
APPENDIX A
INTERAGENCY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION
FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT MATERIALS

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Appendix A

Interagency and Intergovernmental Coordination for Environmental Planning and Public Involvement Materials

The 377th Air Base Wing (377 ABW) solicited comments on the Environmental Assessment (EA) by distributing letters (example follows) to potentially interested federal, state, and local agencies; Native American tribes; and other stakeholder groups or individuals. The following is a list of potentially interested parties.

Federal, State, and Local Agencies – Scoping Letter

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

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

Senator Ben Ray Lujan
US Senate
201 North Church Street, Suite 201B
Las Cruces NM 88001

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

Representative Melanie Ann Stansbury
US House of Representatives
300 Central Ave SW, Suite 1300 East
Albuquerque NM 87102

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

Representative Yvette Herrell
US House of Representatives
4440 Sonoma Ranch Blvd, Suite B
Las Cruces NM 88011

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

Representative Teresa Leger Fernandez
US House of Representatives
120 S Federal Pl, Suite 110B
Santa Fe NM 87501

Mr. Bill Walker, Regional Director
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Southwest Regional Office
1001 Indian School Road NW
Albuquerque NM 87104

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

Mr. Rob Lowe, Regional Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
Southwest Region
10101 Hillwood Parkway
Fort Worth TX 76177-1524

Ms. Sarah Cottrell Propst
Cabinet Secretary
New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural
Resources Department
1220 South St Francis Drive
Santa Fe NM 87505

Mr. Martin Meairs, District Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Los Lunas Service Center
2600 Palmilla Road
Los Lunas NM 87031

Ms. Julie Alcon
Chief of Environmental Resources Section
US Army Corps of Engineers
4101 Jefferson Plaza NE
Albuquerque NM 87109

Mr. Michael Regan, Regional Administrator
US Environmental Protection Agency,
Region 6
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500
Dallas TX 75270

Ms. Peg Sorenson
Southwestern Region NEPA Coordinator
US Forest Service
Ecosystem Analysis and Planning,
Watershed, and Air Management
333 Broadway Boulevard SE
Albuquerque NM 87102-3407

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

Mr. Jeff M. Witte, Director/Secretary
New Mexico Department of Agriculture
3190 S. Espina
Las Cruces NM 88003

Mr. Bruce Baizel
New Mexico Environment Department
Office of General Counsel & Environmental
Policy
1190 St Francis Drive, Suite N4050
Santa Fe NM 87505

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

Ms. Ava Montoya
Public Information Officer
City of Albuquerque Office of the Mayor
One Civic Plaza NW, 11th Floor
Albuquerque NM 87102

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. Craig Johnson
Assistant Commissioner for Commercial
Resources
New Mexico State Land Office
PO Box 1148
Santa Fe NM 87504

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

City of Albuquerque Planning Department
PO Box 1293
Albuquerque NM 87103

Native American Tribes

Pueblo of Acoma
Governor Randall Vicente
PO Box 309
Acoma NM 87034

Pueblo of Cochiti
Governor Phillip Quintana
PO Box 70
Cochiti Pueblo NM 87072

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

Pueblo of Isleta
Governor Vernon Abeita
PO Box 1270
Isleta Pueblo NM 87022

Pueblo of Jemez
Governor Raymond Loretto, DVM
PO Box 100
Jemez Pueblo NM 87024

Jicarilla Apache Nation
President Edward Velarde
PO Box 507
Dulce NM 87528

Pueblo of Laguna
Governor Martin Kowemy, Jr.
PO Box 194
Laguna NM 87026

Mescalero Apache Tribe of the Mescalero
Apache Reservation
President Danny H. Breuninger, Sr.
PO Box 227
Mescalero NM 88340

Pueblo of Nambé
Governor Nathaniel S. Porter
15A Bay Poe
Santa Fe NM 87506

Navajo Nation
President Jonathan Nez
PO Box 7440
Window Rock AZ 86515

Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo
Governor Joseph P. Aguino
PO Box 1099
San Juan Pueblo NM 87566

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

Pueblo of Pojoaque
Governor Jenelle Roybal
78 Cities of Gold Road
Santa Fe NM 87506

Pueblo of Sandia
Governor Stuart Paisano
481 Sandia Loop
Bernalillo NM 87004

Pueblo of San Felipe
Governor Carl Valencia
PO Box 4339
San Felipe Pueblo NM 87001

Pueblo of San Ildefonso
Governor Christopher Moquino
02 Tunyo Po
Santa Fe NM 87506

Pueblo of Santa Ana
Governor Joseph Sanchez
2 Dove Road
Santa Ana Pueblo NM 87004

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

Pueblo of Santo Domingo
Governor Sidelio Tenorio
PO Box 99
Santo Domingo Pueblo NM 87052

Pueblo of Taos
Governor Clyde M. Romero, Sr.
PO Box 1846
Taos NM 87571

Pueblo of Tesuque
Governor Earl Samuel
Route 42 Box 360-T
Santa Fe NM 87506

White Mountain Apache Tribe
Chairwoman Gwendena Lee-Gatewood
PO Box 700
Whiteriver AZ 85941

Ysleta del Sur Pueblo
Governor E. Michael Silvas
PO Box 17579 – Ysleta Station
El Paso TX 79907

Pueblo of Zia
Governor Gabriel Galvan
135 Capitol Square Drive
Zia Pueblo NM 87053-6013

Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
Chairman Bobby Komardley
PO Box 1330
Anadarko OK 73005

Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
Chairwoman Lori Gooday Ware
43187 US Highway 281
Apache OK 73006

San Carlos Apache Tribe
Chairman Terry Rambler
PO Box 0
San Carlos AZ 85550

Comanche Nation of Oklahoma
Chairman William Nelson, Sr.
PO Box 908
Lawton OK 73502

Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma
Chairman Matthew Komalty
PO Box 369
Carnegie OK 73015

Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
President Walter Echo-Hawk
PO Box 470
Pawnee OK 74058

Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Chairman Melvin Baker
PO Box 737
Ignacio CO 81137

Ute Mountain Ute Tribe
Chairman Manuel Heart
PO Drawer JJ
Towaoc CO 81334

Wichita & Affiliated Tribes
President Terri Parton
Wichita Executive Committee
PO Box 729
Anadarko OK 73005

Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
President Russell Martin
1 Rush Buffalo Road
Tonkawa OK 74653

Pueblo of Zuni
Governor Val Panteah, Sr.
PO Box 339
Zuni NM 87327

All Pueblo Council of Governors
Chairman E. Paul Torres
2401 12th Street NW
Albuquerque NM 87103

Five Sandoval Indian Pueblos
Executive Director Joshua Madalena
4321-B Fulcrum Way NE
Rio Rancho NM 87144

Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council
Executive Director Gilbert Vigil
PO Box 969
Ohkay Owingeh NM 87566

24th Navajo Nation Council
Office of the Speaker
Speaker Seth Damon
PO Box 3390
Window Rock AZ 86515

Interested Parties

Peaceful Skies Coalition
PO Box 322
Arroyo Hondo NM 87513

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Sample Agency Letter

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



Colonel Jason F. Vattioni, USAF
Commander
377th Air Base Wing
2000 Wyoming Blvd SE
Kirtland Air Force Base NM 87117

The Honorable Martin Heinrich
U.S. Senate
400 Gold Ave SW, Ste 1080
Albuquerque NM 87102

Dear Senator Heinrich

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 an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts resulting from the relocation of the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) AC-130J Formal Training Unit (FTU) from Hurlburt Field, Florida to Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB), New Mexico and the organizational realignment of the unit under the 58th Special Operations Wing (Air Education and Training Command) which is a tenant organization located at Kirtland AFB.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to consolidate all AC-130J qualifications. The action is needed to provide synergies between the Basic Qualification and Mission Qualification training and lower operational costs. This Proposed Action would include relocation of AC-130J aircraft, personnel, operation squadron, maintenance squadron, and related construction activities.

To accommodate the AC-130J aircraft and FTU operations, the Proposed Action would require both new construction and modification of some existing facilities at Kirtland AFB. All construction would be located within the Kirtland AFB boundaries. Thirteen construction or infrastructure improvement projects are proposed. Attachment 1 summarizes the proposed construction and modification projects, and attachment 2 depicts these project locations.

The AC-130J will operate within special use airspace (SUA) and other existing airspace and training areas already designated for the C-130 flight operations normally conducted out of Kirtland AFB. These include the Melrose Range Complex, with supporting SUA (Pecos and Taiban Military Operations Areas [MOAs], and Restricted Areas R-5104 and R-5105 [attachment 3]), which are also used by C-130 aircraft originating from Cannon AFB in Clovis,

New Mexico. No new airspace or reconfigurations are needed or proposed to support the relocation of the AFSOC AC-130J FTU from Hurlburt Field to Kirtland AFB.

AC-130 use of the Melrose Range Complex was previously evaluated in the *AFSOC Assets Beddown at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)*, which anticipated a higher number of AC-130s using this training area (airspace and range) than what has actually transpired, based on reduced numbers of aircraft at Cannon AFB than were anticipated. Additional use of the Melrose Range Complex by the AC-130s being proposed for basing at Kirtland AFB will result in use that is still below the levels analyzed in the aforementioned EIS. Specifically, the current C-130 use of this training area plus the proposed increase is still below the EIS levels, including total sorties, total ordnance used, and total expendable countermeasures used. All the impacts from the proposed additional sorties from Kirtland AFB-based AC-130s would still be at or below the previous levels analyzed.

The environmental analysis for the Proposed Action is being conducted by the USAF in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality guidelines pursuant to the NEPA of 1969. In accordance with Executive Order 12372, *Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs*, we solicit your comments concerning the proposal and any potential environmental consequences of the action. 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 EA addressing the AFSOC AC-130J Formal Training Unit Relocation at Kirtland AFB, New Mexico is available at <http://www.kirtland.af.mil/Home/Environment> under the heading "Environmental Assessments." Please provide any comments you may have within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

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

JASON F. VATTIONI, Colonel, USAF
Commander

3 Attachments:

1. List of Proposed Projects
2. Proposed Projects Figure
3. Kirtland AFB Airspace Figure

List of Proposed Projects

EA Project #	Project Name	Description	Year of Implementation	Approximate Total Area of New Ground Disturbance (SF)	Approximate New Impervious Surface (SF)
1	Temporary New Squadron Operations Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install five modular trailers comprised of administrative offices that include squadron command section, AFE work center, AFE storage, restrooms, kitchen area, and rooms for briefing, mission planning, and conferences. • Construct an approximately 48,000 SF gravel parking area on open, undeveloped land (if needed). • Construct approximately 2,900 SF of paved walkways between trailers and parking area (if constructed). <p><i>Estimated project total of 75,900 SF. Includes five 5,000-SF modular trailers (25,000 SF total), approximately 48,000 SF of additional gravel parking (if needed), and approximately 2,900 SF of paved walkways.</i></p>	FY 2023	75,900	27,900
2	Permanent New Squadron Operations Facility and Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct new 20,000 SF facility comprised of administrative offices that include squadron command section, AFE work center, AFE storage, restrooms, kitchen area, and rooms for briefing, mission planning, and conferences. • Construct a 4,500 SF entrance/egress from the existing parking lot onto Randolph Avenue. The entrance/egress would be constructed on an area that is primarily landscaped with an existing sidewalk. • Construct 46 new paved parking spaces with driving aisles and landscaping for a total of 9,300 SF of disturbed area on open, undeveloped land. • Construct a new 20,000 SF paved storage area for the Air Force Research Laboratory to replace the area used for the construction of the new Squadron Operations Facility. The new area would be constructed on open, undeveloped land. <p><i>Estimated project total of 53,800 SF. Includes 20,000 SF for new facility construction, 4,500 SF for the new</i></p>	FY 2028	53,800	53,800

List of Proposed Projects

EA Project #	Project Name	Description	Year of Implementation	Approximate Total Area of New Ground Disturbance (SF)	Approximate New Impervious Surface (SF)
		<i>entrance/egress, and 9,300 SF for the new paved parking area. There will also be a new 20,000 SF paved storage area for the Air Force Research Laboratory.</i>			
3	Addition to Building 957 for Classroom and Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct a 5,000 SF addition to the east side of Building 957 for classroom and administrative space. The new addition would be constructed on open, undeveloped land. <i>Estimated project total of 5,000 SF for new addition construction.</i>	FY 2025	5,000	5,000
4	Renovate Hangar 1002 (Island B) for AC-130J AMU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renovate Island B in Hangar 1002 to include removal of existing ACM; lead paint; PCB; replacing HVAC and elevator; upgrading fire protection and electrical systems; constructing a fire protected egress from island to exterior of hangar; and installing telephone; NIPR and Wi-Fi. 	FY 2024	None	None
5	Addition to Building 949 for WST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install an approximately 3,600 SF temporary structure to the east side of Building 949 to house a full motion WST. The temporary structure would be installed on an area that is an existing concrete hardstand. In addition, a 144 SF electrical equipment room (12 x 12 ft) would be constructed on the north side of Building 949 to house electrical transformer(s) and switching in support of the simulators and training devices. The total estimated area of ground disturbance would be approximately 3,800 SF. 	FY 2024	3,800	None
6	New Simulator Complex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct an AC-130J simulator facility (45,000 SF) to house two full motion AC-130J WSTs, two ACTs, a FuT, and a GTR. Construct a covered paved walkway (900 SF¹) to Building 950 and an additional parking area (58,500 SF, location to be determined). 	FY 2025	104,400	103,700 ¹

List of Proposed Projects

EA Project #	Project Name	Description	Year of Implementation	Approximate Total Area of New Ground Disturbance (SF)	Approximate New Impervious Surface (SF)
		<i>Estimated project total of 104,400 SF. Includes 45,000 SF for new facility construction, 900 SF for the new covered walkway (maximum), and 58,500 SF for a new paved parking area (location to be determined).</i>			
7	Addition to Pipeline Dormitory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct addition to the dormitory already proposed to be built in Zia Park (EA in process). The dormitory design will be increased by 80 rooms to support the AC-130J relocation, increasing the total number of rooms to 432 (178,089 SF or approximately 412 SF per room). <i>Estimated project total of 33,000 SF for the additional 80 rooms.</i>	FY 2024	None	None
8	New Administration Building east of MSA Parking Lot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct an administration building to hold the additional manning to support the AC-130J mission move east of the MSA. <i>Estimated project total of 10,000 SF for new facility construction.</i>	FY 2025	10,000	10,000
9	New Munitions Trailer Holding Pad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct a 100 x 100 ft (10,000 SF) holding pad south of Building 733 for munition trailers awaiting loading and loaded trailers awaiting transport to the flight line. <i>Estimated project total of 10,000 SF for the new paved holding pad.</i>	FY 2023	10,000	10,000

