



**GUAM
MILITARY
RELOCATION
2012 ROADMAP
ADJUSTMENT**



SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (SEIS) FOR A
LIVE-FIRE TRAINING RANGE COMPLEX (LFTRC) AND MAIN CANTONMENT AND FAMILY HOUSING LOCATION ON GUAM

OVERVIEW OF SEIS SCOPING COMMENTS

APRIL 2013



We Are Here

Scoping:

This fact sheet briefly summarizes the major concerns that have been raised through the scoping process by numerous governmental offices on Guam. Scoping is designed to develop a thorough understanding and listing of all issues that need to be addressed and examined as part of a comprehensive and useful Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) report. Scoping not only informs the government agencies, interest groups, and general public about the proposed action but also identifies the issues and concerns that are of particular interest to the affected populace. This information is then used to assist resource specialists in data collection and analysis for the development of the draft EIS/Overseas EIS (OEIS).

Results of Scoping: GovGuam Agency Input

Several Government of Guam agencies, to include the Bureau of Statistics and Plans, Department of Agriculture, Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Guam Environmental Protection Agency all submitted comments on the LFTRC SEIS. These comments, which are synopsized on the following pages, are endorsed by the Office of the Governor of Guam, Military Buildup Office. In short, the collective agencies recommend that

The Governor's Office states that the SEIS for all proposed actions, "must address the full range of direct, indirect and cumulative effects of all seven range complex, and five cantonment and family housing alternatives." They emphasize the criticality of protecting cultural resources, historical sites and artifacts, and mandate minimized impacts to Guam's environment, natural resources and native species. The Governor's

"The SEIS... must address the full range of direct, indirect and cumulative effects of all seven range complex, and five cantonment and family housing alternatives."

whatever option is selected by the SEIS process, Guam's cultural resources (to include historical sites and artifacts) must be preserved and the impacts on the environment, natural resources and native species must be minimized. Further, they firmly believe the DoD must minimize and mitigate negative impacts to socio-economic programs and ensure the selection criteria for the preferred alternatives (LFTRC and Cantonment/Family Housing sites) are fully vetted.

Office also strongly recommends the DoD consider implementing the Military Housing Privatization Initiative to help reduce DoD's overall program costs and to provide additional local economic activity. **Finally, there is a strong desire for transparency of the preferred alternative selection process, with thorough DoD explanation of the selection criteria and methodology, and discussion on why each alternative was or was not selected.**

Results of Scoping: *Areas of Concern*

The government agencies outlined a number of areas where they want the JGPO to conduct further analysis and provide additional detail. They desire more detailed description of activities and comprehensive data and information sufficient to support a selection of preferred alternatives. These areas of concern include:



Cultural Resources and Archeological Sites

Every effort must be taken to preserve historical sites, locations of archeological significance, and the full spectrum of cultural resources. This area is of major importance to not just governmental agencies, but also to the people of Guam.

Land Acquisition

There is consensus that the preferred alternatives should require the least amount of non-DOD land acquisition as possible, and that every effort should be made to maximize the use of existing DOD property.

Water Quality

There is concern that construction and increased traffic at any of the alternative sites could have potential adverse impact on the watershed and consequently impact the potable water supply. Further, erosion and sediment control are issues that must be addressed to protect Guam's water sources and coastlines.

Native Species

The full range of direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of the alternatives must be studied, with respect to a vast array of native species (including Marianas Fruit Bats, Marianas Moorhen, Marianas Gray Swiftlet, native Guam Snails, endanger Hayun Iago tree, and many more.) This is a concern for both the construction phase as well as continued operations of the LFTRC and the Main Cantonment area.



Safety / Hazardous Materials Issues

The desire exists to minimize the transport of live munitions on Guam's public roads. There is also a desire to gather further information of the handling of hazardous materials, to include PCBs and possible radioactive material.

Critical Infrastructure

Further analysis is required to determine the impact on Guam's infrastructure (including, roads, electrical systems, water production and distribution, waste water treatment and sanitary sewer, etc) from the military build-up as well as from the influx of temporary workers. Among other studies, it is requested the JGPO conduct a detailed transportation study to reflect the anticipated changes due to the Guam build-up.

Development

There are concerns about shoreline development and the impacts it could have on coastal marine and terrestrial habitat. More specifically, it is strongly suggested the JGPO adhere to the

policy of the Guam Coastal Management Program which directs facilities requiring high levels of service be concentrated within areas capable of supporting concentrated land development. There is also a strong push to incorporate maximum use of Green Building practices.

Socioeconomic Issues

The SEIS needs to fully address changes in population; changes in demographics; impacts on retail services; impacts on the housing market; demand for public service; changes in employment and income levels; and, impacts in the aesthetic quality of the community. The goal should be to accommodate the military mission without impacting the day-to-day quality of life of Guam's current residents.



