2. Construction/Demolition

### 2.1 General Information & Timeline Assumptions

- Activity Location County: Bernalillo Regulatory Area(s): Albuquerque, NM
- Activity Title: All construction and demolition associated with the Proposed Action

### - Activity Description:

Assumptions:

Up to 10 acres of land would be disturbed annually by activities associated with the Proposed Action. 2019 has been used as an example year. Similar emissions would occur annually each following year. Site grading would occur over an area measuring 10 acres (435,600 ft<sup>2</sup>). Trenching would occur over an area measuring 2 feet wide and 3 miles long (31,680 ft<sup>2</sup>). Asphalt paving would occur over an area measuring 3 acre (130,680 ft<sup>2</sup>).

### - Activity Start Date

Start Month:	1
Start Month:	2019

### - Activity End Date

Indefinite:	False
End Month:	12
End Month:	2019

- Activity Emissions:						
Pollutant	Total Emissions (TONs)					
VOC	1.352704					
SO <sub>x</sub>	0.017614					
NO <sub>x</sub>	8.522086					
СО	7.953854					
PM <sup>10</sup>	56.200863					

Pollutant	<b>Total Emissions (TONs)</b>
PM <sup>2.5</sup>	0.418880
Pb	0.000000
NH <sub>3</sub>	0.003551
CO <sub>2</sub> e	1705.0

### 2.1 Site Grading Phase

### 2.1.1 Site Grading Phase Timeline Assumptions

- Phase Start Date	
Start Month:	1
Start Quarter:	1
Start Year:	2019

- Phase Duration Number of Month: 12 Number of Days: 0

### 2.1.2 Site Grading Phase Assumptions

- General Site Grading Information	
Area of Site to be Graded (ft <sup>2</sup> ):	435,600
Amount of Material to be Hauled On-Site (yd <sup>3</sup> ):	0
Amount of Material to be Hauled Off-Site (yd <sup>3</sup> ):	0
- Site Grading Default Settings	

- Site Grading Delault Settings	
<b>Default Settings Used:</b>	Yes
Average Day(s) worked per week:	5 (default)

### - Construction Exhaust (default)

Equipment Name	Number Of	Hours Per Day
	Equipment	
Excavators Composite	1	8
Graders Composite	1	8
Other Construction Equipment Composite	1	8
Rubber Tired Dozers Composite	1	8
Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes Composite	3	8

- Vehicle Exhaust

Average Hauling Truck Capacity (yd³):20 (default)Average Hauling Truck Round Trip Commute (mile):20 (default)

- Vehicle Exhaust Vehicle Mixture (%)									
	LDGV	LDGT	HDGV	LDDV	LDDT	HDDV	MC		
POVs	0	0	0	0	0	100.00	0		

### - Worker Trips

Average Worker Round Trip Commute (mile): 20 (default)

### - Worker Trips Vehicle Mixture (%)

	LDGV	LDGT	HDGV	LDDV	LDDT	HDDV	MC
POVs	50.00	50.00	0	0	0	0	0

### 2.1.3 Site Grading Phase Emission Factor(s)

### - Construction Exhaust Emission Factors (lb/hour) (default)

Excavators Composite											
	VOC	SOx	NOx	СО	PM <sup>10</sup>	PM <sup>2.5</sup>	CH4	CO <sub>2</sub> e			
Emission Factors	0.0786	0.0013	0.4574	0.5139	0.0214	0.0214	0.0070	119.75			
Graders Composite	Graders Composite										
	VOC	SOx	NOx	СО	PM <sup>10</sup>	PM <sup>2.5</sup>	CH4	CO <sub>2</sub> e			
Emission Factors	0.0982	0.0014	0.6490	0.5786	0.0316	0.0316	0.0088	132.96			
Other Construction I	Other Construction Equipment Composite										
	VOC	SOx	NOx	СО	PM <sup>10</sup>	PM <sup>2.5</sup>	CH4	CO <sub>2</sub> e			
Emission Factors	0.0595	0.0012	0.3971	0.3522	0.0158	0.0158	0.0053	122.63			
Rubber Tired Dozers	Composite	<b>)</b>									
	VOC	SOx	NOx	CO	PM <sup>10</sup>	PM <sup>2.5</sup>	CH <sub>4</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub> e			
Emission Factors	0.2226	0.0024	1.6948	0.8387	0.0682	0.0682	0.0200	239.58			
Tractors/Loaders/Ba	ckhoes Con	nposite									
	VOC	SOx	NOx	СО	PM <sup>10</sup>	PM <sup>2.5</sup>	CH <sub>4</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub> e			
Emission Factors	0.0471	0.0007	0.3018	0.3630	0.0159	0.0159	0.0042	66.904			

