

File 17  
EA



# Environmental Impact Analysis Process

Environmental Assessment for  
Pave Parking Area at the East Entrance to  
Columbus Air Force Base

United States Air Force  
Air Education and Training Command  
Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi

August 2003

| Report Documentation Page                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                    |                                     |                                                           | Form Approved<br>OMB No. 0704-0188                  |                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Public reporting burden for the collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington VA 22202-4302. Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to a penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number. |                                    |                                     |                                                           |                                                     |                                 |
| 1. REPORT DATE<br><b>AUG 2003</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                    | 2. REPORT TYPE                      |                                                           | 3. DATES COVERED<br><b>00-00-2003 to 00-00-2003</b> |                                 |
| 4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE<br><b>Environmental Assessment for Pave Parking Area at the East Entrance to Columbus Air Force Base</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                    |                                     |                                                           | 5a. CONTRACT NUMBER                                 |                                 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                    |                                     |                                                           | 5b. GRANT NUMBER                                    |                                 |
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| 6. AUTHOR(S)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                    |                                     |                                                           | 5d. PROJECT NUMBER                                  |                                 |
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| 7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)<br><b>14th Flying Training Wing, 555 Simler Blvd Ste 102, Columbus AFB, MS, 39701</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                    |                                     |                                                           | 8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER            |                                 |
| 9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                    |                                     |                                                           | 10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)                    |                                 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                    |                                     |                                                           | 11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)              |                                 |
| 12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT<br><b>Approved for public release; distribution unlimited</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                    |                                     |                                                           |                                                     |                                 |
| 13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                    |                                     |                                                           |                                                     |                                 |
| 14. ABSTRACT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                    |                                     |                                                           |                                                     |                                 |
| 15. SUBJECT TERMS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                    |                                     |                                                           |                                                     |                                 |
| 16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                    |                                     | 17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT<br><b>Same as Report (SAR)</b> | 18. NUMBER OF PAGES<br><b>27</b>                    | 19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON |
| a. REPORT<br><b>unclassified</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | b. ABSTRACT<br><b>unclassified</b> | c. THIS PAGE<br><b>unclassified</b> |                                                           |                                                     |                                 |

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)

COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE

Name of Action: Pave parking area at the east entrance to Columbus Air Force Base (AFB).

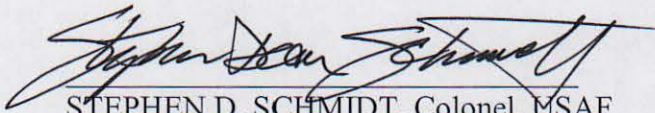
Proposed Action: Columbus AFB proposes to pave a parking area around the entry control facility located northeast of Highway 786 at the East Gate (main) entry.

The paving of the parking area assessed one other potential alternative. Alternative 1: The no-action alternative.

Alternative 1: The no-action alternative was not selected because it would not keep vehicles from causing congestion at the gate entrance while waiting for security clearance.

Anticipated Environmental Effects: The proposed action would require disturbing only the grass area to the southeast and northeast of the current entry control facility.

Conclusion: This is a minimal disturbance activity. An environmental impact statement is not required. A Finding of No Significant Impact is justified.



STEPHEN D. SCHMIDT, Colonel, USAF  
Commander, 14th Flying Training Wing

13 Aug 03  
Date

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

### PAVE PARKING AREA AT THE EAST ENTRANCE TO COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE

#### COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE, MISSISSIPPI

#### 1. Purpose of and Need for the Proposed Action

14th Security Forces Squadron (SFS) proposes paving a parking area at the entry control facility at the east (main) entrance to the base. The purpose of the parking area would be to provide an area for vehicles to park while waiting for security inspections and/or security clearance. The paved area would also provide a paved area for vehicles lacking proper clearance to be turned around before passing through the identification checkpoint

#### 2. Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives

Proposed Action: The proposed action would be to pave an area approximately 43,500 square feet, around the entry control facility northeast of Highway 786. The parking area would begin as a drive along the northwest side of the entry control facility and continue around the building on the northern side increasing in width and terminating along Hwy 786. This area is currently grass covered (Attachment 1).

