

March
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Final

Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives

for the Environmental Assessment Addressing
Infrastructure Improvements at Cannon Air Force Base,
New Mexico

*United States Air Force
Air Force Special Operations Command
27th Special Operations Wing*



ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AFB	Air Force Base
AFSOC	Air Force Special Operations Command
AT/FP	Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
DoD	Department of Defense
DOPAA	Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIAP	Environmental Impact Analysis Process
EO	Executive Order
ERP	Environmental Restoration Program
ESQD	Explosive Safety Quantity Distance
FY	Fiscal Year
HCP	Hot Cargo Pad
IBD	Inhabited Building Distance
MILCON	Military Construction
MSA	Munitions Storage Area
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NOA	Notice of Availability
PGM	Precision Guided Missile
PTRD	Public Traffic Route Distance
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
SOF	Special Operations Forces
SOW	Special Operations Wing
STS	Special Tactics Squadron
UFC	Unified Facilities Criteria
USAF	United States Air Force
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service

COVER SHEET

FINAL

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ADDRESSING INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS AT CANNON AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO

Responsible Agencies: United States Air Force (USAF), Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC), 27th Special Operations Wing.

Affected Location: Cannon Air Force Base (AFB), New Mexico.

Proposed Action: Infrastructure Improvements at Cannon AFB.

Report Designation: Final Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives (DOPAA).

Abstract: This DOPAA supports a proposal by Cannon AFB and AFSOC to construct and operate infrastructure at Cannon AFB, New Mexico. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to support AFSOC mission requirements by improving facilities, infrastructure, and utilities for current and future use at Cannon AFB. The Proposed Action includes three separate construction projects—a 59,331 square foot dormitory southwest of dormitories 1155, 1159, and 1161 on West Alison Avenue; a 15,532 square foot storage facility near other 26th Special Tactics Squadron (STS) facilities on the eastern portion of Cannon AFB; and an approximately 240-acre Munitions Storage Area (MSA) within the 603-acre land gift area at the southwest corner of Cannon AFB. Existing MSA facilities currently occupied by the Special Operations Forces-specific functions would be demolished and replaced as a part of the Proposed Action. These actions would restore military readiness by addressing a 192-dormitory room deficit, restore military readiness by providing adequate storage facility space for 26 STS equipment, and mitigate risk by relocating the MSA.

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1.0 PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Cannon Air Force Base (AFB) is in eastern New Mexico near the Texas panhandle, approximately 8 miles west of Clovis, New Mexico, and occupies 4,397 acres of land (see **Figure 1-1**). It was established during World War II and has hosted a variety of missions and aircraft types throughout its history. In 2007, Cannon AFB became home to the 27th Special Operations Wing (SOW), which operates CV-22 Osprey, C-130, MQ-9 Reaper, and other aircraft. 27 SOW is one of four U.S. Air Force (USAF) active-duty SOWs within Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC). The primary mission of the 27 SOW is to execute specialized airpower from a premier installation.

This Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives (DOPAA) lays out the framework for the Environmental Assessment (EA), detailing the proposed activities of the project. The EA is a planning and decision-making tool that will be used to guide Cannon AFB in implementing the Proposed Action in a manner that complies with all applicable federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations and is consistent with USAF standards for environmental stewardship.

This DOPAA supports a proposal by AFSOC to construct and operate infrastructure at Cannon AFB, New Mexico. The Proposed Action includes three separate construction projects—a 59,331 square foot dormitory southwest of dormitories 1155, 1159, and 1161 on West Alison Avenue; a 15,532 square foot storage facility near other 26th Special Tactics Squadron (STS) facilities on the eastern portion of Cannon AFB; and an approximately 240-acre Munitions Storage Area (MSA) within the 603-acre land gift area at the southwest corner of Cannon AFB. Existing MSA facilities currently occupied by the Special Operations Forces (SOF) specific functions would be demolished and replaced as a part of the Proposed Action. These actions would provide adequate housing by addressing a 192-dormitory room deficit, restore military readiness by providing adequate storage facility space for 26 STS equipment, and mitigate the risk of substandard facilities and failure to meet distance requirements by relocating the MSA.

While the anticipated construction start date for the dormitory is planned for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 or 2025, no construction dates have been established for either the storage facility or MSA.

1.2 PURPOSE OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to support the AFSOC mission requirements by improving facilities, infrastructure, and utilities for current and future use at Cannon AFB. The purpose of the new dormitory is to provide adequate housing that meets the mission requirements for airmen and address the 192-room deficit. The purpose of the 26 STS Equipment Storage Facility is to provide adequate storage facility space for the 26 STS equipment while the purpose of relocating the MSA is to mitigate risk caused by failure to meet safety distance requirements and risk associated with substandard facilities and limited existing storage space.

