

# MOB6

KC-46A MAIN OPERATING  
BASE NO.6 BEDDOWN



Final

## Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) KC-46A Main Operating Base #6 (MOB 6) Beddown

*Volume II – Appendices (Appendix A - Part I)*

November 2023



HEADQUARTERS AIR  
MOBILITY COMMAND

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## **Public Involvement and Agency Coordination**



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## Appendix A: Public Involvement and Agency Coordination

### A.1 General Stakeholder Involvement

#### A.1.1 General Stakeholder Contact List

The following is a list by installation of officials, agencies, and interest groups who received notification from the United States Department of the Air Force (DAF) regarding the KC-46A Pegasus (KC-46A) Main Operation Base #6 (MOB 6) Beddown Environmental Impact Statement (EIS; **Table A-1**). U.S. Congressional members were sent notification to both their Washington, D.C. offices and a preferred local office. Some private citizens received notification, but their names are not published in this list.

**Table A-1. KC-46A MOB 6 EIS General Stakeholder Contact List**

Title	Organization/Division	Sub-organization	City	State
<b>MacDill AFB</b>				
Congresswoman	U.S. House of Representatives	14th District	Washington	DC
Senator	U.S. Senate	Florida	Washington	DC
Senator	U.S. Senate	Florida	Washington	DC
Senator	Florida Senate	District 18	Tallahassee	FL
Representative	Florida House of Representatives	District 60	Tallahassee	FL
Governor	State of Florida Governor's Office	--	Tallahassee	FL
Mayor	City of Tampa	--	Tampa	FL
Council Chairman	City of Tampa	City Council	Tampa	FL
Councilmember	City of Tampa	City Council District 4	Tampa	FL
County Administrator	Hillsborough County	--	Tampa	FL
Director	City of Tampa Department of Planning and Development	--	Tampa	FL
Regional Administrator	Federal Aviation Administration	Southern Region	Atlanta	GA
Chief of the NEPA Program Office	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Region 4	Atlanta	GA
Field Supervisor	U.S Fish and Wildlife Service	North Florida Ecological Services Office	Jacksonville	FL
SERO NEPA Coordinator	NOAA Fisheries		St. Petersburg	FL
Florida State Clearinghouse	Florida Department of Environmental Protection	Office of Intergovernmental Programs	Tallahassee	FL
Supervisor of Federal and State Compliance and Review	Florida Division of Historical Resources	Compliance Review Section	Tallahassee	FL
SHPO	Florida Division of Historical Resources	--	Tallahassee	FL

Title	Organization/Division	Sub-organization	City	State
<b>MacDill AFB (continued)</b>				
Secretary of Transportation	Florida Department of Transportation	--	Tallahassee	FL
<b>Fairchild AFB</b>				
Congressman	U.S. House of Representatives	Idaho District 1	Coeur d'Alene	ID
Congresswoman	U.S. House of Representatives	Washington District 5	Washington	DC
Senator	U.S. Senate	Washington	Washington	DC
Senator	U.S. Senate	Washington	Washington	DC
Senator	U.S. Senate	Idaho	Washington	DC
Senator	U.S. Senate	Idaho	Washington	DC
Governor	Washington Governor's Office	--	Olympia	WA
Governor	Idaho Governor's Office	--	Boise	ID
Representative	Washington House of Representatives	District 4	Olympia	WA
Representative	Washington House of Representatives	District 6	Olympia	WA
Representative	Washington House of Representatives	District 3	Olympia	WA
Senator	Washington Senate	District 6	Olympia	WA
Senator	Washington Senate	District 3	Olympia	WA
Senator	Washington Senate	District 4	Olympia	WA
Mayor	City of Spokane Mayor's Office	--	Spokane	WA
--	U.S. Forest Service	Region 6, Pacific Northwest	Portland	OR
NEPA Program Coordinator	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Upper Columbia Fish and Wildlife Office	Spokane Valley	WA
Regional Administrator	Federal Aviation Administration	Northwest Mountain Region	Renton	WA
Representative	Washington Pilots Association	Government Affairs	Spokane	WA
Regional Director	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	--	Spokane Valley	WA
Regional Director	Washington State Department of Ecology	Eastern Region	Spokane	WA
Secretary of Transportation	Washington Department of Transportation	--	Olympia	WA
Executive Director	Idaho Department of Transportation	--	Austin	TX
SHPO	Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation	--	Olympia	WA
Air Quality Engineer	Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency	--	Spokane	WA
--	City of Airway Heights Planning Department	--	Airway Heights	WA
Planning Director	City of Spokane Planning and Development	--	Spokane	WA