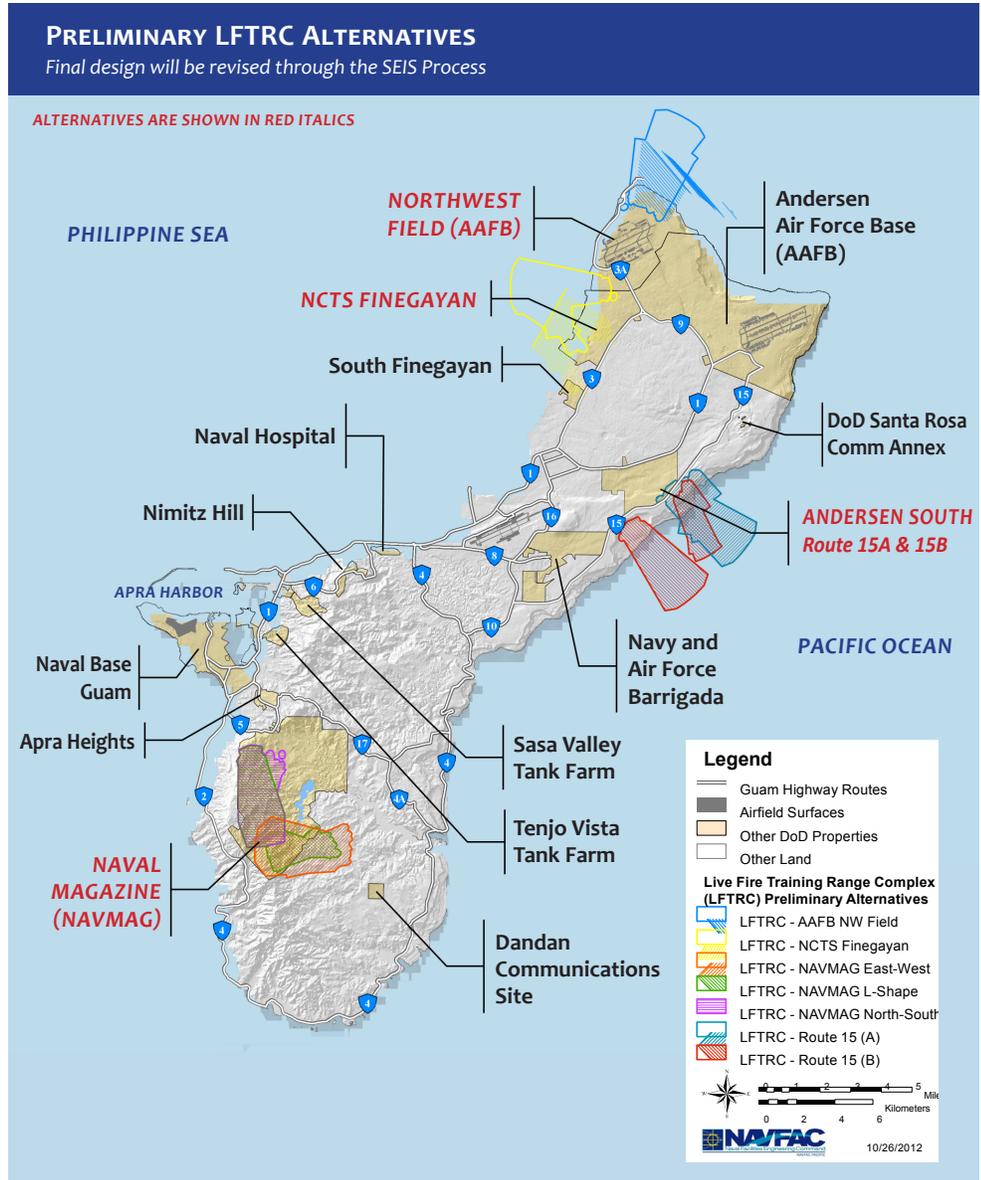
Recreational Areas

Due to the projected increase in population, there will be a natural increased demand for recreational activities and facilities. This will include an increased number of people participating in near shore waters (activities such as scuba, snorkeling, boating, fishing, etc) which, in some cases, are already at or near capacity. Negative effects include increased coral disturbance, increased turbidity, altered fish behavior, and greater competition for scarce resources.



Mitigation

Finally, the concept of mitigation needs to be addressed in detail by the JGPO. The agencies want to know what measures the DOD will take to mitigate impacts of increased pollution, esthetic intrusion, environmental degradation, ecological impact, forced relocation, increased load of numerous infrastructure and support systems, etc. The agencies also want to remain engaged with the DOD throughout the SEIS process, so they can help guide the Department to a solution that serves the great good.



