



Air National Guard

F-15EX Eagle II & F-35A Lightning II

Operational Beddowns

Environmental Impact Analysis Process



The National Guard Bureau (NGB) and Department of the Air Force invite the public to learn about the proposal to locate F-15EX or F-35A aircraft at alternative locations. Attend one of the informational meetings to learn more about this proposal, ask questions, and to submit comments.

What's Inside this Fact Sheet?

- ▶ An overview of the purpose and need of the proposed action
- ▶ An overview of the Environmental Impact Analysis Process and opportunities for public involvement
- ▶ How to submit written scoping comments
- ▶ Date and location of upcoming public scoping meetings

The EIS Timeline

Notice of Intent Published in Federal Register - July 19, 2022

Scoping Period -
July 19, 2022 through September 2, 2022

Preparation of Draft Environmental Impact Statement - Summer 2023

Public Comment Period

Preparation of Final Environmental Impact Statement - Early 2024

Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Impact Statement - Spring 2024

30-Day Waiting Period

Record of Decision - Spring 2024

 Opportunities for Public Involvement

What is the Proposed Action and Why is it Needed?

The purpose of the proposed action is to efficiently and effectively maintain Department of the Air Force combat capability, mission readiness, and homeland defense. Beddown and operation of the F-15EX and F-35A at Air National Guard locations would represent a major step toward this goal. The NGB proposes to beddown one squadron of F-15EX aircraft at two of three alternative locations and one squadron of F-35A aircraft at one of four alternative locations. The F-15C/D fighter aircraft need to be replaced due to attrition, decreasing service life, and because new F-15C/D aircraft are no longer being manufactured.

As part of the proposed action, the NGB would implement necessary construction and modification projects to successfully beddown the aircraft at the selected installations. Additional personnel would be required to support the beddowns. Approximately 100 personnel would be needed for each alternative location for the F-15EX beddown and approximately 80 personnel would be needed for the F-35A beddown. The proposed action would not require changes in Special Use Airspace attributes, volume, or proximity.

The four alternative locations for the proposed action are:



Barnes Air National Guard Base (ANGB) at Westfield-Barnes Regional Airport, Westfield, Massachusetts;



Fresno ANGB at Fresno Yosemite International Airport, Fresno, California;



Naval Air Station (NAS) Lemoore, Lemoore, California*; and



NAS Joint Reserve Base New Orleans, Belle Chasse, Louisiana

For more information: www.ANGF15EX-F35A-EIS.com

*This location is being considered for the F-35A only because they do not currently have F-15C/D aircraft.

The National Environmental Policy Act

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is our national charter for making informed decisions based upon potential environmental consequences. NEPA requires all federal agencies to take a good-faith, hard look at potential environmental consequences of a proposal before making a decision. The NGB is preparing a detailed study that analyzes the potential environmental impacts of this proposal.

Public Involvement

Public involvement is an integral part of the Environmental Impact Analysis Process, which requires full disclosure of potential environmental impacts to the public and encourages public involvement. The public has an important role in providing input during this process to help the NGB make more informed decisions about implementing this proposal. The first opportunity for public involvement is the process called "public scoping." The scoping period for this Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) began with publication of the "Notice of Intent" in the Federal Register on July 19, 2022, and will formally extend through September 2, 2022.

Written Scoping Comments are Welcome!

Please send written comments by the end of the public comment period, September 2, 2022, to ensure that your concerns are addressed in the Draft EIS. Nevertheless, we will welcome your comments throughout the entire Environmental Impact Analysis Process. Comments received after the close of the public comment period will be reviewed but may not be specifically addressed in the Draft EIS. Written comments may be submitted by:

- a) Attending the scoping meeting and providing written comments at that time
- b) Via the project website at www.ANGF15EX-F35A-EIS.com
- c) Via the project email at
NGB.A4.A4A.NEPA.COMMENTS.Org@us.af.mil
- d) By U.S. Mail to:
EIS Project Manager
National Guard Bureau
NGB/A4AM
Shepperd Hall
3501 Fetchet Ave.
Joint Base Andrews MD 20762-5157

Please note that by including your name and address on correspondence, it will be used to compile a mailing list for distributing future information regarding the EIS. Names will appear in the EIS. Phone numbers, emails, and physical addresses will not be published.

Public Scoping Meetings

Public scoping meetings will be held in-person locally and virtually on the dates below.

Fresno ANGB

In-Person: August 9, 2022 - 5:00 to 7:00pm
Piccadilly Inn
5115 E. McKinley Ave
Fresno, CA 93727

Virtual: August 25, 2022 - 5:30 to 6:30 pm

NAS Lemoore

In-Person: August 10, 2022 - 5:00 to 7:00pm
L.T.A. Portuguese Hall
470 Champion St.
Lemoore, CA 93245

Virtual: August 25, 2022 - 5:30 to 6:30 pm

NAS Joint Reserve Base New Orleans

In-Person: August 16, 2022 - 5:00 to 7:00pm
Belle Chasse Auditorium
8398 LA-23
Belle Chasse, LA 70037

Virtual: August 23, 2022 - 5:30 to 6:30 pm

Barnes ANGB

In-Person: August 18, 2022 - 5:00 to 7:00pm
Westfield Intermediate School
350 Southampton Rd
Westfield, MA 01085

Virtual: August 24, 2022 - 5:30 to 6:30 pm

Virtual Public Scoping Meetings

Please visit the website below for more information on how to join the virtual meetings.

www.ANGF15EX-F35A-EIS.com

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