Title	Organization/Division	Sub-organization	City	State
<b><i>Fairchild AFB (continued)</i></b>				
Planning Director	City of Coeur d'Alene Planning Commission	--	Coeur d'Alene	ID
City Planner	City of Airway Heights Planning Department	--	Airway Heights	WA
Planning Director	Spokane County Planning Department	Public Works Building and Planning	Spokane	WA
Chief Executive Officer	Spokane Transit Authority	--	Spokane	WA
Executive Officer	Spokane Association of Realtors	--	Spokane	WA
Director	Spokane International Airport	--	Spokane	WA
--	Washington Air National Guard	--	Fairchild AFB	WA
President	Spokane Community College	--	Spokane	WA
Principal	Michael Anderson Elementary School	--	Fairchild AFB	WA
Enrollment Officer	Gonzaga University	--	Spokane	WA
Superintendent	Medical Lake School District	--	Medical Lake	WA
--	Park University of Fairchild AFB	--	Fairchild AFB	WA
<b><i>Both Installations</i></b>				
Administrator	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	--	Washington	DC
Director	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Office of Federal Activities	Washington	DC
Administrator	Federal Aviation Administration	--	Washington	DC
Manager	Federal Aviation Administration	Airport Planning and Environmental Division	Washington	DC
Vice President	Federal Aviation Administration	Mission Support Services	Washington	DC
Manager	Federal Aviation Administration	Airspace Policy Group	Washington	DC

Key: FL = Florida; DC = District of Columbia; GA = Georgia; AFB = Air Force Base; SERO = Southeast Regional Office; NEPA = National Environmental Policy Act; NOAA = National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; SHPO = State Historic Preservation Officer; ID = Idaho; WA = Washington; TX = Texas; OR = Oregon



## A.1.2 Sample General Stakeholder Draft EIS Notification Letter



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS AIR MOBILITY COMMAND**

18 January 2023

Mr. David R. Steele  
Chief, Programs Division  
Directorate of Strategy, Plans, Requirements and Programs  
Headquarters Air Mobility Command  
Scott Air Force Base, IL 62225

Federal, State, and Local Public Agencies  
Interested Parties  
Members of the Public

The Department of the Air Force (DAF) has prepared the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the KC-46A Main Operating Base #6 (MOB 6), in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The following libraries are requested to have this document remain available throughout the 45-day public comment period: Port Tampa City Public Library (4902 W Commerce St, Tampa, FL 33616), John F. Germany Public Library (900 N. Ashley Dr, Tampa, FL 33602), Jan Kaminis Platt Regional Library (3910 S. Manhattan Ave, Tampa, FL 33611), MacDill AFB Library (8102 Condor St, Bldg 252, Tampa, FL 33621), Spokane Central Public Library (906 W Main Ave, Spokane, WA 99201), Airway Heights Library (1213 S. Lundstrom St, Airway Heights, WA 99001), Medical Lake Library (321 E Herb St, Medical Lake, WA 99022), and Fairchild AFB Library (2 W Castle St, Fairchild AFB, WA 99011). This document is also available online at [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com).

Notification of the availability of the Draft EIS will appear in the Federal Register to initiate the public review period. The EIS analyzes alternative installations (MacDill AFB [Alternative 1 – Preferred Alternative] and Fairchild AFB [Alternative 2]) for the MOB 6 beddown, which includes the basing of 24 KC-46A tanker aircraft and the infrastructure, facilities, airfield operations, training activities, personnel, and airspace to support the mission transition between fiscal years 2026 and 2028. Aircraft operations with the KC-46A would be similar to the type and level of intensity of existing KC-135 operations, although the number of annual operations would change depending on the alternative installation selected. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to recapitalize aging tanker aircraft (KC-135 Stratotanker) currently used by the DAF with the KC-46A model to better address future mission requirements, offer expanded capability, and provide life-cycle cost savings in comparison to continued operation of existing KC-135 Stratotankers. The Proposed Action is needed because the KC-46A would provide mission essential capabilities currently lacking in the existing tanker fleet, resulting in a fully capable, combat-operational, tanker force to accomplish aerial refueling and related worldwide missions.