**Results of Scoping:
 Preferred Alternatives by
 GovGuam Agencies**

The GovGuam agencies that provided input into the scoping process also provided preferred alternatives:

Department of Parks and Recreation

Due to significant archaeological and historic issues, the **Northwest Field (AAFB) LFTRC option is preferred**. The Department of Parks and Recreation was silent on the Main Cantonment alternative.

Guam Environmental Protection Agency

Due to land acquisition issues and the preservation and development of both cultural and environmental resources, the **NAVMAG North-South alternative is preferred** for the LFTRC and the Naval Base Guam alternative is preferred for Main Cantonment.

Department of Agriculture

Due to the potential impact the proposed actions will have on Guam’s natural resources, the ability to recover native species, the **“No Action Alternative”** is preferred for all

components of the proposed action. The Department of Agriculture recognizes the DoD must meet needs of its mission, therefore it requests the SEIS identify and consider new alternatives that would significantly reduce the impact on Guam’s natural resources.

Bureau of Statistics and Plans

Due to minimized impact to the local community, the **Northwest Field (AAFB) LFTRC option is preferred**. The Bureau of Statistics and Plans was silent on the Main Cantonment alternative.

Navy's Scoping Summary Report

In March 2013, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Pacific released a Scoping Summary Report for the Joint Guam Program Office (JGPO). The report gives an overview of the scoping process, to include detailing of notification procedures and the mechanics of the public meeting and comment collection processes. Most importantly, the report summarizes, from the Navy's perspective, the relevant issues identified by the public during scoping.



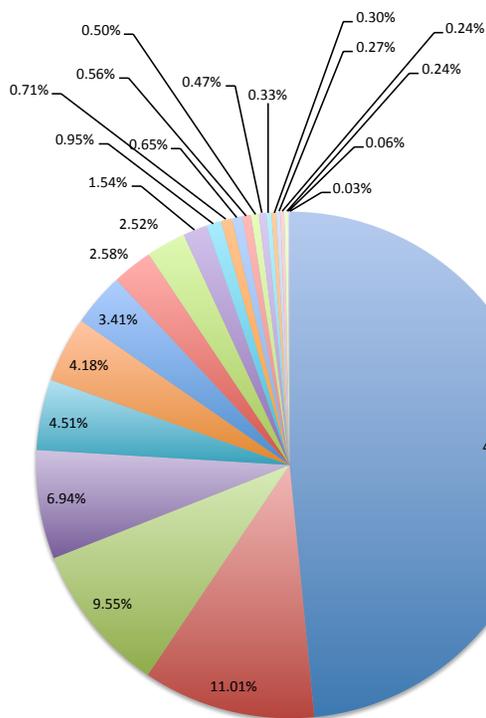
The report states that 398 total comments were received during the Expanded SEIS Scoping Period (the

majority of those, 364, were received via the comment website). After duplicative comments and identical "form letters" were removed from the tally, there were 205 "individual comments" remaining. From this point, the Scoping Summary Report identifies relevant issues. Using a relatively simple category tagging system, over 90% (with rounding) of the comments aligned in the following areas:

- Proposed action and alternatives - 48%
- Other - 11%
- Real estate - 10%
- Recreation - 7%
- Transportation - 5%
- Public health and safety - 4%
- Socioeconomics - 3%
- Terrestrial biology - 3%
- Historic properties - 3%

This breakdown can be viewed in greater detail in the figure below.

These categories align well with the government agency input (as outlined in the previous section). Specifically, ***the Navy understands that from comments received, there is a strong preference for maximum use of existing DOD land and an imperative to preserve historical sites and artifacts. Further, the Navy's Scoping Summary Report outlines the need to protect sensitive species habitat, minimize impact on existing population areas and transportation systems, and retain access to the multitude of recreational opportunities (fishing, snorkeling, diving, etc) Guam boasts.***



**Expanded SEIS Comment
 Distribution by Resource Category**

What's Next?

Over the course of the next few months, Navy representatives will continue to study and integrate the scoping input from the various stakeholders and finalize their field work on Guam. From there, they will start preparing the Draft SEIS. Interested parties are encouraged to continue tracking the SEIS process online at <http://guambuildupeis.us>.

The Draft EIS is anticipated to be completed in 2014, at which time the preferred site(s) will have been identified. When the new Draft SEIS is released in 2014, the public will have the opportunity to comment via spoken and written response. The Record of Decision, the final step in the SEIS process, is expected to be released in 2015.



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Your questions and comments are welcome.
 Please visit the website at www.guambuildupeis.us.

Definitions for terms and acronyms used in this and other related reports can be found in the **Acronym Guide and Glossary** at www.one.guam.gov.