Alternative 1: No-action alternative

#### 3. Affected Environment

Columbus AFB is located approximately 10 miles northwest of the city of Columbus in Lowndes County, Mississippi. The installation size is approximately 4,903 acres. The Tombigbee River is located northwest and the Buttahatchee River is immediately north of the installation. Single homes and mobile home communities are immediately east of the base. The community of Kolola Springs is located to the northeast, U.S. Highway 45 to the east and southeast, Oakdale Park subdivision to the south and mobile home parks to the south and southwest. The area to the west is undeveloped woodland. The affected environment includes Columbus AFB and the above-described surrounding properties. The baseline affected environment for the proposed action at Columbus AFB is described as follows:

##### a. Military Mission

The 14th Flying Training Wing (FTW) is the host unit at Columbus AFB and reports to the Air Education and Training Command (AETC). The wing conducts Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training. Additionally, the wing provides administrative, medical and logistical support for assigned personnel as well as tenant agencies associated with Columbus AFB to include military retirees and their families. The organizational structure of the 14th FTW consists of the 14th Operations Group, the 14th Medical Group, the 14th Mission Support Group, and the 14th Maintenance Group.

b. Land Use

The proposed construction site is a grass-covered area located adjacent to Highway 786 extending around the entry control facility (see Attachment 1).

c. Water Quality

Storm Water

Storm water from the base property is directed through the base storm sewer system, to the unnamed tributary that flows into Stinson Creek on the southern part of the base and into the Buttahatchee River on the northern part of the base.

d. Air Quality

The proposed construction site occurs in an area with air quality designated as being in attainment, meaning the concentration of criteria air pollutants in the atmosphere do not exceed primary or secondary National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

e. Noise

The primary noise source at Columbus AFB is from aircraft operations. Aircraft activities include pilot training, aircraft maintenance, and transient military aircraft operations. During periods of no flying activity at Columbus AFB, noise results primarily from aircraft maintenance and shop operations, ground traffic movement, occasional construction and similar sources. This noise is almost entirely restricted to the base itself and is comparable to sounds that occur in typical communities. Baseline noise conditions from aircraft operations at Columbus AFB were defined using the Air Force-developed NOISEMAP (Version 6.5) modeling program. This model indicates the proposed action would occur within the 75-80 decibel (dBA) noise contours for Columbus AFB (USAF, 1998).

f. Prehistoric and Historical Sites

Columbus AFB does not have any known cultural or archaeological resources.

g. Permits required

A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan from Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) is required for projects disturbing more than 1 acre. All construction projects must follow MDEQ Phase II stormwater regulations.

h. Hazardous material

Hazardous materials and usages are reported to 14 CES/CEVP, Hazardous Materials Management Process office in accordance with Air Force Instruction (AFI) 32-7086, *HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT*.

i. Soils

Columbus AFB soils are moderately well to poorly drained silt and clay loams of the Prentiss Rosella Steens and Cahaba Prentiss Guyton associations. These soils are characteristic of river terrace and floodplain deposits.

j. Wetlands

Columbus AFB has 181.24 acres of delineated wetlands. Construction in any wetlands area would require a section 404 permit from the US Army Corps of Engineers.

k. Wildlife

Columbus AFB contains woodland and grassland vegetative communities that provide habitat for a variety of wildlife species. Confirmed mammal species observed on the base include gray squirrel, southern flying squirrel, swamp rabbit, white-tailed deer, bats, and rodents. Bird species common to lowland areas of the base include red-shouldered hawk, Cooper's hawk, rock dove, Carolina wren, and wood duck. A 1993 Nature Conservancy field survey found no endangered, threatened, or special status species on the base.

l. Vegetation

The grass species at the proposed site include plumbgrass, switchgrass, beggartick, tickclover and centipede grass (USAF, 1998), none of which are endangered.

4. Impacts of Proposed Action and Alternatives

a. Military Mission

Proposed Action: The proposed action would have a positive impact on Columbus AFB military flying mission. The parking area would enable security forces personnel to inspect and monitor incoming vehicles in an area that will remove them from the main traffic flow. This will allow authorized personnel to enter the gate while other vehicles are being inspected.

Alternative 1: The no-action alternative would have a negative effect on Columbus AFB flying mission. There will continue to be traffic congestion at the gate which can cause problems of entry for authorized personnel.

b. Land Use

Proposed Action: The proposed action would not have a significant impact on land use; land would be converted from a grass field at a previously disturbed area to a paved parking area.

Alternative 1: This alternative would have no impact on land use.

c. Water Quality

Storm Water

Proposed Action: The proposed action would have a minimal impact on installation water quality as a grassy area would be converted to a parking area. The runoff would be directed into a delineated wetland and would have the potential of containing petroleum products and other materials from parked vehicles using the parking area. Any spills occurring in the parking area would be responded to in accordance with the base Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan, Base Wide Facilities. Runoff during construction would be controlled by the use of "Best Management Practices" as directed by the state of Mississippi.

