

**FINAL**  
**SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL**  
**ASSESSMENT (SEA)**  
**FOR THE U.S. SPECIAL OPERATIONS**  
**COMMAND (USSOCOM) MILITARY**  
**INFORMATION SUPPORT OPERATIONS (MISO)**  
**MILITARY CONSTRUCTION (MILCON)**  
**MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, TAMPA, FLORIDA**

**Department of the Air Force**



**February 2023**

Letters or other written comments provided may be published in the Final SEA. As required by law, substantive comments will be addressed in the Final SEA and made available to the public. Any personal information provided will be kept confidential. Private addresses will be compiled to develop a mailing list for those requesting copies of the Final SEA. However, only the names of the individuals making comments and their specific comments will be disclosed. Personal home addresses and phone numbers will not be published in the Final SEA.

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1 **GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS, ABBREVIATIONS & INITIALISMS**

ACAM	Air Conformity Applicability Model
AFB	Air Force Base
APE	area of potential effect
BMP	best management practices
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CWA	Clean Water Act
CZMA	Coastal Zone Management Act
DAF	Department of the Air Force
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DFSP	Defense Fuel Support Point
DoD	Department of Defense
DOPAA	description of proposed action and alternatives
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ERP	Environmental Restoration Program
ESA	Endangered Species Act of 1973
ESQD	explosive safety quantity-distance
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FONPA	Finding of No Practicable Alternative
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impacts
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
GCC	Geographic Combatant Command
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act of 1969
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MILCON	military construction
MISO	military information support operations
NAVD88	North American Vertical Datum of 1988
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
P4	Proposed Action P4 (permanent siting of USSOCOM MISO facility)
SEA	Supplemental Environmental Assessment
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
SWMU	Solid Waste Management Unit
TBW	Tampa Bay Water
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S.C.	U.S. Code
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USSOCOM	U.S. Special Operations Command

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

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MacDill Air Force Base (AFB) is a 5,695-acre military facility employing over 12,000 active-duty military personnel and located in Tampa, Florida. The base is home to 24 Boeing KC-135 Stratotanker aerial refueling aircraft and 23 U.S. Army Reserve UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters.

The original Environmental Assessment (EA) for the expansion and consolidation of the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) Military Information Support Operations (MISO) activities at MacDill AFB was prepared in 2019 by the Department of the Air Force (DAF). The 2019 EA evaluated the environmental consequences of the phased implementation of actions involving two possible temporary locations for trailers (T1 and T2) and three permanent locations for the USSOCOM MISO building (P1, P2, and P3) along with a No-Action alternative. The 2019 EA, herein incorporated by reference, has additional details of the actions considered (DAF 2019).

The initial (temporary trailer) phase of the project has been constructed at location T1 at the south end of the south airfield apron (Bravo Ramp) since completion of the 2019 EA, and the permanent siting of the USSOCOM MISO building is the next phase of the project. This Supplemental EA (SEA) describes and evaluates a location recently identified by the DAF as a possible permanent location for the USSOCOM MISO building (this was considered only as a temporary location [T2] in the 2019 EA). This document also presents management actions to avoid or minimize impacts related to the implementation of the Proposed Action P4. Additionally, this SEA considers a south entrance roadway as part of the P4 scenario and incorporates by reference the analysis previously completed in the USSOCOM MISO EA by DAF (2019), when appropriate.

### **1.1 Purpose of and Need for Action**

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to consolidate MISO activities under USSOCOM from Global Combatant Commands in a permanent facility on MacDill AFB as directed by the United States Secretary of Defense. The Proposed Action is needed because USSOCOM requires enhanced MISO capabilities and associated facilities to meet their mission requirements. The USSOCOM MISO is currently housed in temporary trailers on MacDill AFB until a permanent facility can be constructed.

### **1.2 Regulatory Framework**

The DAF has prepared this SEA pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code [U.S.C.] 4331 et seq.), the regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) that implement NEPA procedures (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500–1508 and 1515–1518) including updates to these regulations dated 14 Sep 2020 (CEQ 2020), and 32 CFR 989, et seq., Environmental Impact Analysis Process.

Execution of the Proposed Action will involve “construction” in a floodplain as defined under Executive Order 11988, *Floodplain Management*, and, therefore, a Finding of No Practicable Alternative (FONPA) will be prepared in conjunction with the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

### **1.3 Interagency and Intergovernmental Coordination and Consultations**

#### **1.3.1 Interagency Coordination and Consultations**

Scoping is an early and open process for developing the breadth of issues to be addressed in the SEA and for identifying significant concerns related to a Proposed Action. Per the requirements of Intergovernmental Cooperation Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4231[a]) and Executive Order 12372, federal, state, and local agencies with jurisdiction that could be affected by the Proposed Action were notified during the development of this SEA.

The following regulations are addressed as part of this SEA: Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and implementing regulations (36 CFR Part 800), Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and implementing regulations, and the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA).

A CZMA consistency determination was sent to the Florida State Clearinghouse on 9 December 2022 indicating a preliminary finding that the implementation of the Proposed Action would be consistent with the Florida Coastal Management Program. Concurrence from the Florida State Clearinghouse was received on 12 December 2022. Correspondence regarding this consultation is in Appendix A.

### **1.3.2 Government to Government Consultations**

The National Historic Preservation Act § 106 (54 U.S.C. 306101), and implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800, direct federal agencies to coordinate and consult with federally recognized Native American tribes historically affiliated with the land underlying a project area. Consistent with these regulations, Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 4710.02, *DoD Interactions with Federally Recognized Tribes*, DAFI 90-2002, *Interactions with Federally Recognized Tribes*, and Air Force Manual 32-7003, *Environmental Conservation*, federally recognized tribes that are historically affiliated with the MacDill AFB geographic region are invited to consult on all proposed undertakings that have a potential to affect properties of cultural, historical, or religious significance to the tribes. The tribal consultation process is distinct from NEPA consultation or the interagency coordination process, and it requires separate notification of all relevant tribes. The timelines for tribal consultation are also distinct from those of other consultations.

The following Native American tribal governments were consulted regarding this Proposed Action for the 2019 EA or for this SEA:

- Miccosukee Tribe of Indians
- The Muscogee (Creek) Nation
- Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
- Seminole Tribe of Florida

Correspondence regarding these consultations is in Appendix B.

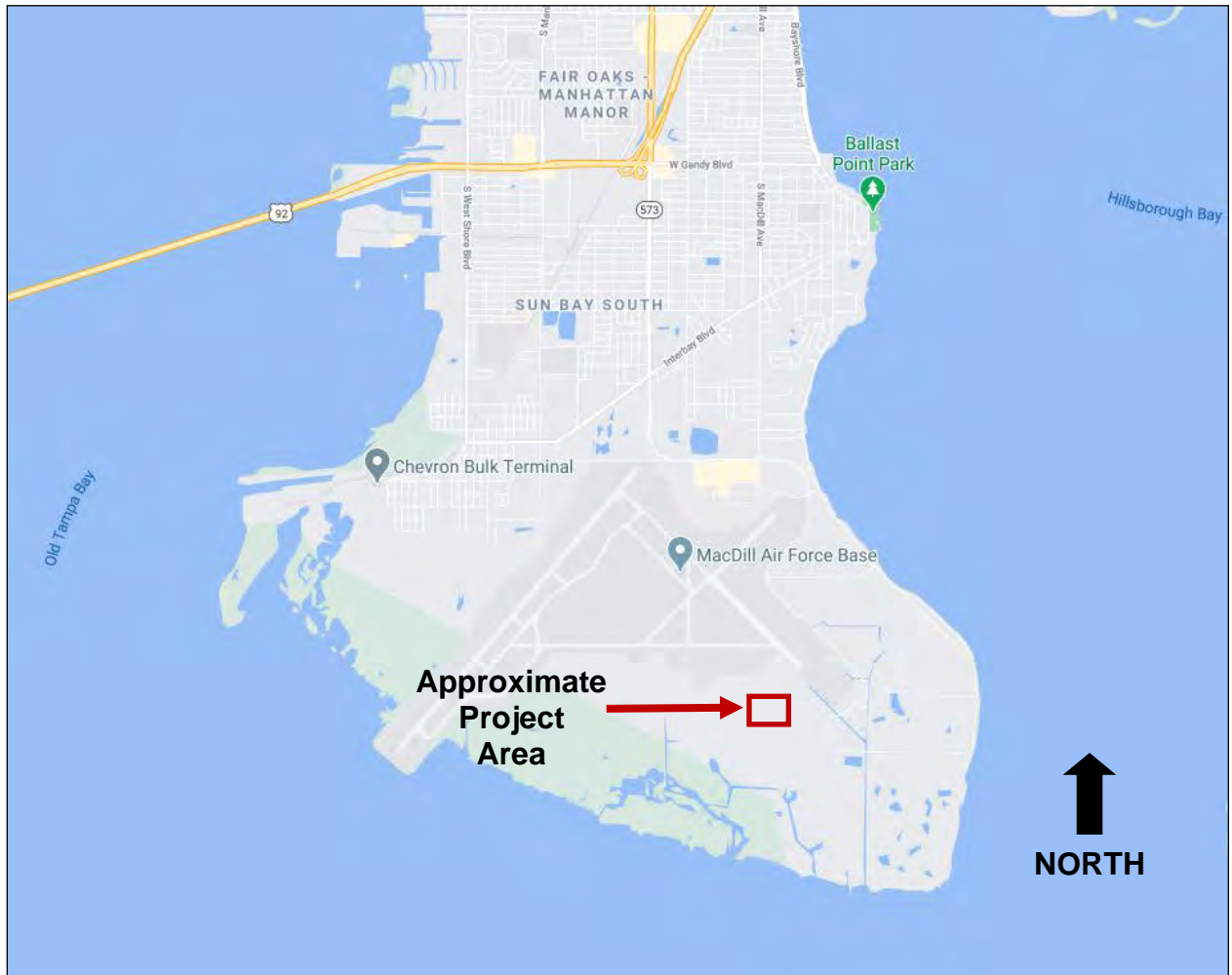
## **1.4 Public and Agency Review of the Environmental Assessment**

Because the project area of the Proposed Action coincides with wetlands and (or) floodplains, it is subject to the requirements and objectives of Executive Orders 11988, *Floodplain Management*, and 11990, *Protection of Wetlands*. The DAF published early notice in the *Tampa Bay Times* on 24 July 2022 that the Proposed Action would occur in a floodplain and wetlands. The notice included an email address and a mailing address for comment submittal. The comment period for public and agency input ended on 25 August 2022, 30 days from the date the notice was published in the newspaper. No comments were received during the comment period.

A notice of availability of the Draft SEA was published in the *Tampa Bay Times* announcing the availability of the document for review on 8 January 2023. The notice of availability invited the public to review and comment on the Draft SEA. The public and agency review period ended on 7 February 2023. The notice of availability and newspaper announcements are provided in Appendix C. No comments from the public were received.

Copies of the Draft SEA were also made available for review at the following locations:

- John F. Germany Public Library (900 N Ashley Drive, Tampa, Florida)
- Online at <https://www.macdill.af.mil/>



**Figure 1-1. Project Area at MacDill AFB in Tampa, Florida**

*Note: The project area is indicated with a red rectangle.*

*Source: Modified from Google Maps image*

## **2 DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES**

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The Proposed Action is to construct a permanent facility to accommodate approximately 850 MISO personnel currently housed in other facilities at MacDill AFB, as described in the 2019 USSOCOM MISO EA (DAF 2019). The temporary trailer portion of the Proposed Action in the 2019 EA is currently being implemented.

### **2.1 Selection Standards**

The selection criteria have not changed from the 2019 USSOCOM MISO EA.

### **2.2 Proposed Action (“P4”)**

The DAF has identified a location south of Southshore Avenue as the Proposed Action area (Figure 2-1). Given that the 2019 EA proposed three potential permanent USSOCOM MISO facility locations (P1 through P3), this new Proposed Action will be referred in the remainder of this SEA to as “P4” in reference to this permanent USSOCOM MISO facility proposed location #4. P4 was proposed in the 2019 EA as T2, a potential location for the temporary facilities. This site is currently a vegetated field (Figure 2-2). Construction of the new permanent MISO facility would entail an approximately 100,000 square foot two-to-three-story office building be constructed in this area sufficient for approximately 850 MISO personnel working there. Considering that the Proposed Action area (along with 93% of the AFB) is within the 100-year floodplain, the finished elevation of the lowest floor of the building will be constructed above the 100-year flood elevation. The building would have approximately 705 parking spaces or less. Ingress/egress for vehicles and pedestrians would be from the north via an existing entranceway for a separate facility on Southshore Avenue, and from the south via a new entranceway from Golf Course Avenue. A new culvert would be installed where the new southern entrance roadway crosses a small ditch. Utilities and landscaping would be added. Storm water control features would be constructed to mitigate the effects of the impervious surfaces.

Staging/construction laydown areas would be situated within the project footprint at a previously disturbed area with no identified sensitive resources. Construction of the new facility would occur over a two- to three-year period. The goal is to start construction of the new facility in fiscal year 2023.



**Figure 2-1. Aerial Image with Approximate Boundaries of the Proposed Action P4 Area for the USSOCOM MISO Facility at MacDill AFB**



**Figure 2-2. The Proposed Action P4 Area at MacDill AFB is Currently a Vegetated Field**

*Note: Photograph taken 7 July 2022 from the northern border, facing south.*

### **2.3 No-Action Alternative**

The No-Action Alternative is for the approximately 850 additional MISO personnel to remain decentralized and distributed in temporary trailers on MacDill AFB. These personnel would not be relocated to a centralized location at MacDill AFB and no new permanent facility would be constructed. This alternative would not meet the purpose of, nor the need for, the Proposed Action. However, as required under CEQ Regulations (40 CFR 1502.14[d]), this SEA analyzes the No-Action Alternative as it does provide a description of the baseline conditions to compare against the impacts of the Proposed Action.

## **3 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES**

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### **3.1 Resources Eliminated from Further Analysis**

Based on the scope of P4, the Alternative Actions in the 2019 EA, and the No-Action Alternative, as well as preliminary analyses, the DAF eliminated the following resources or parameters from further analysis. In general, if such resources or parameters were very similar between the various possible actions or non-action scenarios, they were eliminated from comparison of environmental consequences.

The environmental consequences regarding Noise, Bird-Aircraft Strike Hazard, Clear Zones, Explosives Safety, Hazardous Materials and Waste, and Socioeconomics were determined not to need detailed analysis in this SEA. P4 would not introduce any previously unanalyzed factors that would create a potential for environmental impacts to these parameters. See Section 3 of the original 2019 EA for reasons why no potential impacts would occur for Land Use, Utilities, Airspace and Airfield Operations, and Environmental Justice and these topics are, therefore, omitted from analysis. Unless otherwise noted below, the region of influence for each resource or parameter discussed in this section is no larger than the project area shown in Figure 2-1 and described in Subsection 2.2.

### **3.2 Water Resources**

Water resources include surface waters, groundwater, and floodplains, which are addressed separately in the following sections. For all three components, the region of interest is considered the project area of P4 and area immediately surrounding this area on all sides.

#### **Surface Waters**

Surface waters near the P4 area are confined to a man-made ditch that runs east-west and connects to Tampa Bay at Broad Creek (a natural tidal creek). Standing water was observed in the ditches adjacent to the P4 area during the site visit on 7 July 2022. The P4 area may occasionally experience ponding or flooding during storm events. Although the topography within this area is nearly flat, there is a gentle slope southward and surface waters likely flow gently from north to south towards Tampa Bay. The slope of the land combined with stormwater management features (ditches) in the landscape suggest that off-site runoff may occasionally enter this area from the north.

Florida DEP issued a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Multi-Sector Generic Permit for Stormwater Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity (MSGP) permit (No. FLR05E128-005) on 19 March 2021 and a Phase II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit (No. FLR04E059) to MacDill AFB on 01 Mar 2018. These permits authorize the discharge of stormwater associated with industrial activity and non-industrial stormwater discharges, respectively. Areas of potential runoff contamination at the base are the runways and the airfield aprons. Most of MacDill AFB drains toward the southern tip of the Interbay Peninsula, with the easternmost section of the base draining toward Hillsborough Bay (DAF 2010). Therefore, storm water runoff from the P4 area flows southward towards Tampa Bay or southeastward towards Hillsborough Bay.

MacDill AFB maintains a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan to satisfy 40 CFR 112. Per the same regulation, the base maintains a Facility Response Plan given its location adjacent to navigable waters and shorelines, as well as the amount of fuel storage capacity existing on-base.