List of Proposed Projects

EA Project #	Project Name	Description	Year of Implementation	Approximate Total Area of New Ground Disturbance (SF)	Approximate New Impervious Surface (SF)
10	Construct Two New Earth Covered Munition Storage Igloos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct two new 25 x 80 ft (2,000 SF) Hayman Earth Covered Munitions Storage Igloos in MSA. An additional 7,000 SF would be included for the aprons and road accessing the igloos. Construct an unpaved 3,500 SF stormwater drainage system for each igloo. <p><i>Estimated project total of 11,000 SF. Includes 4,000 SF for new construction of the igloos, 7,000 SF for the paved aprons and access road, and an additional 7,000 SF of ground disturbance for the stormwater drainage systems.</i></p>	FY 2023	18,000	11,000
11	New Explosive Operations Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct an Explosive Operations Building (6,000 SF) to house munitions builds/teardown and expenditure operations supporting the AC-130J mission. Construct a 5,400 SF paved access road, a total of 3,700 SF for paved parking areas on the west and east sides of the building, and paved aprons (2,000 SF each) on the north and south sides of the building. <p><i>Estimated project total of 19,100 SF. Includes 6,000 SF for new facility construction, 5,400 SF for the new paved access road, 3,700 SF for the new paved parking areas, and 2,000 SF for the new paved aprons.</i></p>	FY 2025	19,100	19,100
12	Construct Small Arms Storage Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct a small arms storage facility (also called Butler Building) (100 x 100 ft [10,000 SF]). <p><i>Estimated project total of 10,000 SF for new facility construction.</i></p>	FY 2023	10,000	10,000

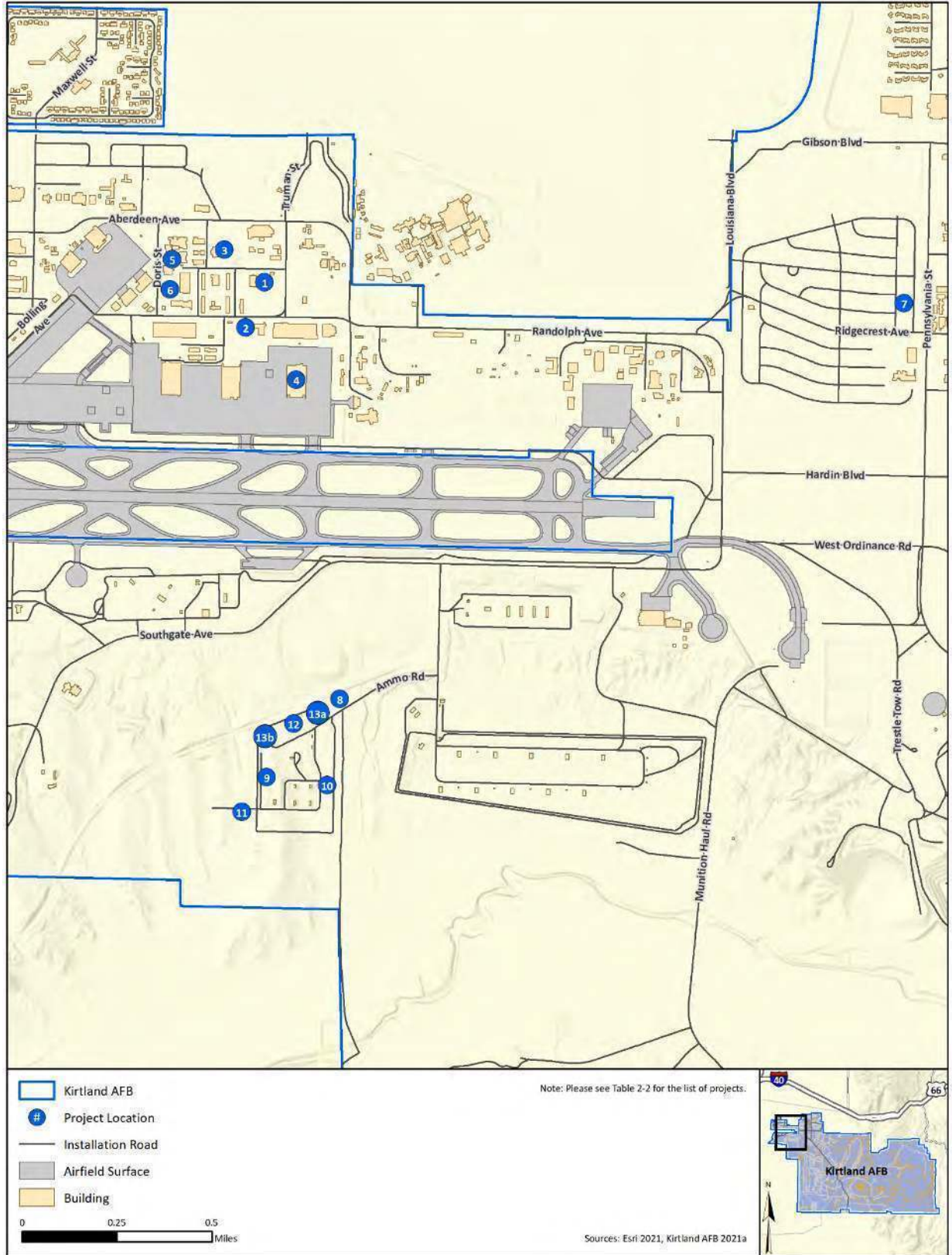
List of Proposed Projects

EA Project #	Project Name	Description	Year of Implementation	Approximate Total Area of New Ground Disturbance (SF)	Approximate New Impervious Surface (SF)
13	Renovate Buildings 737 and 733	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renovate Building 733 (Brass Storage/Catenary System) and Building 737 (Trailer Maintenance/Production Facility). Renovations to Building 737 included the removal and replacement of the oil/water separator located outside on the hardstand to the southwest of the building (approximately 4,200 SF of disturbance). 	FY 2023	4,200 SF	None

Notes: ¹The longest proposed covered walkway from the new facility to Building 950 is estimated to be a maximum of 900 SF (4 feet wide by 225 feet long). The majority of the proposed walkway is paved but uncovered so only 200 SF is estimated to be a new impervious surface. Although the location of the new parking area has not been determined, for the purposes of the EA, it is assumed to be on an undeveloped area.

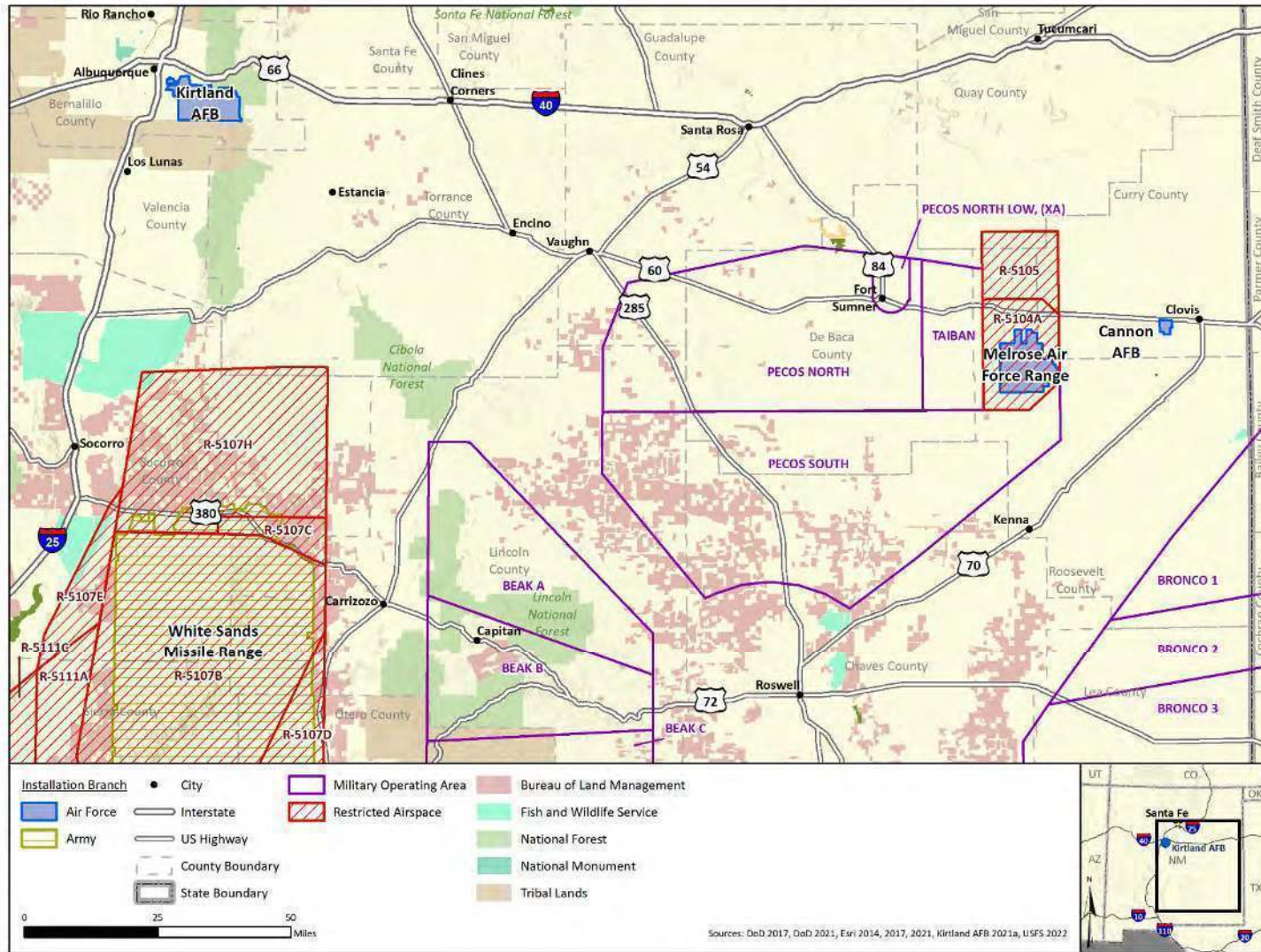
ACM = asbestos containing material; ACT = Aircraft Cabin Trainer; AFE = Aircrew Flight Equipment; EA = Environmental Assessment; ft = foot/ft; FuT = Fuselage Trainer; FY = Fiscal Year; GTR = Gun Trainer; HVAC = Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning; MSA = Munitions Storage Area; NIPR = Non-Secure Internet Protocol Router; PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl; SF = square foot/feet; WST = Weapons Systems Trainer.

Attachment 2- Proposed Projects at Kirtland Air Force Base



Proposed Projects at Kirtland Air Force Base

Attachment 3- Airspace Near Kirtland AFB



Airspace Near Kirtland Air Force Base



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



Colonel Jason F. Vattioni, USAF
Commander
377th Air Base Wing
2000 Wyoming Blvd SE
Kirtland Air Force Base NM 87117

Mr. Craig Johnson
Assistant Commissioner for Commercial Resources
New Mexico State Land Office
PO Bo 1148
Santa Fe NM 87504

Dear Mr. Johnson

As set forth in the Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB) – New Mexico State Land Office Joint Land Use Study Memorandum of Understanding, and as required by 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 an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts resulting from the relocation of the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) AC-130J Formal Training Unit (FTU) from Hurlburt Field, Florida to Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB), New Mexico and the organizational realignment of the unit under the 58th Special Operations Wing (Air Education and Training Command) which is a tenant organization located at Kirtland AFB.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to consolidate all AC-130J qualifications. The action is needed to provide synergies between the Basic Qualification and Mission Qualification training and lower operational costs. This Proposed Action would include relocation of AC-130J aircraft, personnel, operation squadron, maintenance squadron, and related construction activities.

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The AC-130J will operate within special use airspace (SUA) and other existing airspace and training areas already designated for the C-130 flight operations normally conducted out of Kirtland AFB. These include the Melrose Range Complex, with supporting SUA (Pecos and Taiban Military Operations Areas [MOAs], and Restricted Areas R-5104 and R-5105

[attachment 3]), which are also used by C-130 aircraft originating from Cannon AFB in Clovis, New Mexico. No new airspace or reconfigurations are needed or proposed to support the relocation of the AFSOC AC-130J FTU from Hurlburt Field to Kirtland AFB.

AC-130 use of the Melrose Range Complex was previously evaluated in the *AFSOC Assets Beddown at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)*, which anticipated a higher number of AC-130s using this training area (airspace and range) than what has actually transpired, based on reduced numbers of aircraft at Cannon AFB than were anticipated. Additional use of the Melrose Range Complex by the AC-130s being proposed for basing at Kirtland AFB will result in use that is still below the levels analyzed in the aforementioned EIS. Specifically, the current C-130 use of this training area plus the proposed increase is still below the EIS levels, including total sorties, total ordnance used, and total expendable countermeasures used. All the impacts from the proposed additional sorties from Kirtland AFB-based AC-130s would still be at or below the previous levels analyzed.

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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

JASON F. VATTIONI, Colonel, USAF
Commander

3 Attachments:

1. List of Proposed Projects
2. Proposed Projects Figure
3. Kirtland AFB Airspace Figure



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



Colonel Jason F. Vattioni, 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 is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts resulting from the relocation of the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) AC-130J Formal Training Unit (FTU) from Hurlburt Field, Florida to Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB), New Mexico and the organizational realignment of the unit under the 58th Special Operations Wing (Air Education and Training Command) which is a tenant organization located at Kirtland AFB.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to consolidate all AC-130J qualifications. The action is needed to provide synergies between the Basic Qualification and Mission Qualification training and lower operational costs. This Proposed Action would include relocation of AC-130J aircraft, personnel, operation squadron, maintenance squadron, and related construction activities.