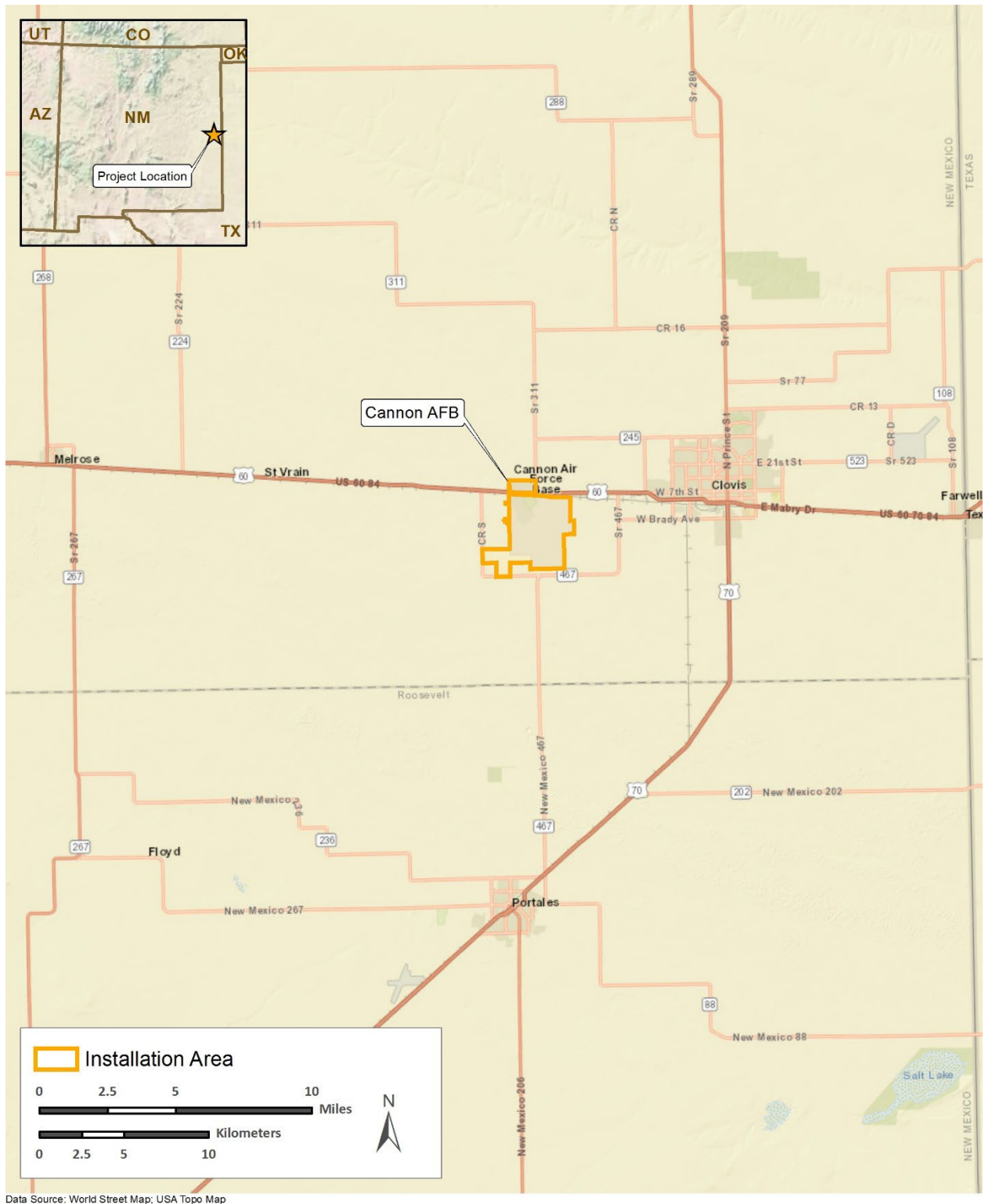


Figure 1-1. Cannon AFB Vicinity Map

1.3 NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

The AFSOC mission at Cannon AFB continues to grow and evolve, as do demands on aging facilities and infrastructure. Improvements and updates are needed to keep pace as warfare grows more technologically advanced and specialized. The need for the Proposed Action is to (1) restore military readiness by addressing a 192-dormitory room deficit, (2) restore military readiness by providing adequate storage facility space for 26 STS equipment, and (3) mitigate risk caused by safety and distance violations by relocating the MSA. AFSOC does not have adequate facilities to meet or carry out their mission.