### - Vehicle Exhaust & Worker Trips Emission Factors (grams/mile)

	veniere Exhluder et vverier Trips Emission Fuerors (gruns, mile)									
	VOC	SOx	NO <sub>x</sub>	CO	PM <sup>10</sup>	PM <sup>2.5</sup>	Pb	NH <sub>3</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub> e	
LDGV	000.340	000.002	000.276	003.604	000.008	000.007		000.024	00328.206	
LDGT	000.416	000.003	000.480	005.057	000.010	000.009		000.025	00423.247	
HDGV	000.764	000.005	001.218	016.264	000.023	000.020		000.044	00760.998	
LDDV	000.119	000.003	000.146	002.473	000.004	000.004		000.008	00318.976	
LDDT	000.281	000.004	000.446	004.521	000.007	000.006		000.008	00458.185	
HDDV	000.618	000.013	006.194	002.048	000.195	000.179		000.030	01519.413	
MC	002.745	000.003	000.847	013.480	000.027	000.024		000.054	00396.763	

### 2.1.4 Site Grading Phase Formula(s)

### - Fugitive Dust Emissions per Phase

 $PM10_{FD} = (20 * ACRE * WD) / 2000$ 

PM10<sub>FD</sub>: Fugitive Dust PM 10 Emissions (TONs)
20: Conversion Factor Acre Day to pounds (20 lb/1 Acre Day)
ACRE: Total acres (acres)
WD: Number of Total Work Days (days)
2000: Conversion Factor pounds to tons

### - Construction Exhaust Emissions per Phase

 $CEE_{POL} = (NE * WD * H * EF_{POL})/2000$ 

CEE<sub>POL</sub>: Construction Exhaust Emissions (TONs)
NE: Number of Equipment
WD: Number of Total Work Days (days)
H: Hours Worked per Day (hours)
EF<sub>POL</sub>: Emission Factor for Pollutant (lb/hour)
2000: Conversion Factor pounds to tons

### - Vehicle Exhaust Emissions per Phase

 $VMT_{VE} = (HA_{OnSite} + HA_{OffSite}) * (1/HC) * HT$ 

 $\begin{array}{l} VMT_{VE}: \mbox{ Vehicle Exhaust Vehicle Miles Travel (miles)} \\ HA_{OnSite}: \mbox{ Amount of Material to be Hauled On-Site (yd^3)} \\ HA_{OnSite}: \mbox{ Amount of Material to be Hauled Off-Site (yd^3)} \\ HC: \mbox{ Average Hauling Truck Capacity (yd^3)} \\ (1 / HC): \mbox{ Conversion Factor cubic yards to trips (1 trip/HC yd^3)} \\ HT: \mbox{ Average Hauling Truck Round Trip Commute (mile/trip)} \end{array}$ 

 $V_{POL} = (VMT_{VE} * 0.002205 * EF_{POL} * VM) / 2000$ 

V<sub>POL</sub>: Vehicle Emissions (TONs)
VMT<sub>VE</sub>: Vehicle Exhaust Vehicle Miles Travel (miles)
0.002205: Conversion Factor grams to pounds
EF<sub>POL</sub>: Emission Factor for Pollutant (grams/mile)
VM: Vehicle Exhaust On Road Vehicle Mixture (%)
2000: Conversion Factor pounds to tons