To accommodate the AC-130J aircraft and FTU operations, the Proposed Action would require both new construction and modification of some existing facilities at Kirtland AFB. All construction would be located within the Kirtland AFB boundaries. Thirteen construction or infrastructure improvement projects are proposed. Attachment 1 summarizes the proposed construction and modification projects, and attachment 2 depicts these project locations.

The AC-130J will operate within special use airspace (SUA) and other existing airspace and training areas already designated for the C-130 flight operations normally conducted out of Kirtland AFB. These include the Melrose Range Complex, with supporting SUA (Pecos and Taiban Military Operations Areas [MOAs], and Restricted Areas R-5104 and R-5105 [attachment 3]), which are also used by C-130 aircraft originating from Cannon AFB in Clovis, New Mexico.

No new airspace or reconfigurations are needed or proposed to support the relocation of the AFSOC AC-130J FTU from Hurlburt Field to Kirtland AFB.

AC-130 use of the Melrose Range Complex was previously evaluated in the *AFSOC Assets Beddown at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)*, which anticipated a higher number of AC-130s using this training area (airspace and range) than what has actually transpired, based on reduced numbers of aircraft at Cannon AFB than were anticipated. Additional use of the Melrose Range Complex by the AC-130s being proposed for basing at Kirtland AFB will result in use that is still below the levels analyzed in the aforementioned EIS. Specifically, the current C-130 use of this training area plus the proposed increase is still below the EIS levels, including total sorties, total ordnance used, and total expendable countermeasures used. All the impacts from the proposed additional sorties from Kirtland AFB-based AC-130s would still be at or below the previous levels analyzed.

Pursuant to Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 United States Code 1531 et seq.), the USAF is requesting concurrence from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service that the Proposed Action is not likely to adversely affect any species or critical habitat. We carefully reviewed your agency's Section 7 Consultation website for a list of species and critical habitat that "may be present" within the project area and have found none. For these reasons, we conclude that the Proposed Action is not likely to adversely affect any species or critical habitat and we request your concurrence with our determination.

A copy of the Final Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives for the EA addressing the AFSOC AC-130J Formal Training Unit Relocation at Kirtland AFB, New Mexico is available at <http://www.kirtland.af.mil/Home/Environment> under the heading "Environmental Assessments." As we move forward through this process, we welcome your participation and input. Please respond within 30 days of receipt of this letter to ensure your concerns are adequately addressed in the EA.

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

JASON F. VATTIONI, Colonel, USAF
Commander

3 Attachments:

1. List of Proposed Projects
2. Proposed Projects Figure
3. Kirtland AFB Airspace Figure



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



Colonel Jason F. Vattioni, USAF
Commander
377th Air Base Wing
2000 Wyoming Blvd 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 (CEQ) regulations and the United States Air Force (USAF) NEPA regulations, the USAF is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts resulting from the relocation of the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) AC-130J Formal Training Unit (FTU) from Hurlburt Field, Florida to Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB), New Mexico and the organizational realignment of the unit under the 58th Special Operations Wing (Air Education and Training Command) which is a tenant organization currently located at Kirtland AFB.

The purpose of the Proposed Action (herein "Undertaking" pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act [NHPA]) is to consolidate all AC-130J qualifications. The Undertaking is needed to provide synergies between the Basic Qualification and Mission Qualification training and lower operational costs. This Undertaking would include relocation of AC-130J aircraft, personnel, operation squadron, maintenance squadron, and related construction activities.

To accommodate the AC-130J aircraft and FTU operations, the Undertaking would require both new construction and modification of some existing facilities at Kirtland AFB. All construction would be located within the Kirtland AFB boundaries. Thirteen construction or infrastructure improvement projects are proposed. Attachment 1 summarizes the proposed construction and modification projects, and attachment 2 depicts these project locations.

The AC-130J will operate within special use airspace (SUA) and other existing airspace and training areas already designated for the C-130 flight operations normally conducted out of Kirtland AFB. These include the Melrose Range Complex, with supporting SUA (Pecos and Taiban Military Operations Areas [MOAs], and Restricted Areas R-5104 and R-5105 [attachment 3]), which are also used by C-130 aircraft originating from Cannon AFB in Clovis, New Mexico. No new airspace or reconfigurations are needed or proposed to support the relocation of the AFSOC AC-130J FTU from Hurlburt Field to Kirtland AFB.

AC-130 use of the Melrose Range Complex was previously evaluated in the *AFSOC Assets Beddown at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)*, which anticipated a higher number of AC-130s using this training area (airspace and range) than what has actually transpired, based on reduced numbers of aircraft at Cannon AFB than were anticipated. Additional use of the Melrose Range Complex by the AC-130s being proposed for basing at Kirtland AFB will result in use that is still below the levels analyzed in the aforementioned EIS. Specifically, the current C-130 use of this training area plus the proposed increase is still below the EIS levels, including total sorties, total ordnance used, and total expendable countermeasures used. All the impacts from the proposed additional sorties from Kirtland AFB-based AC-130s would still be at or below the previous levels analyzed.

USAF has determined that the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this Undertaking encompasses the areas where ground-disturbing activities, including new construction, building renovations and modifications, building demolitions, and the lands underlying the SUA and other existing airspace and training areas (see attachments 2 and 3). USAF is currently conducting research and investigations to identify historic properties within the APE to determine the potential effects, if any, of the proposed Undertaking.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the NHPA of 1966 as amended, and its implementing regulation, 36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800, the USAF would like to initiate consultation concerning the Undertaking to allow you the opportunity to identify any comments, concerns, and suggestions you might have. A copy of the Final Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives for the EA addressing the Air Force Special Operations Command AC-130J Formal Training Unit Relocation at Kirtland AFB, New Mexico is available at <http://www.kirtland.af.mil/Home/Environment> under the heading "Environmental Assessments." As we move forward through this process, we welcome your participation and input.

As noted above, the USAF would like to initiate consultation pursuant to Section 106 of the NHPA concerning this Undertaking and is seeking concurrence on the APE, as defined. Please send your written responses to the NEPA Program Manager, 377 MSG/CEIEC, 2050 Wyoming Boulevard SE, Suite 116, Kirtland AFB NM 87117. Please contact David Reynolds, Cultural Resources Program Manager, at david.reynolds.37@us.af.mil if you have any technical questions.

Sincerely

JASON F. VATTIONI, Colonel, USAF
Commander

3 Attachments:

1. List of Proposed Projects
2. Kirtland AFB APE Figure
3. APE Underlying SUA, Airspace, and Training Areas Figure

List of Proposed Projects

EA Project #	Project Name	Description	Year of Implementation	Approximate Total Area of New Ground Disturbance (SF)	Approximate New Impervious Surface (SF)
1	Temporary New Squadron Operations Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install five modular trailers comprised of administrative offices that include squadron command section, AFE work center, AFE storage, restrooms, kitchen area, and rooms for briefing, mission planning, and conferences. • Construct an approximately 48,000 SF gravel parking area on open, undeveloped land (if needed). • Construct approximately 2,900 SF of paved walkways between trailers and parking area (if constructed). <p><i>Estimated project total of 75,900 SF. Includes five 5,000-SF modular trailers (25,000 SF total), approximately 48,000 SF of additional gravel parking (if needed), and approximately 2,900 SF of paved walkways.</i></p>	FY 2023	75,900	27,900
2	Permanent New Squadron Operations Facility and Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct new 20,000 SF facility comprised of administrative offices that include squadron command section, AFE work center, AFE storage, restrooms, kitchen area, and rooms for briefing, mission planning, and conferences. • Construct a 4,500 SF entrance/egress from the existing parking lot onto Randolph Avenue. The entrance/egress would be constructed on an area that is primarily landscaped with an existing sidewalk. • Construct 46 new paved parking spaces with driving aisles and landscaping for a total of 9,300 SF of disturbed area on open, undeveloped land. • Construct a new 20,000 SF paved storage area for the Air Force Research Laboratory to replace the area used for the construction of the new Squadron Operations Facility. The new area would be constructed on open, undeveloped land. <p><i>Estimated project total of 53,800 SF. Includes 20,000 SF for new facility construction, 4,500 SF for the new</i></p>	FY 2028	53,800	53,800

List of Proposed Projects

EA Project #	Project Name	Description	Year of Implementation	Approximate Total Area of New Ground Disturbance (SF)	Approximate New Impervious Surface (SF)
		<i>entrance/egress, and 9,300 SF for the new paved parking area. There will also be a new 20,000 SF paved storage area for the Air Force Research Laboratory.</i>			
3	Addition to Building 957 for Classroom and Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct a 5,000 SF addition to the east side of Building 957 for classroom and administrative space. The new addition would be constructed on open, undeveloped land. <p><i>Estimated project total of 5,000 SF for new addition construction.</i></p>	FY 2025	5,000	5,000
4	Renovate Hangar 1002 (Island B) for AC-130J AMU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renovate Island B in Hangar 1002 to include removal of existing ACM; lead paint; PCB; replacing HVAC and elevator; upgrading fire protection and electrical systems; constructing a fire protected egress from island to exterior of hangar; and installing telephone; NIPR and Wi-Fi. 	FY 2024	None	None
5	Addition to Building 949 for WST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install an approximately 3,600 SF temporary structure to the east side of Building 949 to house a full motion WST. The temporary structure would be installed on an area that is an existing concrete hardstand. In addition, a 144 SF electrical equipment room (12 x 12 ft) would be construction on the north side of Building 949 to house electrical transformer(s) and switching in support of the simulators and training devices. The total estimated area of ground disturbance would be approximately 3,800 SF. 	FY 2024	3,800	None
6	New Simulator Complex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct an AC-130J simulator facility (45,000 SF) to house two full motion AC-130J WSTs, two ACTs, a FuT, and a GTR. Construct a covered paved walkway (900 SF¹) to Building 950 and an additional parking area (58,500 SF, location to be determined). 	FY 2025	104,400	103,700 ¹

List of Proposed Projects

EA Project #	Project Name	Description	Year of Implementation	Approximate Total Area of New Ground Disturbance (SF)	Approximate New Impervious Surface (SF)
		<i>Estimated project total of 104,400 SF. Includes 45,000 SF for new facility construction, 900 SF for the new covered walkway (maximum), and 58,500 SF for a new paved parking area (location to be determined).</i>			
7	Addition to Pipeline Dormitory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct addition to the dormitory already proposed to be built in Zia Park (EA in process). The dormitory design will be increased by 80 rooms to support the AC-130J relocation, increasing the total number of rooms to 432 (178,089 SF or approximately 412 SF per room). <i>Estimated project total of 33,000 SF for the additional 80 rooms.</i>	FY 2024	None	None
8	New Administration Building east of MSA Parking Lot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct an administration building to hold the additional manning to support the AC-130J mission move east of the MSA. <i>Estimated project total of 10,000 SF for new facility construction.</i>	FY 2025	10,000	10,000
9	New Munitions Trailer Holding Pad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct a 100 x 100 ft (10,000 SF) holding pad south of Building 733 for munition trailers awaiting loading and loaded trailers awaiting transport to the flight line. <i>Estimated project total of 10,000 SF for the new paved holding pad.</i>	FY 2023	10,000	10,000

List of Proposed Projects

EA Project #	Project Name	Description	Year of Implementation	Approximate Total Area of New Ground Disturbance (SF)	Approximate New Impervious Surface (SF)
10	Construct Two New Earth Covered Munition Storage Igloos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct two new 25 x 80 ft (2,000 SF) Hayman Earth Covered Munitions Storage Igloos in MSA. An additional 7,000 SF would be included for the aprons and road accessing the igloos. Construct an unpaved 3,500 SF stormwater drainage system for each igloo. <p><i>Estimated project total of 11,000 SF. Includes 4,000 SF for new construction of the igloos, 7,000 SF for the paved aprons and access road, and an additional 7,000 SF of ground disturbance for the stormwater drainage systems.</i></p>	FY 2023	18,000	11,000
11	New Explosive Operations Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct an Explosive Operations Building (6,000 SF) to house munitions builds/teardown and expenditure operations supporting the AC-130J mission. Construct a 5,400 SF paved access road, a total of 3,700 SF for paved parking areas on the west and east sides of the building, and paved aprons (2,000 SF each) on the north and south sides of the building. <p><i>Estimated project total of 19,100 SF. Includes 6,000 SF for new facility construction, 5,400 SF for the new paved access road, 3,700 SF for the new paved parking areas, and 2,000 SF for the new paved aprons.</i></p>	FY 2025	19,100	19,100
12	Construct Small Arms Storage Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct a small arms storage facility (also called Butler Building) (100 x 100 ft [10,000 SF]). <p><i>Estimated project total of 10,000 SF for new facility construction.</i></p>	FY 2023	10,000	10,000