#### **Groundwater**

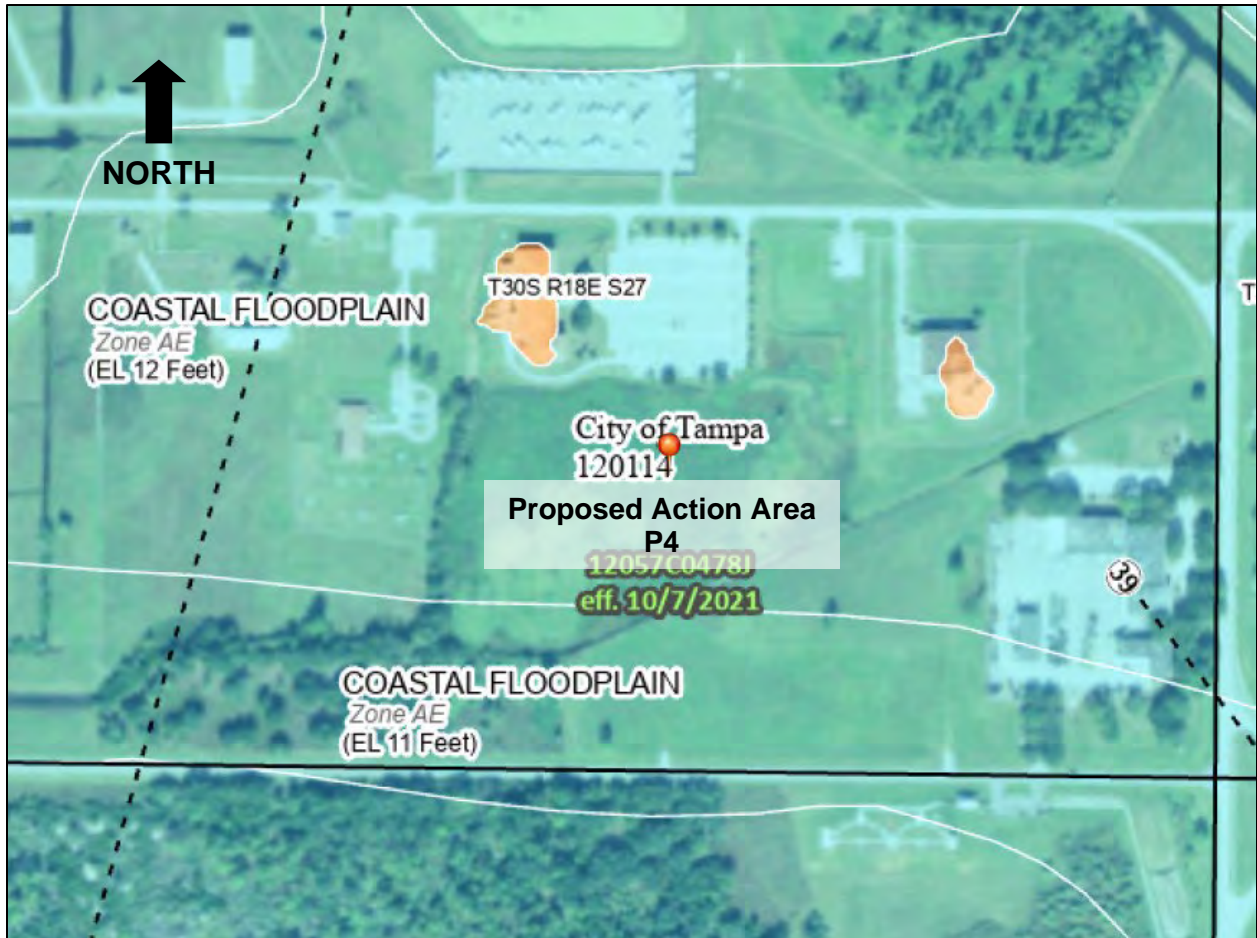
Groundwater is described and discussed in Subsection 3.8 of the 2019 EA, where the P4 area is referred to as T2.

### **Floodplains**

The most recently available flood maps provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) show the project area to be entirely contained within Zone AE (Figure 3-1) as of the latest (7 October 2021) FEMA map update. This zone, also known as the 100-year floodplain, is defined as an area inundated by a one percent (1%) annual chance of flooding and for which base flood elevations have been determined (Hillsborough County 2022). Zone AE is within the High-Risk Areas (Special Flood Hazard Area) category of flood zones. The P4 area has an elevation of 12 feet NAVD88 (North American Vertical Datum of 1988), except at the extreme southern portion of the site, where the elevation drops to 11 feet NAVD88 above sea level (<https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps/national-flood-hazard-layer>).

Approximately 93 percent of MacDill AFB, including the P4 area and Alternative 1 area, is within the 100-year floodplain. The remaining seven percent of the base is within the 500-year floodplain.

Executive Order 11988, *Floodplains Management*, requires federal agencies to reduce the risk of flood loss; to minimize the impact of floods on human safety, health, and welfare; and to restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains. Federal agencies are required to evaluate the potential effects of any action it takes in the floodplain to ensure that its planning programs and budget requests reflect consideration of flood hazards and floodplain management. When an action is proposed to be located within a floodplain, the DAF is required to consider alternatives to avoid adverse effects and incompatible development in the floodplain. When the only practicable alternative consistent with the law and with the policy set forth in the executive orders requires siting the action in a floodplain, the project must be designed or modified to minimize potential harm to the floodplain. Finally, the DAF is required to provide public notice and an opportunity for public comment prior to proceeding with any action in a floodplain.



**Figure 3-1. FEMA Zone AE (100-year Floodplain) in and around the P4 Area**

Source: Map obtained 29 September 2022 from FEMA Flood Map Service Center (<https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>)

### 3.2.1 Environmental Consequences

**P4**—The environmental consequences to floodplains and other water resources are discussed and described in Subsections 4.7 and 4.8 of the 2019 EA, where the P4 area is referred to as T2. The environmental consequences that would result from implementing P4 as the permanent site would be the same as those associated with T2 as discussed in the 2019 EA. No significant impacts are expected for surface waters, groundwater, or the 100-year floodplain resulting from P4. The same insignificant impacts would occur under either of the Alternative Action P1, P2, or P3 scenarios.

**No-Action Alternative**—Surface waters, groundwater, and the 100-year floodplain would remain unchanged from baseline conditions under the No-Action Alternative. No significant impacts are expected from the No-Action Alternative.

### 3.3 Biological Resources

Biological resources include vegetation, wildlife (including imperiled species), and wetlands. These are addressed separately in the following subsections. For each of these major categories of biological resources, the region of interest is the immediate project area of P4 and alternatives to P4.

The following vegetative and wildlife descriptions are based primarily on a visit and site inspection of the project area by ANAMAR, DAF, and Amentum personnel on 7 July 2022. These data are supplemented by survey results provided by Ecosphere Restoration Institute (ERI) and Environmental Science Associates

(ESA) based on surveys conducted during October 2018 through March 2019 (ERI and ESA 2019) of many areas of MacDill AFB for threatened and endangered species. These data are supplemented by the results of earlier surveys and the results of a brief search of available online databases.

### **Vegetation**

The vegetation of the P4 area (Figure 3-2) is described in Subsection 3.2 of the 2019 EA, where this project area is referred to as T2. However, the newly proposed south entranceway was not addressed in 2019. The area of the south entranceway is predominately bahiagrass (*Paspalum notatum*) that is maintained with regular mowing (Figure 3-3). Seashore paspalum (*Paspalum vaginatum*) line the banks of the ditch that the access road will cross. A few small white mangroves (*Laguncularia racemosa*) also occur along this ditch (Figure 3-4).

The Southwest Florida Management District assigned the Florida Land Use, Cover and Forms Classification System code 1700 (institutional) to the P4 area and surrounding areas (Figure 3-5).



**Figure 3-2. Vegetated Field of the P4 Area, Facing East**

Note: Photo taken 7 July 2022 during site visit



**Figure 3-3. Vegetation of the Tidally Influenced Ditch Proposed for a Box Culvert and South Entranceway for P4**

*Note: Photograph faces southwest.*



**Figure 3-4. Herbaceous Vegetation in Area Proposed for a South Entrance Roadway from Golf Course Avenue to P4**

*Note: Photograph faces north.*

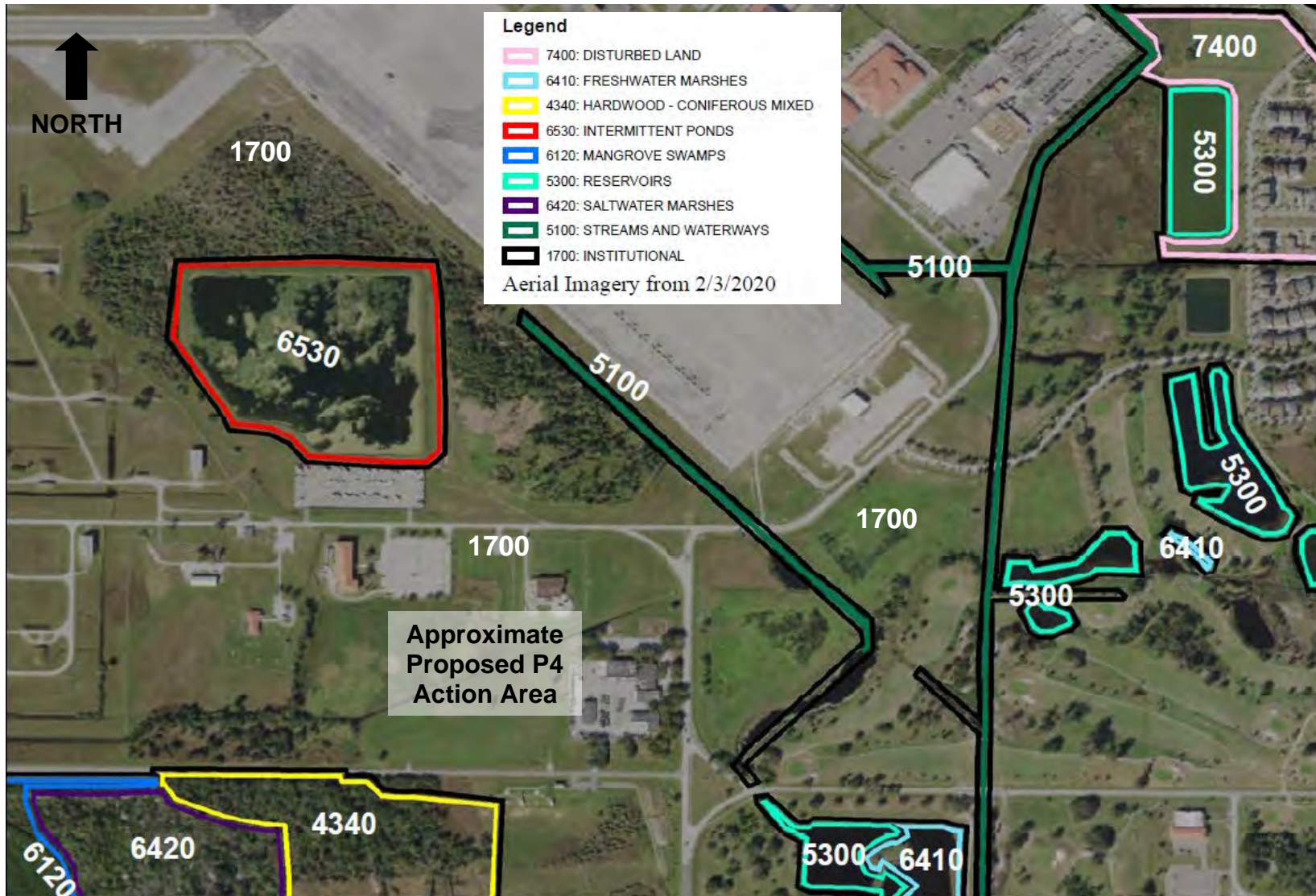


Figure 3-5. Florida Land Use, Cover and Forms Classification System Codes in and around the P4 Area

## **Wildlife**

Wildlife observed during the 7 July 2022 site visit at the P4 area consisted of grasshoppers within the herbaceous vegetation, and a great egret (*Ardea alba*) along the ditch that borders the south side of the project area. It is reasonable to suspect that other species of wading birds forage along the ditches as these areas are attractive to them (Maehr and Kale 2005). Marsh rabbits (*Sylvilagus palustris*) and hispid cotton rats (*Sigmodon hispidus*) probably inhabit the thick herbaceous vegetation as these two species were frequently observed on-base by ERI and ESA (2019).

Fish were evident in the ditch along the south border of the site but could not be identified to species. It is probable that the ditches contain such fish taxa as eastern mosquitofish (*Gambusia holbrooki*), killifishes (Fundulidae), and introduced cichlids (Cichlidae). Laval frogs (tadpoles) of saline-tolerant species, such as the introduced invasive Cuban treefrog (*Osteopilus septentrionalis*), may also inhabit the ditches, at least seasonally. The striped mud turtle (*Kinosternon baurii*) is well suited for such coastal ditch habitat and probably inhabits the project area.

## **Imperiled and Protected Species**

### **Results of Surveys and Site Visits**

Surveys of several areas of MacDill AFB for threatened and endangered species were conducted by ERI and ESA during October 2018 through March 2019 (ERI and ESA 2019). Surveys targeting wading birds and shorebirds during dusk and dawn, bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) nests, Florida burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia floridana*) and gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*), small mammals, nocturnal animals (photo surveys), bats (acoustic surveys), and Audubon's crested caracara (*Polyborus plancus audubonii* [currently *Caracara plancus*]).

ANAMAR, DAF, and Amentum personnel visited the P4 area and briefly observed the resources in this area on 7 July 2022. No threatened and endangered species were observed in this area during the site visit.

A total of 13 threatened and endangered species (4 federal-listed and 9 state-listed species) were documented by ERI and ESA (2019) during their 2018 and 2019 surveys. In addition, bald eagles and their nests were documented on the base by these researchers. The surveys by ERI and ESA (2019) did not include the P4 area and no federally or state-listed species were observed by them in that area. Previous to the 2018–2019 surveys, imperiled species and wildlife surveys were conducted at MacDill AFB in 1992, 1994, 1995–1996, 2003–2004, 2011–2012 (ERI and ESA 2019). In addition, on 10 May 2005, representatives from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Mote Marine Laboratory, and MacDill AFB conducted a survey of the shallow nearshore waters within the restricted area along MacDill's southern coastline. Table 3-1 lists all listed and protected species that have been recorded at MacDill AFB.

**Table 3-1. Summary of Protected Species Recorded on MacDill AFB**

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	
		Federal	State
<b>Reptiles &amp; Amphibians</b>			
American alligator	<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	Threatened (SA)*	–
Eastern Indigo Snake	<i>Drymarchon couperi</i>	Endangered	–
Gopher tortoise	<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>	Candidate	Threatened
<b>Birds</b>			
American oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus palliatus</i>	–	Threatened
Bald eagle (obs. nesting)	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Protected under Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act & Migratory Bird Treaty Act	–
Black skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>	–	Threatened
Florida burrowing owl	<i>Athene cunicularia floridana</i>	–	Threatened
Florida sandhill crane	<i>Grus canadensis pratensis</i>	–	Threatened
Least tern	<i>Sterna antillarum</i>	–	Threatened
Little blue heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	–	Threatened
Piping plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Threatened	–
Reddish egret	<i>Egretta rufescens</i>	–	Threatened
Roseate spoonbill	<i>Ajaia ajaja</i>	–	Threatened
Rufa red knot	<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>	Threatened	–
Snowy plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	–	Threatened
Southeastern American kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius paulus</i>	–	Threatened
Tricolored heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	–	Threatened
Wood stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	Threatened	–
<b>Mammals</b>			
Tricolored bat	<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>	Proposed	–
West Indian manatee (Florida manatee)	<i>Trichechus manatus (T. m. latirostris)</i>	Threatened	–

\* SA = Species is listed due to the similarity of appearance with the federally threatened American crocodile, *Crocodylus acutus*. Sources: DAF (2010, 2012, 2016, 2021, 2022), ERI and ESA (2019), and B. Myers (USFWS, pers. comm. 16 November 2022) with status modifications based on FWC (2021).

### **American Alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*)**

The American alligator, which is federally threatened due to similarity of appearance to the American crocodile, is an inhabitant of MacDill AFB. The species typically inhabits freshwater wetlands, lakes, ponds, and ditches on the installation, and is generally found on the southeastern portion of the installation. The species has not been found within the project area, though it has been seen numerous times in the general vicinity and was observed incidentally during the last imperiled species survey on the installation (ERI and ESA 2019). While it is highly unlikely the American alligator would be within the project area as there is no direct connection between the ditch where the box culvert would be installed and waterbodies

where the species has been seen, the species could walk between the nearby inhabited areas and the project site.

#### **American Crocodile (*Crocodylus acutus*)**

The federally threatened American Crocodile has been documented in the Tampa Bay area only rarely. Photographic documentations include a large individual photographed in Sep 2011 along the bank of a lake in St. Petersburg (Pinellas County) and another, smaller individual photographed in Feb 2019 swimming in Boca Ciega Bay Aquatic Preserve (University of Florida Herpetology Collection database (<http://specifyportal.flmnh.ufl.edu/herps/>)). This species has not been documented as occurring within MacDill AFB despite several surveys of imperiled species on the base (DAF 2010, 2012, 2016, 2022; ERI and ESA 2019).

#### **Gopher Tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*)**

Populations of gopher tortoise inhabiting Florida and surrounding states were, until recently, candidates for listing under the ESA (USFWS 2019a). The Eastern Distinct Population Segment of this species was removed from the candidate list based on a Federal Register notification of findings published 12 October 2022. The species remains protected in Florida as a state threatened species. Gopher tortoise burrow surveys were conducted by ERI and ESA (2019) over a total of 11 days spread over the months of October and November 2018 and January, February, March, and June 2019. These workers documented a total of 297 potentially occupied burrows and 18 abandoned burrows on MacDill AFB (Figure 3-6). The majority of the burrows documented by ERI and ESA (2019) were observed in two main clusters: one cluster was located between the south ramp and the runway, and the other cluster of burrows was located south of the DFSP (labeled as “Tank Farm” in Figure 3-6 below). The soils in the project area appear unsuitable for gopher tortoise burrows as they are poorly drained or somewhat poorly drained with depths to water table of from 3 to 36 inches. This species is unlikely to inhabit the project area except as occasional visitors from a colony to the south. Nonetheless, potential effects of construction and operational traffic cannot be ruled out as tortoises may occasionally venture onto nearby roads.