### - Worker Trips Emissions per Phase

 $VMT_{WT} = WD * WT * 1.25 * NE$ 

VMT<sub>WT</sub>: Worker Trips Vehicle Miles Travel (miles)
WD: Number of Total Work Days (days)
WT: Average Worker Round Trip Commute (mile)
1.25: Conversion Factor Number of Construction Equipment to Number of Works
NE: Number of Construction Equipment

 $V_{POL} = (VMT_{WT} * 0.002205 * EF_{POL} * VM)/2000$ 

 $V_{POL}$ : Vehicle Emissions (TONs) VMT<sub>WT</sub>: Worker Trips Vehicle Miles Travel (miles) 0.002205: Conversion Factor grams to pounds EF<sub>POL</sub>: Emission Factor for Pollutant (grams/mile) VM: Worker Trips On Road Vehicle Mixture (%) 2000: Conversion Factor pounds to tons

### 2.2 Trenching/Excavating Phase

2.2.1 Trenching / Excavating Phase Timeline Assumptions

- Phase Start Date Start Month: 1 Start Quarter: 1 Start Year: 2019

Phase Duration
 Number of Month: 12
 Number of Days: 0

### 2.2.2 Trenching / Excavating Phase Assumptions

- General Trenching/Excavating Information
   Area of Site to be Trenched/Excavated (ft<sup>2</sup>): 31,680
   Amount of Material to be Hauled On-Site (yd<sup>3</sup>): 0
   Amount of Material to be Hauled Off-Site (yd<sup>3</sup>): 0
- Trenching Default Settings Default Settings Used: Yes Average Day(s) worked per week: 5 (default)

### - Construction Exhaust (default)

Equipment Name	Number Of	Hours Per Day
	Equipment	
Excavators Composite	2	8
Other General Industrial Equipmen Composite	1	8
Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes Composite	1	8

### - Vehicle Exhaust

Average Hauling Truck Capacity (yd<sup>3</sup>): 20 (default)

Average Hauling Truck Round Trip Commute (mile): 20 (default)

- Vehicle Exhaust Vehicle Mixture (%)

	LDGV	LDGT	HDGV	LDDV	LDDT	HDDV	MC
POVs	0	0	0	0	0	100.00	0

- Worker Trips

Average Worker Round Trip Commute (mile): 20 (default)

### - Worker Trips Vehicle Mixture (%)

	LDGV	LDGT	HDGV	LDDV	LDDT	HDDV	MC
POVs	50.00	50.00	0	0	0	0	0

### 2.2.3 Trenching / Excavating Phase Emission Factor(s)

### - Construction Exhaust Emission Factors (lb/hour) (default)

Excavators Composite											
	VOC	SOx	NOx	СО	PM <sup>10</sup>	PM <sup>2.5</sup>	CH <sub>4</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub> e			
Emission Factors	0.0786	0.0013	0.4574	0.5139	0.0214	0.0214	0.0070	119.75			
Graders Composite											
	VOC	SOx	NO <sub>x</sub>	СО	PM <sup>10</sup>	PM <sup>2.5</sup>	CH <sub>4</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub> e			
Emission Factors	0.0982	0.0014	0.6490	0.5786	0.0316	0.0316	0.0088	132.96			
Other Construction Equipment Composite											
	VOC	SOx	NOx	СО	PM <sup>10</sup>	PM <sup>2.5</sup>	CH <sub>4</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub> e			
Emission Factors	0.0595	0.0012	0.3971	0.3522	0.0158	0.0158	0.0053	122.63			
<b>Rubber Tired Dozers</b>	s Composite	•		•	•	•					
	VOC	SOx	NOx	СО	PM <sup>10</sup>	PM <sup>2.5</sup>	CH <sub>4</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub> e			
Emission Factors	0.2226	0.0024	1.6948	0.8387	0.0682	0.0682	0.0200	239.58			
Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes Composite											
	VOC	SOx	NO <sub>x</sub>	СО	PM <sup>10</sup>	PM <sup>2.5</sup>	CH <sub>4</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub> e			
Emission Factors	0.0471	0.0007	0.3018	0.3630	0.0159	0.0159	0.0042	66.904			