1.4 DECISION TO BE MADE

The EA will evaluate whether the Proposed Action would result in significant impacts on the human environment. If significant impacts are identified, Cannon AFB would undertake mitigation to reduce impacts to below the level of significance, undertake the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement addressing the Proposed Action, or abandon the Proposed Action. If significant impacts are not identified, then the EA would be finalized and a Finding of No Significant Impact would be signed. The decision would be made by the authorizing officer and could incorporate the Proposed Action, its alternatives, or any combination of the Proposed Action and alternatives. The EA is a planning and decision-making tool that will be used to guide Cannon AFB in implementing the Proposed Action in a manner that complies with all applicable federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations and is consistent with USAF standards for environmental stewardship. It is prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code 4331 et seq.), the regulations of the President's Council on Environmental Quality that implement NEPA procedures (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500–1508), and the Air Force Environmental Impact Analysis Process (EIAP) Regulations at 32 CFR Part 989.

1.5 INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION / CONSULTATIONS

1.5.1 Interagency and Intergovernmental Coordination and Consultations

Executive Order (EO) 12372, *Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs*, as amended by EO 12416, requires federal agencies to provide opportunities for consultation by elected officials of state and local governments that would be directly affected by a federal proposal. In compliance with NEPA, USAF will notify relevant stakeholders about the Proposed Action and alternatives (see **Appendix A** for all stakeholder coordination materials). The notification process will provide these stakeholders the opportunity to coordinate with USAF and provide comments on the Proposed Action and alternatives.

Per the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and implementing regulations (36 CFR Part 800), Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and implementing regulations (50 CFR Part 17), and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (50 CFR Part 21), findings of effect and a request for concurrence will be transmitted to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). A brief summary of comments received will be included in the EA. All correspondence with SHPO and USFWS will be included in **Appendix A**. Correspondence regarding the findings, concurrence, and resolution of any adverse effect will also be included in **Appendix A**.

1.5.2 Government to Government Coordination and Consultations

EO 13175, *Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments* directs federal agencies to coordinate and consult with Native American tribal governments whose interests may be directly and substantially affected by activities on federally administered lands. To comply with legal mandates, federally recognized tribes that are historically affiliated with the geographic region will be invited to consult on all proposed undertakings that have a potential to affect properties of cultural, historical, or religious significance to the tribes (see **Appendix A** for all tribal coordination materials).

Scoping letters will be provided to Native American tribal entities who have a vested interest or affiliation with the land underlying Cannon AFB, inviting them to consult on the proposed undertakings outlined within the EA.

1.6 PUBLIC AND AGENCY REVIEW OF DRAFT EA

A Notice of Availability (NOA) for the Draft EA will be published in *The Eastern New Mexico News* announcing the availability of the Draft EA. Letters will be provided to relevant federal, state, and local agencies and Native American tribal governments informing them that the Draft EA is available for review. Publication of the NOA will initiate a 30-day comment period. If open, a copy of the Draft EA will be made available for review at the Clovis-Carver Public Library at 701 N Main St, Clovis, NM 88101. A copy of the Draft EA will also be made available for review online at <http://www.cannon.af.mil> under the Environment tab. At the closing of the public review period, applicable comments from the general public and interagency and intergovernmental coordination/consultation will be incorporated into the analysis of potential environmental impacts performed as part of the EA, where applicable, and included in **Appendix A** of the Final EA.

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

2.1 PROPOSED ACTION

USAF and AFSOC propose to construct and operate the dormitory, storage facility, and MSA to satisfy the purpose of and need for the Proposed Action as described in **Sections 1.2 and 1.3**.

2.2 SELECTION STANDARDS

The scope and location of each project and, where applicable, their alternatives will undergo extensive review by AFSOC personnel, local government agencies, and supporting installation and USAF staff specialists. Potential alternatives were evaluated against four universal selection standards:

- **Selection Standard 1:** The alternative(s) must meet the purpose of the Proposed Action to remedy deficiencies in the infrastructure of Cannon AFB. The alternative(s) must also address the need to provide and maintain infrastructure that is adequate to support the installation's mission and applicable USAF, state, and federal requirements. Alternatives must also satisfy the purpose of and need for each individual project (see **Sections 1.2 and 1.3**).
- **Selection Standard 2:** The alternative(s) must make as much use as possible of existing land and facilities, avoid creating or maintaining redundant space or infrastructure, avoid or minimize operational inefficiencies, and represent the most cost-effective and sustainable alternative.
- **Selection Standard 3:** The alternative(s) must be consistent with all Cannon AFB internal planning documents and zoning requirements, applicable installation architectural compatibility guides, and relevant legal and regulatory requirements, and must accommodate applicable, known man-made and natural development constraints (e.g., Environmental Restoration Program [ERP] sites and floodplains—the relevant constraints vary depending on the project).
- **Selection Standard 4:** The alternative(s) must maintain or improve the quality of life enjoyed by personnel and dependents at Cannon AFB.