#### **Eastern Indigo Snake (*Drymarchon couperi*)**

The P4 area appears poorly suited as habitat for the federally threatened eastern indigo snake (including the population proposed as the new species, *D. kolpobasileus*, see Krysko et al. 2016, but see also Folt et al. 2019), although the species cannot be fully ruled out. The area lacks gopher tortoise burrows, and other subterranean microhabitats, which eastern indigo snakes are well-known to utilize to avoid desiccation and as shelter against extreme temperatures. This species has not been recorded within MacDill AFB for over 25 years. For this reason, and for those mentioned above, its presence within the project area is unlikely.

#### **Audubon’s Crested Caracara (*Polyborus plancus audubonii*)**

The federally threatened Audubon’s crested caracara (*Polyborus plancus audubonii*) has been previously recorded in Hillsborough and Pinellas counties (Layne 1996) and, more recently, has been reported from the Tampa Bay area with increasing frequency. However, a search for observations on the Avian Knowledge Network (<https://avianknowledge.net/index.php/observations-map/>) on 16 November 2022 failed to reveal any records for the last 12 months from the Interbay Peninsula. The species nests in cabbage palms (and very rarely in saw palmetto, yucca, pine, elm, or oak) and their preferred habitat is prairie, where it hunts small rodents and small turtles in addition to feeding on carrion (Stoddard 1931, Bent 1938, Maehr and Kale 2005). The paucity of suitable nesting structures and foraging habitat, combined with the rarity of records of this species in the Tampa Bay area, makes its presence in the project area unlikely but not impossible.

### **Eastern Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis jamaicensis*)**

The federally threatened eastern black rail is a permanent resident in the Tampa Bay watershed, where it inhabits wet prairies and freshwater and saltwater marshes, although it is rare in these habitats (Wolfe and Drew 1990, USFWS 2019b). Online searches on 26 July 2022 of the birding database eBird (<https://ebird.org/explore>), the amateur naturalist database iNaturalist ([https://www.inaturalist.org/observations?place\\_id=any&taxon\\_id=316](https://www.inaturalist.org/observations?place_id=any&taxon_id=316)), and the University of Florida Ornithology Collection database (<http://specifyportal.flmnh.ufl.edu/birds/>) failed to reveal any records of black rails anywhere in Hillsborough County, Florida. Similarly, a search for observations of black rails on the Avian Knowledge Network (<https://avianknowledge.net/index.php/observations-map/>) on 16 November 2022 failed to reveal any records for the last 12 months from the Interbay Peninsula. The P4 area lacks prairie or marsh habitat typically used for nesting by coastal populations of this subspecies. The black rail is unlikely to inhabit the project area.

### **Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*)**

The wood stork is addressed in Subsections 3.2 and 4.2 of the 2019 EA, where the P4 area is referred to as T2. A search for observations on the Avian Knowledge Network (<https://avianknowledge.net/index.php/observations-map/>) on 16 November 2022 revealed hundreds of sightings of this species in and around MacDill AFB for the last 12 months. However, the proposed action includes the addition of a south entranceway and culvert within a tidally influenced drainage ditch where the species has been observed. The ditch held water during a site visit on 7 July 2022 and appears to hold water (and presumably support aquatic prey of interest to wood storks) year-round. However, it is unknown if the tidally influenced nature of the ditch would allow aquatic invertebrates and fishes to be concentrated to the extent that is optimal for the wood stork's tactile feeding method.

### **Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*)**

A search of the online birding database eBird (<https://ebird.org/explore>) on 26 July 2022 revealed that the most recent record of the federally threatened piping plover nearest to the P4 area was at Egmont Key National Wildlife Refuge on 20 October 2019. Egmont Key National Wildlife Refuge is approximately 23 miles southwest of the project area. A query of iNaturalist ([https://www.inaturalist.org/observations?taxon\\_id=4798](https://www.inaturalist.org/observations?taxon_id=4798)) on 26 July 2022 resulted in no sightings uncovered for anywhere on the Midbay Peninsula. A search for observations of this species on the Avian Knowledge Network (<https://avianknowledge.net/index.php/observations-map/>) on 16 November 2022 revealed three sightings on MacDill AFB for the last 12 months. The Interbay Peninsula is within a piping plover consultation area according to USFWS (2003) and this includes the P4 area.

### **Rufa Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*)**

The red knot, possibly including the federally threatened *rufa* red knot has been documented to occur on MacDill AFB and has been the focus of a biological assessment by ANAMAR Environmental Consulting (2015) prepared for MacDill AFB as part of an EA for maintenance dredging activities at the base. At least 128 sightings of this species have been recorded in the eBird database (<https://ebird.org/explore>) at the AFB, primarily during the month of November. All sightings at MacDill AFB were associated with sandy, muddy, and armored shorelines along the eastern and southern portions of MacDill AFB. These locations are at least one mile from the project area. A search for observations of this species on the Avian Knowledge Network (<https://avianknowledge.net/index.php/observations-map/>) on 16 November 2022 revealed three sightings on MacDill AFB for the last 12 months. The P4 area lacks habitats identified by Niles et al. (2008) as preferred by red knots and a search of all available literature and online databases failed to reveal any records of this species from this area. Therefore, the presence of this species within this area appears unlikely.

### **West Indian Manatee (*Trichechus manatus*)**

The federally threatened West Indian manatee (represented in Florida by the subspecies *T. m. latirostris*) has been observed in the past in MacDill AFB's Channel A and in both marina basins (DAF 2010). ERI and ESA (2019) noted having incidentally observed a group of manatees in a water body associated with Broad Creek, in the extreme southern portion of the base, on 12 Mar 2019. This area is part of the creek/ditch system that borders the P4 area, although it is over 1 mile (by water) from the P4 area. The ditches adjacent or within the P4 area feed into Broad Creek to the south and this natural tidal creek connects to Tampa Bay. The distance via ditch and creek between the P4 area and Tampa Bay is approximately 1.8 miles and includes a box culvert under North Golf Course Street upstream from the project location which has manatee grates installed. Manatee grates were added to this box culvert by 7 October 2022 and these grates should help exclude manatees from P4. Overall, manatees are not expected in the P4 area given the physical barriers and shallow water evident within the ditch complex.

### **Tricolored Bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*)**

The tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*, previously known as the eastern pipistrelle, *Pipistrellus subflavus*) was proposed for protection as a federally endangered species under the ESA as of 14 September 2022 (USFWS 2022). The endangered status, if implemented, would apply throughout the range of this species, which includes southern Florida. The species is uncommon in southern Florida, where it roosts in caves, tree foliage, and Spanish moss, and (less frequently) in tree cavities and buildings (Marks and Marks 2006). Tricolored bats have been recorded on MacDill in recent years (B. Myers, USFWS, pers. comm. 16 November 2022). Although the P4 area is devoid of these features, this species may occasionally enter the area in evenings in search of insects that are attracted to the abundant herbaceous vegetation onsite. Therefore, the possible presence of this species in the project area cannot be completely ruled out.

### **Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) Protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act**

Bald eagles and their nests are addressed in Subsection 3.2 and 4.2 of the 2019 EA, where the P4 area is referred to as T2.

### **Bird Species Protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act**

Most bird species native to the United States are protected from anthropogenic harm under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918 (16 U.S.C. §§ 703–712). The statute makes it unlawful to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, or sell (whole or parts, live or dead) any of the over 800 species of birds covered under the act. The bird species identified in and near the P4 area include the great egret. Songbirds probably forage in the ruderal field.

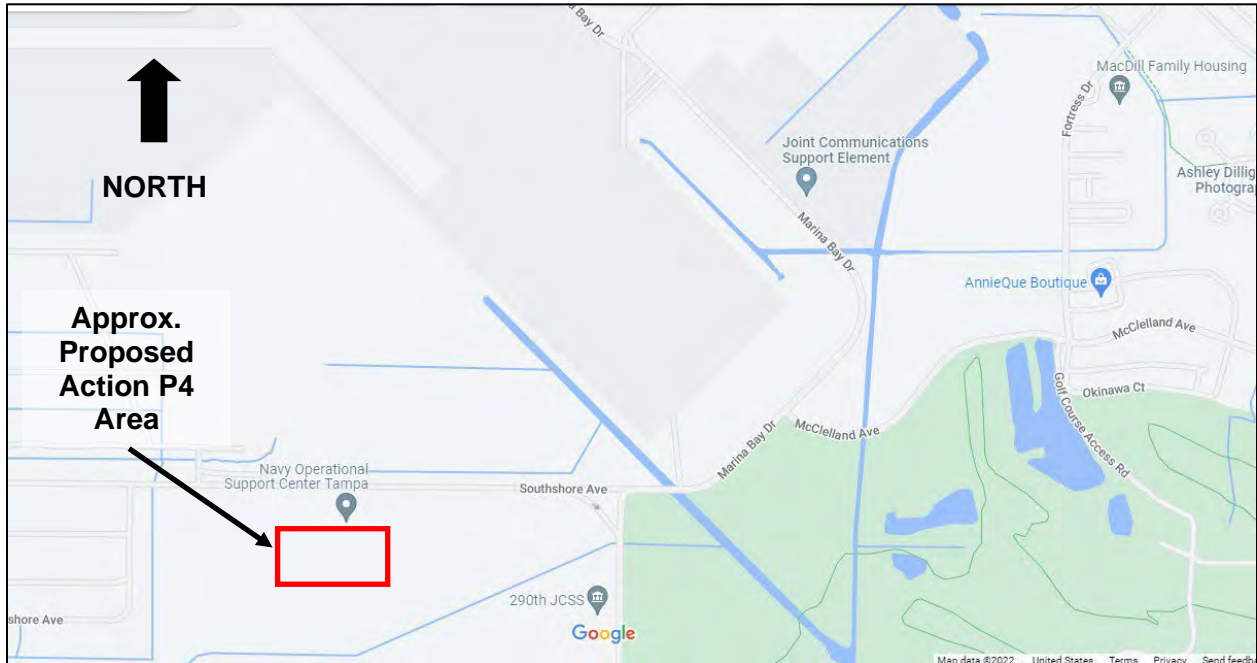
### **Imperiled Plants**

No federally threatened or endangered plant species have been documented on MacDill AFB (DAF 2010, 2012; DAF 2016; ERI and ESA 2019), and no state protected plant species have been recorded from the P4 area.

### **Wetlands**

Wetlands are subject to regulatory authority under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and Executive Order 11990, *Protection of Wetlands*. Wetlands are defined by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as “those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions” (33 CFR §328.3[b]). Wetlands are protected as a subset of the waters of the United States under Section 404 of the CWA; USACE requires a permit for any activities crossing wetlands or other waters of the United States. Executive Order 11990 requires all federal agencies to “take action to minimize the destruction, loss or degradation of wetlands and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetlands.”

Man-made ditches occur within the southern portion of the P4 area and along the western boundary of this area (Figure 3-6). These ditches appear to be upland-cut through what was historically upland habitats. If these ditches were dug as part of a government mosquito control program, then the ditches may meet the wetland exemption pursuant to Section 62-340.750 of the Florida Administrative Code (available online at <https://www.flrules.org/gateway/ruleno.asp?id=62-340.750>). A box culvert is proposed for the south entranceway over the southern ditch and this construction will likely require wetland permitting. A search of the National Wetlands Inventory online wetlands mapper on 10 August 2022 showed that only the ditches (categorized as “Riverine”) were mapped in and around the P4 area (Figures 3-7).



**Figure 3-6. Man-made Ditches Associated with the P4 Area**  
Source: Modified from Google Maps



**Figure 3-7. National Wetlands Inventory Wetland Spatial Data In and Around the P4 Area**

Source: National Wetland Inventory online wetlands mapper (<https://fwsprimary.wim.usgs.gov/wetlands/apps/wetlands-mapper/>)

### 3.3.1 Environmental Consequences

**P4**—It is unlikely for any federally listed species to occur in the P4 area, although this possibility cannot be completely ruled out. Federally listed species, and species proposed for federal listing, that may potentially occur within the P4 area include American alligator, American crocodile, gopher tortoise, eastern indigo snake, crested caracara, eastern black rail, wood stork, piping plover, rufa red knot, Florida manatee, and tricolored bat. The project area is not within designated critical habitat for any listed species.

Based on analysis of P4 and the associated project area, and in compliance with Section 7(a)(2) of the ESA, the DAF has determined that P4 may affect but is not likely to adversely affect ESA-listed species. The DAF initiated a consultation with USFWS in early 2019 for federally protected species under their jurisdiction and received a response from USFWS on 01 Mar 2019 that the proposed action is not likely to adversely affect federally protected species such as the wood stork. The DAF re-initiated consultation with USFWS on 14 November 2022 for federally listed species, and species proposed for listing, and received a response on 9 January 2023 concurring that that the project “may affect, [but is] not likely to adversely affect” the American alligator, American crocodile, eastern indigo snake, gopher tortoise, wood stork, and tricolored bat and their habitats, and have no effects on other ESA listed species. These consultations ensure compliance with the ESA. Appendix A contains the consultation correspondence. Pre-construction briefs will be given to construction crews to inform them of appropriate procedures should any of these or other ESA-protected or proposed species, or the gopher tortoise, be observed. An emphasis will be given for gopher tortoise and eastern indigo snake protection measures. Relocation or mitigation may be necessary if an American alligator, gopher tortoise or an eastern indigo snake is observed within the project area.

The upland area that the construction would occur on is devoid of natural wetland habitats, although a man-made ditch occurs within the southern portion of the site and another occurs west of the project area. Environmental permitting is likely to be required for the proposed box culvert along the south ditch. The use of appropriate BMPs, including silt fencing and other erosion and turbidity control structures, will be employed to avoid or greatly reduce effects to aquatic species and to the water body itself.

No significant impacts to vegetation, wildlife, imperiled and protected species, or wetlands are expected resulting from P4. Considering that Alternative Actions P1, P2, and P3 would occur on areas already developed, including existing buildings, impacts to these resources are also insignificant. Impacts to vegetation would be greater for P4 than what was analyzed in the 2019 EA for P1, P2, or P3 but would not be significant.

**No-Action Alternative**—Implementation of the No-Action Alternative would result in no changes to vegetation, existing wildlife or the availability of resources to such wildlife, or to imperiled and protected species. The field would remain vegetated and mowing or brush hogging of the herbaceous vegetation would continue at the same approximately annual frequency as currently occurs. Conditions would remain as described above.

### **3.4 Geology and Soils**

Geology and soils are described and discussed in Subsections 3.9 and 4.9 of the 2019 EA, where P4 is referred to as T2. A south entranceway is included in the project footprint of P4 and this access road was not included in the original T2 action. The soils and geology associated with the south entranceway are similar to those of the rest of the project area as described in the 2019 EA.

#### **3.4.1 Environmental Consequences**

By nature of the proposed activities, soils would be covered by impervious surfaces (asphalt and concrete) and fill material brought in to raise up the base of the building above the 100-year flood elevation. BMPs planned for the construction, such as silt fencing and staked hay bales as per standards in Florida DEP (2008), would eliminate or greatly reduce the chance of off-site turbidity and sediment deposition associated with the construction of the box culvert and south entranceway. All measures would remain in place and in good working order until the soil has stabilized sufficiently, after which all control measures would be removed. Therefore, impacts to geological resources are expected to be minimal and less than significant. Impacts would be similar between P4 and the Alternative Action P1, P2, and P3 scenarios.

**No-Action Alternative**—Under the No-Action Alternative, existing conditions with respect to geological resources would remain unchanged from current conditions. Therefore, no impacts, adverse or otherwise, would be expected to occur.

### **3.5 Cultural Resources**

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies to assess the impact of their undertakings on historic properties in the area of potential effect (APE). The APE is the “geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist” (36 CFR 800.16[d]). MacDill AFB has defined the APE as a 1 km radius around the P4 area.

Between 2018 and 2020, MacDill AFB completed a comprehensive survey for archaeological resources. This base-wide Phase I archaeological study by Schnitzer et al. (2018), and others, surveyed 4,535 acres and discovered 41 new sites. Most of the sites that were discovered were determined ineligible for the NRHP, except for five, which are currently undergoing a Phase II investigation to gather more information to determine each site’s eligibility.

Of the two historic districts, 28 historic facilities, and 50 known archaeological sites located at MacDill AFB, none are located within the APE.

The P4 area overlies a closed landfill, and despite this, the area has a “medium” probability for archaeological resources. The site was recently surveyed for cultural resources (as temporary trailer location T2 as referred to in the 2019 EA) and no potential archaeological sites were detected.

### **3.5.1 Environmental Consequences**

The probability for encountering archaeological resources during construction of P4 is comparable to the probability associated with Alternative Actions P1, P2, and P3 as described in the 2019 EA.

The DAF initiated consultation with the Florida State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) on 28 Nov 2018 to confirm that P4 would not impact historic resources (Appendix A). The review was conducted in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and 36 CFR Part 800: Protection of Historic Properties. In the letter, dated 07 Jan 2019, from the SHPO, it was determined that the proposed project is unlikely to adversely affect historic properties listed or be eligible for listing on the NRHP. The DAF re-initiated consultation with the Florida SHPO on 24 October 2022 regarding the new P4 area. The response letter from Florida SHPO was received on 7 November 2022, where it was again determined that the proposed project should have no effects on historic properties (see Appendix A).

Native American tribal governments of the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, and the Seminole Tribe of Florida were consulted for the 2019 EA, where the P4 area was referred to as T2. The DAF re-initiated consultation with these governments on 9 November 2022 regarding the new P4 area. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation was not a consulting tribe when the 2019 EA was prepared and has been consulted on 9 November 2022 as part of this SEA. Correspondence regarding these consultations is in Appendix B.