### - Vehicle Exhaust & Worker Trips Emission Factors (grams/mile)

	VOC	SO <sub>x</sub>	NO <sub>x</sub>	CO	PM <sup>10</sup>	PM <sup>2.5</sup>	Pb	$\mathbf{NH}_3$	CO <sub>2</sub> e
LDGV	000.340	000.002	000.276	003.604	000.008	000.007		000.024	00328.206
LDGT	000.416	000.003	000.480	005.057	000.010	000.009		000.025	00423.247
HDGV	000.764	000.005	001.218	016.264	000.023	000.020		000.044	00760.998
LDDV	000.119	000.003	000.146	002.473	000.004	000.004		000.008	00318.976
LDDT	000.281	000.004	000.446	004.521	000.007	000.006		000.008	00458.185
HDDV	000.618	000.013	006.194	002.048	000.195	000.179		000.030	01519.413
MC	002.745	000.003	000.847	013.480	000.027	000.024		000.054	00396.763

### 2.2.4 Trenching / Excavating Phase Formula(s)

- Fugitive Dust Emissions per Phase PM10<sub>FD</sub> = (20 \* ACRE \* WD)/2000

PM10<sub>FD</sub>: Fugitive Dust PM 10 Emissions (TONs)
20: Conversion Factor Acre Day to pounds (20 lb/1 Acre Day)
ACRE: Total acres (acres)
WD: Number of Total Work Days (days)
2000: Conversion Factor pounds to tons

### - Construction Exhaust Emissions per Phase

 $CEE_{POL} = (NE * WD * H * EF_{POL})/2000$ 

CEE<sub>POL</sub>: Construction Exhaust Emissions (TONs) NE: Number of Equipment WD: Number of Total Work Days (days) H: Hours Worked per Day (hours) EF<sub>POL</sub>: Emission Factor for Pollutant (lb/hour) 2000: Conversion Factor pounds to tons

### - Vehicle Exhaust Emissions per Phase

 $VMT_{VE} = (HA_{OnSite} + HA_{OffSite}) * (1 / HC) * HT$ 

 $\begin{array}{ll} VMT_{VE}: \mbox{ Vehicle Exhaust Vehicle Miles Travel (miles)} \\ HA_{OnSite}: \mbox{ Amount of Material to be Hauled On-Site (yd^3)} \\ HA_{OffSite}: \mbox{ Amount of Material to be Hauled Off-Site (yd^3)} \\ HC: \mbox{ Average Hauling Truck Capacity (yd^3)} \\ (1 / HC): \mbox{ Conversion Factor cubic yards to trips (1 trip/HC yd^3)} \\ HT: \mbox{ Average Hauling Truck Round Trip Commute (mile/trip)} \end{array}$ 

 $V_{POL} = (VMT_{VE} * 0.002205 * EF_{POL} * VM) / 2000$ 

 $V_{POL}$ : Vehicle Emissions (TONs) VMT<sub>VE</sub>: Vehicle Exhaust Vehicle Miles Travel (miles) 0.002205: Conversion Factor grams to pounds EF<sub>POL</sub>: Emission Factor for Pollutant (grams/mile) VM: Vehicle Exhaust On Road Vehicle Mixture (%) 2000: Conversion Factor pounds to tons

- Worker Trips Emissions per Phase

 $VMT_{WT} = WD * WT * 1.25 * NE$ 

VMT<sub>WT</sub>: Worker Trips Vehicle Miles Travel (miles)
WD: Number of Total Work Days (days)
WT: Average Worker Round Trip Commute (mile)
1.25: Conversion Factor Number of Construction Equipment to Number of Works
NE: Number of Construction Equipment