2.3 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE ALTERNATIVES

2.3.1 Proposed Action

USAF and AFSOC propose to construct and operate infrastructure at Cannon AFB, New Mexico. This would be accomplished through the construction of a 59,331 square foot dormitory southwest of dormitories 1155, 1159, and 1161 on West Alison Avenue; a 15,532 square foot storage facility near other 26 STS facilities on the eastern portion of Cannon AFB; and an approximately 240-acre MSA within the 603-acre land gift area at the southwest corner of Cannon AFB (see **Figure 2-1**). These actions would restore military readiness by addressing a 192-dormitory room deficit, restore military readiness by providing adequate storage facility space for 26 STS equipment, and mitigate risk caused by safety and distance violations by relocating the MSA. The Proposed Action would comply with Department of Defense (DoD) Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection (AT/FP) requirements per Unified Facilities Criteria (UFC) 4-010-01.

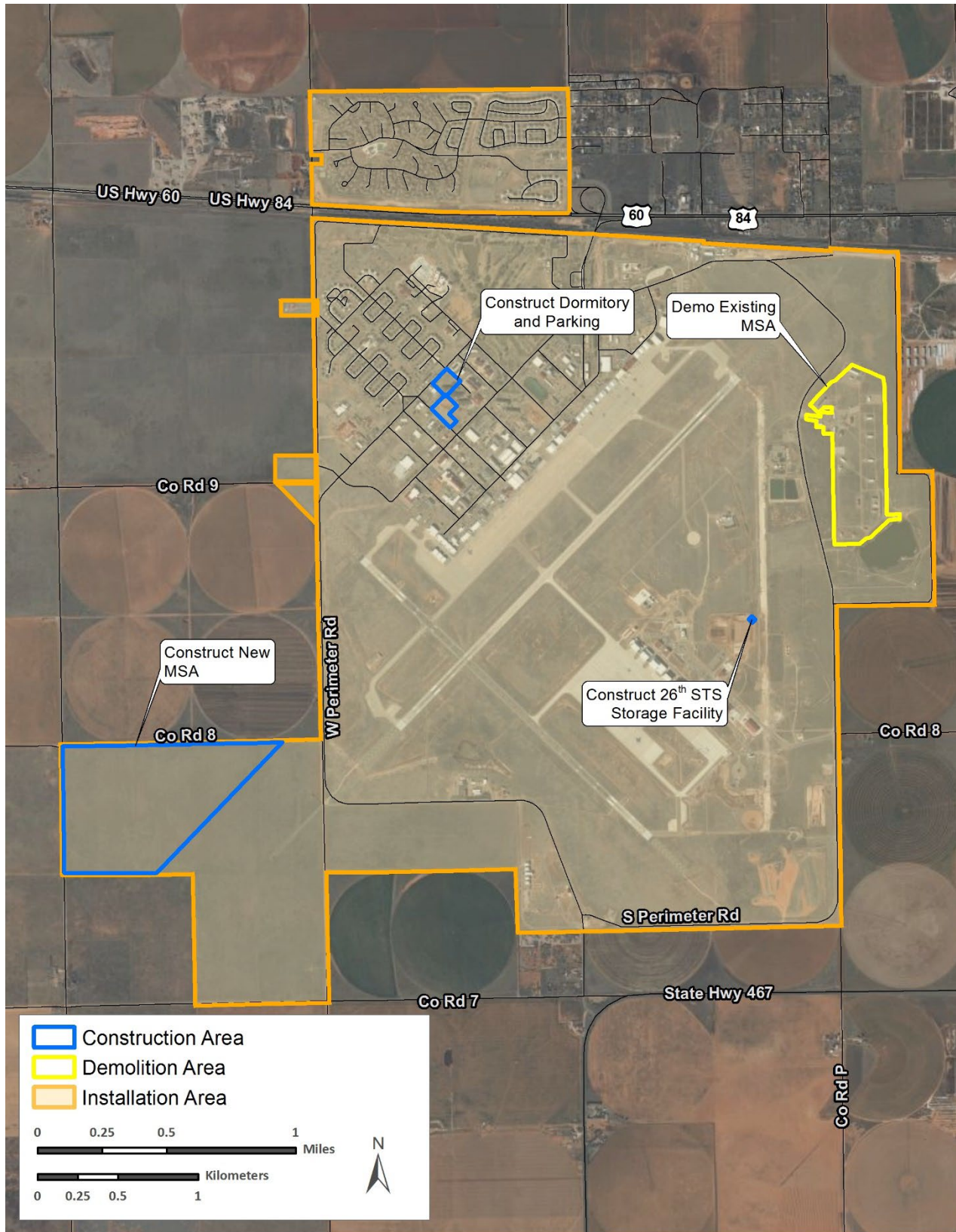


Figure 2-1. Locations of the Proposed New Infrastructure

AFSOC E1–E4 manning at Cannon AFB has historically been documented at 18–20 percent overmanned (more personnel present than can be accommodated) per the installation’s Unit Manning Document. The existing inventory at Cannon AFB includes 738 beds for E1–E4 included in 8 dormitories located on one campus. The Integrated Manpower Requirement Document outlines the requirement of 929 E1–E4 beds, which results in a deficit of 191 beds (CAFB 2018a). This deficit has forced many E1–E4 airmen off installation for housing. The Clovis, New Mexico community has a shortage of adequate housing for commandos and drives the cost of living up for acceptable housing. This puts many airmen in less desirable areas and housing units, affecting retainability and moral.