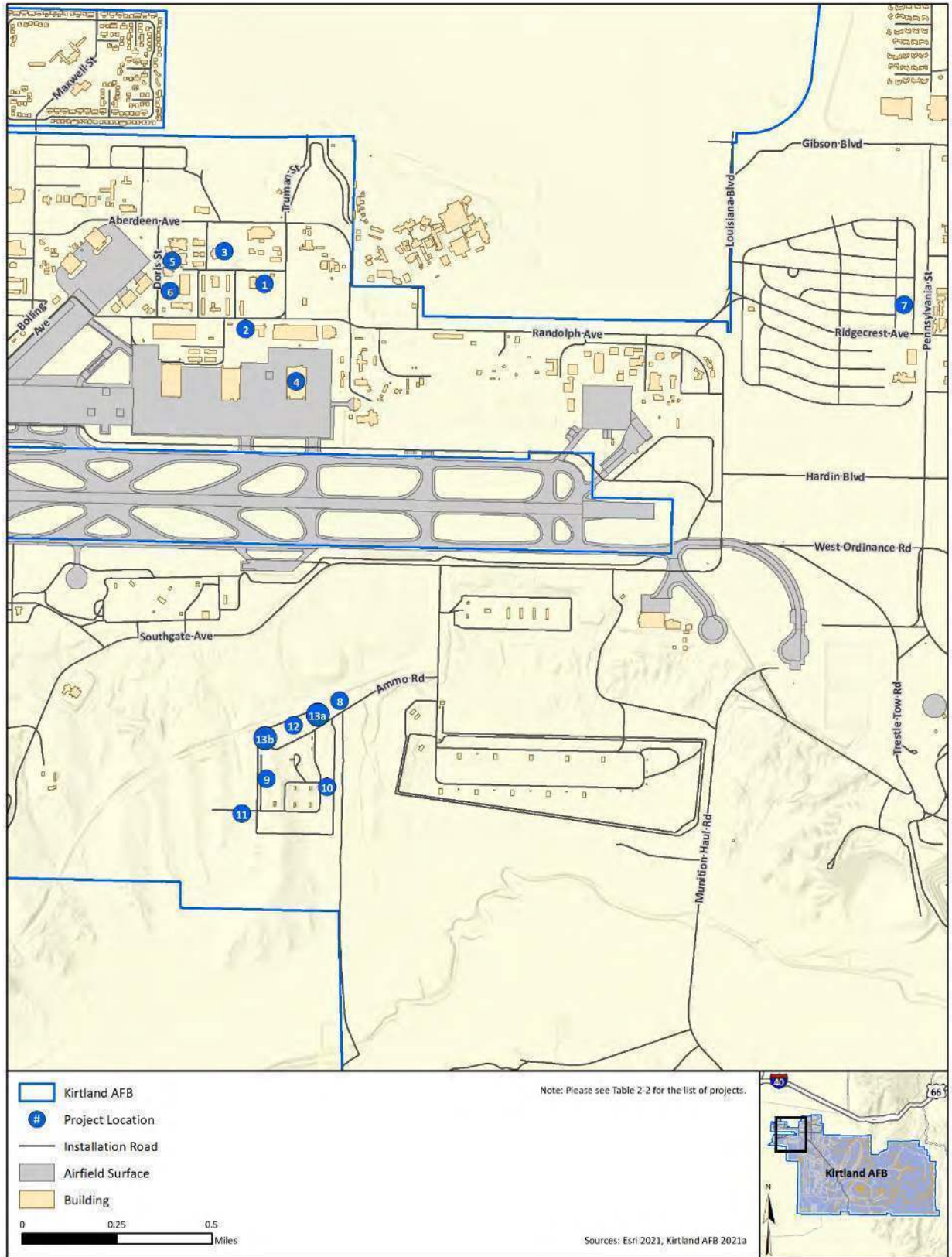
List of Proposed Projects

EA Project #	Project Name	Description	Year of Implementation	Approximate Total Area of New Ground Disturbance (SF)	Approximate New Impervious Surface (SF)
13	Renovate Buildings 737 and 733	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renovate Building 733 (Brass Storage/Catenary System) and Building 737 (Trailer Maintenance/Production Facility). Renovations to Building 737 included the removal and replacement of the oil/water separator located outside on the hardstand to the southwest of the building (approximately 4,200 SF of disturbance). 	FY 2023	4,200 SF	None

Notes: ¹The longest proposed covered walkway from the new facility to Building 950 is estimated to be a maximum of 900 SF (4 feet wide by 225 feet long). The majority of the proposed walkway is paved but uncovered so only 200 SF is estimated to be a new impervious surface. Although the location of the new parking area has not been determined, for the purposes of the EA, it is assumed to be on an undeveloped area.

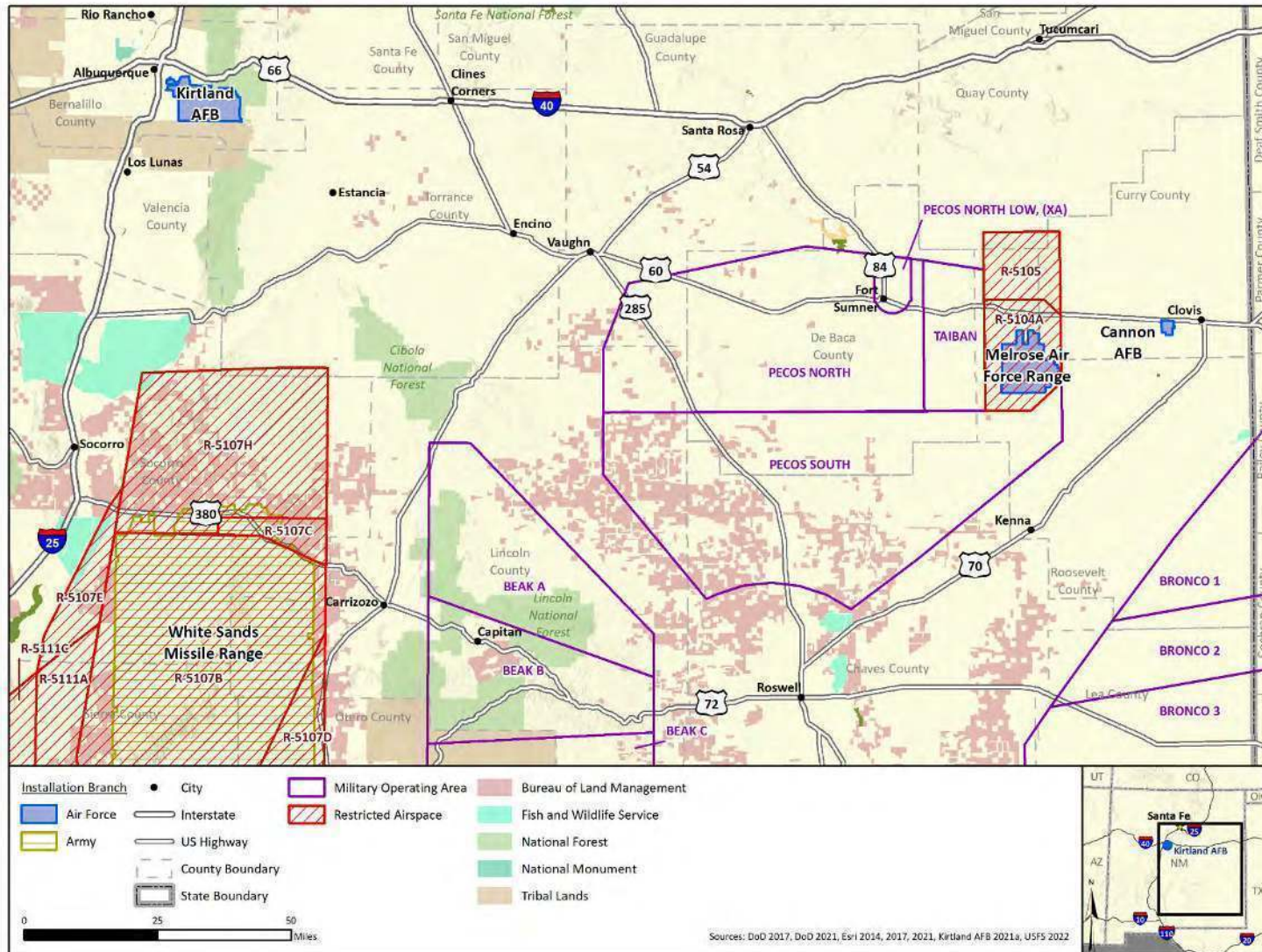
ACM = asbestos containing material; ACT = Aircraft Cabin Trainer; AFE = Aircrew Flight Equipment; EA = Environmental Assessment; ft = foot/ft; FuT = Fuselage Trainer; FY = Fiscal Year; GTR = Gun Trainer; HVAC = Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning; MSA = Munitions Storage Area; NIPR = Non-Secure Internet Protocol Router; PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl; SF = square foot/feet; WST = Weapons Systems Trainer.

Attachment 2- Area of Potential Effects at Kirtland Air Force Base



Area of Potential Effects at Kirtland Air Force Base

Attachment 3- Area of Potential Effects Underlying the SUA, MTRs, Existing Airspace, and Training Areas



Area of Potential Effects Underlying the SUA, Existing Airspace, and Training Areas



Sample Tribal Letter

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



Colonel Jason F. Vattioni, USAF
Commander
377th Air Base Wing
2000 Wyoming Blvd SE
Kirtland Air Force Base NM 87117

Governor Vicente Randall
Pueblo of Acoma
PO Box 309
Acoma NM 87034

Dear Governor Randall

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations, and the United States Air Force (USAF) NEPA regulations, the USAF is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts resulting from the relocation of the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) AC-130J Formal Training Unit (FTU) from Hurlburt Field, Florida to Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB), New Mexico and the organizational realignment of the unit under the 58th Special Operations Wing (Air Education and Training Command) which is a tenant organization currently located at Kirtland AFB.

The purpose of the Proposed Action (herein "Undertaking" pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act [NHPA]) is to consolidate all AC-130J qualifications. The Undertaking is needed to provide synergies between the Basic Qualification and Mission Qualification training and lower operational costs. This Undertaking would include relocation of AC-130J aircraft, personnel, operation squadron, maintenance squadron, and related construction activities.

To accommodate the AC-130J aircraft and FTU operations, the Undertaking would require both new construction and modification of some existing facilities at Kirtland AFB. All construction would be located within the Kirtland AFB boundaries. Thirteen construction or infrastructure improvement projects are proposed. Attachment 1 summarizes the proposed construction and modification projects, and attachment 2 depicts these project locations.

The AC-130J is the modern replacement for the aging fleet of C-130 aircraft. Addition of the new AC-130J aircraft would add approximately two to three more airfield sorties per training day and would primarily occur Monday through Friday. A sortie consists of a single military aircraft from a take-off through a landing. With a total of roughly 201 training days per year, this would be approximately 603 sorties per year. The AC-130J will operate within special use airspace (SUA) and other existing airspace and training areas already designated for the C-130 flight operations normally conducted out of Kirtland AFB. These include the Melrose Range

Complex, with supporting SUA (Pecos and Taiban Military Operations Areas [MOAs], and Restricted Areas R-5104 and R-5105 [attachment 3]), which are also used by C-130 aircraft originating from Cannon AFB in Clovis, New Mexico. No new airspace or reconfigurations are needed or proposed to support the relocation of the AFSOC AC-130J FTU from Hurlburt Field to Kirtland AFB.

AC-130 use of the Melrose Range Complex was previously evaluated in the *AFSOC Assets Beddown at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)*, which anticipated a higher number of AC-130s using this training area (airspace and range) than what has actually transpired, based on reduced numbers of aircraft at Cannon AFB than were anticipated. Additional use of the Melrose Range Complex by the AC-130s being proposed for basing at Kirtland AFB will result in use that is still below the levels analyzed in the aforementioned EIS. Specifically, the current C-130 use of this training area plus the proposed increase is still below the EIS levels, including total sorties, total ordnance used, and total expendable countermeasures used. All the impacts from the proposed additional sorties from Kirtland AFB-based AC-130s would still be at or below the previous levels analyzed.

USAF has determined that the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this Undertaking encompasses the areas where ground-disturbing activities, including new construction, building renovations and modifications, building demolitions, and the lands underlying the SUA and other existing airspace and training areas (see attachments 2 and 3). USAF is currently conducting research and investigations to identify historic properties within the APE to determine the potential effects, if any, of the Proposed Action.

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 concerning the Undertaking to allow you and your designee the opportunity to identify any comments, concerns, and suggestions you might have. As we move forward through this process, we welcome your participation and input.

A copy of the Final Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives for the EA addressing the Air Force Special Operations Command AC-130J Formal Training Unit Relocation at Kirtland AFB, New Mexico is available at <http://www.kirtland.af.mil/Home/Environment> under the heading “Environmental Assessments.” We look forward to and welcome your participation in this process. For technical information, please contact my Natural and Cultural Program Manager, Mr. David Reynolds, by email at david.reynolds.37@us.af.mil.

As noted above, the USAF would like to initiate government-to-government consultation pursuant to Section 106 of the NHPA concerning this Undertaking and is seeking concurrence on the APE, as defined. 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

JASON F. VATTIONI, Colonel, USAF
Commander

3 Attachments:

1. List of Proposed Projects
2. Kirtland AFB APE Figure
3. APE Underlying SUA, Airspace, and Training Areas Figure

Pawnee Nation

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

David Reynolds
Natural and Cultural Program Manager
377th Air Base Wing
Kirtland Air Force Base
Department of the Air Force

RE: Section 106 Consultation and Review on-
*Relocation of Air Force Special Operations Command AC-13J Formal Training Unit
Kirtland Air Force Base
Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, New Mexico*

The Pawnee Nation Office of Historic Preservation has received the information and materials requested for our Section 106 Review and Consultation. Consultation with the Pawnee Nation is required by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), and 36 CFR Part 800.

Given the information provided, you are hereby notified that the proposed project/s should not affect the cultural landscape of the Pawnee Nation.

However, be advised that additional undiscovered properties could be encountered, and they must be immediately reported to us under both the National Historic Preservation Act and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act regulations.

This information is provided to assist you in complying with 36 CFR Part 800 for Section 106 Consultation procedures. Should you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at jreed@pawneenation.org or by phone at 918-762-2180 ext 220. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Matt Reed
Historic Preservation Officer
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma

Historic Preservation Office
Matt Reed
Phone: 918.762.2180
E-mail: jreed@pawneenation.org
P.O. Box 470
Pawnee, Oklahoma 74058



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR

JAMES C. KENNEY
CABINET SECRETARY

October 6, 2022

NEPA Program Manager
377 MSG/CEIEC
2050 Wyoming Boulevard SE, Suite 116
Kirtland AFB NM 87117

Submitted electronically to: KirtlandNEPA@us.af.mil

RE: Kirtland Air Force Base Environmental Assessment Scoping for AC-130J FTU Relocation

Dear NEPA Program Manager,

On behalf of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), attached please find our comments on your letter dated August 24, 2022, regarding the request for review and comment on an Environmental Assessment Scoping for the AC-130J FTU Relocation.

Strong intergovernmental coordination, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), is essential to ensure protection of human health and the environment.

NMED offers a few areas of potential environmental impacts in the attachment for you to evaluate as it continues the NEPA compliance review.

Thank you for providing the opportunity to review the project materials. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us with any further questions or concerns you may have. In the future, please send all comment requests to env.review@state.nm.us. This will help expedite a timely review of your request.