V<sub>POL</sub> = (VMT<sub>WT</sub> \* 0.002205 \* EF<sub>POL</sub> \* VM)/2000

 $V_{POL}$ : Vehicle Emissions (TONs) VMT<sub>VE</sub>: Worker Trips Vehicle Miles Travel (miles) 0.002205: Conversion Factor grams to pounds EF<sub>POL</sub>: Emission Factor for Pollutant (grams/mile) VM: Worker Trips On Road Vehicle Mixture (%) 2000: Conversion Factor pounds to tons

### 2.3 Paving Phase

### 2.3.1 Paving Phase Timeline Assumptions

- Phase Start Date

Start Month:	1
Start Quarter:	1
Start Year:	2019

Phase Duration
 Number of Month: 12
 Number of Days: 0

### 2.3.2 Paving Phase Assumptions

- General Paving Information
  - **Paving Area (ft<sup>2</sup>):** 130,680
- Paving Default Settings Default Settings Used: Yes Average Day(s) worked per week: 5 (default)

### - Construction Exhaust (default)

Equipment Name	Number Of	Hours Per Day
	Equipment	
Cement and Mortar Mixers Composite	4	6
Pavers Composite	1	7
Paving Equipment Composite	2	6
Rollers Composite	1	7
Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes Composite	1	7

### - Vehicle Exhaust

Average Hauling Truck Round Trip Commute (mile): 20 (default)

### - Vehicle Exhaust Vehicle Mixture (%)

	LDGV	LDGT	HDGV	LDDV	LDDT	HDDV	MC
POVs	0	0	0	0	0	100.00	0

### - Worker Trips

Average Worker Round Trip Commute (mile): 20 (default)

### - Worker Trips Vehicle Mixture (%)

	LDGV	LDGT	HDGV	LDDV	LDDT	HDDV	MC
POVs	50.00	50.00	0	0	0	0	0

### 2.3.3 Paving Phase Emission Factor(s)

### - Construction Exhaust Emission Factors (lb/hour) (default)

Excavators Composite											
	VOC	SOx	NOx	СО	PM <sup>10</sup>	PM <sup>2.5</sup>	CH4	CO <sub>2</sub> e			
<b>Emission Factors</b>	0.0786	0.0013	0.4574	0.5139	0.0214	0.0214	0.0070	119.75			
Graders Composite											
	VOC	SOx	NOx	СО	PM <sup>10</sup>	PM <sup>2.5</sup>	CH4	CO <sub>2</sub> e			
<b>Emission Factors</b>	0.0982	0.0014	0.6490	0.5786	0.0316	0.0316	0.0088	132.96			

Other Construction Equipment Composite											
	VOC	SOx	NOx	СО	PM <sup>10</sup>	PM <sup>2.5</sup>	CH4	CO <sub>2</sub> e			
Emission Factors	0.0595	0.0012	0.3971	0.3522	0.0158	0.0158	0.0053	122.63			
Rubber Tired Dozers Composite											
	VOC	SOx	NOx	СО	PM <sup>10</sup>	PM <sup>2.5</sup>	CH4	CO <sub>2</sub> e			
Emission Factors	0.2226	0.0024	1.6948	0.8387	0.0682	0.0682	0.0200	239.58			
Tractors/Loaders/Ba	Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes Composite										
	VOC	SOx	NOx	СО	PM <sup>10</sup>	PM <sup>2.5</sup>	CH4	CO <sub>2</sub> e			
Emission Factors	0.0471	0.0007	0.3018	0.3630	0.0159	0.0159	0.0042	66.904			