The 59,331 square foot, three-story, “1+1” (two room unit, one individual in each room) dormitory would include 192 rooms each with private bathrooms and kitchenettes. The reinforced concrete foundation, steel frame, and reinforced concrete walls and floors would meet Integrated Manpower Requirement Document E1–E4 requirements. The exterior finish would consist of split-face concrete masonry unit walls and standing-seam metal roof. Construction would include all utilities, pavements, site improvements, landscaping, a paved parking lot, and all required facility support. Sustainable principles, to include life-cycle cost-effective practices, would be integrated into the design, development, and construction of the dormitory in accordance with UFC 1-200-02. This project would comply with DoD AT/FP requirements per UFC 4-010-01. This project would be located southwest of dorms 1155, 1159, and 1161 on West Alison Avenue.

26 STS organizes, trains, and equips Special Tactics operators for a variety of missions including precision strike, global access, personnel recovery, and battlefield surgery. The unit is currently located in temporary facilities pending completion of their FYs 2015 and 2016 Military Construction (MILCON) projects to construct facilities that properly support their training and day to day operations. In their current facilities, there is insufficient storage for specialized equipment; therefore, those assets are being stored outside with no protection from the harsh New Mexico environment. As for storage in their new facility, the MILCON design does not include enough space for electrical, mechanical, and communications rooms so space planned for specialized equipment storage was reallocated to meet these infrastructure requirements. In addition, block 40 manning increases since the programming of the MILCONs have led to increases in the overall 26 STS storage requirement. Manpower authorization during MILCON development was 189 but the current authorization is 236. Due to space reconfigurations of the MILCON and the manpower increases, there is no plan for the storage of specialized vehicles, boats, equipment, and deployment assets in the new facility.

The 15,532 square foot 26 STS Equipment Storage Facility would consist of a reinforced concrete foundation and floor slab, steel structure, insulated walls and standing seam metal roof, environmental control (heating, air conditioning and ventilation), fire detection and protection, mass notification system, etc. Construction would include all utilities, pavements, site improvements, landscaping, a paved parking lot, and all required facility support. Functional areas would include storage space, offices, and restrooms. Supporting facilities would include utilities, pavements, site improvements, communications, and all necessary support. DoD principles for high performance and sustainable building requirements would be included in the design and construction of the facility in accordance with federal laws and EOs. Low impact development features would be included in the design and construction as appropriate. This project would provide AT/FP features and comply with AT/FP regulations and physical security mitigation in accordance with DoD Minimum Anti-Terrorism Standards for Buildings.

The existing MSA poses numerous concerns to include: (1) the munitions storage facility and bomb build-up pad are currently used as a conventional munitions maintenance facility when they

were not designed to support the maintenance of munition items; (2) there is insufficient lighting within the munitions storage structures; (3) the installation master plan mapping is inaccurate; (4) the location of the electrical substation (just north of the existing MSA) is too close and requires Public Traffic Route Distance (PTRD) arcs due to its dual use; (5) conventional munitions maintenance and munitions inspection facilities violate multiple distance regulations; and (6) Water Well 5 does not solely support the MSA, does not meet safety criteria, and has multiple distance violations.

The new MSA would be constructed within the 603-acre land gift area at the southwest corner of Cannon AFB. The facilities would house SOF-specific munition operations and include earthen covered storage igloos, aboveground magazine storage facilities, earthen berms, spare inert munition storage, munition shops, and administrative facilities and multicubes. Supporting facilities would include roads, driveways, privately-owned and government-owned vehicle parking, fencing, and utilities that are directly related to the functioning of the facilities being constructed as well as any other necessary support/critical features. Existing MSA facilities currently occupied by the SOF specific functions would be demolished and replaced as a part of the Proposed Action. DoD principles for high performance and sustainable building requirements would be included in the design and construction of the MSA in accordance with federal laws and EOs. Sustainability and energy features, as well as cyber security measures would be put in place. Low impact development features would be included in the design and construction as appropriate. No areas would be left bare following construction, and the Sustainable Landscape Development Plan would be followed when revegetating the disturbed area. This project would provide AT/FP features and comply with AT/FP regulations and physical security mitigation in accordance with DoD Minimum Anti-Terrorism Standards for Buildings.

Construction of the new infrastructure at Cannon AFB would result in 91.69 acres of ground disturbance from demolition activities and 193.33 acres of new construction disturbance.