Sincerely,

Michael Chacón

Michael Chacón
Science Coordinator

Attachment (1)

Attachment

Introduction

Kirtland Air Force Base has requested review and comment on an Environmental Assessment Scoping for the AC-130J FTU Relocation.

Comments

Drinking Water

There are no regulated public groundwater system wells within 500 feet of the proposed project sites, nor any regulated public surface water system intakes within 10 miles downgradient. Therefore, this project is unlikely to have a significant negative impact on any regulated public water system.

Hazardous Waste

NMED has concerns with Building 737 Trailer Maintenance/Production Facility. Proposed Renovations to Building 737 include the removal and replacement of the oil/water separator located outside on the hardstand to the southwest of the building.

The oil/water (O/W) separator is not listed on the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permit indicating that it was not observed during the 1980s RCRA permit application or RCRA Facility Assessment. Many O/W separators are listed on the permit. The Building 737 O/W separator should be assessed for releases to the environment upon removal and associated contamination, if present, should be remediated. A report summarizing the observations, testing and cleanup should be submitted to the NMED Hazardous Waste Bureau.

The Building 737 Trailer Maintenance/Production Facility should be evaluated on the level of a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment to assess whether there have been releases of contaminants to the environment that must be addressed prior to renovation.

Petroleum Storage Tanks

The following analysis assumes that the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) will choose the alternative of relocating the AC-130J Formal Training Unit to Kirtland Air Force Base. If the project includes the installation of storage tank systems regulated under 20.5 NMAC, NMED must be notified, and the installation and all other aspects of the tank systems must be in accordance with the requirements in 20.5 NMAC for the life of the systems, as is true for existing systems. Storage tank systems in New Mexico continue to release petroleum products into the environment through human error or equipment failure, even with regulations in place, so any installation of these systems has an environmental impact that needs to be weighed against any benefit gained from the action. Only about 1 1/3 gallons of gasoline can contaminate one million gallons of groundwater. Eighty percent of New Mexicans depend on groundwater sources for their drinking water.

See below for an extensive list of facilities with tanks that are in use or have not been legally closed that are near the proposed sites, including near other bases.

Sites where petroleum has leaked or spilled from storage tanks near the proposed project -

There are several confirmed release sites that are located within ½ mile of the project perimeter.

The following site, which is within ½ mile of the project perimeter, has a status of Cleanup, Federal Facility for the Kirtland Air Force Base, which means it is being cleaned up or monitored:

- NO130 (Facility #28882, Release ID #278), located E of Lovelace RD or West of 5 & 6 on project map.

As a Federal Facility, the Responsible Party will need to continue cleanup activities as required under regulations in 20.5 NMAC, New Mexico’s Petroleum Storage Tank regulations.

There are currently 12 confirmed release sites within ½ mile of the project perimeter that have No Further Action status, which means NMED’s Petroleum Storage Tank Bureau does not currently require any further cleanup or monitoring at these sites.

1. F&L Automotive (Facility ID# 29709, Release ID# 19), 3701 Simms SE
2. ATEX 351 (Facility ID# 26751, Release ID# 510), 6431 Gibson SE
3. Evans Auto (Facility ID# 27941, Release ID# 963), 1200 Carlisle SE
4. Circle K 379/Diamond Gas & Food Mart (Facility ID# 1091, Release ID# 1436), 1200 San Pedro SE
5. Veterans ADMIN/ Veterans Affairs (VA) Hospital (Facility ID# 31480, Release ID# 2046), 1501 San Pedro Dr SE
6. ATEX/T-Gas (Facility ID# 26698, Release ID# 2127), 5749 Gibson Blvd SE
7. Gibson Texaco Auto Clinic/ Gibson Food Mart (Facility ID# 26589, Release ID# 2286), 5501 Gibson Blvd SE
8. Veterans ADM Hosp/Veterans Affairs (VA) Hospital (Facility ID# 31480, Release ID# 2452), 1501 San Pedro DR
9. Cortex III Site (Service Corp) (Facility ID# 27533, Release ID# 2473), H and Pennsylvania ST NE
10. Circle K 379/Diamond Gas & Food Mart (Facility ID# 1091, Release ID# 2897), 1200 San Pedro SE (2nd Release)
11. Circle K 791 (Facility ID# 1126, Release ID# 3669), 1600 Carlisle SE
12. Kirtland Food Plaza (Facility ID# 28944, Release ID# 3688), 1620 Carlisle Blvd SE

There are no confirmed sites that are active or have a “no further action” status within the area of the project outline.

Facilities with tanks that are in use or have not been legally closed that are near the proposed project areas, including those near other bases:

FID	Facility	Street	City	County	AST	UST
26444	ALBUQUERQUE LOC	RUNWAY 26 KIRTLAND AFB	ALBUQUERQUE	BERNALILLO	0	1
27135	BUILDING 880 - GEN116	PO BOX 5800	ALBUQUERQUE	BERNALILLO	1	0
28924	KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE G	BUILDING 471	ALBUQUERQUE	BERNALILLO	5	0
28945	KIRTLAND UNDERGROUND	CARE OF 542 CTW EM	ALBUQUERQUE	BERNALILLO	2	0

	MUNITIONS STORAGE COMPLEX					
30432	MESA FAB BLDG 858EF	1515 EUBANK SE	ALBUQUERQUE	BERNALILLO	1	0
31480	VETERANS AFFAIRS (VA) HOSPITAL	1501 SAN PEDRO DR SE	ALBUQUERQUE	BERNALILLO	0	2
54674	FLEET SERVICES BLDG 876	1515 EUBANK BLVD SE	ALBUQUERQUE	BERNALILLO	1	0
54677	THERMAL TEST COMPLEX BLDG 6539	1515 EUBANK BLVD SE	ALBUQUERQUE	BERNALILLO	1	0
54678	BURN SITE BLDG 9830	1515 EUBANK BLVD SE	ALBUQUERQUE	BERNALILLO	1	0
54890	BLDG 871 - EME SIMULATOR	1515 EUBANK SE	ALBUQUERQUE	BERNALILLO	1	0
54892	KIRTLAND AFB, WELL #15, BLDG 900	SAN MATEO AND RANDOLPH	ALBUQUERQUE	BERNALILLO	1	0
54898	VETERANS AFFAIRS (VA) HOSPITAL BLDG #80	1501 SAN PEDRO DR SE	ALBUQUERQUE	BERNALILLO	0	1
54951	VETERANS AFFAIRS HOSPITAL BLDG # 42	1501 SAN PEDRO DR SE	ALBUQUERQUE	BERNALILLO	0	1
54952	VETERANS AFFAIRS HOSPITAL BLDG # 01	1501 SAN PEDRO DR SE	ALBUQUERQUE	BERNALILLO	0	1
54953	VETERANS AFFAIRS HOSPITAL BLDG # 03	1501 SAN PEDRO SE	ALBUQUERQUE	BERNALILLO	0	1
54954	VETERANS AFFAIRS HOSPITAL BLDG # 10	1501 SAN PEDRO DR SE	ALBUQUERQUE	BERNALILLO	0	1
54955	VETERANS AFFAIRS HOSPITAL BLDG # T 74	1501 SAN PEDRO DR SE	ALBUQUERQUE	BERNALILLO	0	1
54956	VETERANS AFFAIRS HOSPITAL BLDG # T 38	1501 SAN PEDRO DR. SE	ALBUQUERQUE	BERNALILLO	1	0
51862	KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE 701	BUILDING 702	KIRTLAND AFB	BERNALILLO	1	0
51863	KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE -NO1032	BUILDING 1032	KIRTLAND AFB	BERNALILLO	4	0
51865	KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE 20147	BUILDING 20147	KIRTLAND AFB	BERNALILLO	4	0
51866	KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE 20359	BUILDING 20359	KIRTLAND AFB	BERNALILLO	4	0
51867	KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE 27500	BUILDING 27500	KIRTLAND AFB	BERNALILLO	1	0
54729	KIRTLAND WEST SIDE EXPRESS BLDG 972	AAFEES WEST EXPRESS	KIRTLAND AFB	BERNALILLO	2	0
54893	KIRTLAND AFB WELL # 16 BLDG 25952	RANDOLPH AVE & RIDGECREST AVE	KIRTLAND AFB	BERNALILLO	1	0
54905	KIRTLAND AFB, DISA, BLDG # 323	CARLISLE BLVD SE & HAMILTON	KIRTLAND AFB	BERNALILLO	1	0
53066	TANK 280A	FACILITY 280	CANNON AFB	CURRY	1	0
53067	TANK 280B	FACILITY 280B	CANNON AFB	CURRY	1	0
53069	AFFES EXPRESS	108 N EAGLE CLAW BLVD	CANNON AFB	CURRY	0	3
54815	FUELS YARD	602 N CHINDIT	CANNON AFB	CURRY	4	0

54816	AIRFIELD (RUNWAY 04/22)	602 N CHINDIT	CANNON AFB	CURRY	1	0
54817	551ST SOS	119 E COCHRAN AVENUE	CANNON AFB	CURRY	1	0
54818	SECURITY FORCES	122 E COCHRAN AVENUE	CANNON AFB	CURRY	1	0
54820	BASE OPERATIONS	207 W ALISON AVENUE	CANNON AFB	CURRY	1	0
54821	3RD SOS	208 S CHINDIT BLVD	CANNON AFB	CURRY	1	0
54822	AIRFIELD/AIRFIELD LIGHTS	211 E ALBRIGHT AVENUE	CANNON AFB	CURRY	1	0
54825	WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT	413 N ANDERHOLT LOOP	CANNON AFB	CURRY	1	0
54843	AIRCRAFT MAINT SQUADRON (GPMX)	128 SOUTH DAGGER BLDG 4617	CANNON AFB	CURRY	1	0
54988	MELROSE AIR FORCE RANGE	12 MILES WEST AND 4 MILES SOUTH OF MELROSE NM	CANNON AFB	CURRY	3	0
903	ALLSUPS # 102045	BASE GATE	CLOVIS	CURRY	0	1
54596	AGE COMPLEX BLDG #850	113 E OCTAGON	CLOVIS	CURRY	1	0
54920	WSMR COCO FUEL FACILITY MAIN POST	WSMR ROUTE 1 BUILDING 21049	WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANG	DONA ANA	7	0
54921	WSMR COCO FUEL FACILITY RHODES CANYON	WSMR RD 7 BUIKING 30724	WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANG	DONA ANA	2	0
54922	WSMR COCO FUEL FACILITY STALLION RANGE	WSMR RD 7 BUILDING 34244	WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANG	DONA ANA	5	0
31695	WSMR BLDG 270 1	STEWES EL N	WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE	DONA ANA	0	1
31696	WSMR BLDG 270 2	BLDG #270 ROCK ISLAND AVE	WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE	DONA ANA	0	1

Facilities where our database shows all petroleum storage tanks have been removed or closed and where our database does not show a release, and facilities unknown to the NMED Petroleum Storage Tank Bureau, if any, are not listed here.

If an abandoned storage tank system or petroleum contaminated soil or water is discovered, the NMED Petroleum Storage Tank Bureau must be notified (20.5.118 NMAC). Contact the Leak of the Week here during business hours: https://www.env.nm.gov/petroleum_storage_tank/ (see box to the right, Report a Leak or Spill) or call 505-476-4397. During non-business hours, call 505-827-9329.

Surface Water Quality

NMED reviewed the above-referenced request for modification as requested, focusing specifically on the potential effect to surface water resources in the area of the proposed projects.

A Construction General Permit (CGP) is not required if the disturbing activities are part of the normal day-to-day operation of a completed facility (e.g., daily cover for landfills, maintenance of gravel roads or parking areas, landscape maintenance. If work performed is routine maintenance that is performed to maintain the original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, or original purpose of the facility. The thirteen construction or infrastructure improvement projects that are proposed may need coverage under the Construction General Permit (CGP), see below.

Clean Water Act, Section 402 NPDES Industrial Storm Water Construction General Permit

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) may require a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction General Permit (CGP) coverage for storm water discharges from construction activities (such as clearing, grading, excavating, and stockpiling) that disturb (or re-disturb) one or more acres. Prior to discharging storm water, construction operators may need to obtain coverage under an NPDES permit.

Among other things, this permit requires that a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) be prepared for the project, including support and staging areas, and that appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) be installed and maintained both during and after construction to prevent, to the extent practicable, pollutants (primarily sediment, oil & grease and construction materials from construction sites) in storm water runoff from entering waters of the U.S. This permit also requires that permanent stabilization measures (re-vegetation, paving, etc.), and permanent storm water management measures (storm water detention/retention structures, velocity dissipation devices, etc.) be implemented post construction to minimize, in the long term, pollutants in storm water runoff from entering these waters.

Part 9 of the 2022 CGP includes permit conditions applicable to specific states, Indian country lands, or territories. In the State of New Mexico, except on tribal land, permittees must ensure that there is no increase in sediment yield and flow velocity from the construction site (both during and after construction) compared to pre-construction, undisturbed conditions (see Subpart 9.6.1.c.ii of the 2022 CGP). USEPA requires that all "operators" (see Appendix A of the 2022 CGP) obtain NPDES permit coverage by submitting a Notice of Intent (NOI) for construction projects. Generally, this means that at least two parties will require permit coverage.

The owner/developer of this construction project who has operational control over project specifications, the general contractor who has day-to-day operational control of those activities at the site, which are necessary to ensure compliance with the SWPPP and other permit conditions, and possibly other "operators" will require appropriate NPDES permit coverage for this project. The CGP, NOI, deadlines for submitting an NOI, Fact Sheet, and Federal Register notice are available at:

<https://www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater-discharges-construction-activities>

Clean Water Act, Section 402 Industrial Multi-Sector Permit (MSGP)

The USEPA issued the new "2021 Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP)" for industrial storm water discharges on January 15, 2021. This permit replaces the 2015 MSGP Permit. All new and existing industrial storm water discharges, as determined by your facility's NAIC/SIC code, must apply for coverage under the new Permit by submitting a Notice of Intent (NOI) to USEPA. Your facility's written storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) will also need to be revised to comply with the new Permit. The new

Permit was effective March 1, 2021. The MSGP, NOI, deadlines for submitting an NOI, Fact Sheet, and Federal Register notice are available at: Stormwater Discharges from Industrial Activities-EPA's 2021 MSGP | US EPA

Clean Water Act, Section 404 USACE/Section 401 Certification

Information is provided below if the project (or associated construction support areas, if any) during construction requires discharge of dredged/fill material into Waters of the U.S., including wetlands. Section 404 of the Clean Water Act requires approval from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) prior to discharging dredged or fill material into waters of the United States (U.S.).