The DAF understands that there is the potential for the MOB 6 beddown to affect environmental resources and the human environment. The Draft EIS analyzes and presents the potential environmental consequences associated with the Proposed Action and Alternatives, including the No Action Alternative. The DAF is consulting with the appropriate resource agencies to determine the potential for significant impacts on cultural and natural resources and





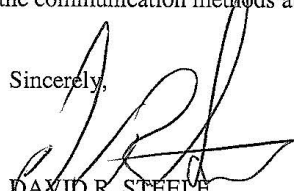
corresponding mitigation measures, if needed. Consultation will continue to be incorporated into the EIS process and includes, but is not limited to, consultation with Federally-Recognized Tribes, consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. It is anticipated that the potentially long-term, major, adverse effects on architectural resources under National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 that would result from Alternative 1 at MacDill AFB could be successfully mitigated in consultation with the Florida State Historic Preservation Office through the development and implementation of a Memorandum of Understanding, and the resulting long-term effects would be reduced to moderate. Therefore, no significant impacts would be expected on any resource area analyzed in the Draft EIS under either alternative. The Final EIS and a Record of Decision on the Proposed Action are expected in Fall 2023. Additional information is also available on the project website at [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com).

The DAF will hold two virtual public hearings on the Draft EIS via internet/phone on March 7, 2023 from 5:30 pm to 8 pm EST to accommodate the public located near the MacDill AFB Alternative and March 9, 2023 from 5:30 pm to 8 pm PST to accommodate the public located near the Fairchild AFB Alternative. The purpose of the hearings is to receive input on the proposed action and alternatives and the Draft EIS analysis. The hearings will also be announced through local media and the project website. Instructions for participating in the virtual public hearing and more information are provided on the project website, [www.kc46mob6eis.com](http://www.kc46mob6eis.com). Links to the on-line virtual public hearings will be provided on the project website allowing interested parties to electronically participate in the public hearings, and a phone number will be provided for those without internet access.

All public, agency, and stakeholder substantive comments provided at the hearings and through written comments received via postal mail, email, and the project website will be considered in the preparation of the Final EIS. To ensure we have sufficient time to consider your input in the Final EIS, please submit comments within 45 days of receipt of this letter.

Additional information can be found on the project website listed above. Comments or questions regarding this project may be directed to the MacDill AFB Public Affairs Office (PAO) via email at [6.arw.pa@us.af.mil](mailto:6.arw.pa@us.af.mil) or the Fairchild AFB PAO via email at [92arw.pa@us.af.mil](mailto:92arw.pa@us.af.mil), including KC-46A MOB 6 EIS in the subject line, or by postal mail via USPS to: AFCEC/CZN, Attn: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS, 2261 Hughes Ave, Suite 155, JBSA Lackland, TX 78236-9853 or via FedEx or UPS to AFCEC/CZN, Attn: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS, Building 1 Bay 8 Room 6009, 3515 South General McMullen, San Antonio, TX 78226-1710. In addition to the availability of the Draft EIS on the public website, digital or hard copy versions of the Draft EIS are available upon request via any of the communication methods above.

Sincerely,

  
DAVID R. STEELE  
GS-15, DAF



### A.1.3 Materials Distribution to Local Libraries

Hard copies of public hearing materials (project flyer, presentation, public hearing process sheet), and hard and CD copies of the Draft EIS were available during the DEIS public review period for public access and review at the following local libraries within each installation community (**Table A-2**).