2.3.2 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, the new infrastructure would not be constructed and AFSOC would not address the 192-dormitory room deficit, provide adequate storage facility space for 26 STS equipment, or mitigate risk due to the location of the existing MSA. The No Action Alternative would maintain the current inadequate state of the installation's military housing availability, storage space, and MSA. The No Action Alternative would not meet the purpose of or need for the Proposed Action as described in **Section 1.3**; however, the USAF EIAP (32 CFR § 989.8[d]) requires consideration of the No Action Alternative. Therefore, the No Action Alternative will be carried forward for detailed analysis in the EA.

2.4 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT ELIMINATED FROM DETAILED ANALYSIS

The following alternatives were eliminated from further consideration based on the selection standards outlined in **Section 2.2** and other reasons as explained below.

2.4.1 Alternative for Dormitory Construction

2.4.1.1 Use of Existing Building for New Dormitory

Cannon AFB considered the option to repurpose an existing building near the current dormitories, but this alternative was eliminated due to space constraints. No buildings in the vicinity would be large enough to fulfill the 192-dorm deficit and would therefore not meet Selection Standards 1 and 4.

2.4.1.2 Add 192 Rooms to Building 555

Cannon AFB considered the option to add 192 rooms to Building 555, but this alternative was eliminated due to it having a high Net Present Value and a high cost-benefit ratio. This alternative would have resulted in 30 airmen currently living in Building 555 having to relocate off base because their rooms would have been adjacent to the new addition being constructed. Additionally, there are future plans to expand Building 575 which could have resulted in AT/FP concerns. This alternative would not meet Selection Standards 2, 3, and 4.

2.4.2 Alternative for 26 STS Equipment Storage

2.4.2.1 Alternative Building Placement

Cannon AFB considered the option to place the 26 STS equipment storage facility in other locations on the installation, but these alternatives were eliminated due to the lack of colocalization. There are no other locations existing near the 26 STS buildings and therefore a storage facility in any other location than the Proposed Alternative would not meet Selection Standard 1.

2.4.3 Alternatives for MSA

2.4.3.1 Facility Updates in Existing MSA

This alternative would have resulted in the demolition of substandard facilities and the construction of new munitions storage and inspection facilities and a conventional munitions maintenance and inspection shop. Implementation of this alternative would have been phased to mitigate negative effects to current operations; however, ongoing operations would have required workarounds. After working through this alternative, it was determined to be the least feasible alternative and was not carried forward for further analysis or estimation of costs (CAFB 2018b).

2.4.3.2 Revised MSA Layout

The proposed revised layout for the existing MSA was based on revised net explosives weights to existing explosives storage and operating facilities and optimizing the location and types of new storage facilities to meet mission requirements. Although there would have been optimization of MSA functions under this alternative, there would have been disadvantages associated with Explosive Safety Quantity Distance (ESQD) arcs and East Aderholt Loop Road. A decision was required whether to apply for a waiver for MSA ESQD arcs (PTRD arc) that currently extend beyond the road, or to close the road to public traffic. Upon full implementation of the site plan for this alternative, all MSA facilities would have met quantity distance requirements in accordance with AFMAN 91-201; thus, eliminating the need for waivers associated with MSA operations. However, a Hot Cargo Pad (HCP), which will soon be expanded, would have ESQD arcs that extend beyond the proposed East Aderholt Loop Road realignment. In addition to the HCP PTRD arc, the road realignment would have also traversed the proposed skeet range safety arc, which would have resulted in the requirement for waivers or closure of the road.

The proposed improvements to the existing MSA included a new Precision Guided Missile (PGM) Shop. The only feasible location for the new PGM Shop was at the northeast end of the MSA. Another option for the new PGM Shop to the south would have required expansion of the MSA to the south and west, which would have required remediation of ERP sites, relocation of the wastewater treatment plant and HCP; identification of a new site for the skeet range/Combat Arms Training and Maintenance, and closure of East Aderholt Loop Road, which as stated above is not

feasible. Therefore, the option of MSA expansion to the southwest was determined to not be feasible due to potentially prohibitive costs and the long timeframe associated with all of the required implementation actions.

Another option considered for this alternative was siting the PGM Shop at the north end of the existing MSA. It also would have been necessary to purchase approximately 1.6 acres of private agricultural land in order to expand the installation perimeter near the proposed PGM shop to meet security requirements. Operations within the new PGM Shop would also have resulted in the expansion of existing Inhabited Building Distance (IBD) and PTRD arcs outside the installation's boundary.

Easements on private agricultural land to the east have been in place for years for MSA operations and, assuming an agreement could have been signed with the private landowner, the PGM Shop would have required an additional 40.3 acres of easements. The current easements include restrictions on private land use that limit the number of people that can gather, prohibits human habitation, and provides access by Cannon AFB. The IBD arcs would have required relocation of 10 privately-owned covered storage facilities. The PTRD arcs would not have affected private property since there are no public roads in the area. This option for MSA expansion was also determined to not be feasible due to potentially prohibitive costs (CAFB 2018b).