No impacts are expected for cultural resources for P4. Impacts would be similar between this action and the Alternative Action P1, P2, and P3 scenarios. Regardless, should any archaeological resource be discovered during project construction, work would cease until all appropriate consultation is accomplished with SHPO and tribal governments.

**No-Action Alternative**—Under the No-Action Alternative, existing conditions with respect to cultural resources would remain unchanged. Therefore, no impacts, adverse or otherwise, would be expected to occur.

## **3.6 Transportation**

Transportation is summarized in Subsections 3.5 and 4.5 of the 2019 EA, where P4 is referred to as T2. The only difference in transportation from the original T2 scenario is that P4 would include a south entranceway leading from Golf Course Avenue. Thus, construction traffic and future commuter traffic would originate from Golf Course Avenue to the south as well as the originally proposed north access from Southshore Avenue. Given that this added access road does not affect traffic volume, the difference is insignificant from a transportation standpoint.

### **3.6.1 Environmental Consequences**

**P4**—A limited number of construction vehicles will require access to the P4 project area during land clearing and construction. Access to the project area will be from Southshore Avenue and from Golf Course

Avenue. The number of construction vehicles will be few, and some equipment will be stored or staged at the project area during construction rather than being transported to-and-from the project area regularly. The construction workforce is expected to be primarily local to the area. Very heavy trucks that have the capability of causing excessive road wear are not anticipated to be needed for P4. Construction traffic associated with Alternative Actions P1, P2, and P3 will be comparable to P4, but would also include demolition traffic associated with the deconstruction of buildings that currently exist in the areas associated with P1 through P3. Therefore, the total amount of traffic associated with P4 construction will be less than the total traffic associated with the combined construction and demolition necessary to accomplish any of Alternative Actions P1 through P3. Post-construction traffic patterns and density would be comparable to that of Alternative Actions P1, P2, and P3.

**No-Action Alternative**—No new construction would occur with implementation of the No-Action Alternative and transportation conditions near the project area would remain unchanged. Such transportation relating to the project area would continue to be limited to a very small number of vehicles annually involved with mowing/brush cutting the vegetation during routine maintenance activities.

### **3.7 Occupational Safety and Health**

Occupational safety and health are summarized and discussed in Subsections 3.10 and 4.10 of the 2019 EA, where Proposed Action P4 is referred to as T2.

#### **3.7.1 Environmental Consequences**

**P4**—Construction activities associated with P4 are not expected to increase safety risks. The environmental consequences that would result from implementing P4 as the permanent site would be similar to those associated with T2 as discussed in the 2019 EA. Construction activities would be accomplished in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations to minimize general construction hazards. P4 would comply with OSHA requirements to ensure the protection of workers and the general public during construction. Considering that P4 does not involve the demolition of existing buildings, while P1 through P3 each have a demolition component, there would be less potential occupational safety and health hazards associated with P4.

**No-Action Alternative**—No changes to occupational health and safety would occur, indirect or cumulative, for the No-Action Alternative as the new construction will not take place and no changes to the workforce will occur.

### **3.8 Air Quality**

The region of interest for the air quality subsection is Hillsborough County. Air quality is summarized in Subsections 3.1 and 4.1 of the 2019 EA, where P4 is referred to as T2.

#### **Climate Change**

Climate change effects in the Tampa area are projected to include sea level rise of 6 inches to 2.5 feet by the year 2050 and from 1 to 7 feet by the year 2100 according to the Tampa Bay Climate Science Advisory Board (2015). Tampa was identified by the World Bank (<https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2013/08/19/coastal-cities-at-highest-risk-floods>) as being among the 10 coastal metropolitan areas that are most vulnerable to the effects of sea level rise, including flooding. The Tampa area has already experienced sea level rise, and the trend is expected to continue into the next century. Without the implementation of adaptation strategies, Tampa and surrounding cities may experience substantial social and economic costs associated with:

- Flooding of streets, residences, businesses, etc.
- Erosion of beaches and shorelines

- Operational impacts to coastal drainage systems
- Saltwater intrusion to groundwater
- Impairment of water supplies and to coastal water treatment facilities and infrastructure
- Shifting habitats and reduced ecosystem services

Given that the P4 area has an elevation of 12 feet NAVD88, this area is particularly vulnerable to flooding and other effects of climate change. Climate change will be addressed in the project design and construction, which includes an energy efficient heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system, and other facilities, designed to reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions to the extent possible.

### **3.8.1 Environmental Consequences**

**P4**—Greenhouse gas emissions generated if Alternative Action P1, P2, or P3 were implemented would likely exceed those generated from P4, as all three of these alternatives include demolition of existing buildings as discussed and described in the 2019 EA.

Air emissions generated during implementation of P4 would be short-term and insignificant. The air emission totals due to implementation of P4 would be comparable to those of Alternative Actions P1, P2, and P3 discussed and described in the 2019 EA, although this new P4 area is farther away from sensitive receptors (residential neighborhoods and schools) than P1 and P2. Therefore, no significant adverse effects are expected for sensitive receptors under the P4 scenario.

**No-Action Alternative**—Air quality and greenhouse gas emissions would remain at baseline conditions for the No-Action Alternative. No construction-related air quality changes or air emissions related to a new facility will take place. A minor amount of fossil fuels would be burned occasionally during mowing or brush hogging of the existing herbaceous vegetation, and the dead cut stems of vegetation would give off minor amounts of greenhouse gases during decomposition. No effects on sensitive receptors would occur for the No-Action Alternative.

## **3.9 Environmental Restoration Program**

The Environmental Restoration Program (ERP), formerly known as the Installation Restoration Program, is a subcomponent of the Defense ERP that became law under the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act. The ERP requires each DoD installation to identify, investigate, and clean up hazardous waste disposal or release sites. ERP-designated sites within MacDill AFB include Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs) 2 and 3 (Matty 2017a, b).

SWMU-3 is a 14.4-acre former landfill between Golf Course Avenue and Southshore Drive (Figure 3-8) and it includes much of the P4 area. The site is believed to have received wastes from 1950 to 1959 (Snyder 2022). Wastes disposed of at SWMU-3 included municipal waste and construction debris (Matty 2017b). Although no records exist of industrial or hazardous wastes being disposed of at SWMU-3, such activities cannot be ruled out. The current contaminants of concern in groundwater at SWMU-3 are arsenic and iron and these analytes are monitored via annual sampling and analysis of groundwater, which has occurred since March 2006. The results of the annual groundwater monitoring indicate that the contaminant plume is stable and not migrating offsite. The 2016 Tenth Annual Basewide Groundwater Monitoring Report in 2016 reviewed the sampling and analysis results for arsenic and iron in landfill sites in the southern portion of MacDill AFB and concluded that concentrations of these metals are related to naturally occurring sources (Snyder 2022). The 2016 report went on to recommend that groundwater monitoring be discontinued but to continue the annual land use control surveillance. The 2016 monitoring report was approved by Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in a letter dated 11 Nov 2016 (Matty 2017b). Three groundwater monitoring wells at SWMU-3 were abandoned in January 2017 in accordance with the Well Abandonment Letter Work Plan, Landfill Sites (Snyder 2022).



**Figure 3-8. 14.4-acre Solid Waste Management Unit 3 Located at the P4 Area**

Source: Modified from a figure in Matty (2017b)

### 3.9.1 Environmental Consequences

**P4**—The execution of P4 would include construction of the office building, the construction of a parking lot and two entranceways, and two stormwater control structures. All these features would be located above or adjacent to SWMU-3. It is possible, although unlikely, that the proposed construction may cause changes to the flow velocity or direction of groundwater, such that high concentrations of arsenic and iron may migrate offsite. The construction contractor must follow *Guidance for Disturbance and Use of Old Closed Landfills or Waste Disposal Areas in Florida* by Florida DEP (2019) as well as guidance from MacDill AFB summarized below.

Any dewatering undertaken during construction must be contained by the contractor and the groundwater sampled and analyzed for arsenic and iron (Matty 2017b). Laboratory methods should allow for detection levels not to exceed applicable screening criteria including Florida DEP groundwater cleanup target levels. Laboratory results must be shared with AFCEC 6 CES/CZOE prior to any action. If analysis results indicate concentrations of these analytes are below Florida DEP groundwater cleanup target levels (currently 10 µg/L for arsenic and 300 µg/L for iron), the contractor may discharge the groundwater to a suitable stormwater drainage system in accordance with Florida DEP requirements (Matty 2017b). If results show levels above these target levels, the contaminated groundwater must be transported off-site for appropriate disposal and (or) treatment.

If concentrations of arsenic and (or) iron in soils exceed the Florida DEP residential soil cleanup target levels (currently 2.1 mg/kg for arsenic and 53000 mg/kg for iron) and the soils are removed from SWMU-3 during construction, the soils must subsequently either be replaced in the original excavation area or (if there's no longer room for the soil onsite) the soils must not be placed on any other area of the project site. Any soils removed from the site and not directly replaced in situ must be hauled off-site for treatment and (or) disposal at the contractor's expense.

In addition, because per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are under investigation on MacDill AFB, any soil to be removed from the construction site must first be sampled and analyzed for PFAS (Snyder 2022). A state certified laboratory that can achieve a detection level below the current EPA regional screening level of 0.013 mg/kg. Similarly, any groundwater generated from dewatering activities is to be analyzed for PFAS using a laboratory using a method that can achieve a detection level below the current EPA regional screening level of 40 ng/l. The contractor must provide the laboratory results to AFCEC 6 CES/CZOE for interpretation prior to any action (Snyder 2022). For groundwater, if the PFAS results are below 40 ng/L, the contractor may discharge the groundwater back to the ground or to a sanitary sewer system. More guidance can be found in the Contaminated Media Disposal Guidelines in Snyder (no date).

There are three abandoned groundwater monitoring wells within or along the boundaries of SWMU-3 with an additional well located north of Southshore Avenue. However, there may be additional wells at SWMU-3. Prior to construction, the contractor must survey the site and mark the exact locations of the known wells and any additional wells uncovered during the survey. All groundwater wells must be avoided during construction, in accordance with Federal Acquisition Regulation 52.236-9, so as not to damage them. In the event of damage to one or more wells, the well(s) must be repaired or abandoned and reinstalled in accordance with the MacDill Basewide Environmental Restoration Work Plan and at the expense of the contractor. Determination of repair versus replacement will be by MacDill AFB Environmental Restoration personnel. MacDill AFB ERP will determine the location of any replacement wells to be installed.

**No-Action Alternative**—The contamination plume in the groundwater at SWMU-3 would remain stable for the No-Action Alternative. No changes to the concentrations of arsenic and iron, or in the behavior of the groundwater carrying these contaminants, would occur resulting from the No-Action Alternative.

### **3.10 Indirect and Cumulative Effects**

Indirect and cumulative effects are described and discussed under Subsections 4.12.1 through 4.12.6 of the 2019 EA, where P4 is referred to as T2. Implementation of the Proposed Action would not result in additional or increased cumulative effects beyond what was analyzed in the 2019 EA.

#### **3.10.1 Summary of Cumulative Effects**

When P4 is considered in conjunction with past, present, or reasonably foreseeable actions, no significant indirect or cumulative impacts would be expected for any resource area. No such effects would be expected under the No-Action Alternative either. A summary of planned development projects at MacDill AFB for fiscal year 2018 through 2022 was presented in Table 4-2 of the 2019 EA. Table 3-2 below summarizes those projects for MacDill AFB slated for construction since the finalization of the 2019 EA.

**Table 3-2. Reasonably Foreseeable Actions at MacDill AFB and Vicinity**

Action	General Location	Estimated Timeframe	Description	Resource Area Interaction
<b>MILITARY</b>				
Power Generation Facility	MacDill AFB	2022–2025	DAF has an energy insurance lease under TECO to construct and operate a distributed power generation facility	Air Quality, Noise, Land Use, Soils and Geology, Hazardous Waste and Materials, Infrastructure and Transportation
Defense Fuel Supply Pipelines Improvements	MacDill AFB	2022–2024	Replace the Defense Fuel Support Pipelines from the Chevron Bulk Terminal to the Defense Fuel Support Point	Soils and Geology, Hazardous Waste and Materials, Infrastructure and Transportation, Water Resources (wetlands)
USSOCOM — Special Operations Forces Operations Integration Facility	MacDill AFB	2024–2026	The National Security Council has directed a USSOCOM mission to operate at MacDill AFB. Offices within USSOCOM Headquarters at MacDill AFB have been remodeled to create 50 additional seats for personnel to begin the assigned mission. USSOCOM however needs a secure and segregated facility with secure network access for 180–190 personnel at a time to operate to accomplish the assigned mission. A permanent facility is being planned and would be constructed to support this mission in 2025, but it would not be ready when this mission is directed to begin in 2022. The temporary building serves as facilities for USSOCOM until the permanent facility can be constructed. The modular and permanent facilities would be located just north of the Special Operations Command Central compound in the location of the current ground maintenance facilities. The grounds maintenance facilities would be relocated.	Soils and Geology, Hazardous Waste and Materials, Infrastructure and Transportation
FGUA Sanitary Sewer Effluent Deep Injection Well	MacDill AFB	2023–2024	FGUA’s wastewater permit currently allows for land application re-use on the golf courses, with two additional sprayfields and a wet weather storage	Soils and Geology, Water Resources, Infrastructure and

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MacDill AFB, Tampa, Florida

			pond, but not NPDES discharge. FGUA is proposing to apply for a deep injection well for disposing the sanitary sewer effluent.	Transportation, Cultural Resources
FGUA Sanitary Sewer Expansion to West Side	MacDill AFB	2023–2027	FGUA is proposing to expand the sanitary sewer system to the western side of the runway, which is currently served by septic systems. The proposed expansion would start at the new United States Army Reserve (UH-60) lift station, run to the Control Tower, and expand north and south from there.	Natural & Cultural Resources, Soils and Geology, Hazardous Waste and Materials, and Infrastructure and Transportation
Passenger Ferry	MacDill AFB	2023–2024	Passenger ferry service is proposed across Tampa Bay from MacDill AFB to southern Hillsborough County. The project would include a ferry terminal at MacDill AFB, a transit vehicle storage facility, and increased mass transit around the installation. Some dredging may be required to clear the channel for ferry crossing.	Noise, Water Resources, Infrastructure and Transportation, Biological Resources (imperiled species), Soils and Geology, Hazardous Waste and Materials, Socioeconomic
ERCIP Project – Convert Overhead Electrical Distribution to Underground	MacDill AFB	2024–2026	The ERCIP Project proposes the recapitalization of 31,600 feet of primary overhead electrical distribution systems to below ground. The Proposed Action would include installation of underground cables jacketed in Linear Low-Density Polyethylene into underground conduit encased in concrete, pad mounted transformers elevated above the 100-year floodplain, belowground cable junction boxes, distribution panels, switchgear and associated support equipment, and streetlights mounted on new poles. Construction would include a combination of directional boring, trenching, and excavation; dewatering of the excavated trench/bored hole; backfill; compaction; disposal of spoils in excess; temporary soil stockpiling; 4-inch topsoil placement in areas; and reseeding/replanting of the disturbed ground within the project area.	Natural and Cultural Resources, Soils and Geology, Hazardous Waste and Materials, Infrastructure and Transportation
ERCIP — Energy Resilience	MacDill AFB	2022–2024	This action would improve the installation’s energy resilience by upgrading and adding redundancy to the	Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Soils and Geology,

Supplemental Environmental Assessment for the USSOCOM MISO MILCON,  
MacDill AFB, Tampa, Florida

Transmission and Substations System			electrical distribution system. Proposed improvements include upgrading the switch gear capacity at the Tanker Way Gate electrical substation from 25 kV to 35 kV. Additionally, a total of 22,100 linear feet of new 15-kV electrical distribution lines would be installed to interconnect the Tanker Way Gate substation with the Dale Mabry Gate, the MacDill Avenue Gate, and a new 2,037-square-foot switching station to be constructed near the south flight apron. A 768-square-foot electric power station building would be constructed at the Tanker Way Gate. The 15-kV, below-ground, electrical distribution line would be housed in high density polyethylene conduit, which would be encased in concrete. Installation of the electrical line would be accomplished primarily through direct burial with directional boring used, as needed, to avoid impacts to roadways, taxiways, drainage ditches, and archaeological sites.	Hazardous Waste and Materials, Infrastructure and Transportation
Fuels Operations Facility	MacDill AFB	2025	Proposed construction of a new 3,580-square-foot fuels operation facility in the parking lot east of Building 1062. Once completed, Building 1062 would be demolished and a 4,296-square-foot parking lot would be constructed in its place.	Soils and Geology, Hazardous Waste and Materials, Infrastructure and Transportation
KC-46A Beddown	MacDill AFB	2026-2028	The existing (24 total) KC-135 aircraft would be replaced with the new KC-46A airframe. Beddown of the new (24 total) KC-46A aircraft would involve the construction of two new facilities (+0.6 acres), renovated seven existing facilities (+0 acres), completes the addition/alteration of 11 existing facilities (~8.8 acres), and upgrades the existing hydrant fuel system (+0.01 acres). The beddown would also include increase mission personnel by ~1,092. There would be no change in existing flight patterns; however, flight operations are expected to increase by roughly 15% from baseline of 11,522	Natural and Cultural Resources, Soils and Geology, Hazardous Waste and Materials, Infrastructure and Transportation

Supplemental Environmental Assessment for the USSOCOM MISO MILCON,  
MacDill AFB, Tampa, Florida

			flights per year for the KC-135 to 13,221 flights per year for the KC-46A.	
Marina Channel Maintenance Dredging	MacDill AFB	2027–2028	The purpose of this action is to maintain required width and depth of the marina channel. This action is accomplished, on average, every 10 years. Maintenance dredging enables security forces to safely access the marina basin, Coon Creek basin, and Tampa Bay during all tidal levels throughout the year via two connecting channels. These channels are located within the same area on the southern portion of the installation.	Water Quality, Noise (underwater), Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hazardous Materials and Waste
Various Installation Development Projects	MacDill AFB	2020–(ongoing)	This includes various short- to long-range facility, airfield, transportation network, energy, and utility development projects proposed to meet mission requirements at MacDill AFB.	All resources
<b>STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT</b>				
FDOT projects	FDOT / Hillsborough County	Fiscal year 2023–2027	Projects include bridge repair/rehabilitation, traffic signal updates, Information Technology services communication	Noise, Air Quality, Infrastructure and Transportation
Manhattan / Interbay Improvements	City of Tampa	2022–(ongoing)	Improvements include maintenance and construction associated with roadways adjacent to MacDill AFB	Air Quality, Infrastructure and Transportation
ELAPP Stormwater Improvements — South Tampa	City of Tampa	2022–(ongoing)	A series of stormwater improvement projects are planned for the South Tampa area to better deal with surface water runoff during the rainy season. This project includes infrastructure improvements and biological stormwater treatment in a created wetland system.	Water Resources, Biological Resources, Infrastructure

Definitions of acronyms and initialisms used in table: TECO = Tampa Electric Company; FGUA = Florida Governmental Utility Authority; NPDES = National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System; ERCIP = Energy Resilience and Conservation Investment Program; kV = kilovolt; FDOT = Florida Department of Transportation; ELAPP = Environmental Land Acquisition and Protection Program

### 3.11 Comparison of the Environmental Effects of the Alternative Actions, P4 and the No-Action Alternative

See Table 3-2 for a comparative summary of the selection standards, environmental impacts, and other considerations for Alternative Actions P1 through P3, P4, and the No-Action Alternative. All Alternative and Proposed Actions meet the selection standards stated in the 2019 EA. No significant impacts are expected if any of P1 through P4 are chosen; however, when environmental impacts are ranked and compared between these options, it is shown that P4 has a slightly greater avoidance of impacts to certain resources relative to the impacts expected under the Alternative Action P1 through P3 scenarios.