**Table A-2. Distribution List of Local Libraries**

Library	Address
<b>MacDill AFB</b>	
MacDill AFB Library	8102 Condor St, Bldg 252, Tampa, FL 33621
Jan Kaminis Platt Regional Library	3910 S. Manhattan Ave, Tampa, FL 33611
John F. Germany Public Library	900 N. Ashley Dr, Tampa, FL 33602
Port Tampa City Library	4902 W Commerce St, Tampa, FL 33616
<b>Fairchild AFB</b>	
Fairchild AFB Library	2 W Castle St, Fairchild AFB, WA 99011
Airway Heights Library	1213 S. Lundstrom St, Airway Heights, WA 99001
Medical Lake Library	321 E Herb St, Medical Lake, WA 9902
Spokane Central Public Library	906 W Main Ave, Spokane, WA 99201

## A.1.4 Federal Register Notice of Availability



Federal Register / Vol. 88, No. 28 / Friday, February 10, 2023 / Notices

8843

requirements. No party objected to holding the proceedings in abeyance.

By this notice, the Commission requests comment regarding: (1) whether issues remain outstanding in this proceeding; (2) what those issues are; and (3) whether, if issues remain outstanding, the Commission should continue to hold the complaint in abeyance in light of any ongoing PJM stakeholder proceedings or for other reasons. If there are no further outstanding issues in this proceeding, please explain how each of the issues that were raised in this proceeding have been addressed (e.g., through other filings the Commission has accepted in the interim, etc.). Comments must be submitted on or before 30 days from the date of this notice.

Comments may be filed electronically via the internet.<sup>2</sup> Instructions are available on the Commission's website <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659. Although the Commission strongly encourages electronic filing, documents may also be paper-filed. To paper-file, submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Office of the Secretary, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Office of the Secretary, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

Dated: February 6, 2023.  
**Debbie-Anne A. Reese,**  
*Deputy Secretary.*  
[FR Doc. 2023-02891 Filed 2-9-23; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL OP-OFA-056]

#### Environmental Impact Statements; Notice of Availability

*Responsible Agency:* Office of Federal Activities, General Information 202-564-5632 or <https://www.epa.gov/nepa>. Weekly receipt of Environmental Impact Statements (EIS)

Filed January 30, 2023 10 a.m. EST  
Through February 6, 2023 10 a.m. EST

Pursuant to 40 CFR 1506.9.

*Notice:* Section 309(a) of the Clean Air Act requires that EPA make public its

comments on EISs issued by other Federal agencies. EPA's comment letters on EISs are available at: <https://cdxapps.epa.gov/cdx-enepa-II/public/action/eis/search>.

*EIS No. 20230017, Final Supplement, NRC, WI, NUREG-2183 Supplement 1, Environmental Impact Statement Related to the Operating License for the SHINE Medical Isotope Production Facility—Final Report, Review Period Ends: 03/13/2023, Contact: Lance J Rakovan 301-415-2589.*

*EIS No. 20230018, Final, EPA, LA, Adoption—Proposed Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion Project in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, Contact: Michael Jansky 214-665-7451.*

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has adopted the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Final EIS No. 20220137, filed 9/19/2022 with the Environmental Protection Agency. The EPA was a cooperating agency on this project. Therefore, republication of the document is not necessary under Section 1506.3(b)(2) of the CEQ regulations.

*EIS No. 20230019, Final, DOI, LA, Adoption—Proposed Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion Project in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, Contact: Mary Josie Blanchard 202-208-3406.*

The Department of the Interior (DOI) has adopted the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Final EIS No. 20220137, filed 9/19/2022 with the Environmental Protection Agency. The DOI was a cooperating agency on this project. Therefore, republication of the document is not necessary under Section 1506.3(b)(2) of the CEQ regulations.

*EIS No. 20230020, Final, USDA, LA, Adoption—Proposed Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion Project in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, Contact: Ronald Howard 601-812-9449.*

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has adopted the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Final EIS No. 20220137, filed 9/19/2022 with the Environmental Protection Agency. The USDA was a cooperating agency on this project. Therefore, republication of the document is not necessary under Section 1506.3(b)(2) of the CEQ regulations.

*EIS No. 20230021, Final, NOAA, LA, Adoption—Proposed Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion Project in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, Contact: Mel Landry 301-427-8711.*

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has adopted the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Final EIS No. 20220137, filed 9/19/2022 with the Environmental Protection Agency. The NOAA was a cooperating agency on this project. Therefore, republication of the document is not necessary under Section 1506.3(b)(2) of the CEQ regulations.