2.5 COMPARATIVE SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

The table below presents a summary of the impacts anticipated under the Proposed Action and No Action Alternative.

Table 2-1. Summary of Potential Impacts

Affected Resource	Proposed Action – Preferred Action	No Action Alternative
Airspace Management		
Noise		
Land Use		
Visual Resources		
Air Quality		
Geology and Soils		
Water Resources		
Biological Resources		
Cultural Resources		
Infrastructure		
Hazardous Materials and Wastes		
Safety		
Socioeconomics		
Environmental Justice and Sensitive Receptors		

[[Preparer's Note: Summary of potential impacts will be complete in the Preliminary Draft EA. Resource areas will be analyzed and could be eliminated from detailed analysis in the Preliminary Draft EA.]]

3.0 REFERENCES

- CAFB 2018a Cannon Air Force Base (AFB). 2018, *Dorm Master Plan, Cannon AFB, New Mexico*. November 2018.
- CAFB 2018b Cannon AFB. 2018, *Munitions Storage Area Development Plan, 27th Special Operations Wing, Cannon AFB, New Mexico*. November 2018.

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

Appendix A

Interagency and Intergovernmental Coordination for Environmental Planning and Public Involvement Materials

The 27 Special Operations Wing (27 SOW) solicited comments on the Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives (DOPAA) by distributing letters (examples follow) 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

The Honorable Martin Heinrich
U.S. Senate
303 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Ben Ray Luján
U.S. Senate
Dirksen Senate Building, Suite B40C
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Yvette Herrell
U.S. House of Representatives
1305 Longworth House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Melanie Stansbury
U.S. House of Representatives
1421 Longworth House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Teresa Leger Fernandez
U.S. House of Representatives
1432 Longworth House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

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

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

Mr. Michael Sloane
New Mexico Department of Game and Fish
Conservation Services
PO Box 25112
Santa Fe NM 87504

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

Mr. D'Llaynn Bruce
District Conservationist
National Resources Conservation Service
Clovis Service Center
918 Parkland Drive
Clovis NM 88101-4432

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
MSC 3189 Box 30005
Las Cruces NM 88003

Mr. James C. Kenney, Cabinet Secretary
New Mexico Environment Department
Office of General Counsel & Environmental
Policy
PO Box 5469
Santa Fe NM 87502-5469

Mr. Lance A. Pyle
Curry County Manager
Curry County Manager's Office
417 Gidding Street, Suite #100
Clovis NM 88101

Mr. Mike Morris
City of Clovis Mayor
PO Box 760
Clovis NM 88101-0760

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

Mr. Mark Matthews
Acting District Manager
Bureau of Land Management, Albuquerque
District Office
100 Sun Avenue NE Pan American Building
Suite 330
Albuquerque NM 87109

Ms. Susan King
Regional Environmental Officer
U.S. Department of Interior, Office of
Environmental Policy and Compliance,
Albuquerque Region
1001 Indian School Road NW Suite 348
Albuquerque NM 87104

Mr. George MacDonell
Chief of Environmental Resources Section
USACE Albuquerque District
4101 Jefferson Plaza NE
Albuquerque NM 87109

Mr. David Gray
Acting Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region
6
1201 Elm Street Suite 500
Dallas TX 75270

Ms. Cheryl Prewitt
Regional Environmental Coordinator
U.S. Forest Service, Southwest Region
333 Broadway Boulevard SE
Albuquerque NM 87102

Example Federal, State, and Local Agency Scoping Letter



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE 27TH SPECIAL OPERATIONS WING (AFSOC) CANNON AIR FORCE BASE NEW MEXICO

Mr. Carlos Soto-Lorenzo
Deputy Base Civil Engineer
27th Special Operations Civil Engineer Squadron
506 North Air Commando Way
Cannon AFB, New Mexico 88103

[Salutation] [First Name] [Last Name, [Title]
[Organization]
[Address 1] [Address 2]
[City], [State] [Zip code]

Dear [Salutation] [Last Name]

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 address the potential environmental impacts associated with the construction and operation of new infrastructure at Cannon Air Force Base (AFB), New Mexico. The Proposed Action includes three separate construction projects—a 59,331 square foot dormitory southwest of dormitories 1155, 1159, and 1161 on West Alison Avenue; a 15,532 square foot storage facility near other 26th Special Tactics Squadron (STS) facilities on the eastern portion of Cannon AFB; and an approximately 240-acre munitions storage area (MSA) within the 603-acre land gift area at the southwest corner of Cannon AFB. Existing MSA facilities currently occupied by the Special Operations Forces-specific functions would be demolished and replaced as a part of the Proposed Action.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to support the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) mission requirements by improving facilities, infrastructure, and utilities for current and future use at Cannon AFB. The AFSOC mission at Cannon AFB continues to grow and evolve, as do demands on aging facilities and infrastructure. Improvements and updates are needed to keep pace as warfare grows ever more technologically advanced and specialized. The need for the Proposed Action is to (1) restore military readiness by addressing a 192-dormitory room deficit, (2) restore military readiness by providing adequate storage facility space for 26 STS equipment, and (3) mitigate risk caused by safety and distance violations by relocating the MSA. AFSOC does not have adequate facilities to meet or carry out their mission.