**Table 3-3. Comparison of Selection Standards, Environmental Impacts and Other Considerations for the Alternative Actions P1 through P3, P4 and the No-action Alternative**

Parameter of Interest	Alternative and Proposed Actions				No-Action Alternative
	P1	P2	P3	P4	
<b>SELECTION STANDARDS</b>					
Consolidates the USSOCOM headquarters into one facility at MacDill AFB	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Minimizes fill and development within the 100-year floodplain to the extent possible	Yes *	Yes *	Yes *	Yes *	Yes
Has sufficient area for the USSOCOM MISO facility	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<b>MEETS ALL SELECTION STANDARDS?</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS: Ranked avoidance of impacts to the following resources</b> (1 = least impact, 5 = greatest impact)					
Surface waters	2 (tied)	2 (tied)	2 (tied)	2 (tied)	1
Groundwater	2 (tied)	2 (tied)	2 (tied)	2 (tied)	1
Floodplains	2 (tied)	2 (tied)	2 (tied)	2 (tied)	1
Biological resources	2 (tied)	2 (tied)	2 (tied)	3	1
Geology and soils	2 (tied)	2 (tied)	2 (tied)	2 (tied)	1
Cultural resources	2 (tied)	2 (tied)	2 (tied)	2 (tied)	1
Transportation	3 (tied)	3 (tied)	3 (tied)	2	1
Occupational safety and health	3 (tied)	3 (tied)	3 (tied)	2	1
Air quality	3 (tied)	3 (tied)	3 (tied)	2	1
Environmental Restoration Program	1 (tied)	1 (tied)	1 (tied)	2	1
<b>TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS RANKING</b> (10 = least impacts, 50 = greatest impacts)	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>10</b>

\* Impacts to the 100-year floodplain are unavoidable given the majority of MacDill AFB is within this floodplain.

### 3.12 Other NEPA Considerations

This section provides a discussion of other pertinent NEPA considerations associated with P4 and the No-Action Alternative.

### **3.12.1 Unavoidable Adverse Effects**

Only minor, less-than-significant adverse effects are associated with P4. Energy supplies would be committed to the building and some associated infrastructure (such as outdoor lighting). Fossil fuels would be used in construction equipment, construction vehicles, and personal vehicles for USSOCOM personnel. The use of such non-renewable resources under P4 would be unavoidably adverse but the effects would not be significant. The addition of turf grass and landscaping plants would require some minimal amount of irrigation water, at least when first establishing these plants.

These effects are avoidable compared to that of the No-Action Alternative.

### **3.12.2 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources**

P4 (and the Alternative Actions P1 through P3) would each irreversibly commit fuel, manpower, materials, and costs required to complete the scope of work chosen. The No-Action Alternative would not commit any additional resources.

#### 4 PERSONS AND AGENCIES CONTACTED

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Andy Rider	6 CES/CEIE 7621 Hillsborough Loop Drive MacDill AFB, Florida 33621 813-828-2178
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Kristy Snyder	AFCEC 6 CES/CZOE MacDill AFB, Florida 33621 813-828-4554
Jason Aldridge	Division of Historical Resources Compliance Review Section 500 S. Bronough Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399 850-245-6300
Robert Carey	USFWS Manager, Division or Environmental Review 7915 Baymeadows Way, Suite 200 Jacksonville, Florida 32257

## 5 LIST OF PREPARERS

This report was prepared for, and under the direction of, the DAF by ANAMAR Environmental Consulting, Inc. Members of the professional staff and their respective qualifications and roles are in Table 5-1.

**Table 5-1. Preparer Names, Qualifications, and Roles for this EA**

Name	Discipline	Affiliation	Education	Role and Professional Experience (years)
Jason Seitz	Senior Biologist, Project Manager	ANAMAR Environmental Consulting, Inc., Gainesville, FL	MS, Soil and Water Science, University of Florida (UF); BS, Biology, State University of New York (SUNY) at Brockport; AAS, Fisheries Technology, SUNY Cobleskill	Technical Writer, ANAMAR Project Manager, Researcher (26 years, 13 years with ANAMAR)
Michelle Rau	Chief Executive Officer, Senior Project Manager	ANAMAR Environmental Consulting, Inc., Gainesville, FL	MS, Soil and Water Science, UF; BS, Natural Resource Conservation, UF	Technical Reviewer (28 years, 20 years with ANAMAR)
Robin Powis	Editor	ANAMAR Environmental Consulting, Inc., Gainesville, FL	BS, Psychology, University of Florida (UF); AA, Palm Beach Junior College, Business Management	Editor (6 years, 1 year with ANAMAR)

## 6 REFERENCES

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## APPENDIX A. Interagency Coordination and Consultations





DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
6TH AIR REFUELING WING (AMC)  
MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA



24 October 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR DIVISION OF HISTORIC RESOURCES  
ATTN: DR. TIMOTHY A. PARSONS  
R.A. GRAY BUILDING  
500 SOUTH BRONOUGH STREET  
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399

FROM: 6 CES/CEIE  
7621 Hillsborough Loop Drive  
MacDill Air Force Base, FL 33621-5207

SUBJECT: Re-initiation of DHR Project File No.: 2018-6456  
U.S. Special Operations Command, Military Information Support Operations  
Facility at MacDill Air Force Base

Dear Dr. Parsons,

1. MacDill Air Force Base (AFB) is supporting the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) to implement the expansion and consolidation of Military Information Support Operations (MISO) at MacDill AFB. An environmental assessment (EA) was prepared by the Department of the Air Force (DAF) in 2019 to analyze the potential environmental consequences of this action, and the DAF initiated consultation with your office on the proposed action at that time (see attached initial letter) and received your concurrence of no adverse effects on historic properties. Recently, details regarding the location for construction of the permanent facility have changed and the DAF wishes to provide this update as part of the consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Part 800).

2. USSOCOM proposes to implement the consolidation of approximately 850 USSOCOM MISO personnel in an approximately 100,000 square foot two-to-three-story office building to be constructed at MacDill AFB (see attached Project Figures); this location was originally evaluated as an alternative location for the temporary USSOCOM MISO facility (T2) in the 2019 EA (see attached Project Figures). The project area spans approximately 6.2 acres and is within predominantly the same footprint as the original T2 location. The only change to proposed ground disturbance would be construction of an access road to the south of the facility (see attached Project Figures).

3. A Phase I archaeological survey was conducted in 2017 across the eastern portion of MacDill AFB and encompassed the project area. This area was deemed as “medium” probability for encountering archaeological resources (see attached Project Figures). Six archaeological sites were discovered during this survey and are within one kilometer of the proposed project location; one site, 8Hi14520, is undergoing further investigation into its eligibility for listing on the

National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (see attached Arch Site Descriptions). The other five archaeological sites were determined ineligible for listing on the NRHP. The nearest site (8Hi13708) is located over 660 feet to the south of the proposed project location (see attached Project Figures). Additionally, the proposed project area is located within an area of the installation that has been extensively disturbed or modified in the past. The proposed project location is not within a historic district and does not involve any construction associated with historic structures on the installation (see attached Project Figures).

4. The DAF has determined the proposed project would have no adverse effect on historic properties. The project would not affect characteristics that qualify any property for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Development within the APE will not affect any cultural resources that are otherwise of local and/or regional significance. The DAF requests your review of the attached materials and your concurrence with the finding of no adverse effect on historic properties.

5. If you have any questions or require additional information on the proposed project, please contact Mr. Andrew Lykens, 6 CES/CEIE at (813) 828-0460.

**RIDER.ANDREW.**  
**WARRICK.1153194**  
**676**

Digitally signed by  
RIDER.ANDREW.WARRICK.115  
3194676  
Date: 2022.10.24 10:44:50 -04'00'

ANDREW W. RIDER, GS-12  
Chief, Environmental Element

3 Attachments:

1. Initial Consultation Letter and Figures
2. Project Figures
3. Arch Site Descriptions



## FLORIDA DEPARTMENT *of* STATE

**RON DESANTIS**  
Governor

**CORD BYRD**  
Secretary of State

Mr. Andrew W. Rider  
6 CES/CEIE  
7621 Hillsborough Loop Drive  
MacDill Air Force Base, Florida 33621-5407

November 7, 2022

Re: DHR Project File No.: 2022-7490  
*Proposed Construction of United States Special Operations Command, Military Information Support Operations Facility - Re-initiation of DHR Project File No.: 2018-6456*  
MacDill Air Force Base, Hillsborough County

Dear Mr. Rider:

The Florida State Historic Preservation Officer reviewed the referenced project for possible impact to historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the *National Register of Historic Places*. The review was conducted in accordance with Section 106 of the *National Historic Preservation Act of 1966*, as amended and *36 CFR Part 800: Protection of Historic Properties*.

Based on the conditions outlined in your 2018 letter concerning archaeological monitoring, this office concurs with your finding that the proposed undertaking should have no adverse effect on historic properties.

If you have any questions, please contact Scott Edwards, Historic Preservationist, by electronic mail [scott.edwards@dos.myflorida.com](mailto:scott.edwards@dos.myflorida.com), or at 850.245.6333 or 800.847.7278.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kelly L. Chase" with "For" written below it.

Alissa Slade Lotane  
Director, Division of Historical Resources  
and State Historic Preservation Officer





DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
6<sup>TH</sup> AIR REFUELING WING (AMC)  
MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA



14 November 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
ATTN: MR. BOB CAREY  
7915 BAYMEADOWS WAY, SUITE 200  
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32256-7517

FROM: 6 CES/CEIE  
7621 HILLSBOROUGH LOOP DRIVE  
MACDILL AFB, FL 33621-5207

SUBJECT: Re-initiation of Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7 Consultation, FWS Log No. 04FE1000-2019-I-0506: U.S. Special Operations Command, Military Information Support Operations Facility at MacDill Air Force Base

1. MacDill Air Force Base (MAFB) is supporting the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) to implement the expansion and consolidation of Military Information Support Operations (MISO) at MacDill AFB. An Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared in 2019 analyzing the potential environmental impacts associated with the construction of temporary and permanent facilities to support USSOCOM MISO at MAFB. During preparation of that EA, the Department of the Air Force (DAF) consulted with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) on potential impacts to Endangered Species Act (ESA) - listed species and received a letter of concurrence with those determinations (see attached). The temporary facilities proposed in the original EA have been constructed, but previously evaluated locations for the permanent facility have since been eliminated from consideration and a supplemental EA is being prepared to evaluate a new preferred location. Additionally, there have been changes to ESA listed and proposed species present at MAFB. Because of these changes, the DAF is re-initiating consultation with your office under Sec 7(a)(2) of the ESA.

2. USSOCOM proposes to implement the consolidation of approximately 850 USSOCOM MISO personnel in an approximately 100,000 square foot building to be constructed at MAFB (see attached Project Figure 1); this location was originally evaluated as an alternative location for the temporary USSOCOM MISO facility (T2) in the 2019 EA (see attached Project Figure 2). The proposed project area spans approximately 6.2 acres and is within predominantly the same footprint as the original T2 location evaluated in the 2019 EA. The only change to proposed ground disturbance would be construction of an access road to the south of the facility (see attached Project Figure 3). Construction of this access road would include installation of a box culvert to bridge a shallow tidal/airfield drainage ditch (see attached Project Figure 4).

3. Based on the new analysis of the project, the DAF has determined the proposed action may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the following proposed and listed ESA species: American alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*), eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon couperi*),

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tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), and wood stork (*Mycteria americana*). These species are discussed in more detail below. Although the eastern distinct population segment of the gopher tortoise was recently found not warranted for listing on the ESA, MacDill AFB would maintain Best Management Practices for the species in accordance with a Candidate Conservation Agreement that remains in effect.

4. In the original consultation letter, the DAF determined that the project may affect but is not likely adversely affect the wood stork (*Mycteria americana*). The addition of an access road and box culvert would present only a minor change in potential impacts to the wood stork and this original effects determination will not change. The box culvert would be constructed in a small tidally influenced drainage on the south side of the project area. The ditch is approximately 15' wide at its widest point, approximately 3' deep at its deepest point and has steep sloped embankments that provide little forage area (see attached Project Figure 5), though wood storks have been observed within the area. The access road would be no more than 60' wide, and therefore less than 900 sq feet of wetland/potential forage habitat would be impacted by the new access road. Construction or operational traffic would not significantly increase overall traffic in the area and would present only minor to discountable potential for impacts to the species. There would be ample foraging areas away from the construction zone for the species to relocate should construction noise bother individuals in the area, and ample forage and wetland habitat would remain for the species.

5. The American alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*) is known to inhabit freshwater lakes, ponds, wetlands, and drainage and saltwater ditches on MAFB. The species has not been documented in the APE or anywhere within the drainage ditch where the box culvert would be constructed. The drainage ditch does connect with other water features via two culverts, but the connection terminates in a vegetated, low-lying drainage swale which would not provide water access except during extreme flood events (see attached Project Figures 6 & 7). However, there is the potential for the species to enter the canal on foot from freshwater habitats that are near the project site, or in the unlikely instance of a significant flooding event. While this potential is very small, it is not discountable. Prior to any in-water work, the construction site will be surveyed to ensure the species is not present. Should the species be encountered within the ditch during construction activity, all work will stop and the MAFB Natural Resources Manager will be contacted and will evaluate the best course of action to remedy the situation, including arranging for the relocation of the animal. Impacts to the species due to construction or operational traffic would be discountable.

6. The eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon couperi*) is considered a commensal of the gopher tortoise and inhabits upland scrub habitats. The project location is not within suitable habitat for the species, though there is suitable habitat adjacent to and nearby the project location (see attached Project Figures 8 & 9). The species has been documented historically on MAFB, but not in the last 25 years. Recent base wide imperiled species surveys (2018-2019) did not include findings of the species. However, due to its relationship with the gopher tortoise, the presence of suitable habitat nearby, and the historical documentation of the species occurring on MAFB, the potential for the eastern indigo snake to occur within the project area or along construction vehicle routes cannot be ruled out. Construction or operational traffic would not significantly increase overall traffic in the area and would present only minor to discountable potential for

impacts to the species. The project will implement standard eastern indigo snake conditions during construction to minimize any potential impacts to the species.

7. The Eastern Distinct Population of the gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*) is no longer a candidate for listing under the ESA, but it is still managed by MAFB in accordance with a Candidate Conversation Agreement. Gopher tortoises are commonly found on MAFB, predominantly on the airfield and areas centralized to the base. The species typically inhabits upland habitats with well-drained, sandy soils. No gopher tortoise burrows have been identified within or adjacent to the project footprint. However, there is gopher tortoise habitat near the construction area and to construction and operational traffic routes (see attached Project Figure 9). While there have been no documented vehicle strikes of gopher tortoises in the area where the project would occur, impacts to the species cannot be completely ruled out. Prior to construction activities, construction workers will be briefed on the potential for interactions with the species. Although not currently necessary, the project would use silt fencing to exclude the species from the construction area if individuals are observed nearby. Construction or operational traffic would not significantly increase overall traffic in the area and would present only minor to discountable potential for impacts to the species.

