



# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

## INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES AT ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, GUAM

### PUBLIC SCOPING FOR INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES AT ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, GUAM

#### Introduction

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) was enacted to address concerns about federal actions and their effects on the environment. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is the most detailed analysis prescribed by regulations implementing NEPA. The U.S. Air Force (USAF) has published a Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS, pursuant to NEPA, for the proposed Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) Infrastructure Upgrades. The U.S. Navy is a cooperating agency on the EIS. The Proposed Action includes the construction of infrastructure upgrades at the North Ramp and Munitions Storage Area-1 (MSA-1) (Figure 1) and use of this infrastructure consistent with existing installation operations once construction is completed.

#### Background of the Infrastructure Upgrades Project

USAF and Department of Defense (DoD) strategies and initiatives for the Indo-Pacific are continuously evolving in response to the geopolitical climate. Strategies such as the 2001 Quadrennial Defense Review, 2017 Asia Pacific Stability Initiative, and 2020 Pacific Deterrence Initiative seek to promote an agile defense posture, protection of the nation, and defense of U.S. interests in the region. The proposed infrastructure upgrades at Andersen AFB would be conducted in alignment with these initiatives to improve operationally relevant infrastructure and would allow USAF and DoD to maintain agile and flexible defense capabilities.

Through construction of infrastructure upgrades at Andersen AFB, the USAF intends to provide better capabilities for rotational aircraft and training detachments in support of U.S. national interests and maintaining stability in the Indo-Pacific.

#### What is the Public Scoping Process?

Public scoping is an early and open process, conducted in compliance with NEPA, for identifying issues and alternatives to be addressed in an EIS and determining who (e.g., public and government agencies) is interested in the proposed action. Public outreach is conducted as a part of the public scoping process to provide information to interested parties and to receive comments on the proposed action, alternatives, and potential impacts. Comments received during the public scoping process are considered in the preparation of the Draft EIS. See the timeline on the back of this page for additional information regarding steps in the EIS process.



Figure 1: Overview of Locations on Andersen AFB Selected for Infrastructure Upgrades



## Proposed Action

The proposed infrastructure would accommodate aircraft types and flight operations that have been addressed under previously prepared NEPA documentation for Andersen AFB, such as bombers, tankers, and fighters. Once construction is complete, the North Ramp project area would provide additional aircraft parking, fueling, and maintenance infrastructure to allow for greater efficiencies and agility in the way ground operations are conducted. MSA-1 would be used for munitions storage for aircraft rotations and training detachments, consistent with existing operations.

Construction would take place over approximately 7 years, and would disturb approximately 192 acres at the North Ramp project area and approximately 12 acres at the MSA-1 project area. Figures 2 and 3 provide an overview of the proposed infrastructure upgrades.