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 Infrastructure Improvements at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico is available at <https://www.cannon.af.mil/Environmental/>. A hardcopy can also be provided upon request. We look forward to and welcome your participation in this process. Please respond

within 30 days of receipt of this letter to ensure your concerns are adequately addressed in the EA.

Please send your written responses to Mrs. Amanda Hitchens, 27th Special Operations Civil Engineer Squadron, 506 North Air Commando Way, Cannon AFB, New Mexico 88103, amanda.hitchens@us.af.mil.

Sincerely

Carlos Soto-Lorenzo,
Deputy Base Civil Engineer

Attachment:
Proposed Location of New Infrastructure

Native American Tribes – Scoping Letters

Pueblo of Acoma
Governor Brian D. Vallo
PO Box 309
Acoma NM 87034

Pueblo of Cochiti
Governor Joseph L. Herrera
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 B. Abeita
PO Box 1270
Isleta NM 87022

Pueblo of Jemez
Governor Michael Toledo, Jr.
PO Box 100
Jemez Pueblo NM 87024

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

Pueblo of Laguna
Governor John E. Antonio
PO Box 194
Laguna Pueblo NM 87026

Mescalero Apache Tribe
President Gabe Aguilar
PO Box 227
Mescalero NM 88340

Pueblo of Nambe
Governor Phillip A. Perez
15A NP 102 West
Santa Fe NM 87506

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

Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo
Governor Patrick 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 Anthony Ortiz
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 Ulysses Leon
2 Dove Road
Santa Ana Pueblo NM 87004

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

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

Pueblo of Tesuque
Governor Mark Mitchell
02 TP828
Santa Fe NM 87506

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

Ysleta del Sur Pueblo
Governor E. Michael Silvas
117 Old Pueblo Road, PO Box 17579
El Paso TX 79907

Pueblo of Zia
Governor Jerome Lucero
135 Capitol Square Drive
Zia Pueblo, NM 87053-6013

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

Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
Chairwoman Lori Gooday-Ware
43187 U.S. Highway 281
Apache OK 73006

Ute Mountain Ute Tribe
Chairman Manuel Heart
124 Mike Wash Road
Towaoc CO 81334

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

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

Comanche Nation of Oklahoma
Chairman Mark Woommavovah
PO Box 908
Lawton OK 73502

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

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

Example Tribal Government Scoping Letter



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
27TH SPECIAL OPERATIONS WING (AFSOC)
CANNON AIR FORCE BASE NEW MEXICO**

Colonel Terence G. Taylor
USAF Commander
27th Special Operations Wing
100 Air Commando Way Suite 100
Cannon AFB, NM 88103-5214

[Salutation] [First Name] [Last Name, [Title]
[Organization]
[Address 1] [Address 2]
[City], [State] [Zip code]

Dear [Salutation] [Last Name]

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The purpose of the Proposed Action is to support the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) mission requirements by improving facilities, infrastructure, and utilities for current and future use at Cannon AFB. The AFSOC mission at Cannon AFB continues to grow and evolve, as do demands on aging facilities and infrastructure. Improvements and updates are needed to keep pace as warfare grows ever more technologically advanced and specialized. The need for the Proposed Action is to (1) restore military readiness by addressing a 192-dormitory room deficit, (2) restore military readiness by providing adequate storage facility space for 26 STS equipment, and (3) mitigate risk caused by safety and distance violations by relocating the MSA. AFSOC does not have adequate facilities to meet or carry out their mission.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800), the USAF would like to initiate government-to-government consultation to allow you and your designee the opportunity to identify any comments, concerns, and suggestions relevant to the NEPA compliance process concerning the Proposed Action. A copy of the Final Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives for the EA Addressing

Infrastructure Improvements at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico is available at <https://www.cannon.af.mil/Environmental/>. As we move forward through this process, we welcome your participation and input. For technical information, please contact Mrs. Amanda Hitchens, 27th Special Operations Civil Engineer Squadron, at amanda.hitchens@us.af.mil.

Sincerely

TERENCE G. TAYLOR, Colonel, USAF
Commander

Attachment:
Proposed Location of New Infrastructure