8. The tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), currently proposed for listing, has been identified in acoustic surveys in the installation, the most recent in 2018. The proposed project location is not within a habitat where the species would likely roost as there are no trees or existing structures where the species may be found. The proposed project location is adjacent to a small, wooded area and may present foraging habitat, though it would be of lower value than other locations in the general vicinity. However, the potential exists for foraging habitat to be impacted during construction, or for the species to be disturbed and relocate away from construction activities. Since ample foraging areas remain on the installation, impacts would be expected to be minor to discountable. Additionally, construction or operational traffic would not significantly increase overall traffic in the area and would present only minor to discountable potential for impacts to the species.

9. Other species listed as threatened or endangered on the ESA do occur on MAFB, such as the piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*) and rufa red knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*). These species are known to inhabit fresh and saltwater wetlands, lakes, ponds, and coastal areas where there is foraging habitat for the species. The tidally influenced ditch where the box culvert would be constructed has steep sloped embankments and is relatively deep, offering almost no foraging habitat for these small shorebird species. The species have not been documented utilizing the habitat around the project area or along the construction or operational traffic routes, and any potential impacts to the species would be insignificant and discountable.

10. MAFB falls within the consultation area for the eastern black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis jamaicensis*) and Audubon's crested caracara (*Polyborus plancus audubonii*). There is suitable habitat on the installation for both species, and surveys have been accomplished to attempt to identify each species on the installation. Recent callback surveys and acoustic recording units were accomplished in areas most likely to provide habitat for the eastern black rail but failed to positively identify the species. The ditch within which the culvert would be constructed does not contain suitable habitat for the species. Basewide imperiled species surveys in 2018-2019

looked for the presence of the Audubon's crested caracara, particularly in areas where the habitat would be most suitable. One area is approximately 2,000 feet from the construction site and not located near roadways on MAFB (see attached Project Figure 10). The species was not found to be present during that time, and there have yet to be any sightings of the species on the installation. Therefore, no impacts are expected on either species.

11. The West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus latirostris*) is routinely found on MAFB, including within tidally influenced ditches. The ditch where the box culvert would be constructed is upstream from a culvert that has manatee grating installed which would exclude the species from entering the project area and prevent any potential for impacts to the species.

12. Based on the above information, and in compliance with Section 7(a)(2) of the ESA, the Air Force has determined that the proposed construction of a new USSOCOM headquarters at MacDill AFB may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the American alligator, eastern indigo snake, gopher tortoise, tricolored bat, and wood stork. The project will implement standard eastern indigo snake construction conditions, and a pre-construction brief will instruct construction workers on potential interactions with all other listed species. Should any listed species be found within the project footprint, work will cease, and the MacDill Natural Resources Manager will be notified immediately and will evaluate the situation for the best possible solution to minimize impacts to the species. There would be no effects to any other federally listed species during project construction and operations.

13. The Air Force requests concurrence from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the above-stated determination of effect. If you would like to inspect the Proposed Action area, or if you have any questions or require additional information on the Proposed Action, please contact Mr. Andy Lykens, 6 CES/CEIE at (813) 828-0460 or [andrew.lykens.ctr@us.af.mil](mailto:andrew.lykens.ctr@us.af.mil).

RIDER.ANDR | Digitally signed by  
 EW.WARRICK | RIDER.ANDREW.WA  
 .1153194676 | RRICK.1153194676  
 Date: 2022.11.14  
 12:09:39 -05'00'

ANDREW RIDER, GS-12, DAF  
 Chief, Environmental Element

2 Attachments:

1. Original USSOCOM MISO Consultation Package
2. Project Figures



# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Florida Ecological Services Field Office



January 9, 2023

Andrew Rider  
Environmental Element Chief  
6 CES/CEIE  
7621 Hillsborough Loop Drive  
MacDill AFB, FL 33621-5207

Service Project Code: 2023-0016579  
Prior Service Consultation Code: 04EF1000-2019-I-0506  
Project: MacDill AFB - MISO  
Facility  
County: Hillsborough

Dear Mr. Rider:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) provides the following comments regarding re-initiation of the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM), Military Information Support Operations (MISO) Facility (Project) at MacDill Air Force Base (MAFB), Service log number 2023-0016579. We submit the following comments in accordance with section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

The Action Agency, the Department of the Air Force (DAF), proposes to construct a permanent facility to support USSOCOM operations at MAFB in Tampa, FL. The facility is needed to replace the temporary trailers that currently house USSOCOM personnel. As part of the original 2019 consultation (Proposed U.S. Special Operations Command MISO Facility at MAFB, Service log number 04EF1000-2019-I-0506), the DAF evaluated the effects on ESA-listed species of the construction of temporary workspace facilities for 550 personnel and of a permanent facility on a different site. The DAF is reinitiating consultation because the permanent facility will now be constructed on one of the alternative locations evaluated in the Environmental Assessment and the listing status and consultation range of several species has changed. DAF proposes to construct a 100,000 ft<sup>2</sup> building to accommodate 850 personnel, a new access road no more than 60 ft wide and less than 900 ft<sup>2</sup> in total area, and one box culvert under the access road. The footprint of the Proposed Action is approximately 6.2 acres.

The DAF determined the following federally listed species under Service jurisdiction have the potential to be affected by construction of the proposed facility: American alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*); evaluated due to similarity of appearance with the American crocodile [*Crocodylus acutus*]), eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon couperi*), and wood stork (*Mycteria americana*). The DAF also acknowledges potential impacts to the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), currently proposed for listing, and the eastern Distinct Population Segment of the gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*), which was recently found not warranted for listing. The proposed activities would not occur within critical habitat for any federally listed species.

As outlined in correspondence from the DAF, construction of the proposed action may cause minor behavioral responses in foraging wood storks and American alligators in the adjacent tidally influenced drainage canal. The DAF has assessed that the effects of noise or visual disturbance from construction or operational activities on these species would be minimal because there are many higher quality habitats located on the installation. The ditch adjacent to the construction area is 15' wide, approximately 3' deep, and is of low ecological value for foraging, although wood storks have been observed nearby. The DAF chose to consider the effects of the Proposed Action on alligators due to similarity of appearance with the American crocodile. Crocodiles have not been confirmed on the installation or in offshore waters, but there is potential for overlap of the two species as the installation is located within the northern extent of their potential range. The DAF concluded that the Proposed Action "may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect" the wood stork or American alligator.

The DAF also assessed the potential effects of the proposed activities on the eastern indigo snake. The species has not been documented on the installation within the last 25 years, although there is suitable habitat adjacent to and near the project location. Construction or operational traffic is not expected to increase because of the new facility and the project footprint does not contain eastern indigo snake habitat. However, presence of the species cannot be ruled out, therefore the DAF has committed to implement standard protection measures for the eastern indigo snake and immediately cease construction if there is a sighting. For these reasons, the DAF made a "may affect, but not likely to adversely affect" determination for eastern indigo snakes.

The Service appreciates the DAF's efforts to confer on the monarch butterfly and tricolored bat, both proposed for listing under the ESA. Should these species become listed in the future, analyzing the Proposed Action's effects on these species will streamline the consultation process if re-initiation becomes necessary. Monarch butterflies have been sighted on the installation, however, no foraging or larval habitat for the candidate species was found during a visit to the proposed Action Area and impacts are expected to be insignificant or discountable. According to the DAF, tricolored bats have been detected with acoustic recording units on MAFB, but the site of the Proposed Action is of low foraging value, contains no potential roost locations, and no roosts have yet been found on the installation. Additionally, construction will not take place between sunset and sunrise when bats are expected to be foraging. However, the Proposed Action includes the installation of a box culvert and the DAF should be aware that these structures can be used by tricolored bats for roosting. If modifications are made to this culvert in the future, it may be necessary to re-initiate consultation with the Service.

Gopher tortoises and their burrows are not located within the Action Area, however, the DAF acknowledges that both were historically found in a forested area near the site of the Proposed Action. In accordance with the DAF's participation in the Candidate Conservation Agreement for the gopher tortoise, the Action Agency commits to implementing best management practices for the species, including educational briefings provided to construction workers and the installation of silt fencing to exclude tortoises from the construction site if individuals are observed nearby. The implementation of minimization and avoidance measures for this keystone species benefits other listed, proposed, and at-risk species, including the commensal eastern indigo snake.

Based on the above information and the supplemental material that was provided, the Service has assessed that the likelihood of negative effects on the aforementioned species is insignificant or discountable. The Service concurs with the DAF's "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" determinations.

The Service identifies the following conservation and reporting guidance regarding this project:

- The Service acknowledges the DAF's commitment to implementing the *Standard Protection Measures for the Eastern Indigo Snake*, including ceasing construction activities should a live or dead snake be sighted, installation of educational posters on site, an educational briefing for construction site personnel, and a post-project report on whether snakes were observed.
- Preliminary data show that tricolored bats may roost in culverts and bridges. If the species is listed in the future, the DAF acknowledges that bat surveys and possibly consultation re-initiation may be necessary for future projects that might affect the culvert installed during this Proposed Action.
- The Service recognizes the DAF's continued pledge to implementing the best management practices for the gopher tortoise, including an educational briefing for construction site personnel, silt fencing to exclude tortoises if necessary, and continued monitoring as outlined in the Candidate Conservation Agreement for the species, which remains in effect until participation is withdrawn.

While not a biological opinion as described in section 7 of the ESA, this correspondence and the implementation of the above conservation measures fulfill the requirements of the ESA. If modifications are made to the project that may affect the listed species or habitat in a way not previously considered, if additional information becomes available involving potential effects to listed species, or if take of a listed species occurs that is relevant to the currently proposed action, consultation shall be reinitiated.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please contact Ms. Sinead Borchert by e-mail at [sinead\\_borchert@fws.gov](mailto:sinead_borchert@fws.gov) or by calling (850) 771-8917.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Aldredge, Ph.D.  
Florida Air Force Partnership Coordinator  
Florida Ecological Services Field Office



## Jason Seitz

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**From:** RIDER, ANDREW W GS-12 USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE <andrew.rider.2@us.af.mil>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2022 7:10 AM  
**To:** Jason Seitz  
**Cc:** KIRKPATRICK, JASON W CTR USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE; LYKENS, ANDREW S CTR USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE  
**Subject:** FW: Negative Determination for US Special Operations Command Support Facility - MacDill AFB

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Jason,

We got a response from the State Clearinghouse. It is consistent and we may proceed.

V/R

Andy Rider, PE, GS-12, DAF  
Chief, Environmental Element  
6 CES/CEIE  
MacDill AFB, FL  
DSN: 968-2718  
(813) 828-2718  
Cell: 352-536-5634

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**From:** State\_Clearinghouse <State.Clearinghouse@dep.state.fl.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2022 2:03 PM  
**To:** LYKENS, ANDREW S CTR USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE <andrew.lykens.ctr@us.af.mil>; State\_Clearinghouse <State.Clearinghouse@dep.state.fl.us>  
**Cc:** RIDER, ANDREW W GS-12 USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE <andrew.rider.2@us.af.mil>; KIRKPATRICK, JASON W CTR USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE <jason.kirkpatrick.2.ctr@us.af.mil>  
**Subject:** [URL Verdict: Suspect][Non-DoD Source] RE: Negative Determination for US Special Operations Command Support Facility - MacDill AFB

While it is covered by EO 12372, the Florida State Clearinghouse does not select the same project for review since it was reviewed previously (# FL201812178501C) and was found to be consistent with Florida's Coastal management Program. You may proceed with your project.

Please send future electronic requests directly to the State Clearinghouse email address, [State.Clearinghouse@dep.state.fl.us](mailto:State.Clearinghouse@dep.state.fl.us)

Good Luck.

*Chris Stahl*

Chris Stahl, Coordinator  
Florida State Clearinghouse  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
3900 Commonwealth Blvd., M.S. 47

Tallahassee, FL 32399-2400  
ph. (850) 717-9076  
[State.Clearinghouse@floridadep.gov](mailto:State.Clearinghouse@floridadep.gov)

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**From:** LYKENS, ANDREW S CTR USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE <andrew.lykens.ctr@us.af.mil>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 9, 2022 1:53 PM  
**To:** State\_Clearinghouse <State.Clearinghouse@dep.state.fl.us>  
**Cc:** Stahl, Chris <Chris.Stahl@FloridaDEP.gov>; RIDER, ANDREW W GS-12 USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE <andrew.rider.2@us.af.mil>; KIRKPATRICK, JASON W CTR USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE <jason.kirkpatrick.2.ctr@us.af.mil>  
**Subject:** Negative Determination for US Special Operations Command Support Facility - MacDill AFB

Good afternoon Florida Clearinghouse,

The U.S. Air Force intends to construct a permanent facility for a U.S. Special Operations Command mission at MacDill AFB in Tampa, FL. An Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared in 2019 to analyze the potential environmental impacts associated with construction of a facility for this mission, and a negative determination was received from the state on the proposed action (SAI # FL201812178501C received 28 January, 2019, see attached). In the time since that EA was prepared, some of the project details have changed, and a Supplemental EA (SEA) is being prepared to evaluate the potential impacts associated with the proposed action. The original Negative Determination (Clearinghouse Concurrence), Draft SEA, and updated Negative Determination are attached for your review. The Air Force has determined that the project would not negatively impact resources of the state, and we seek your concurrence on our Negative Determination. We cannot complete the Air Force's Environmental Impact Analysis Process without feedback from your agency.

Please let me know if any more information is needed to assist in your determination.

Respectfully,  
Andy

Andrew Lykens  
Contractor, Amentum  
NEPA, Natural & Cultural Resources Manager  
6th Civil Engineer Squadron, Environmental Element  
7621 Hillsborough Loop Dr.  
MacDill AFB, FL 33621  
Office: 813-828-0460  
DSN: 968-0460



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**APPENDIX B. Native American Tribal Government  
Consultations**





DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
6TH AIR REFUELING WING (AMC)  
MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA



7 November 2022

Ms. Amy M. Doye  
Director  
6th Civil Engineer Squadron  
Installation Tribal Liaison Officer  
7621 Hillsborough Loop Drive  
MacDill Air Force Base FL 33621-5407

Mr. Talbert Cypress  
Chairman  
Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida  
Tamaimi Station  
PO Box 440021  
Miami FL 33144

Dear Mr. Cypress

MacDill Air Force Base (AFB) is supporting the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) to implement the expansion and consolidation of Military Information Support Operations (MISO) at MacDill AFB. An environmental assessment (EA) was prepared by the Department of the Air Force (DAF) in 2019 to analyze the potential environmental consequences of this action, and the DAF initiated consultation with your tribe on the proposed action at that time (see attached initial letter); the DAF did not receive any objections to the project as proposed at that time. Recently, details regarding the location for construction of the permanent facility have changed and the DAF wishes to provide this update as part of the consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Part 800).

USSOCOM proposes to implement the consolidation of approximately 850 USSOCOM MISO personnel in an approximately 100,000 square foot two-to-three-story office building and associated parking areas to be constructed at MacDill AFB (see attached Project Figures); this location was originally evaluated as an alternative location for the temporary USSOCOM MISO facility (T2) in the 2019 EA (see attached Project Figures). The proposed project area spans approximately 6.2 acres and is within predominantly the same footprint as the original T2 location evaluated in the 2019 EA. The only change to proposed ground disturbance would be construction of an access road to the south of the facility (see attached Project Figures).

A Phase I archaeological survey was conducted in 2017 across the eastern portion of MacDill AFB and encompassed the project area. This area was deemed as "medium" probability for encountering archaeological resources (see attached Project Figures). Six archaeological sites were discovered during this survey and are within one kilometer of the proposed project location;

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one site, 8Hi14520, is undergoing further investigation into its eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (see attached Arch Site Descriptions). The other five archaeological sites were determined ineligible for listing on the NRHP. The nearest site (8Hi13708) is located over 660 feet to the south of the proposed project location (see attached Project Figures). Additionally, the proposed project area is located within an area of the installation that has been disturbed or modified extensively in the past. Therefore, the DAF believes the likelihood of encountering previously undisturbed archaeological resources at this location is considered nearly discountable and seeks your input.

The Air Force values your views on the proposed plan for constructing an additional office building and associated infrastructure. We look forward to any comments or concerns you may have about the potential for the proposed action to affect any archaeological sites or properties of cultural or religious significance and your recommendations on ways to avoid such effects. If we do not hear from you within 30 days, we will assume you have no objections to the project and the Air Force will proceed with planning for the proposed project. However, your input into the project is welcome at any time.

Please contact me at (813) 828-3577 to discuss the proposed project and your expectations with how to proceed with consultation.



AMY M. DOYE GS-15, DAF  
Director, 6th Civil Engineer Squadron

3 Attachments:

1. Initial Consultation Letter and Figures
2. Project Figures
3. Arch Site Descriptions

cc:

Kevin Donaldson



MacDill Air Force Base Environmental  
6 CES/CEIE  
7621 Hillsborough Loop Dr.  
MacDill AFB, FL 33621

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MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: 6 CES/CEIE

SUBJECT: Consultation with the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida Regarding the  
USSOCOM JMWC SEA at MacDill AFB

1. A consultation letter for the subject project was sent via email and USPS to the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida on 9 November, 2022. A follow-up email was sent to the Tribe on 9 December, 2022; the POC for the tribe is Kevin Donaldson.
2. Miccosukee representative Mr. Fred Dayhoff has previously stated that if no responses or phone calls are received within 30-60 days we can assume the tribe has no objection to the project. In many years of consultation with the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, the base has never received a written response from a project consultation letter.
3. The final NEPA documents will be executed, but it is understood that the tribe may provide comments or requests at any time and those requests will be considered accordingly.