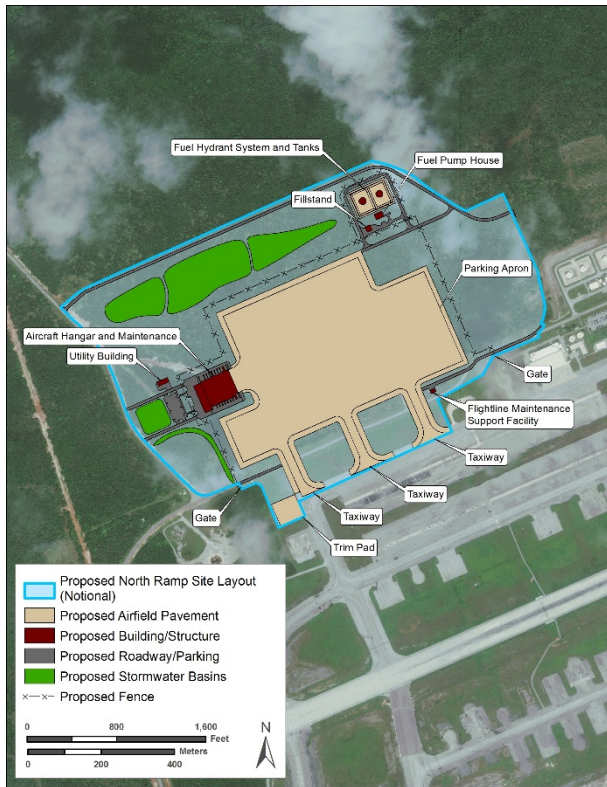


Figure 2: Proposed North Ramp Infrastructure Upgrades

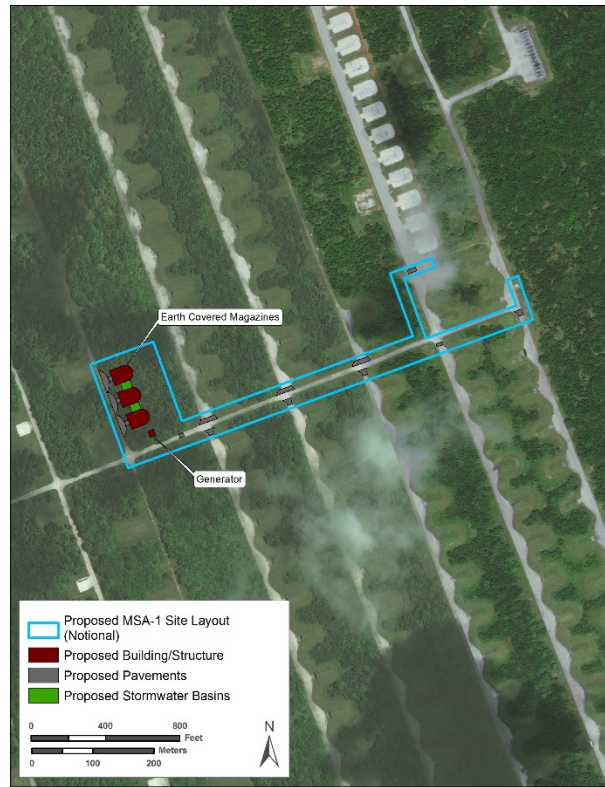


Figure 3: Proposed MSA-1 Infrastructure Upgrades

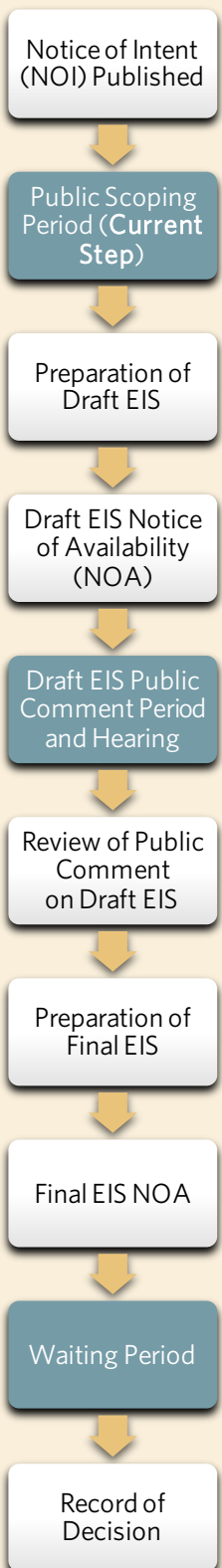
## Alternatives

The USAF considered other locations on Andersen AFB for construction of infrastructure upgrades; however, only the Proposed Action locations were determined to meet the criteria for the upgrades. The No Action Alternative will be addressed in the EIS in addition to the Proposed Action.

## Environmental Impact Analysis Process

The USAF will conduct cultural and natural resources surveys in the areas proposed for upgrades, and consult with appropriate resource agencies to determine the potential for significant impacts on those resources. During construction, the USAF anticipates an increased demand on the construction workforce, and an increase in local spending. Currently, no other short- or long-term notable impacts are anticipated. Additional analysis will be provided in the Draft EIS, which is anticipated in late 2021 or early 2022. The Final EIS and a decision on the Proposed Action are expected in mid to late 2022.

## EIS Timeline



Please provide comments in English on the project website, by email at [AAFBIInfrastructure.EIS@us.af.mil](mailto:AAFBIInfrastructure.EIS@us.af.mil), or via postal mail to 36th Civil Engineer Squadron, ATTN: CEV (AAFBI Infrastructure EIS), Unit 14007, APO, AP 96543-4007. The USAF also welcomes comments under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800). This brochure is also available in Chamorro on the project website and in print at the Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library (254 Martyr Street, Hagåtña, Guam).