- venicle Exhaust & worker Trips Emission Factors (grams/mile)									
	VOC	SO <sub>x</sub>	NO <sub>x</sub>	СО	$\mathbf{P}\mathbf{M}^{10}$	PM <sup>2.5</sup>	Pb	$\mathbf{NH}_3$	CO <sub>2</sub> e
LDGV	000.340	000.002	000.276	003.604	000.008	000.007		000.024	00328.206
LDGT	000.416	000.003	000.480	005.057	000.010	000.009		000.025	00423.247
HDGV	000.764	000.005	001.218	016.264	000.023	000.020		000.044	00760.998
LDDV	000.119	000.003	000.146	002.473	000.004	000.004		000.008	00318.976
LDDT	000.281	000.004	000.446	004.521	000.007	000.006		000.008	00458.185
HDDV	000.618	000.013	006.194	002.048	000.195	000.179		000.030	01519.413
MC	002.745	000.003	000.847	013.480	000.027	000.024		000.054	00396.763

### - Vehicle Exhaust & Worker Trips Emission Factors (grams/mile)

### **2.3.4** Paving Phase Formula(s)

### - Construction Exhaust Emissions per Phase

 $CEE_{POL} = (NE * WD * H * EF_{POL})/2000$ 

CEE<sub>POL</sub>: Construction Exhaust Emissions (TONs) NE: Number of Equipment WD: Number of Total Work Days (days) H: Hours Worked per Day (hours) EF<sub>POL</sub>: Emission Factor for Pollutant (lb/hour) 2000: Conversion Factor pounds to tons

### - Vehicle Exhaust Emissions per Phase

VMT<sub>VE</sub> = PA \* 0.25 \* (1/27) \* (1/HC) \* HT

VMT<sub>VE</sub>: Vehicle Exhaust Vehicle Miles Travel (miles)
PA: Paving Area (ft<sup>2</sup>)
0.25: Thickness of Paving Area (ft)
(1/27): Conversion Factor cubic feet to cubic yards (1 yd<sup>3</sup>/27 ft<sup>3</sup>)
HC: Average Hauling Truck Capacity (yd<sup>3</sup>)
(1/HC): Conversion Factor cubic yards to trips (1 trip/HC yd<sup>3</sup>)
HT: Average Hauling Truck Round Trip Commute (mile/trip)

 $V_{POL} = (VMT_{VE} * 0.002205 * EF_{POL} * VM)/2000$ 

 $\begin{array}{l} V_{POL}: \mbox{ Vehicle Emissions (TONs)} \\ VMT_{VE}: \mbox{ Vehicle Exhaust Vehicle Miles Travel (miles)} \\ 0.002205: \mbox{ Conversion Factor grams to pounds} \\ EF_{POL}: \mbox{ Emission Factor for Pollutant (grams/mile)} \\ VM: \mbox{ Vehicle Exhaust On Road Vehicle Mixture (\%)} \\ 2000: \mbox{ Conversion Factor pounds to tons} \end{array}$ 

### - Worker Trips Emissions per Phase

 $VMT_{WT} = WD * WT * 1.25 * NE$ 

VMT<sub>WT</sub>: Worker Trips Vehicle Miles Travel (miles)
WD: Number of Total Work Days (days)
WT: Average Worker Round Trip Commute (mile)
1.25: Conversion Factor Number of Construction Equipment to Number of Works
NE: Number of Construction Equipment

 $V_{POL} = (VMT_{WT} * 0.002205 * EF_{POL} * VM)/2000$ 

V<sub>POL</sub>: Vehicle Emissions (TONs)
VMT<sub>VE</sub>: Worker Trips Vehicle Miles Travel (miles)
0.002205: Conversion Factor grams to pounds
EF<sub>POL</sub>: Emission Factor for Pollutant (grams/mile)
VM: Worker Trips On Road Vehicle Mixture (%)
2000: Conversion Factor pounds to tons

### - Off-Gassing Emissions per Phase

 $VOC_P = (2.62 * PA) / 43560$ 

VOC<sub>P</sub>: Paving VOC Emissions (TONs)
2.62: Emission Factor (lb/acre)
PA: Paving Area (ft<sup>2</sup>)
43,560: Conversion Factor square feet to acre (43,560 ft<sup>2</sup>/acre)<sup>2</sup>/acre)

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