ANDREW S LYKENS, Contractor  
NEPA Manager, 6th Civil Engineer Squadron



*Commit to Serve, Commit to Conserve*







DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
6TH AIR REFUELING WING (AMC)  
MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA



7 November 2022

Ms. Amy M. Doye  
Director  
6th Civil Engineer Squadron  
Installation Tribal Liaison Officer  
7621 Hillsborough Loop Drive  
MacDill Air Force Base FL 33621-5407

Mr. David Hill  
Principal Chief  
The Muscogee (Creek) Nation  
PO Box 580  
Okmulgee OK 74447

Dear Mr. Hill

MacDill Air Force Base (AFB) is supporting the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) to implement the expansion and consolidation of Military Information Support Operations (MISO) at MacDill AFB. An environmental assessment (EA) was prepared by the Department of the Air Force (DAF) in 2019 to analyze the potential environmental consequences associated with construction of temporary and permanent facilities to support this mission. The temporary facilities proposed in the EA have been constructed, but previously evaluated locations for the permanent facility have been eliminated from consideration and a supplemental EA is being prepared to evaluate a new preferred location. The DAF wishes to initiate consultation with your tribe under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Part 800). The DAF will continue to contact your tribe under NEPA, and consult with your tribe under EO 13175, unless you request otherwise.

USSOCOM proposes to implement the consolidation of approximately 850 USSOCOM MISO personnel in an approximately 100,000 square foot two-to-three-story office building to be constructed at MacDill AFB in the south-central portion of the installation (see attached Project Figures); this location was originally evaluated as an alternative location for the temporary USSOCOM MISO facility (T2) in the 2019 EA (see attached Project Figures). The proposed project area spans approximately 6.2 acres and is within predominantly the same footprint as the original T2 location evaluated in the 2019 EA. We can provide a copy of the 2019 EA, if requested. The proposed project would include construction of parking areas, storm water control features, a new access road to the location, and utility connections (see attached Project Figures).

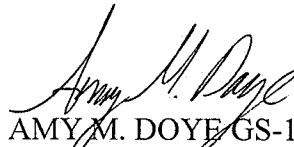
A Phase I archaeological survey was conducted in 2017 across the eastern portion of MacDill AFB and encompassed the project area. This area was deemed as "medium" probability for

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encountering archaeological resources (see attached Project Figures). Six archaeological sites were discovered during this survey and are within one kilometer of the proposed project location; one site, 8Hi14520, is undergoing further investigation into its eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (see attached Arch Site Descriptions). The other five archaeological sites were determined ineligible for listing on the NRHP. The nearest site (8Hi13708) is located approximately 660 feet to the south of the proposed project location (see attached Project Figures). Additionally, the proposed project area is located within an area of the installation that has been extensively disturbed or modified in the past. Therefore, the DAF believes the likelihood of encountering archaeological resources at this location is nearly discountable and seeks your input.

The Air Force values your views on the proposed plan for constructing an additional office building and associated infrastructure. We look forward to any comments or concerns you may have about the potential for the proposed action to affect any archaeological sites or properties of cultural or religious significance and your recommendations on ways to avoid such effects. If we do not hear from you within 30 days, we will assume you have no objections to the project and the Air Force will proceed with planning for the proposed project. However, your input into the project is welcome at any time.

Please contact me at (813) 828-3577 to discuss the proposed project and your expectations with how to proceed with consultation.

  
AMY M. DOYE GS-15, DAF  
Director, 6th Civil Engineer Squadron

3 Attachments:

1. Initial Consultation Letter and Figures
2. Project Figures
3. Arch Site Descriptions

cc:

Corain Lowe-Zepeda



MacDill Air Force Base Environmental  
6 CES/CEIE  
7621 Hillsborough Loop Dr.  
MacDill AFB, FL 33621

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MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: 6 CES/CEIE

SUBJECT: Consultation with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Regarding the USSOCOM JMWC SEA at MacDill AFB

1. A consultation letter for the subject project was sent via email and USPS to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation on 9 November, 2022. A follow-up email was sent to the Tribe on 9 December, 2022; the POC for the tribe is Corain Lowe-Zepeda
2. The final NEPA documents will be executed, but it is understood that the tribe may provide comments or requests at any time and those requests will be considered accordingly.

ANDREW S LYKENS, Contractor  
NEPA Manager, 6th Civil Engineer Squadron



*Commit to Serve, Commit to Conserve*







DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
6TH AIR REFUELING WING (AMC)  
MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA



7 November 2022

Ms. Amy M. Doye  
Director  
6th Civil Engineer Squadron  
Installation Tribal Liaison Officer  
7621 Hillsborough Loop Drive  
MacDill Air Force Base FL 33621-5407

Mr. Lewis Johnson  
Principal Chief  
The Seminole Nation of Oklahoma  
36645 US-270  
Wewoka OK 74884

Dear Mr. Johnson

MacDill Air Force Base (AFB) is supporting the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) to implement the expansion and consolidation of Military Information Support Operations (MISO) at MacDill AFB. An environmental assessment (EA) was prepared by the Department of the Air Force (DAF) in 2019 to analyze the potential environmental consequences of this action, and the DAF initiated consultation with your tribe on the proposed action at that time (see attached initial letter); the DAF did not receive any objections to the project as proposed at that time. Recently, details regarding the location for construction of the permanent facility have changed and the DAF wishes to provide this update as part of the consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Part 800).

USSOCOM proposes to implement the consolidation of approximately 850 USSOCOM MISO personnel in an approximately 100,000 square foot two-to-three-story office building and associated parking areas to be constructed at MacDill AFB (see attached Project Figures); this location was originally evaluated as an alternative location for the temporary USSOCOM MISO facility (T2) in the 2019 EA (see attached Project Figures). The proposed project area spans approximately 6.2 acres and is within predominantly the same footprint as the original T2 location evaluated in the 2019 EA. The only change to proposed ground disturbance would be construction of an access road to the south of the facility (see attached Project Figures).


A Phase I archaeological survey was conducted in 2017 across the eastern portion of MacDill AFB and encompassed the project area. This area was deemed as “medium” probability for encountering archaeological resources (see attached Project Figures). Six archaeological sites were discovered during this survey and are within one kilometer of the proposed project location; one site, 8Hi14520, is undergoing further investigation into its eligibility for listing on the

**CHARGE THE STORM...LET'S GO!**

National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (see attached Arch Site Descriptions). The other five archaeological sites were determined ineligible for listing on the NRHP. The nearest site (8Hi13708) is located over 660 feet to the south of the proposed project location (see attached Project Figures). Additionally, the proposed project area is located within an area of the installation that has been disturbed or modified extensively in the past. Therefore, the DAF believes the likelihood of encountering previously undisturbed archaeological resources at this location is considered nearly discountable and seeks your input.

The Air Force values your views on the proposed plan for constructing an additional office building and associated infrastructure. We look forward to any comments or concerns you may have about the potential for the proposed action to affect any archaeological sites or properties of cultural or religious significance and your recommendations on ways to avoid such effects. If we do not hear from you within 30 days, we will assume you have no objections to the project and the Air Force will proceed with planning for the proposed project. However, your input into the project is welcome at any time.

Please contact me at (813) 828-3577 to discuss the proposed project and your expectations with how to proceed with consultation.

  
AMY M. DOYE GS-15, DAF  
Director, 6th Civil Engineer Squadron

3 Attachments:

1. Initial Consultation Letter and Figures
2. Project Figures
3. Arch Site Descriptions

cc:

Edwin Marshall



MacDill Air Force Base Environmental  
6 CES/CEIE  
7621 Hillsborough Loop Dr.  
MacDill AFB, FL 33621

---

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: 6 CES/CEIE

SUBJECT: Consultation with the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma Regarding the USSOCOM  
JMWC SEA at MacDill AFB

1. A consultation letter for the subject project was sent via email and USPS to the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma on 9 November, 2022. A follow-up email was sent to the Tribe on 9 December, 2022; the POC for the tribe has been Edwin Marshall, but emails did not make it to his inbox and thus were also addressed to [underwood.t@sno-nsn.gov](mailto:underwood.t@sno-nsn.gov).
2. The final NEPA documents will be executed, but it is understood that the tribe may provide comments or requests at any time and those requests will be considered accordingly.

ANDREW S LYKENS, Contractor  
NEPA Manager, 6th Civil Engineer Squadron



*Commit to Serve, Commit to Conserve*







DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
6TH AIR REFUELING WING (AMC)  
MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA



7 November 2022

Ms. Amy M. Doye  
Director  
6th Civil Engineer Squadron  
Installation Tribal Liaison Officer  
7621 Hillsborough Loop Drive  
MacDill Air Force Base FL 33621-5407

Mr. Marcellus W. Osceola, Jr.  
Chairman  
Seminole Tribe of Florida  
30290 Josie Billie Hwy, PMB 1004  
Clewiston FL 33440

Dear Mr. Osceola

MacDill Air Force Base (AFB) is supporting the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) to implement the expansion and consolidation of Military Information Support Operations (MISO) at MacDill AFB. An environmental assessment (EA) was prepared by the Department of the Air Force (DAF) in 2019 to analyze the potential environmental consequences of this action, and the DAF initiated consultation with your tribe on the proposed action at that time (see attached initial letter); the DAF did not receive any objections to the project as proposed at that time. Recently, details regarding the location for construction of the permanent facility have changed and the DAF wishes to provide this update as part of the consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Part 800).

USSOCOM proposes to implement the consolidation of approximately 850 USSOCOM MISO personnel in an approximately 100,000 square foot two-to-three-story office building and associated parking areas to be constructed at MacDill AFB (see attached Project Figures); this location was originally evaluated as an alternative location for the temporary USSOCOM MISO facility (T2) in the 2019 EA (see attached Project Figures). The proposed project area spans approximately 6.2 acres and is within predominantly the same footprint as the original T2 location evaluated in the 2019 EA. The only change to proposed ground disturbance would be construction of an access road to the south of the facility (see attached Project Figures).

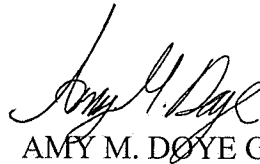
A Phase I archaeological survey was conducted in 2017 across the eastern portion of MacDill AFB and encompassed the project area. This area was deemed as “medium” probability for encountering archaeological resources (see attached Project Figures). Six archaeological sites were discovered during this survey and are within one kilometer of the proposed project location; one site, 8Hi14520, is undergoing further investigation into its eligibility for listing on the

**CHARGE THE STORM...LET'S GO!**

National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (see attached Arch Site Descriptions). The other five archaeological sites were determined ineligible for listing on the NRHP. The nearest site (8Hi13708) is located over 660 feet to the south of the proposed project location (see attached Project Figures). Additionally, the proposed project area is located within an area of the installation that has been disturbed or modified extensively in the past. Therefore, the DAF believes the likelihood of encountering previously undisturbed archaeological resources at this location is considered nearly discountable and seeks your input.

The Air Force values your views on the proposed plan for constructing an additional office building and associated infrastructure. We look forward to any comments or concerns you may have about the potential for the proposed action to affect any archaeological sites or properties of cultural or religious significance and your recommendations on ways to avoid such effects. If we do not hear from you within 30 days, we will assume you have no objections to the project and the Air Force will proceed with planning for the proposed project. However, your input into the project is welcome at any time.

Please contact me at (813) 828-3577 to discuss the proposed project and your expectations with how to proceed with consultation.



AMY M. DOYE GS-15, DAF  
Director, 6th Civil Engineer Squadron

3 Attachments:

1. Initial Consultation Letter and Figures
2. Project Figures
3. Arch Site Descriptions

cc:

Dr. Paul Backhouse

## Jason Seitz

---

**From:** LYKENS, ANDREW S CTR USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE <andrew.lykens.ctr@us.af.mil>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 15, 2022 4:30 PM  
**To:** Jason Seitz  
**Cc:** RIDER, ANDREW W GS-12 USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE; KIRKPATRICK, JASON W CTR USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE  
**Subject:** FW: Sec 106 - Proposed USSOCOM Facility Construction at MacDill Air Force Base

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Good afternoon Jason,

See below response from the Seminole Tribe of Florida, no issues from them.

Respectfully,  
Andy

Andrew Lykens  
Contractor, Amentum  
NEPA, Natural & Cultural Resources Manager  
6th Civil Engineer Squadron, Environmental Element  
7621 Hillsborough Loop Dr.  
MacDill AFB, FL 33621  
Office: 813-828-0460  
DSN: 968-0460

---

**From:** THPO Compliance <THPOCompliance@semtribe.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 12, 2022 9:40 AM  
**To:** LYKENS, ANDREW S CTR USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE <andrew.lykens.ctr@us.af.mil>  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] RE: Sec 106 - Proposed USSOCOM Facility Construction at MacDill Air Force Base

SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA  
TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

TRIBAL HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION OFFICE  
SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA  
30290 JOSIE BILLIE HIGHWAY  
PMB 1004  
CLEWISTON, FL 33440  
THPO PHONE: (863) 983-6549  
FAX: (863) 902-1117  
THPO WEBSITE: WWW.STORTHPO.COM



TRIBAL OFFICERS  
MARCELLUS W. OSCEOLA JR.  
CHAIRMAN  
MITCHELL CYPRESS  
VICE CHAIRMAN  
LAVONNE ROSE  
SECRETARY  
PETER A. HAHN  
TREASURER

December 12, 2022

**Attention:** Mr. Andrew Lykens  
Contractor, Amentum  
NEPA, Natural & Cultural Resources Manager  
6th Civil Engineer Squadron, Environmental Element

7621 Hillsborough Loop Dr.  
MacDill AFB, FL 33621  
Office: 813-828-0460  
DSN: 968-0460  
Email: [andrew.lykens.ctr@us.af.mil](mailto:andrew.lykens.ctr@us.af.mil)

**Subject:** *MacDill AFB - Proposed USSOCOM Facility Construction, Hillsborough County, Florida*  
**THPO Compliance Tracking Number:** 0033821

**In order to expedite the THPO review process:**

1. Please correspond via email and provide documents as attachments (a THPO FTP site is available for large files),
2. Please send all emails to [THPOCompliance@semtribe.com](mailto:THPOCompliance@semtribe.com),
3. Please reference the THPO Compliance Tracking Number if one has been assigned.

Thank you for contacting the Seminole Tribe of Florida – Tribal Historic Preservation Office (STOF-THPO) Compliance Section regarding the *MacDill AFB - Proposed USSOCOM Facility Construction, Hillsborough County, Florida*.

The proposed undertaking does fall within the STOF Area of Interest. We have reviewed the documents that you provided and completed our assessment pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 USC 470) as amended and it's implementing regulations (36 CFR 800). We have no objections or other comments at this time.

We appreciate your assistance in protecting and preserving cultural resources important to the Seminole Tribe of Florida. Please contact us if any archaeological, historical, or burial resources are inadvertently discovered during project implementation, and feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,



Bradley M. Mueller, MA  
*Compliance Review Specialist*  
**Compliance Review Section**  
**Tribal Historic Preservation Office**  
**Heritage and Environmental Resources Office**  
**Seminole Tribe of Florida**  
30290 Josie Billie Hwy, PMB 1004  
Clewiston, FL 33440  
Email: [THPOCompliance@semtribe.com](mailto:THPOCompliance@semtribe.com)

---

**From:** LYKENS, ANDREW S CTR USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE <[andrew.lykens.ctr@us.af.mil](mailto:andrew.lykens.ctr@us.af.mil)>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 9, 2022 2:06 PM  
**To:** Paul Backhouse <[PaulBackhouse@semtribe.com](mailto:PaulBackhouse@semtribe.com)>  
**Cc:** THPO Compliance <[THPOCompliance@semtribe.com](mailto:THPOCompliance@semtribe.com)>; RIDER, ANDREW W GS-12 USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE <[andrew.rider.2@us.af.mil](mailto:andrew.rider.2@us.af.mil)>; KIRKPATRICK, JASON W CTR USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE <[jason.kirkpatrick.2.ctr@us.af.mil](mailto:jason.kirkpatrick.2.ctr@us.af.mil)>; BAULCH, EVANGELINE B CTR USAF AMC 6 CES/CENL <[evangeline.baulch.1.ctr@us.af.mil](mailto:evangeline.baulch.1.ctr@us.af.mil)>  
**Subject:** RE: Sec 106 - Proposed USSOCOM Facility Construction at MacDill Air Force Base

Good afternoon,

The Department of the Air Force has not received a response from your tribe regarding the preparation of a Supplemental Environmental Assessment to assess the potential environmental consequences associated with

construction of a United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) Joint MISO WebOps Center (JMWC) Facility at MacDill Air Force Base. The DAF prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) in 2019 for construction of this facility and initiated consultation with your tribe on this proposed action in 2018. Since that time, a new location for construction of the permanent facility has been chosen in a location originally analyzed in the 2019 EA for construction of temporary facilities; several other project details have changed, as well. Please see attached letters and supporting figures, as well as, the below email sent 9 November, 2022, for more details. Please let us know of any feedback or comments about the proposed project your tribe may have.