*EIS No. 20230022, Draft, FERC, TN, Cumberland Project, Comment Period Ends: 03/27/2023, Contact: Office of External Affairs 866-208-3372.*

*EIS No. 20230023, Final, DOD, AK, Heat and Electrical Upgrades at Fort Wainwright, Alaska, Review Period Ends: 03/13/2023, Contact: Grant Sattler 907-353-6701.*

*EIS No. 20230024, Draft, USAF, FL, KC-46A—Main Operating Base No. 6 Beddown, Comment Period Ends: 03/27/2023, Contact: Helen Kellogg 210-925-7843.*

*EIS No. 20230025, Draft, BIA, ID, Nez Perce Tribe Integrated Resource Management Plan, Comment Period Ends: 04/11/2023, Contact: Tobiah Mogavero 435-210-0509.*

*EIS No. 20230026, Draft Supplement, TVA, AL, Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant Subsequent License Renewal, Comment Period Ends: 03/27/2023, Contact: J Taylor Johnson 423-751-2732.*

#### Amended Notice

*EIS No. 20220185, Draft, NNSA, SC, Surplus Plutonium Disposition Program, Comment Period Ends: 03/16/2023, Contact: Maxcine Maxted 803-952-7434. Revision to FR Notice Published 12/16/2022; Extending the Comment Period from 02/14/2023 to 03/16/2023.*

*EIS No. 20220191, Draft Supplement, USFS, VA, Mountain Valley Pipeline and Equitrans Expansion Project, Comment Period Ends: 02/21/2023, Contact: Joby Timm, Forest Supervisor 888-603-0261. Revision to FR Notice Published 12/23/2022; Extending the Comment Period from 02/06/2023 to 02/21/2023.*

Dated: February 6, 2023.

**Cindy S. Barger,**  
*Director, NEPA Compliance Division, Office of Federal Activities.*

[FR Doc. 2023-02897 Filed 2-9-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P





## A.1.5 Newspaper Notices of Availability

### A.1.5.1 Tampa Bay Times – Hillsborough and Pinellas Sections

34A | Sunday, February 12, 2023 | Tampa Bay Times ★★★★★

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**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS  
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

The U.S. Department of the Air Force invites you to review the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and attend Public Hearings for the Proposed Beddown of KC-46A Tanker Aircraft for Main Operating Base #6

**PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:** Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, the U.S. Department of the Air Force (DAF) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for public review that analyzes the potential environmental consequences associated with the proposed to beddown and replace 1800+ new aerial refueling tankers with the KC-46A Main Operating Base #6 (MOB 6) aircraft and mission at either MacDill Air Force Base (AFB), Florida or at Fairchild AFB, Washington, to include the proposed effect on historic properties. The MOB 6 beddown requires an active duty installation in the continental United States with the aerial refueling tankers and mission to be replaced, as well as the capacity to support KC-46A infrastructure, facilities, skilled operations, training activities, and personnel.

The DAF's Preferred Alternative is to beddown the MOB 6 mission with 24 KC-46A aircraft at MacDill AFB. The EIS also evaluates Fairchild AFB as a reasonable alternative for the MOB 6 beddown, and the No Action Alternative. Depending on the selected installation, the KC-46A would either fully or partially replace the current active duty tanker mission.

**OSTEND AND REVIEW THE DRAFT EIS:** The DAF has initiated a 45-day comment period and invites the public to review and provide comments on the Draft EIS, which is available for download at [www.kc46mob6eas.com](http://www.kc46mob6eas.com) and may also be viewed at the following local libraries:

MacDill AFB Area: Jan Kinnick Point Regional Library (3910 S. Manhattan Ave., Tampa, FL 33611), John F. Germany Public Library (900 N. Ashley Dr., Tampa, FL 33602), Port Tampa City Public Library (4602 W. Commerce St., Tampa, FL 33618), and MacDill AFB Library (8102 Condon St., Bldg 252, Tampa, FL 33621)

Fairchild AFB Area: Airway Heights Library (1213 S. Lundstrom St., Airway Heights, WA 98001), Medical Lake Library (321 E. Hart St., Medical Lake, WA 99022), Spokane Central Public Library (906 W. Main Ave., Spokane, WA 99201), and Fairchild AFB Library (21 W. Castle St., Fairchild AFB, WA 99011)

**VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARINGS - PLEASE ATTEND:** The DAF requests comments from interested local, state, and federal agencies; federally recognized tribes; and interested members of the public. The DAF is holding two virtual public hearings to provide the public with the opportunity to learn more about the proposal, its effect on historic properties, and to provide input (see table below for specific dates and times). Information regarding the impact assessment is accessible via the project website ([www.kc46mob6eas.com](http://www.kc46mob6eas.com)), and a pre-recorded public hearing presentation will be available to access and listen to on the day of the virtual public hearing. A website and phone number to access the online virtual public hearings will be provided via flyers at the specified local libraries and on the project website allowing interested parties to participate in the public hearings either by phone or online. Those without internet access are invited to participate by phone.

One virtual public hearing will be held in the local time of each installation alternative. Each virtual public hearing will begin at 5:30 local time with the DAF giving a brief presentation about the proposal. Formal public testimony will begin at approximately 6 p.m. The hearing venue will close at 8:00 p.m., but may adjourn before 8:00 p.m. upon or after verification that all participants who desire to speak have been heard and there are no more registered speakers. All members of the public are invited and encouraged to attend. Verbal comments will be accepted at the hearings, but you can also submit your comments in writing via email, postal mail, the project website (see details below). Verbal comments will be limited to 3 minutes or less; therefore, the DAF suggests submitting statements of considerable length in writing. Your input is valuable and assists the DAF in making more informed decisions.

To request a CD of the hearing presentation, or if you need a request accommodation to access the printed or audio portion of the presentation or need additional accommodation to make a telephone comment (per the Americans with Disabilities Act), please submit your request at the project website ([www.kc46mob6eas.com](http://www.kc46mob6eas.com)) or contact the MacDill AFB 6 Aerial Refueling Wing (ARW) Public Affairs Office (PAO) by phone (813-428-2215) or email ([6aw.pa@us.af.mil](mailto:6aw.pa@us.af.mil)) or Fairchild AFB PAO by phone (509-247-5705) or email ([62aw.pa@us.af.mil](mailto:62aw.pa@us.af.mil)) no later than one week prior to the virtual hearing date. Dates for each virtual hearing are provided below:

Date	Time	Installation
March 7, 2023	5:30 to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time	MacDill AFB
March 8, 2023	5:30 to 8:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time	Fairchild AFB

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Comments on the Draft EIS can be submitted online at [www.kc46mob6eas.com](http://www.kc46mob6eas.com); verbally at the public hearings; via email to MacDill AFB 6 ARW PAO at [6aw.pa@us.af.mil](mailto:6aw.pa@us.af.mil); SUBJECT: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS, or to Fairchild AFB PAO at [62aw.pa@us.af.mil](mailto:62aw.pa@us.af.mil); SUBJECT: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS, or by postal mail via USPS to AFCEC C2N, ATTN: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS, 2281 Hughes Ave., Suite 155, JBSA Lackland, Texas 78236-8863 or via FedEx or UPS to AFCEC C2N, ATTN: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS, Building 1 Bay 8 Room 8000, 3515 South General Mallman, San Antonio, TX 78228-1710. In order to fully address public comments or concerns, the DAF suggests attendees submit their intention to participate in the public hearing with an indication of which environmental impact(s) they wish to address prior to the hearing via email or phone, though it is not required.

For additional information, or to request hard or CD copies of the Draft EIS, please contact MacDill AFB 6 ARW PAO via the phone, email, or postal mail contact information provided in this notice. Please consider the environment when requesting print materials.

We will accept comments at any time during the environmental process. Written and oral comments will be given equal weight; however, to ensure the DAF has sufficient time to consider public input in preparation of the Final EIS, please submit comments by March 27, 2023.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**FORWARD PINELLAS, THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO) FOR PINELLAS COUNTY**

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING, PUBLIC WORKSHOP AND REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD (LCB) OF THE PINELLAS COUNTY TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED PROGRAM**

Notice is hereby given that the Local Coordinating Board (LCB) will conduct a subcommittee meeting on February 10, 2023 from 1 to 3 p.m., a public hearing/workshop on February 21, 2023 at 8:15 a.m. and a general meeting on February 21, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. to address the regular business of the LCB and the Transportation Disadvantaged Program in Pinellas County.