Alternative 1: This alternative would not have an impact on water quality. The site currently discharges runoff into the adjacent wetland.

d. Air Quality

Proposed Action: The proposed action would have a minimal negative effect on installation air quality. There would be an increase in emissions during construction from construction equipment.

Alternative 1: This alternative would have no impact on air quality.

e. Noise

Proposed Action: Noise levels would increase during construction activities. The construction should take approximately 60 days to complete. These noise conditions could increase to 85 dBA within 50 feet of the site. This would result from the cumulative effects of nearby aircraft and construction machinery (USAF, 1998). These noise events would not adversely affect on or off base residences or businesses and would be of limited duration.

Alternative 1: This alternative would have no effects on noise levels.

f. Prehistoric and Historical Sites

Proposed Action: The proposed action would not have an effect on prehistoric or historical sites on base. However, if any archaeological resources are uncovered or noticed during site preparation activities, all activities at the site would be halted and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History would be contacted for instructions.

Alternative 1: This alternative would have no effect on prehistoric and historical sites.

g. Permits required

Proposed Action: Prior to construction, a Notice Of Intent and a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan would be completed and must be maintained on site or locally available to inspectors from the State of Mississippi, Department of Environmental Quality. This is required for land disturbances of one to five acres.

Alternative 1: A storm water permit would not be required.

h. Hazardous Materials

Proposed action: Hazardous materials used in construction would consist of asphalt, concrete and associated petroleum products. The hazardous materials used during construction would be managed in accordance with Columbus AFB's Hazardous Materials Management Program and in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal laws and guidelines. The hazardous materials used during construction would be reported to the base hazardous materials manager for tracking and reporting performed under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 355.

Alternative 1: This alternative would not affect hazardous materials.

i. Soils

Proposed Action: There would be moderate changes to soil at the proposed construction site. This project occurs in an area that has been disturbed and modified by prior construction. Earthwork including removing topsoil, an addition of fill material to meet the compaction requirements of the parking area and utility trenching would be planned and conducted in such a manner to minimize the duration of exposure of unprotected soils.

Alternative 1: This alternative would not affect soils.

j. Wetlands

Proposed Action: This alternative would be located in an area adjacent to a delineated wetland, however would not require construction in the wetland.

k. Alternative 1: This alternative would have no effect on wetlands.

l. Wildlife

Proposed Action: There would be no changes to current wildlife populations. The area of construction would have no effect on wildlife habitat.

Alternative 1: There would be no changes to current wildlife populations.

m. Vegetation

Proposed Action: There would be changes to current vegetation. Grass in the area of the construction would be removed and be replaced by asphalt.

Alternative 1: This alternative would have no effect on vegetation.

5. Cumulative Impacts

The proposed activity would be coordinated with other installation activities and would occur within the constraints of the Columbus AFB military mission. IDIQ (Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity) paving projects for the overlay of taxiway A, and repair of joints at taxiways H and K will be under construction during this action. Temporary negative effects related to traffic, noise, dust, and vehicle emissions associated with the proposed action would combine with the traffic, noise, dust and vehicle emissions generated by all ongoing construction projects. No significant negative cumulative impacts are anticipated.

6. Conclusion

The proposed activity would be coordinated with other installation activities and would occur within the constraints of the Columbus AFB military mission. The proposed action would result in an area to park vehicles by removing them from the highway thus reducing congestion at the gate entrance.

Based on the review of the facts and analysis contained in the environmental assessment, I conclude the Proposed Action will not have a significant impact either by itself or considering cumulative impacts. The action would result in a Finding of No Significant Impact. Accordingly, the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act, regulations promulgated by the President's Council on Environmental Quality, and 32 Code of Federal Regulations 989 (Environmental Impact Analysis Process) have been fulfilled, and an Environmental Impact Statement is not required and will not be prepared.

## Summary of Findings

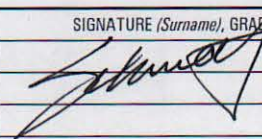
|                                           | Proposed Site                                    | No-Action Alternative |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Land Use</b>                           | Minimal                                          | None                  |
| <b>Water Quality</b>                      | Minimal                                          | None                  |
| <b>Air Quality</b>                        | Deminimis during construction and continued use. | None                  |
| <b>Noise</b>                              | Increase Temporarily                             | None                  |
| <b>Prehistoric &amp; Historical Sites</b> | N/A                                              | None                  |
| <b>Permits Required</b>                   | NPDES permit Required                            | None                  |
| <b>Hazardous Material</b>                 | Yes<br>Used during construction                  | None                  |
| <b>Soils</b>                              | None                                             | None                  |
| <b>Wetlands</b>                           | None                                             | None                  |
| <b>Wildlife</b>                           | None                                             | None                  |
| <b>Vegetation</b>                         | Minimal                                          | None                  |