Any person, firm, or agency (including Federal, state, tribal and local governmental agencies) planning to work in waters of the United States should first contact the USACE regarding the need to obtain a permit from the Regulatory Division. Failure to receive and implement proper permit coverage would be a violation of the Clean Water Act.

More information on the §404 permitting process, including applicability of Nationwide Permits, mitigation requirements, requirements for certification for any discharges on state, private or tribal land, can be obtained from the USACE at:

<http://www.spa.usace.army.mil/Missions/RegulatoryProgramandPermits.aspx>

For additional information, including permitting procedures and jurisdictional water determination, contact the USACE, Albuquerque District, 4101 Jefferson Plaza NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109-343, 505-342-3262.



Sample Agency Letter

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



14 November 2022

Colonel Jason F. Vattioni, USAF
Commander
377th Air Base Wing
2000 Wyoming Blvd SE
Kirtland Air Force Base NM 87117

Ms. Sabrina Flores, 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. Flores

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 prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts resulting from the relocation of the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) AC-130J Formal Training Unit (FTU) from Hurlburt Field, Florida to Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB), New Mexico and the organizational realignment of the unit under the 58th Special Operations Wing (Air Education and Training Command) which is a tenant organization located at Kirtland AFB.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to consolidate all AC-130J qualifications. The action is needed to provide synergies between the Basic Qualification and Mission Qualification training and lower operational costs. This Proposed Action would include relocation of AC-130J aircraft, personnel, operation squadron, maintenance squadron, and related construction activities. To accommodate the AC-130J aircraft and FTU operations, the Proposed Action would require both new construction and modification of some existing facilities at Kirtland AFB. Thirteen construction or infrastructure improvement projects are proposed. All construction would be located within the Kirtland AFB boundaries.

The AC-130J will operate within special use airspace (SUA) and other existing airspace and training areas already designated for the C-130 flight operations normally conducted out of Kirtland AFB. These include the Melrose Range Complex, with supporting SUA (Pecos and Taiban Military Operations Areas [MOAs], and Restricted Areas R-5104 and R-5105 [attachment 3]), which are also used by C-130 aircraft originating from Cannon AFB in Clovis, New Mexico. No new airspace or reconfigurations are needed or proposed to support the relocation of the AFSOC AC-130J FTU from Hurlburt Field to Kirtland AFB.

AC-130 use of the Melrose Range Complex was previously evaluated in the AFSOC Assets Beddown at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which anticipated a higher number of AC-130s using this training area (airspace and range) than what has actually transpired, based on reduced numbers of aircraft at Cannon AFB than were anticipated. Additional use of the Melrose Range Complex by the AC-130s being proposed for basing at Kirtland AFB will result in use that is still below the levels analyzed in the aforementioned EIS. Specifically, the current C-130 use of this training area plus the proposed increase is still below the EIS levels, including total sorties, total ordnance used, and total expendable countermeasures used. All the impacts from the proposed additional sorties from Kirtland AFB-based AC-130s would still be at or below the previous levels analyzed.

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. A copy of the Draft EA and the proposed Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) are available at <http://www.kirtland.af.mil> under the "Environment" button at the bottom of the webpage. If, after review of the Draft EA and proposed FONSI, 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 EA.

Please send your written responses to Ms. Brianne Sisneros, 377 MSG/CEIEC NEPA Program Manager, 2050 Wyoming Boulevard SE, Suite 118, Kirtland AFB NM 87117, or via email to KirtlandNEPA@us.af.mil.

Sincerely

VATTIONI.JASON.
F.1170028640
JASON F. VATTIONI, Colonel, USAF
Commander

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



14 November 2022

Colonel Jason F. Vattioni, USAF
Commander
377th Air Base Wing
2000 Wyoming Blvd 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 prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts resulting from the relocation of the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) AC-130J Formal Training Unit (FTU) from Hurlburt Field, Florida to Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB), New Mexico and the organizational realignment of the unit under the 58th Special Operations Wing (Air Education and Training Command) which is a tenant organization located at Kirtland AFB.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to consolidate all AC-130J qualifications. The action is needed to provide synergies between the Basic Qualification and Mission Qualification training and lower operational costs. This Proposed Action would include relocation of AC-130J aircraft, personnel, operation squadron, maintenance squadron, and related construction activities. To accommodate the AC-130J aircraft and FTU operations, the Proposed Action would require both new construction and modification of some existing facilities at Kirtland AFB. Thirteen construction or infrastructure improvement projects are proposed. All construction would be located within the Kirtland AFB boundaries.

The AC-130J will operate within special use airspace (SUA) and other existing airspace and training areas already designated for the C-130 flight operations normally conducted out of Kirtland AFB. These include the Melrose Range Complex, with supporting SUA (Pecos and Taiban Military Operations Areas [MOAs], and Restricted Areas R-5104 and R-5105 [attachment 3]), which are also used by C-130 aircraft originating from Cannon AFB in Clovis, New Mexico. No new airspace or reconfigurations are needed or proposed to support the relocation of the AFSOC AC-130J FTU from Hurlburt Field to Kirtland AFB.

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 US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation Official Species and Habitat List was received on 16 September 2021 under Consultation Code 02ENNM00-2021-SLI-1643. 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. There are no wetlands within the project area.

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. Copies of the Draft EA and the proposed Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) are available at <http://www.kirtland.af.mil> under the "Environment" button at the bottom of the webpage. If, after review of the Draft EA and proposed FONSI, 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 EA.

Please send your written responses to Ms. Brianne Sisneros, 377 MSG/CEIEC NEPA Program Manager, 2050 Wyoming Boulevard SE, Suite 118, Kirtland AFB NM 87117, or via email to KirtlandNEPA@us.af.mil.

Sincerely

VATTIONI.JASO
N.F.1170028640

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JASON F. VATTIONI, Colonel, USAF
Commander



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



14 November 2022

Colonel Jason F. Vattioni, USAF
Commander
377th Air Base Wing
2000 Wyoming Blvd 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 an Environmental Assessment to evaluate the potential environmental impacts resulting from the relocation of the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) AC-130J Formal Training Unit (FTU) from Hurlburt Field, Florida to Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB), New Mexico and the organizational realignment of the unit under the 58th Special Operations Wing (Air Education and Training Command [AETC]) which is a tenant organization currently located at Kirtland AFB.

In accordance with Section 306108 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) 1966, as amended and its implementing regulations at 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800, the USAF, Kirtland AFB, is notifying you of a proposed Undertaking that has the potential to affect historic properties.

The purpose of the Undertaking pursuant to the NHPA is to consolidate all AC-130J FTU qualifications (initial and mission) at one active duty AETC location that already has existing MC-130J maintenance and support. In addition, the AC-130J FTU would be combined under one Major Command instead of two, saving operational and instructor resources. This consolidation would allow the command to focus on operational mission execution and streamline training pipeline as well as create an AFSOC C-130J Center of Excellence. The Undertaking is needed to provide synergies between the Basic Qualification and Mission Qualification training and lower operational costs. This Undertaking would include relocation of AC-130J aircraft and training areas, personnel, operation squadron, maintenance squadron, and related construction activities. To accommodate the AC-130J aircraft and FTU operations, the

Undertaking would require both new construction and modification of some existing facilities at Kirtland AFB. All construction would be located within the Kirtland AFB boundaries.

The AC-130J will operate within special use airspace (SUA) and other existing airspace and training areas already designated for the C-130 flight operations normally conducted out of Kirtland AFB. These include the Melrose Range Complex, with supporting SUA (Pecos and Taiban Military Operations Areas [MOAs], and Restricted Areas R-5104 and R-5105), which are also used by C-130 aircraft originating from Cannon AFB in Clovis, New Mexico. No new airspace or reconfigurations are needed or proposed to support the relocation of the AC-130J FTU from Hurlburt Field to Kirtland AFB.

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this Undertaking is therefore defined as the areas where ground-disturbing activities, including new construction, building renovations and modifications, building demolitions, and the lands underlying the SUA and other existing airspace and training areas. Direct impacts to historic properties within the APE and indirect effects to adjacent historic properties within the viewshed were assessed.

The Undertaking has the potential to impact three historic properties, hangar 1002, building 955, and building 956. Island B, located within hangar 1002, will be renovated to provide training and administrative capabilities (Project 4). Because the renovations to hangar 1002 would be limited to the building's interior, the Undertaking would not impact the character-defining features of the historic property that contribute to the building's National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility. Project 5 consists of a temporary addition to building 949 for Weapons Systems Trainer with a small 144 square foot (SF) permanent electrical shed added. Historic properties, buildings 955 and 956, are within the viewshed of Project 5. The setting of these buildings and associated viewsheds are not character-defining features that contribute to the building's NRHP eligibility; the Undertaking would not adversely affect the NRHP-eligibility of buildings 955 and 956. Analysis and effect determinations for each component of the project are detailed in attachment 1. Project maps are included at attachment 2 and building forms are included at attachment 3.

Kirtland AFB has reviewed the Criteria of Adverse Effect as stated in 36 CFR 800.5(a)(1) and has determined that none apply to the activities that would be carried out in this Undertaking. Pursuant to 36 CFR §800.5(b), the USAF has determined that there would be no adverse effects to historic properties by the Undertaking.

We request your comment and/or concurrence on the finding of *No Adverse Effect*. If we do not receive your comments and/or concurrence within the required 30 days, we will assume concurrence and proceed with the Undertaking as described.

Please send your written responses to the NEPA Program Manager, 377 MSG/CEIEC, 2050 Wyoming Boulevard SE, Suite 116, Kirtland AFB NM 87117. Please contact David Reynolds, Cultural Resources Program Manager, at david.reynolds.37@us.af.mil if you have any technical questions.

Sincerely

VATTIONI.JASO
N.F.1170028640
JASON F. VATTIONI, Colonel, USAF
Commander

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3 Attachments:

1. Cultural Resources Analysis
2. Maps
3. Building Forms



Sample Tribal Letter

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



14 November 2022

Colonel Jason F. Vattioni, USAF
Commander
377th Air Base Wing
2000 Wyoming Blvd SE
Kirtland Air Force Base NM 87117

Governor Vicente Randall
Pueblo of Acoma
PO Box 309
Acoma NM 87034

Dear Governor Randall

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 an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts resulting from the relocation of the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) AC-130J Formal Training Unit (FTU) from Hurlburt Field, Florida to Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB), New Mexico and the organizational realignment of the unit under the 58th Special Operations Wing (Air Education and Training Command [AETC]) which is a tenant organization currently located at Kirtland AFB. In accordance with Section 306108 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) 1966, as amended and its implementing regulations at 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800, the USAF, Kirtland AFB, is notifying you of a proposed Undertaking that has the potential to affect historic properties.

The environmental analysis for the Undertaking is being conducted by the USAF in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality guidelines pursuant to the NEPA of 1969. Copies of the Draft EA and the proposed Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) are available at: <http://www.kirtland.af.mil> by clicking the "Environment" button at the bottom of the webpage. If, after review of the Draft EA and proposed FONSI you have additional information regarding the impacts of the Proposed Action on cultural resources and other environmental aspects of which we are unaware, we would appreciate receiving such information for inclusion and consideration during the NEPA process.

The purpose of the Undertaking pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) is to consolidate all AC-130J FTU qualifications (initial and mission) at one active duty AETC location that already has existing MC-130J maintenance and support. In addition, the AC-130J FTU would be combined under one Major Command instead of two, saving operational and instructor resources. This consolidation would allow the command to focus on operational mission execution and streamline training pipeline as well as create an AFSOC C-130J Center of Excellence. The Undertaking is needed to provide synergies between the Basic Qualification and Mission Qualification training and lower operational costs. This Undertaking would include

relocation of AC-130J aircraft and training areas, personnel, operation squadron, maintenance squadron, and related construction activities. To accommodate the AC-130J aircraft and FTU operations, the Undertaking would require both new construction and modification of some existing facilities at Kirtland AFB. All construction would be located within the Kirtland AFB boundaries.

The AC-130J is the modern replacement for the aging fleet of C-130 aircraft. Addition of the new AC-130J aircraft would add approximately two to three more airfield sorties per training day and would primarily occur Monday through Friday. A sortie consists of a single military aircraft from a take-off through a landing. With a total of roughly 201 training days per year, this would be approximately 603 sorties per year. The AC-130J will operate within special use airspace (SUA) and other existing airspace and training areas already designated for the C-130 flight operations normally conducted out of Kirtland AFB. These include the Melrose Range Complex, with supporting SUA (Pecos and Taiban Military Operations Areas [MOAs], and Restricted Areas R-5104 and R-5105), which are also used by C-130 aircraft originating from Cannon AFB in Clovis, New Mexico. No new airspace or reconfigurations are needed or proposed to support the relocation of the AC-130J FTU from Hurlburt Field to Kirtland AFB.

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this Undertaking is therefore defined as the areas where ground-disturbing activities, including new construction, building renovations and modifications, building demolitions, and the lands underlying the SUA and other existing airspace and training areas. Direct impacts to historic properties within the APE and indirect effects to adjacent historic properties within the viewshed were assessed. In accordance with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), five cultural resources inventories have been conducted within the area of potential effects (APE) on Kirtland AFB. No archaeological sites were identified.

Visual intrusions associated with the Undertaking, beneath the SUA, would be minimal and would not represent an increase sufficient to cause adverse impacts to the setting of historic properties. Due to the high altitude of the overflights, the aircraft would not be readily visible to observers on the ground and would not physically damage historic properties from vibratory effects. For the Undertaking, aircraft would be flying at an altitude above 10,000 feet mean sea level.