Respectfully,  
Andy

Andrew Lykens  
Contractor, Amentum  
NEPA, Natural & Cultural Resources Manager  
6th Civil Engineer Squadron, Environmental Element  
7621 Hillsborough Loop Dr.  
MacDill AFB, FL 33621  
Office: 813-828-0460  
DSN: 968-0460

---

**From:** LYKENS, ANDREW S CTR USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 9, 2022 10:19 AM  
**To:** [paulbackhouse@semtribe.com](mailto:paulbackhouse@semtribe.com)  
**Cc:** THPO Compliance <[THPOCompliance@semtribe.com](mailto:THPOCompliance@semtribe.com)>; RIDER, ANDREW W GS-12 USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE <[andrew.rider.2@us.af.mil](mailto:andrew.rider.2@us.af.mil)>; KIRKPATRICK, JASON W CTR USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE <[jason.kirkpatrick.2.ctr@us.af.mil](mailto:jason.kirkpatrick.2.ctr@us.af.mil)>; BAULCH, EVANGELINE B CTR USAF AMC 6 CES/CENL <[evangeline.baulch.1.ctr@us.af.mil](mailto:evangeline.baulch.1.ctr@us.af.mil)>  
**Subject:** Sec 106 - Proposed USSOCOM Facility Construction at MacDill Air Force Base

Good morning,

The Department of the Air Force (DAF) is preparing a Supplemental Environmental Assessment to assess the potential environmental consequences associated with construction of a United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) Joint MISO WebOps Center (JMWC) Facility at MacDill Air Force Base. The DAF prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) in 2019 for construction of this facility and initiated consultation with your tribe on this proposed action in 2018. Since that time, a new location for construction of the permanent facility has been chosen in a location originally analyzed in the 2019 EA for construction of temporary facilities; several other project details have changed, as well. The DAF is providing this update to your tribe and desires to discuss the proposal in detail with you so that we may understand and consider any comments, concerns, and suggestions you may have. Attached is the initial consultation letter and figures on the project from 2018, and updated letters and figures providing new details on the proposed project and archaeological sites in the vicinity of the project. The DAF will continue to contact your tribe under NEPA, and consult with your tribe under EO 13175, unless you request otherwise. A copy of these letters has also been mailed to your tribe. Please let us know of any feedback or comments about the proposed project your tribe may have.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully,  
Andy

Andrew Lykens  
Contractor, Amentum  
NEPA, Natural & Cultural Resources Manager  
6th Civil Engineer Squadron, Environmental Element

7621 Hillsborough Loop Dr.  
MacDill AFB, FL 33621  
Office: 813-828-0460  
DSN: 968-0460

**APPENDIX C: Notice of Availability and Public and  
Agency Comments**

Nation & World

# US houses of worship increase security after gun massacres

BY DEEPA BHARATH AND LUIS ANDRES HENAO  
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The Rev. Steven Marsh never thought he would see the day his church in Laguna Woods, California — a town of 16,500 populated largely by retirees — would be spending \$20,000 a month for security.

Then a gunman opened fire on May 15 during a luncheon at Geneva Presbyterian Church, where Marsh is senior pastor, killing one and injuring five other members of a Taiwanese congregation that met there. Officials said the man, who was motivated by political hatred against Taiwan, chained the church's doors shut and hid fire-bombs inside before shooting at the gathering of elderly church members.

Houses of worship are meant to be places of shelter, reflection and peace, where strangers are welcome. But the recent string of high-profile mass shootings in the U.S. is a reminder violence can happen anywhere, prompting some faith leaders to ramp up security.

At Geneva Presbyterian, armed security guards now stand watch every weekday and during Sunday services. The church also is adding more security cameras, developing an active shooter plan and applying for Department of Homeland Security funding.

"We're not trying to militarize the church," Marsh said. "We prayed about it and made a decision to have armed security as an act of faith."

Without the new security measures, Marsh predicted that a mass exodus by the congregation and the schools on the church's campus would have followed the shooting.

Creating a space that is both safe and welcoming is possible, said Rabbi Charlie Cytron-Walker, the former spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville, Texas. In January, he and three others were taken hostage by a pistol-wielding man during a Shabbat service. Cytron-Walker threw a chair at the gunman — a courageous act that helped them safely escape — after a nearly 11-hour standoff. He credits the several rounds of active shooter training he has taken.

"When you are unable to run away or find a hiding place, you need to find a way to act and to fight back," Cytron-Walker said. "When we were most afraid he was going to kill us, I saw a moment I had been looking for all day long."

Cytron-Walker now leads Temple Emanuel in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. As he works on a security plan with his new congregation, he is being mindful of how a welcoming synagogue can enhance safety "because someone who wants to do harm can see that they are not going to be able to walk in anonymous."

Historically, sanctuaries have been vulnerable to violent attacks — from bombings at Black churches during the civil rights era to more recent shootings in the U.S. at mosques and Sikh gurdwaras. In the U.S., FBI hate crime statistics show that incidents in churches, synagogues, temples and mosques increased 34.8% between 2014 and 2018.

"All faiths are under attack in America by radicals and extremists," said Alon Stivi, a security consultant for synagogues, Jewish community centers and day schools. Some congregants are reticent to show up.

"They're asking a lot more questions: 'Should I come to the weekly services or just come for the holidays? And if I come, should I bring my kids?'"

Religious leaders who once preferred to leave



ASHLEY LANDIS | Associated Press

**A gunman opened fire May 15 at Geneva Presbyterian Church in Laguna Woods, Calif.**

security in the hands of the divine are taking precautions that seemed unthinkable years prior, Stivi said. More congregants are carrying concealed handguns to services, too, he said.

From \$25 million in 2016 to \$180 million last year, the federal government has steadily increased the amount of funding it sets aside to help the faith community with security costs, Stivi said. But not all faith leaders are aware they can apply for it, he said.

Past attacks on houses of worship and other public spaces have prompted faith leaders to evaluate — sometimes for the first time — if there is more that can be done to keep their flocks safe.

Now an armed police officer watches over Sunday services at Mount Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina, said the Rev. Kylon Middleton, who leads the congregation. When an officer

is unable to be on campus for church events, members carrying concealed weapons keep watch.

"It is sad, but we are in such times where we must have armed security to protect our people," he said.

The church is a few blocks away from Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church. In 2015, a self-proclaimed white supremacist opened fire during Bible study and killed nine worshippers, including the senior pastor. Middleton said the late pastor was like a brother to him.

In the wake of the massacre, security discussions at Mount Zion factor worship style into the equation, including the need for some to always keep their eyes open, especially when most have theirs closed in prayer, Middleton said.

"No one ever thought mass shootings would happen in churches, which are sacred sanctuaries where you can escape the world and seek spiritual refuge,"

he said. "When that space has been violated, it creates a restlessness of spirit."

After the 2018 massacre at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh, Rabbi Jon Leener met with local New York police to discuss safety for Base BKLYN, his home-based ministry that has welcomed thousands.

For years, he and his wife, Faith, would unlock their front door right before Shabbat dinners, believing in a Judaism where no door is shut or locked. That changed after Tree of Life — the deadliest antisemitic attack in U.S. history. Leener also installed a security camera and a buzz-in system for visitors. He hired an armed guard after this year's hostage situation in Texas.

"It's terribly unfortunate that we live in an age when we need to compromise our value of openness for the threat of violence, but that is just the reality at the moment," Leener said.

## The Sod Father

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**\$100 OFF services of \$1,000 or more.**  
Bobcat Service, Sprinkler Repair

References Upon Request

LEGAL NOTICE

### NOTICE FOR EARLY PUBLIC REVIEW OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY WITHIN THE 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN AND WETLANDS – UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

The U.S. Air Force (USAF) invites public input on any practicable alternatives for a proposed activity within the 100-year floodplain and wetlands at MacDill Air Force Base (AFB) in Tampa, Florida. The Proposed Action involves the expansion and consolidation of the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) Military Information Support Operations (MISO) facility at MacDill AFB. The Proposed Action includes the construction of a 100,000 square foot building to accommodate approximately 850 personnel. An estimated 7.1 acres, including approximately 705 parking spaces and two ditch crossings, is needed for the USSOCOM MISO facility on MacDill AFB and the facility will be subject to project-specific design elements such as a multi-story building.

This notice is required by Section 2(b) of Executive Order (EO) 11990, Protection of Wetlands, and by Section 2(a)(4) of EO 11988, Floodplain Management, and has been prepared and made available to the public by the Air Force in accordance with 32 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 989.24(c) and Air Force Manual 32-7003 for actions proposed within the 100-year floodplain.

The public comment period will last for 30 days from the date of this notification. Provide written comments to 6 ARW Public Affairs, 8209 Hangar Loop Drive, Suite 14, MacDill AFB, FL 33621-5502, or via email to 6.arw.pa@us.af.mil. The contact telephone number is (813) 828-2215.

July 24, 2022 0000236991-01

LEGAL NOTICE

## CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA

### NOTICE OF SPECIAL EXCEPTION REQUEST

**DATES OF PUBLIC HEARING:**  
Special Commission Meeting (City Commission serving as the Planning & Zoning Board)  
Wednesday, August 3, 2022  
5:30 P.M.

Special Commission Meeting  
Wednesday, August 3, 2022  
Immediately following the 5:30 P.M. Special Commission Meeting

**LOCATION OF PUBLIC HEARING:**  
City of South Pasadena City Hall  
7047 Sunset Drive South, South Pasadena, FL 33707

The meetings will be held in person at the physical location stated above. Documents or other evidence may be submitted in person at the meeting or via email to cityhall@mysouthpasadena.com until 4:30 PM on August 3, 2022.

**NATURE OF REQUEST: SPECIAL EXCEPTION**  
City of South Pasadena, applicant, is requesting a special exception use permit as required by §130-14 C (2). The City of South Pasadena wishes to construct a new fire station, which is a permitted Institutional-Public use within the Commercial General (CG) zoning district (§130-14 F (1)), subject to a special exception permit review.

**LOCATION OF THE PROPERTY:**  
1475, 1477 and 1479 Pasadena Avenue South, South Pasadena, FL 33707

Persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decision made at this meeting/hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings, and, for such purposes, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Additional information concerning this application may be obtained by calling the City of South Pasadena Community Improvement Department at 727-343-4192. Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations to participate in this meeting should contact the City Clerk of the City of South Pasadena at 727-347-4171 at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the meetings.

Carley Lewis, MMC  
City Clerk  
7/24/2022 0000237986-01

Hillsborough County Voters

# Request Vote By Mail or Vote Early

you still get a sticker!

### Request Vote By Mail

Visit [VoteHillsborough.gov](http://VoteHillsborough.gov)  
or call (813) 612-4180  
to request your mail ballot today.

Deadline to request a mail ballot: August 13

### Early Voting

Vote in person or drop your mail ballot off at a secure ballot intake station at any of our 26 convenient locations.

August 8 – 21, 10 AM – 6 PM

Details at [VoteHillsborough.gov/EarlyVoting](http://VoteHillsborough.gov/EarlyVoting).

Election Day is **August 23.**

All Vote By Mail ballots *must* be in my office no later than 7 PM Election Day.

@HillsboroughSOE

Craig Latimer  
Supervisor of Elections

0000236444-01

**Tampa Bay Times  
Published Daily**

STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF Pinellas, Hillsborough, Pasco,  
Hernando Citrus

}ss

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared **Deirdre Bonett** who on oath says that he/she is **Legal Advertising Representative** of the **Tampa Bay Times** a daily newspaper printed in St. Petersburg, in Pinellas County, Florida; that the attached copy of advertisement, being a **Legal Notice** in the matter **RE: 22-0009** was published in said newspaper by print in the issues of: **7/24/22** or by publication on the newspaper's website, if authorized, on

Affiant further says the said **Tampa Bay Times** is a newspaper published in **Pinellas, Hillsborough, Pasco, Hernando Citrus** County, Florida and that the said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in said **Pinellas, Hillsborough, Pasco, Hernando Citrus** County, Florida each day and has been entered as a second class mail matter at the post office in said **Pinellas, Hillsborough, Pasco, Hernando Citrus** County, Florida for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisement, and affiant further says that he/she neither paid nor promised any person, firm or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for publication in the said newspaper.

Signature Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed before me this **07/24/2022**

Signature of Notary Public

Personally known           X           or produced identification

Type of identification produced \_\_\_\_\_



**NOTICE FOR EARLY PUBLIC  
REVIEW OF A PROPOSED  
ACTIVITY WITHIN THE 100-YEAR  
FLOODPLAIN AND WETLANDS –  
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**

The U.S. Air Force (USAF) invites public input on any practicable alternatives for a proposed activity within the 100-year floodplain and wetlands at MacDill Air Force Base (AFB) in Tampa, Florida. The Proposed Action involves the expansion and consolidation of the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) Military Information Support Operations (MISO) facility at MacDill AFB. The Proposed Action includes the construction of a 100,000 square foot building to accommodate approximately 850 personnel. An estimated 7.1 acres, including approximately 705 parking spaces and two ditch crossings, is needed for the USSOCOM MISO facility on MacDill AFB and the facility will be subject to project-specific design elements such as a multi-story building.

This notice is required by Section 2(b) of Executive Order (EO) 11990, Protection of Wetlands, and by Section 2(a)(4) of EO 11988, Floodplain Management, and has been prepared and made available to the public by the Air Force in accordance with 32 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 989.24(c) and Air Force Manual 32-7003 for actions proposed within the 100-year floodplain.

The public comment period will last for 30 days from the date of this notification. Provide written comments to 6 ARW Public Affairs, 8209 Hangar Loop Drive, Suite 14, MacDill AFB, FL 33621-5502, or via email to 6.arw.pa@us.af.mil. The contact telephone number is (813) 828-2215.

July 24, 2022

0000236991-01

**STATUES**  
continued from 28A

“The Negro ... put up the Lee monument,” Mitchell wrote, “and should the time come, will be there to take it down.”

•••

The call that changed Henry's life came in the middle of a business meeting in early June 2020. He ignored it, at first. But his phone kept going off, and finally a friend texted — you might want to pick up.

On the line was Clark Mercer, the chief of staff for then-Gov. Ralph Northam, with a wild proposition: Would Henry's construction company be willing to oversee the dismantling of the giant statue of Lee on state-owned property along Monument Avenue?

Such a thing was nowhere on Henry's radar screen. His

company was experienced at building things, and at preparing sites for construction.

Outside of work, though, change was in the air. Partly in reaction to the deadly Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville in 2017, the General Assembly had passed a bill early in 2020 to allow localities to take down Confederate statues. That May, the murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis police touched off nationwide racial justice protests that in Richmond focused on Monument Avenue and its iconic memorials.

Northam, a Democrat, decided it was time to act. Protesters and police were clashing every night. He wanted to move fast.

Henry never paid much attention to Confederate monuments. Growing up in Hampton and Newport News, he went to Robert E. Lee Elementary School, but



The Washington Post (2022)

**Devon Henry observes a statue of Confederate Gen. A.P. Hill after it was removed from its pedestal in Richmond, Va., on Dec. 12. It was the last major Confederate statue to be removed.**

the name meant little to him. There were bigger concerns.

His mother had been only 16 when Henry was born in Lumberton, North Carolina. She moved to Hampton Roads and took up work in McDonald's restaurants to support herself and her

baby. At 14, Devon began taking shifts at McDonald's as well.

He got good grades in school and developed an ambition to be a doctor. But after majoring in biology at Norfolk State, Henry found himself drawn to business. After college, he got into

the corporate leadership program at General Electric, and the company paid for him to get a master's degree as he worked in its infrastructure division. He immersed himself in biographies of business leaders — such as Ray Kroc of McDon-

ald's. His mother, meanwhile, had taken advantage of training programs at McDonald's, climbed the ladder and then — by the time Henry was grown — became a franchisee. She wound up owning five restaurants in the Richmond area.

Her example of hard work pushed Henry. When he learned of a small construction business going up for sale in the city of Suffolk, he made a snap decision to leave G.E. and put all his savings into buying it. Henry and his wife commuted 90 minutes every day from Richmond to Suffolk — in separate cars so one could get back and pick up their daughter from school.

Over time, Henry expanded the business and

relocated it closer to home. He always tried to be socially conscious, becoming a Federal Emergency Management Agency contractor to help people in need. But in early 2020, one particular job transformed his outlook about what was possible: Team Henry was the general contractor for construction of the Memorial to Enslaved Laborers at the University of Virginia.

“It was and is still today our most meaningful project,” Henry said. Winning that job “wasn't about the money. It was about the meaning and the response that it would have. Giving voice to the voiceless.”

So when Mercer called to pitch him on taking down a Confederate monument, Henry viewed it differently than he might have before.

He immediately went home and rounded up his wife and teenage daughter and son. He explained that he had an opportunity that would be somewhat controversial, and described it. “My son was like, ‘Well, Dad, See STATUES, 30A

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**Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) on the expansion and consolidation of the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) Military Information Support Operations (MISO), MacDill Air Force Base (AFB), Florida**

The U.S. Air Force (USAF) invites public review and comment on a USAF Environmental Impact Analysis Process (EIAP) document for the following project at MacDill AFB: the construction of a permanent USSOCOM facility to accommodate approximately 850 MISO personnel currently housed in other facilities at MacDill AFB, Florida.

The USAF invites public participation through the solicitation of comments on the Draft SEA. Comments are invited and will be accepted for 30 days from the publication of this notice. The Draft SEA is available on the MacDill AFB public web site, <http://www.macdill.af.mil/> and a hard copy is available at the following local library:

**John F. Germany Public Library (Tampa/Hillsborough County)**  
900 N. Ashley Drive  
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Provide written comments to 6 ARW Public Affairs, 8209 Hangar Loop Drive, Suite 14, MacDill AFB, FL 33621-5502, or via email to [6.arw.pa@us.af.mil](mailto:6.arw.pa@us.af.mil), no later than February 7, 2023. The contact telephone number is (813) 828-2215.

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**Tampa Bay Times**  
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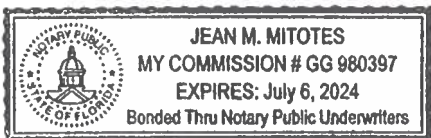
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