Appendix A

Interagency Correspondence

FTW 6940

STAFF SUMMARY SHEET

|   | TO         | ACTION | SIGNATURE (Surname), GRADE AND DATE        |    | TO        | ACTION | SIGNATURE (Surname), GRADE AND DATE                                                 |
|---|------------|--------|--------------------------------------------|----|-----------|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | 14 MSG/CCE | Coord  | 8/7 "corrections"<br>Andrews, Lt, 8 Aug 03 | 6  | 14 FTW/CC | Sign   |  |
| 2 | 14 MSG/CD  | Coord  | Sherman LTCOL 8 Aug                        | 7  |           |        |                                                                                     |
| 3 | 14 MSG/CC  | Coord  | J Col 8 Aug                                | 8  |           |        |                                                                                     |
| 4 | 14 FTW/CCE | Coord  | W. A. M. J. 13                             | 9  |           |        |                                                                                     |
| 5 | 14 FTW/CV  | Coord  | Kenneth Johnson<br>(14)                    | 10 |           |        |                                                                                     |

TP  
12

|                                     |                               |       |                   |               |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|-------------------|---------------|
| SURNAME OF ACTION OFFICER AND GRADE | SYMBOL                        | PHONE | TYPIST'S INITIALS | SUSPENSE DATE |
| Lockhart, Civ                       | 14 CES/CEVN<br>(Star Digital) | 3130  | fdl               |               |

|                                                                                              |             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| SUBJECT                                                                                      | DATE        |
| Environmental Assessment (EA) to Clean and Stabilize Ditches at the Golf Course and C Street | AUG 06 2003 |

SUMMARY

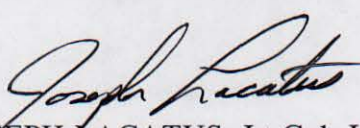
1. PURPOSE: Obtain 14FTW/CC signature on the finding of no significant impact (FONSI) to clean and stabilize ditches at the golf course and C Street.

2. BACKGROUND: 14 CES/CEO proposes to clean and stabilize ditches at the golf course and C Street. The cleaning and stabilization is necessary due to erosion and collection of sediment. The erosion has taken place at the culvert and bridge locations. If the erosion were allowed to continue the areas would become a potential safety hazard.

3. The EA determined that there are no significant impacts concerning the cleaning and stabilization of the ditches, therefore a FONSI is warranted.

4. The EA and FONSI have been on public review required by AFI 32-7061, The Environmental Impact Analysis Process. The public review generated one comment. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recommended a bald eagle nesting site survey of the project area. The survey found no potential nesting sites within the project area. The EA and FONSI were coordinated through the Environmental Protection Committee (EPC)(Tab 3). The EPC generated no comments.

5. RECOMMENDATION: 14 FTW/CC sign the FONSI at Tab 1.

  
JOSEPH LACATUS, Lt Col, USAF  
Commander, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron

- 3 Tabs
- 1. FONSI
- 2. Environmental Assessment
- 3. EPC coordination Staff Summary Sheets



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS 14TH FLYING TRAINING WING  
COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE MISSISSIPPI

24 June 03

Mr. Michael F. Smith, REM  
Chief, Environmental Flight  
555 Simler Boulevard, Suite 108  
Columbus AFB MS 39710-6010

Ms. Mildred Tharpe  
State Clearinghouse for Federal Programs  
1301 Woolfolk Bldg, Suite E  
501 North West St.  
Jackson MS 39213

Dear Ms. Tharpe

The 14th Flying Training Wing at Columbus Air Force Base is preparing an environmental assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 for the proposed entry control parking area. This action is necessary to enable the base to accomplish its mission requirements.

The purposed action is to pave a parking area at the Entry Control Facility located at the Highway 786 entrance. This parking area is necessary for the inspection of incoming trucks and selected automobiles prior to entry to the base. The proposed location is identified on the attached map.

To assist with this EA, please advise us if there are any state resources known to exist in the area of the base in which the construction project would occur. Please provide your response by 24 July 03.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter. If there are any questions, please contact Mr. Frank Lockhart, 14 CES/CEVN (Star Digital), (662) 434-3130.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Michael F. Smith", is written over a horizontal line.