AC-130J flights over tribal lands would occur on the Pueblo of Isleta. Kirtland AFB implemented the *Memorandum of Understanding Between State and Federal Military Organizations and The New Mexico Indian Affairs Department for Military Low-Level Overflights of Tribal Lands* in 2016. The memorandum of understanding (MOU) established a process to coordinate use of airspace over tribal lands in order to mitigate adverse effects from the mission. Information for submitting No-Flyover requests and reporting concerns from previous overflights is available at <https://www.iad.state.nm.us/resources/low-level-fly-overs/>.

The Undertaking has the potential to impact three historic properties, hangar 1002, building 955, and building 956 on Kirtland AFB. Island B, located within hangar 1002, will be renovated to provide training and administrative capabilities (Project 4). Because the

renovations to hangar 1002 would be limited to the building's interior, the Undertaking would not impact the character-defining features of the historic property.

Project 5 consists of a temporary addition to Building 949 for Weapons Systems Trainer with a small 144 square foot (SF) permanent electrical shed added. Historic properties, buildings 955 and 956, are within the viewshed of Project 5. The setting of these buildings and associated viewsheds are not character-defining characteristics that contribute to the buildings National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility; the Undertaking would not adversely affect the NRHP-eligibility of buildings 955 and 956. Analysis and effect determinations for each component of the projects are detailed in attachment 1. Project maps are included at attachment 2 and building forms are included at attachment 3.

Kirtland AFB has reviewed the Criteria of Adverse Effect as stated in 36 CFR 800.5(a)(1) and has determined that none apply to the activities that would be carried out in this Undertaking. Pursuant to 36 CFR §800.5(b), the USAF has determined that there would be no adverse effects to historic properties by the Undertaking.

We look forward to and welcome your participation in this process. Please provide any comments you may have to ensure your concerns are adequately addressed in the Final EA. For technical information, please contact my Natural and Cultural Program Manager, Mr. David Reynolds, by email at david.reynolds.37@us.af.mil. 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

VATTIONI.JASON.F. 1170028640
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Date: 2022.11.14 09:07:08 -07'00'
JASON F. VATTIONI, Colonel, USAF
Commander

3 Attachments:

1. Cultural Resources Analysis
2. Maps
3. Building Forms



JLUS Sample Letter

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



14 November 2022

Colonel Jason F. Vattioni, USAF
Commander
377th Air Base Wing
2000 Wyoming Blvd SE
Kirtland Air Force Base NM 87117

Mr. Craig Johnson
Assistant Commissioner for Commercial Resources
New Mexico State Land Office
PO Box 1148
Santa Fe NM 87504

Dear Mr. Johnson

As set forth in the Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB) – New Mexico State Land Office Joint Land Use Study Memorandum of Understanding, and as required by 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 prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts resulting from the relocation of the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) AC-130J Formal Training Unit (FTU) from Hurlburt Field, Florida to Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB), New Mexico and the organizational realignment of the unit under the 58th Special Operations Wing (Air Education and Training Command) which is a tenant organization located at Kirtland AFB.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to consolidate all AC-130J qualifications. The action is needed to provide synergies between the Basic Qualification and Mission Qualification training and lower operational costs. This Proposed Action would include relocation of AC-130J aircraft, personnel, operation squadron, maintenance squadron, and related construction activities. To accommodate the AC-130J aircraft and FTU operations, the Proposed Action would require both new construction and modification of some existing facilities at Kirtland AFB. Thirteen construction or infrastructure improvement projects are proposed. All construction would be located within the Kirtland AFB boundaries.

The AC-130J will operate within special use airspace (SUA) and other existing airspace and training areas already designated for the C-130 flight operations normally conducted out of Kirtland AFB. These include the Melrose Range Complex, with supporting SUA (Pecos and Taiban Military Operations Areas [MOAs], and Restricted Areas R-5104 and R-5105 [attachment 3]), which are also used by C-130 aircraft originating from Cannon AFB in Clovis, New Mexico. No new airspace or reconfigurations are needed or proposed to support the relocation of the AFSOC AC-130J FTU from Hurlburt Field to Kirtland AFB.

AC-130 use of the Melrose Range Complex was previously evaluated in the AFSOC Assets Beddown at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which anticipated a higher number of AC-130s using this training area (airspace and range) than what has actually transpired, based on reduced numbers of aircraft at Cannon AFB than were anticipated. Additional use of the Melrose Range Complex by the AC-130s being proposed for basing at Kirtland AFB will result in use that is still below the levels analyzed in the aforementioned EIS. Specifically, the current C-130 use of this training area plus the proposed increase is still below the EIS levels, including total sorties, total ordnance used, and total expendable countermeasures used. All the impacts from the proposed additional sorties from Kirtland AFB-based AC-130s would still be at or below the previous levels analyzed.

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. A copy of the Draft EA and the proposed Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) are available at <http://www.kirtland.af.mil> under the "Environment" button at the bottom of the webpage. If, after review of the Draft EA and proposed FONSI, 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 EA.

Please send your written responses to Ms. Brianne Sisneros, 377 MSG/CEIEC NEPA Program Manager, 2050 Wyoming Boulevard SE, Suite 118, Kirtland AFB NM 87117, or via email to KirtlandNEPA@us.af.mil.

Sincerely

VATTIONI.JASO
N.F.1170028640
JASON F. VATTIONI, Colonel, USAF
Commander

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APPENDIX B
DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AND MODIFICATION
OF FACILITIES

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Appendix B

Description of Proposed Construction and Modification of Facilities

B.1 TEMPORARY NEW SQUADRON OPERATIONS FACILITY

The temporary squadron operations facility is required to support the AC-130J aircraft training function until the permanent solution military construction (MILCON) project is completed in fiscal year (FY) 2028. This project would include five temporary 5,000-square foot (SF) modular trailers (four for the AC-130J squadron personnel and one for the 58th Training Squadron [58 TRS] personnel) that would be used for administrative offices that comprise a squadron command section, aircrew flight equipment (AFE) work center, AFE storage, restrooms, kitchen area, and rooms for briefing, mission planning, and conferences. In addition, utilities, additional parking (if required), and walkways would be added to support these trailers. The utility connections would include electricity, stormwater, potable water, natural gas, telephone, Non-Secure Internet Protocol Router (NIPR), and Wi-Fi. Additional gravel parking would be needed unless the parking area at Building 926 can be used. The maximum number of parking spaces required is 119 (approximately 48,000 SF with 3 handicap spaces and 116 standard spaces and driving aisles) assuming all personnel (62 AC-130J personnel and 57 58 TRS personnel) were working at the same time and every 58 TRS classroom was at capacity (Kirtland AFB, 2021a). (Note: Location of the additional parking is yet to be determined. Potential location depicted in **Figure 2-2a in the EA**) There would also be paved pedestrian walkways as needed between the trailers and from the parking area. The temporary squadron operations facility would be sited east of Building 926 in an area that is currently an open field (see **Figure 2-2a in the EA**) until the permanent MILCON project is complete in FY 2028/2029 (see **Section B.2**) (Kirtland AFB, 2021b, 2021c, 2021d). The total estimated area of ground disturbance would be 75,900 SF.

B.2 PERMANENT NEW SQUADRON OPERATIONS FACILITY AND PARKING

This MILCON project is required to provide a permanent solution for AC-130J squadron operations. This project would involve the construction of administrative offices that would include a squadron command section, AFE work center, AFE storage, restrooms, kitchen area, and rooms for briefing, mission planning, and conferences. The new facility would be 20,000 SF and sited on the current Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) storage yard, west of Building 994 (see **Figure 2-2b in the EA**). The yard space will be replaced with a new paved storage area (20,000 SF) on the north side of Randolph Avenue in an undeveloped area as part of the MILCON project to meet the needs of the AFRL. The utility connections to the new facility would include electricity, stormwater, potable water, natural gas, telephone, fire protection system, NIPR, Secure Internet Protocol Router (SIPR), and Wi-Fi. A paved entrance/egress (4,500 SF) from the existing parking lot, east of the water tank, onto Randolph Avenue would also be constructed. An additional 46 paved parking spaces with driving aisles and landscaping (9,300 SF) would need to be constructed on the open lot on the east side of Building 995 across from the west side of the water tank (Building 1004) and Plumhoff Way (Kirtland AFB, 2021b, 2021c). The total estimated area of ground disturbance would be 53,800 SF.

B.3 ADDITION TO BUILDING 957 FOR CLASSROOM AND ADMINISTRATION

The project is required to provide additional space for course instructor and other training support offices. This project would involve the construction of a 5,000 SF addition to the east side of Building 957 on an undeveloped area (see **Figure 2-2c in the EA**). The addition would include

four classrooms with a 12-student capacity, office/administrative space for 5 personnel, and 800 SF of storage. The height of the addition would match the existing building (Building 957). The utilities would be connected through Building 957 existing services and the communication infrastructure would include, NIPR, Wi-Fi, and the Learning Management System. No additional parking would be required (Kirtland AFB, 2021c, 2021e). The total estimated area of ground disturbance would be 5,000 SF.

B.4 RENOVA TE HANGAR 1002 (ISLAND B) FOR AC-130J AMU

This project is required to provide space for the beddown of the AC-130J Aircraft Maintenance Unit (AMU) and associated equipment. The project would involve complete renovation of Hangar 1002, Island B and would include administrative offices, storage area, classified storage area, consolidated tool kit area, restrooms, and a break room (see **Figure 2-2d in the EA**). In addition, there would be the removal of existing asbestos containing material (ACM), lead paint, and polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB); replacement of the HVAC and passenger/freight elevator; upgrades to the fire protection and electrical systems; construction of a fire protected egress from the Island to exterior of hangar; and installation of telephone connection; NIPR and Wi-Fi (Kirtland AFB, 2021f). There would be no ground disturbance with this project.

B.5 TEMPORARY ADDITION TO BUILDING 949 FOR WST

This project is required to provide space for the Weapons Systems Trainer (WST) simulator and renovation of two adjacent rooms to accommodate the aircraft cabin trainer (ACT) and the gun trainer (GTR). All three trainers are required to provide AC-130J formal training. The project involves installing an approximately 3,600 SF temporary structure on the east side of Building 949 where there is an existing concrete hardstand to house a full motion WST (see **Figure 2-2e in the EA**). The project shall include trenching from Building 949 to the temporary simulator location. The two existing adjacent rooms would be renovated for the ACT and GTR simulators and would require HVAC and electrical upgrades. In addition, the room housing the GTR would require sound proofing the walls. The three existing 10-ft exterior doors would be replaced with steel roll-up doors (Kirtland AFB, 2021c, 2021g, 2022a). In addition, a 144 SF electrical equipment room (12 x 12 ft) would be constructed on the north side of Building 949 to house electrical transformer(s) and switching in support of the simulators and training devices. The total estimated area of ground disturbance would be approximately 3,800 SF.

B.6 NEW SIMULATOR COMPLEX

This project is required to provide space for the AC-130J simulator facility to house two full motion AC-130J WSTs, two ACTs, a fuselage trainer (FuT), and a GTR. The project would involve constructing a 120-ft long x 60-ft wide x 60-ft high bay (7,200 SF) with a 2.5-ton overhead crane to house the WSTs. Each ACT requires construction of a 28 x 32 ft (896 SF) room. The FuT trainer room would be 140 x 40 ft (5,600 SF) and the GTR room would be 31 x 25 ft (775 SF). The facility would include an image generation room, classrooms, mission planning rooms, administrative area, restrooms, break area, and all necessary facility features to fully support the operations of the various trainers. The new facility would be 45,000 SF and sited to the west of Building 950 (see **Figure 2-2f in the EA**) (Kirtland AFB 2021c, 2021h). In addition, the project would involve installing all supporting utilities and constructing a covered paved walkway to Building 950 and additional parking (185 parking spaces, driving aisles, landscaping, motorcycle parking for a total of 58,500 SF, location to be determined). The maximum square footage of the covered walkway would be approximately 900 SF. The total estimated area of ground disturbance would be 104,400 SF.

B.7 ADDITION TO ZIA PARK DORMITORY

This project is required to provide space for the additional personnel to support the AC-130J relocation. The project would involve the construction of 80 additional rooms in the joint use pipeline dormitory already proposed to be built in Zia Park, increasing the total number of rooms to 432 (separate EA in process) (178,089 SF or approximately 412 SF per room). The floor plan layout would comply with the Unaccompanied Housing Design Guide, and would be single occupancy with desks, visitor space, private bathrooms, and kitchenette areas (Kirtland AFB, 2021c). The proposed location of the project is west of Pennsylvania Street within the Zia Park Area Development Plan boundary (see **Figure 2-2g in the EA**). There would be no ground disturbance with this addition.

B.8 NEW ADMINISTRATION BUILDING EAST OF MSA PARKING LOT

This project is required to provide an administration building to hold the additional manning to support the AC-130J mission move. The project would involve constructing a 10,000 SF facility. The utility connections would include electric, natural gas, HVAC, potable water, sanitary, fire suppression, telephone, NIPR, SIPR, and Wi-Fi. The facility would be located east of the Munitions Storage Area (MSA) parking lot and northeast of Building 737 outside of the gate to the MSA on open, undeveloped land in an unsecured area (see **Figure 2-2h in the EA**) (Kirtland AFB, 2021i, 2021j, 2021k). The total estimated area of ground disturbance would be 10,000 SF.

B.9 NEW MUNITIONS TRAILER HOLDING PAD

This project is required to provide space to hold munition trailers within the MSA awaiting loading and loaded trailers awaiting transport to the flight line. In addition, this area would be used to park government vehicles used in transporting munitions. The number of government vehicles will increase by 10 (forklifts/trucks) (350 percent increase) in order to accommodate the AC-130J mission. This increase in vehicles is due to the increase of deliveries to the flightline as well as Technical Order requirements when towing the ammunition supporting the AC-130J mission – hence the need for the bobtails and trailers (Kirtland AFB, 2022b). The project would involve the construction of a 100 x 100 ft (10,000 SF) concrete munitions trailer holding pad south of Building 733 along the perimeter road (see **Figures 2-2h and 2-2i in the EA**). The project would also include exterior lighting and a lightning protection system (Kirtland AFB, 2021i, 2021j, 2021l, 2022b). The total estimated area of ground disturbance would be 10,000 SF.

B.10 CONSTRUCT TWO NEW EARTH COVERED MUNITION STORAGE IGLOOS

This project is required to provide earth covered igloos at the MSA to support the movement of the AC-130J FTU to Kirtland AFB. Current munition structures are at 85 percent capacity with current Kirtland AFB mission requirements and the AC-130J mission quarterly munitions requirements will increase floor space by a 65-pallet position per quarter (approximately one and a half the size of the current igloos) (Kirtland AFB, 2022c). The project would involve the construction of two 25 x 80 ft (2,000 SF) Hayman Earth Covered Munitions Storage Igloos. An additional 7,000 SF would be included for the aprons and access road. The two igloos would be located across the perimeter road to the east (see **Figure 2-2i in the EA**). The two igloos would be covered with a minimum of 24 inches of soil and would each have a paved surrounding apron to facilitate maneuvering of trailers and equipment. Utility connections would include electric, lightning protection system, an alarm system, and a fire protection system. In addition, a 3,500 SF stormwater drainage system would be constructed for each igloo. The total estimated area of ground disturbance would be 18,000 SF including the stormwater drainage systems (Kirtland AFB, 2021i, 2021j, 2021m).

B.11 NEW EXPLOSIVE OPERATIONS BUILDING

This project is required to provide an additional operating location to meet the new AC-130J Formal Training mission requirements without impeding the current missions' requirements at Kirtland AFB. The current operating location is not large enough to handle current mission requirements and new AC-130J mission requirements. The project would involve the construction of an Explosive Operations Building (approximately 6,000 SF) to house munitions builds/teardown and expenditure operations supporting the AC-130J mission. Utility connections would include electric, natural gas, HVAC, potable water, sanitary, fire suppression system, telephone, NIPR, and an alarm system. The new building would be located west of Building 748 outside of the current fence line (see **Figure 2-2i in the EA**). In addition, a 5,400 SF paved access road, a total of 3,700 SF for paved parking areas on the west and east sides of the building, and paved aprons (2,000 SF each) on the north and south sides of the building would be constructed. The total estimated area of ground disturbance would be 19,100 SF (Kirtland AFB, 2021i, 2021j, 2021m, 2022d).

B.12 CONSTRUCT SMALL ARMS STORAGE FACILITY

The project is required to provide additional small arms storage space at the MSA to support the movement of the AC-130J FTU to Kirtland AFB. The project would involve the construction of a 100 x 100 ft (10,000 SF) small arms storage facility (also called a Butler Building) (see **Figure 2-2h in the EA**). Utility connections would include electric, an alarm system, fire suppression system, and a lightning protection system. The total estimated area of ground disturbance would be 10,000 SF (Kirtland AFB, 2021i, 2021j, 2022e).

B.13 RENOVATE BUILDINGS 737 AND 733

The project is required to provide improved facilities to serve the 377 MXS enhanced mission requirements due to the AC-130J mission beddown, including various trailer maintenance operations and other munitions equipment with working bays plus renovate available space to accommodate additional 40 personnel inbound. The project would involve the renovation of Building 733 (Brass Storage/Catenary System) and Building 737 (Trailer Maintenance/Production Facility) (see **Figure 2-2i in the EA**) (Kirtland AFB, 2021i, 2021j). Building 733 renovations would include repairs to the concrete paving, transformer, and lightning protection. Building 737 renovations would include upgrades to electrical, removal and replacement of the oil/water separator (approximately 4,200 SF of disturbance outside on the hardstand to the southwest of the building), installation of an electric hoist system and a compressed air station, and repairs to the concrete flooring in the bays (Kirtland AFB, 2022f). The total estimated area of ground disturbance would be 4,200 SF.

B.14 REFERENCES

Kirtland AFB. 2021a. Email correspondence between Mr. Robert McDonald and Amanda Kreider and Lisa Woeber, Cardno personnel. 13 October.

Kirtland AFB. 2021b. *Base Civil Engineer Work Request, AF Form 332, Work Request No. WO-55957*, 24 June.

Kirtland AFB. 2021c. Facilities Board PowerPoint Presentation, 27 July.

Kirtland AFB. 2021d. *Request for Environmental Impact Analysis, AF 813, Report Control Symbol 35-04-297*, 01 September.

Kirtland AFB. 2021e. *Base Civil Engineer Work Request, AF Form 332, Work Request No. WO-55958*, 24 June.

Kirtland AFB. 2021f. *Base Civil Engineer Work Request, AF Form 332, Work Request No. WO-55961*, 24 June.

Kirtland AFB. 2021g. *Base Civil Engineer Work Request, AF Form 332, Work Request No. WO-55963*, 24 June.

Kirtland AFB. 2021h. *Base Civil Engineer Work Request, AF Form 332, Work Request No. WO-55964*, 24 June.

Kirtland AFB. 2021i. *Request for Environmental Impact Analysis, AF 813, Report Control Symbol 35-09-1059*, 02 September.

Kirtland AFB. 2021j. *Facilities Board PowerPoint Presentation*, 8 November.

Kirtland AFB. 2021k. *DD Form 1391, FY 2024 Military Construction Project Data, Munitions Administration Facility, Project Number MHMV213105*, 15 July.

Kirtland AFB. 2021l. *Base Civil Engineer Work Request, AF Form 332, Work Request No. WO-55950*, 15 June.

Kirtland AFB. 2021m. *Base Civil Engineer Work Request, AF Form 332, Work Request No. WO-55951*, 15 June.

Kirtland AFB. 2022a. *Base Civil Engineer Work Request, AF Form 332, Work Request No. Not provided*, 25 March.

Kirtland AFB. 2022b. *DD Form 1391, FY 2023 Project Data, Construct Trailer Pad, Project Number MHMV210014*, 01 February.

Kirtland AFB. 2022c. *DD Form 1391, FY 2023 Project Data, Construct Hayman Structure, Munitions Area, Project Number MHMV210019*, 01 February.

Kirtland AFB. 2022d. *DD Form 1391, FY 2024 Military Construction Project Data, Explosive Operations Building, Munitions Storage Area, Project Number MHMV213107*, 22 January.

Kirtland AFB. 2022e. *DD Form 1391, FY 2024 Military Construction Project Data, Small Arms Storage Facility, Project Number MHMV213104*, 07 February.

Kirtland AFB. 2022f. *DD Form 1391, FY 2023 Project Data, Renovate B737 and B733 Munitions Area for AC-130J FTU, Project Number MHMV210015*, 07 February.

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APPENDIX C
AIR QUALITY SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION

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

1. General Information: The Air Force's Air Conformity Applicability Model (ACAM) was used to perform an analysis to assess the potential air quality impact/s associated with the action in accordance with the Air Force Manual 32-7002, Environmental Compliance and Pollution Prevention; 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
State: New Mexico
County(s): Bernalillo
Regulatory Area(s): NOT IN A REGULATORY AREA

b. Action Title: AC-130J Formal Training Unit (FTU) Relocation to Kirtland Air Force Base

c. Project Number/s (if applicable):

d. Projected Action Start Date: 1 / 2023

e. Action Description:

The USAF proposes to relocate the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) AC-130J FTU from Hurlburt Field, Florida to Kirtland AFB, New Mexico and organizationally realign the unit under the 58th Special Operations Wing (58 SOW) (Air Education and Training Command [AETC]), which is a tenant organization currently located at Kirtland AFB. This relocation would occur by fiscal year (FY) 2025 second quarter and would include the repositioning of AC-130J aircraft, personnel, operations squadron, and maintenance squadrons, and related construction activities. The proposed force structure would include a total of seven AC-130J Training Aircraft Inventory (TAI) which includes six Primary Training Aircraft Inventory (PTAI) and one Backup Aircraft Inventory (BAI). AC-130J flight operations in and around Kirtland AFB would be very similar to those performed by the MC-130J and HC-130J aircraft currently based there. New permanent personnel would include approximately 390 FTU personnel stationed year-round at Kirtland AFB.

f. Point of Contact:

Name: Caitlin Jafolla
Title: Air Quality SME
Organization: Cardno
Email:
Phone Number:

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

applicable
 not applicable

Total net direct and indirect emissions associated with the action were estimated through ACAM on a calendar-year basis for the start of the action through achieving "steady state" (i.e., net gain/loss upon action fully implemented) emissions. The ACAM analysis used the latest and most accurate emission estimation techniques available; all algorithms, emission factors, and methodologies used are described in detail in the USAF Air Emissions Guide for Air Force Stationary Sources, the USAF Air Emissions Guide for Air Force Mobile Sources, and the USAF Air Emissions Guide for Air Force Transitory Sources.

"Insignificance Indicators" were used in the analysis to provide an indication of the significance of potential impacts to air quality based on current ambient air quality relative to the National Ambient Air Quality Standards

AIR CONFORMITY APPLICABILITY MODEL REPORT

RECORD OF AIR ANALYSIS (ROAA)

(NAAQSs). These insignificance indicators are the 250 ton/yr Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) major source threshold for actions occurring in areas that are “Clearly Attainment” (i.e., not within 5% of any NAAQS) and the GCR de minimis values (25 ton/yr for lead and 100 ton/yr for all other criteria pollutants) for actions occurring in areas that are “Near Nonattainment” (i.e., within 5% of any NAAQS). These indicators do not define a significant impact; however, they do provide a threshold to identify actions that are insignificant. Any action with net emissions below the insignificance indicators for all criteria pollutant is considered so insignificant that the action will not cause or contribute to an exceedance on one or more NAAQSs. For further detail on insignificance indicators see chapter 4 of the Air Force Air Quality Environmental Impact Analysis Process (EIAP) Guide, Volume II - Advanced Assessments.

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

Analysis Summary:

2023

Pollutant	Action Emissions (ton/yr)	INSIGNIFICANCE INDICATOR	
		Indicator (ton/yr)	Exceedance (Yes or No)
NOT IN A REGULATORY AREA			
VOC	0.948	250	No
NOx	2.990	250	No
CO	3.442	250	No
SOx	0.008	250	No
PM 10	7.174	250	No
PM 2.5	0.124	250	No
Pb	0.000	25	No
NH3	0.004	250	No
CO2e	730.0		

2024

Pollutant	Action Emissions (ton/yr)	INSIGNIFICANCE INDICATOR	
		Indicator (ton/yr)	Exceedance (Yes or No)
NOT IN A REGULATORY AREA			
VOC	0.693	250	No
NOx	1.552	250	No
CO	1.939	250	No
SOx	0.004	250	No
PM 10	1.149	250	No
PM 2.5	0.057	250	No
Pb	0.000	25	No
NH3	0.002	250	No
CO2e	433.1		

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

2025

Pollutant	Action Emissions (ton/yr)	INSIGNIFICANCE INDICATOR	
		Indicator (ton/yr)	Exceedance (Yes or No)
NOT IN A REGULATORY AREA			
VOC	2.658	250	No
NOx	33.828	250	No
CO	16.105	250	No
SOx	1.873	250	No
PM 10	4.365	250	No
PM 2.5	2.159	250	No
Pb	0.000	25	No
NH3	0.032	250	No
CO2e ¹	1025.2		

Note: ¹The flight operations for the AC-130J are anticipated to be similar to those performed at Hurlburt Field in Florida. For this reason, no net change in GHG emissions would occur, as these emissions are global in impact, and would simply transition from the Florida environs to New Mexico.

2026

Pollutant	Action Emissions (ton/yr)	INSIGNIFICANCE INDICATOR	
		Indicator (ton/yr)	Exceedance (Yes or No)
NOT IN A REGULATORY AREA			
VOC	1.518	250	No
NOx	31.761	250	No
CO	13.337	250	No
SOx	1.867	250	No
PM 10	3.906	250	No
PM 2.5	2.077	250	No
Pb	0.000	25	No
NH3	0.029	250	No
CO2e ¹	447.7		

Note: ¹The flight operations for the AC-130J are anticipated to be similar to those performed at Hurlburt Field in Florida. For this reason, no net change in GHG emissions would occur, as these emissions are global in impact, and would simply transition from the Florida environs to New Mexico.

2027

Pollutant	Action Emissions (ton/yr)	INSIGNIFICANCE INDICATOR	
		Indicator (ton/yr)	Exceedance (Yes or No)
NOT IN A REGULATORY AREA			
VOC	1.518	250	No
NOx	31.761	250	No
CO	13.337	250	No
SOx	1.867	250	No
PM 10	3.906	250	No
PM 2.5	2.077	250	No
Pb	0.000	25	No
NH3	0.029	250	No
CO2e ¹	447.7		

Note: ¹The flight operations for the AC-130J are anticipated to be similar to those performed at Hurlburt Field in Florida. For this reason, no net change in GHG emissions would occur, as these emissions are global in impact, and would simply transition from the Florida environs to New Mexico.

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

2028

Pollutant	Action Emissions (ton/yr)	INSIGNIFICANCE INDICATOR	
		Indicator (ton/yr)	Exceedance (Yes or No)
NOT IN A REGULATORY AREA			
VOC	2.058	250	No
NOx	33.457	250	No
CO	15.643	250	No
SOx	1.872	250	No
PM 10	5.553	250	No
PM 2.5	2.141	250	No
Pb	0.000	25	No
NH3	0.031	250	No
CO2e ¹	447.7		

Note: ¹The flight operations for the AC-130J are anticipated to be similar to those performed at Hurlburt Field in Florida. For this reason, no net change in GHG emissions would occur, as these emissions are global in impact, and would simply transition from the Florida environs to New Mexico.

2029 - (Steady State)

Pollutant	Action Emissions (ton/yr)	INSIGNIFICANCE INDICATOR	
		Indicator (ton/yr)	Exceedance (Yes or No)
NOT IN A REGULATORY AREA			
VOC	1.518	250	No
NOx	31.761	250	No
CO	13.337	250	No
SOx	1.867	250	No
PM 10	3.906	250	No
PM 2.5	2.077	250	No
Pb	0.000	25	No
NH3	0.029	250	No
CO2e ¹	447.7		

Note: ¹The flight operations for the AC-130J are anticipated to be similar to those performed at Hurlburt Field in Florida. For this reason, no net change in GHG emissions would occur, as these emissions are global in impact, and would simply transition from the Florida environs to New Mexico.

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



Caitlin Jafolla, Air Quality SME

3 August 2022
DATE