MICHAEL F. SMITH, REM

EO 12372  
WEEKLY LOG  
PGM=N150

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE FOR FEDERAL PROGRAMS

DATE 06/26/03  
07/07/03

MS APPLICANT NO.: MS030630-005  
IMPACT AREA(S): LOWNDES

APPLICANT:  
COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE  
14TH FLYING TRAINING WING  
555 SIMLER BLVD., SUITE 108  
COLUMBUS AFB MS 39710-6010

FEDERAL AGENCY: DEPARTMENT OF AIR FORCE

FUNDING: FEDERAL  
LOCAL  
TOTAL

APPLICANT  
OTHER

STATE  
PROGRAM

DESCRIPTION: THE 14TH FLYING TRAINING WING IS PREPARING AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR PAVING A PARKING AREA AT THE ENTRY CONTROL FACILITY LOCATED AT THE HIGHWAY 786 ENTRANCE. THIS PARKING AREA IS NECESSARY FOR INSPECTION OF INCOMING TRUCKS AND SELECTED AUTOMOBILES PRIOR TO ENTRY TO THE BASE.  
CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER

---

1301 WOOLFOLK BLDG., SUITE E - JACKSON, MS 39201 (601) 359-6762

- THIS IS AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT ONLY -

STATE AGENCIES MUST REVIEW CERTAIN PROPOSALS PRIOR TO RECEIVING MISSISSIPPI INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS CLEARANCE. THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY REVIEWS ANY PROPOSALS INVOLVING CONSTRUCTION, SUCH AS A HIGHWAY OR AN APARTMENT COMPLEX FOR COMPLIANCE WITH CULTURAL RESOURCES AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION. MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL, REVIEWS APPLICATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT. THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES REVIEWS APPLICATIONS FOR CONSISTENCY WITH THE COASTAL PROGRAM.

IF APPLICATIONS ARE FOR PROJECTS OF LOCAL IMPACT, THEY SHOULD BE SENT TO THE APPROPRIATE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AT THE SAME TIME. PLEASE NOTE THAT ONE OF OUR REQUIREMENTS IS THE USE OF STANDARD FORM 424. THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION PREPARES AND DISTRIBUTES A WEEKLY LOG LISTING PERTINENT INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS FORM. OUR ADDRESS IS 1301 WOOLFOLK BLDG., SUITE E - JACKSON, MS 39201 AND OUR PHONE NUMBER IS (601)359-6762.



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS 14TH FLYING TRAINING WING  
COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE MISSISSIPPI

24 June 03

Mr. Michael F. Smith, REM  
Chief, Environmental Flight  
555 Simler Boulevard, Suite 108  
Columbus AFB MS 39710-6010

Ms. Kathy Lunceford  
Vicksburg Ecological Service  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
6578 Dogwood View Parkway, Suite A  
Jackson MS 39213

Dear Ms. Lunceford

The 14th Flying Training Wing at Columbus Air Force Base (AFB) is preparing an environmental assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 for the proposed entry control parking area.

The purposed action is to pave a parking area at the Entry Control Facility located at the Highway 786 entrance. This parking area is necessary for the inspection of incoming trucks and selected automobiles prior to entry to the base. The proposed location is identified on the attached map.

To assist with this EA, please advise us if there are any threatened or endangered bird and/or mammal species known to exist in the area of the base in which the construction project would occur. Please provide your response by 24 July 03.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter. If there are any questions, please contact Mr. Frank Lockhart, 14 CES/CEVN (Star Digital) at (662) 434-3130.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael F. Smith", is written over the typed name.

MICHAEL F. SMITH, REM



# United States Department of the Interior

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Mississippi Field Office  
6578 Dogwood View Parkway, Suite A  
Jackson, Mississippi 39213

June 30, 2003

Mr. Michael F. Smith  
Columbus Air Force Base  
555 Simler Boulevard, Suite 108  
Columbus AFB, Mississippi 39710-6010

Dear Mr. Smith:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has received your letters dated June 23 and June 24, 2003, regarding construction of a parking pad and the clean out of several ditches on the Columbus Air Force Base (CAFB), Lowndes County, Mississippi. Our comments are submitted in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661-667e), and the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Six federally listed mussel species are found adjacent to CAFB in the Buttahatchie River: the endangered heavy pigtoe mussel (*Pleurobema taitianum*), the endangered southern combshell mussel (*Pleurobema penita*), the endangered southern clubshell mussel (*Pleurobema decisum*), the endangered ovate clubshell mussel (*Pleurobema perovatum*), the threatened orange-nacre mucket (*Lampsilis perovalis*), and the threatened Alabama moccasinshell mussel (*Medionidus acutissimus*). All of the listed species require clean, swiftly moving waters with pools and riffles. Previous activities in the Buttahatchie River watershed have created bank sloughing, stream captures, increased water turbidity, and decreased flows. Additional work activities that increase sedimentation and water turbidity could have adverse impacts on these species.

Also, the threatened bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) could be found in the general vicinity of the proposed project. The bald eagle is the only species of "sea eagle" regularly occurring on the North American continent. The bald eagle is predominantly a winter migrant in the southeast; however, increasing occurrences of nesting have been observed. The bald eagle nests in the transitional area between forest and water. Their nests are constructed in dominant living pines or bald cypress trees. Eagles often use alternate nests in different years with nesting activity occurring between September and January of each year. Young are usually fledged by mid-summer.

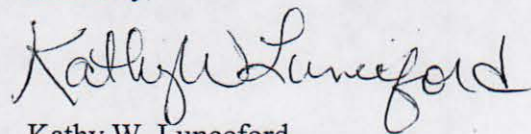
The bald eagle is very sensitive to human disturbance, especially during the courtship, mating, and nesting season. Therefore, the Service recommends a survey for bald eagle nests and activity within 1500 feet of each of the proposed project sites. If any evidence of the bald eagle is found,

please contact this office.

In addition, the sites may contain wetlands. Therefore, a Department of the Army (DA) permit for deposition of fill or dredged material in a wetland, or excavation in a wetland may be necessary. Please contact the Mobile District Corps of Engineers regarding the need for a DA permit, telephone: (251) 694-3781.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact this office, telephone: (601) 321-1132.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kathy W. Lunceford". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Kathy W. Lunceford

Mississippi Environmental Coordinator



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS 14TH FLYING TRAINING WING  
COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE MISSISSIPPI

29 Jul 03

MEMORANDUM FOR MS. KATHY LUNCEFORD

FROM: 14 CES/CEVN  
555 Simler Boulevard, Suite 108  
Columbus AFB MS 39710-6010

SUBJECT: Nesting Eagle Habitat Survey (Your Memo, 30 Jun 03)

The Columbus Air Force Base (AFB) Wildlife Biologist administered a tree survey on Columbus AFB for the construction of a parking pad around the new visitor's center outside the East (front) gate and the cleanout of several ditches along C Street. The survey was done in a 1,500 foot radius from each site and consists of commercial forest stands 5 through 9, as well as additional surrounding areas shown on the attached map.

A complete walk around survey of the sites indicated no signs of nesting eagles or habitat suitable for nesting eagles. The trees consist of pine and hardwood species, are of uniform heights (no isolated, taller trees) and, are not in close proximity to large water bodies (approximately a two mile distance). Additionally, a portion of the site survey is associated with urban areas, which will discourage nesting bald eagles. Please call me with any questions or comments at 434-7958.

*Sarah J. Fafinski*  
SARAH J. FAFINSKI  
Natural Resources Manager

Appendix B

Air Force Form 813

Air Force Form 332

Department of Defense Form 1391

## REQUEST FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

Report Control Symbol

RCS: 03-15

INSTRUCTIONS: Section I to be completed by Proponent; Sections II and III to be completed by Environmental Planning Function. Continue on separate sheets as necessary. Reference appropriate item number(s).

## SECTION I - PROPONENT INFORMATION

1. TO (Environmental Planning Function)

14 CES/CEV

2. FROM (Proponent organization and functional address symbol)

14 SFS

2a. TELEPHONE NO.

3. TITLE OF PROPOSED ACTION

Pave Entry Control Parking Area Main Gate

4. PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION (Identify decision to be made and need date)

The purpose of this project is to construct a 43,500 SF asphalt commercial vehicle inspection lot adjacent to the main base entrance and Visitor Center.

5. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES (DOPAA) (Provide sufficient details for evaluation of the total action.)

See page 2

6. PROPONENT APPROVAL (Name and Grade)

LEONARD R. GRASSLEY, Major, USAF  
Commander, 14th Security Forces Squadron

6a. SIGNATURE

FOR THE COMMANDER  
*[Signature]* ops officer

6b. DATE

20030325

SECTION II - PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY. (Check appropriate box and describe potential environmental effects including cumulative effects.) (+ = positive effect; 0 = no effect; - = adverse effect; U = unknown effect)

+ 0 - U

7. AIR INSTALLATION COMPATIBLE USE ZONE/LAND USE (Noise, accident potential, encroachment, etc.)

8. AIR QUALITY (Emissions, attainment status, state implementation plan, etc.)

9. WATER RESOURCES (Quality, quantity, source, etc.)

10. SAFETY AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH (Asbestos/radiation/chemical exposure, explosives safety quantity-distance, bird/wildlife aircraft hazard, etc.)

11. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS/WASTE (Use/storage/generation, solid waste, etc.)

12. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (Wetlands/floodplains, threatened or endangered species, etc.)

13. CULTURAL RESOURCES (Native American burial sites, archaeological, historical, etc.)

14. GEOLOGY AND SOILS (Topography, minerals, geothermal, Installation Restoration Program, seismicity, etc.)

15. SOCIOECONOMIC (Employment/population projections, school and local fiscal impacts, etc.)

16. OTHER (Potential impacts not addressed above.)

## SECTION III - ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS DETERMINATION

17. ☒ PROPOSED ACTION QUALIFIES FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CATEX) # \_\_\_\_\_ ; OR  
☐ PROPOSED ACTION DOES NOT QUALIFY FOR A CATEX; FURTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS IS REQUIRED.

18. REMARKS

Columbus Air Force Base is located in an area that is in attainment; therefore, a conformity determination is not required.

19. ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING FUNCTION CERTIFICATION (Name and Grade)

MICHAEL F. SMITH, REM  
Chief, Environmental Flight

19a. SIGNATURE

*[Signature]*

19b. DATE

10 Jun 03

Continuation from page 1 block 5.

PROJECT: Pave Entry Control Parking Area Main gate

REQUIREMENT: 43,500 SF ADEQUATE: 0 SUBSTANDARD: 43,500 SF

Paved parking area to perform entry inspection on selected automobiles and all incoming trucks. The current design for this project will not encroach the wetlands as depicted on the attached drawing.

CURRENT SITUATION: Security Forces (SF) inspect all commercial vehicle at the main base entrance. The increased threat potential worldwide has magnified a serious problem. Currently, all vehicles queue in two lanes approaching the main base entrance. Commercial vehicles are directed to a pull-out directly inside the installation, next to the primary roadway, where they are inspected. There is a potential for an explosive-laden commercial vehicle to rool directly to the main entrance, or the inspection pull-out, and detonate. The result would be devastating to personnel and SF faciltils and could produce a significant breech in the installation perimeter. Secondly, commercial traffic mixed in the flow of normal traffic caused congestion and traffic flow problems in an area that is typically at a high volume.

IMPACT IF NOT PROVIDED: If this project is not accomplished, current and future threat potential will continue at the main entrance to the base. Personnel, facilities, and the installation's security will continue to be compormised until commercial vehicle inspection is diverted to a location that is less vulnerable. Trucks backed up on the Defense Access Road to the base main entrance point will hinder entry of authorized vehicles.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                    |                                                               |                                            |          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. COMPONENT<br>AIR FORCE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | FY 2003 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT DATA<br>(computer generated) |                                                               |                                            | 2. DATE  |
| 3. INSTALLATION AND LOCATION<br>COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE, MISSISSIPPI                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                    | 4. PROJECT TITLE<br>PAVE ENTRY CONTROL PARKING AREA MAIN GATE |                                            |          |
| 5. PROGRAM ELEMENT<br>85976                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 6. CATEGORY CODE<br>852-262                                        | 7. PROJECT NUMBER<br>EEPZ022003J                              | 8. PROJECT COST (\$000)<br>EEIC 529<br>450 |          |
| 9. COST ESTIMATES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                    |                                                               |                                            |          |
| ITEM                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                    | U/M                                                           | QUANTITY                                   | COST     |
| ENTRY CONTROL PARKING LOT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                    | LS                                                            |                                            | 360.0    |
| PAVEMENTS AND CANOPY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                    | LS                                                            |                                            | ( 360.0) |
| SUPPORTING FACILITIES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                    |                                                               |                                            | 0.0      |
| SUBTOTAL                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                    |                                                               |                                            | 360.0    |
| PROFIT AND OVERHEAD ( 25 %)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                    |                                                               |                                            | 90.0     |
| TOTAL FUNDED COST                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                    |                                                               |                                            | 450.0    |
| UNFUNDED COST ( 8 %)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                    |                                                               |                                            | 36.0     |
| TOTAL REQUEST                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                    |                                                               |                                            | 486.0    |
| <p>10. Description of Proposed Construction: Construct a 43,500 SF asphalt commercial vehicle inspection lot adjacent to main base entrance and Entry Control Center. Inspection lot will include a vehicle inspection canopy, paved turnout road for vehicles denied access, access and egress roads leading to and from inspection lot to primary roadway</p> <p>11. Requirement: As required.</p> <p><u>PROJECT:</u> Construct a 43,500 SF entry control parking area at main gate.</p> <p><u>REQUIREMENT:</u> Paved parking area to perform entry inspection on selected automobiles and all incoming trucks.</p> <p><u>CURRENT SITUATION:</u> Security Forces (SF) inspect all commercial vehicle at the main base entrance. The increased threat potential worldwide has magnified a serious problem. Currently, all vehicles queue in two lanes approaching the main base entrance. Commercial vehicles are directed to a pull-out directly inside the installation, next to the primary roadway, where they are inspected. There is a potential for an explosive laden commercial vehicle to roll directly to the main entrance, or the inspection pull-out, and detonate. The result would be devastating to personnel and SF facilities and could produce a significant breach in the installations perimeter. Secondly, commercial traffic mixed in the flow of normal traffic causes congestion and traffic flow problems in an area that is typically at a high vehicle volume. POC: Maj Grassley, DSN 742-7111</p> <p><u>IMPACT IF NOT PROVIDED:</u> If this project is not accomplished, current and future threat potential will continue at the main entrance to the base. Personnel, facilities, and the installations security will continue to be compromised until commercial vehicle inspection is diverted to a location that is less vulnerable. Trucks backed up on the Defense Access Road to the base main entrance point will hinder entry of other authorized vehicles.</p> <p><u>ADDITIONAL:</u> This project will complement EEPZ011023, Construct Entry Control Center, now under construction.</p> |                                                                    |                                                               |                                            |          |

## Active CE Work Order/Request

Page: 1

|                    |              |                           |               |
|--------------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| WO/Request #:      | EEPZ A 73779 | BUILD NEW KENNEL FACILITY | Rec Status: D |
| WO Indicator:      | D DRAFT      | Tracking Location:        | CEC           |
| Work Class:        | Service      | Tracking Status:          | CONTRACT      |
| Labor Code-LUC:    |              | Inst/Facility #:          | EEPZ 02052    |
| AF Account Code:   |              | Requester's Name:         | WILLIAMS      |
| RRI Code:          |              | Organization:             | 14TH SUPPORT  |
| What's Reimb? All: | Mat:         | Office Symbol:            | 14SPS         |
| Lab:               | Contr:       | Telephone Number:         | 7118          |
| Gen/Sen Officer:   | (G/S)        | Facility Manager:         | DUFF CLARENCE |
| Special Interest:  |              | Fac Mgr Orgn:             | 14SPS         |
| Customer Account:  | 302          | Fac Mgr Phone:            | 4347148       |
| Cust/CE Priority:  | /            | Work Location:            | BLDG 2052     |
| Work/Org Priority: | 4 /          | Type of Service:          |               |
| Project Number:    |              | DSW EPS Noun:             |               |
| Infrastruct. Code: |              | EPS TTS Ref #:            |               |
| JOCAS JON:         |              | TTS Est Hours:            | 0.0           |
| Deficiency: Fire   | OSHA         | Travel/Work Zone:         | 1 /           |
| Shops Assigned:    | 0            | DIN Number:               |               |
| UNIQUE 1:          | Other RAC:   | Capitalization:           | N Vouch #:    |

|            |                                                          |                      |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| (1) Keys   | (3) Desc                                                 | (8) Find             |
| (9) Modify |                                                          | (15) Print (16) Retr |
| (17) Menu  | (18) Remrks (19) Logs (20) PvScrn (21) NxScrn (22) Shops | (32) Exit            |

Active CE Work Order/Request DATES (YYYY/MM/DD format)  
WO/Request #: EEPZ A 73779 BUILD NEW KENNEL FACILITY

Page: 3  
Rec Status: D

Estimated Start: Dist: Request taken: 2002/03/25 by: MCJ  
Estimated Complete: Time taken: 8:45  
Required Completion: Last Modified: 2002/03/28 by: MGD  
Adjust Req Complete:

Request Date: 2002/03/25 Request Approved:  
Work order closed: by: Req. Disapproved:  
Work order reopened: by: Appv/Disappv by:  
Labor started: WO Approved: by:  
Labor last charged: Work Authorized: by:

Last mat trans:  
Last shop closed: Moved to History:  
Material complete: To Off-line Hist:

Tracking Suspense: 2002/07/06  
MILCON FY:

First THF Trans:  
First CCX Trans:  
Last CCX Trans:

(1) Keys (3) Desc (8) Find  
(9) Modify (15) Print (16) Retr  
(17) Menu (18) Remrks (19) Logs (20) PvScrn (21) NxScrn (22) Shops (32) Exit

Appendix C

List of Preparers

List of Preparers

| Name           | Degree                                                                  | Professional<br>Discipline | Years of<br>Experience |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Frank Lockhart | B.S., Biological<br>Sciences<br>MEd., Biological<br>Sciences/ Education | Environmental<br>Planner   | 27                     |

Appendix D

Maps