The Local Coordinating Board (LCB) was established by the Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization and charged with oversight and advisory responsibilities for the Transportation Disadvantaged Program. This program provides transportation services to persons who do not have the means or ability to transport themselves and generally includes persons who are elderly, disabled, or economically disadvantaged.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation, or if you need language assistance in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled to the provision of certain assistance at no cost. Please call the Office of Human Rights, (727) 464-4082 (TDD).\*

\* Si usted necesita la ayuda de un traductor del idioma español, por favor comuníquese con la Oficina de Derechos Humanos situada en la siguiente dirección, 400 South Fort Harrison Avenue, Piso 5, en la Ciudad de Clearwater, Florida 33756; Teléfonos: (727) 464-4082 (TDD).\*

All meetings will be held in the Pinellas County Planning Department Conference Room, 310 Court Street, Clearwater (two blocks southwest of PSTA's Park Street Terminal). Further information may be obtained by contacting Forward Pinellas, 310 Court Street, Clearwater, Florida 33756, at (727) 464-8250, [forwardpinellas.org](mailto:forwardpinellas.org) or by email at [fp@forwardpinellas.org](mailto:fp@forwardpinellas.org).

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other nondiscrimination laws, public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status.



HEADQUARTERS AIR  
MOBILITY COMMAND







NEWS



**Northwest Passages to welcome Mandi Price, producer of upcoming Amazon series 'Daisy Jones & the Six,' as panelist for celebration of young Black voices**

4 a.m.

The Shadle and Gonzaga University alumnus has become a sought-after producer, with her previous project, "Archive 81," becoming Netflix's No. 1 show in January 2022. "Daisy Jones & the Six" continues her work with the Hello Sunshine production company, cofounded by actress Reese Witherspoon. Price was also a producer on the adaptation of "Little Fires Everywhere," which starred Witherspoon and Kerry Washington in a Hulu series based on Celeste Ng's novel.



**Notice of Availability:** The U.S. Department of the Air Force (DAF) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the KC-46A Main Operating Base #6 Beddown. The DAF has initiated a 45-day comment period and invites the public to review and provide comments on the Draft EIS, which is available for download at [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com).





**Notice of Availability:** The U.S. Department of the Air Force (DAF) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the KC-46A Main Operating Base #6 Beddown. The DAF has initiated a 45-day comment period and invites the public to review and provide comments on the Draft EIS, which is available for download at [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com).

A&E



### Pacific Northwest and South African beadwork exhibits open at Museum of Arts and Culture

Art collections by members of the Columbia Plateau tribes and South African women are coming to the MAC.





### A.1.5.3 Pacific Northwest Inlander

#### MUSIC | VENUES

**219 LOUNGE** • 219 N. First Ave., Sandpoint • 208-263-5673  
**ARBOR CREST WINE CELLARS** • 4705 N. Fruit Hill Rd., Spokane Valley • 509-927-9463  
**BABY BAR** • 827 W. First Ave. • 509-847-1254  
**BARRISTER WINERY** • 1213 W. Railroad Ave. • 509-465-3591  
**BEE'S KNEES WHISKY BAR** • 1324 W. Lancaster Rd., Hayden • 208-758-0558  
**BERSEK** • 125 S. Stevens St. • 509-315-5101  
**THE BIG DIPPER** • 171 S. Washington St. • 509-663-8098  
**BIGFOOT PUB** • 915 N. Division St. • 509-467-9638  
**BING CROSBY THEATER** • 901 W. Sprague Ave. • 509-227-7638  
**BLACK DIAMOND** • 9614 E. Sprague Ave. • 509-89-8357  
**BOLO'S BAR & GRILL** • 116 S. Best Rd., Spokane Valley • 509-898-8995  
**BOOMERS CLASSIC ROCK BAR** • 1829 E. Appleway Ave., Spokane Valley • 509-368-8847  
**BUCKER'S COFFEEHOUSE PUB** • 201 S. Main St., Moscow • 208-596-0887  
**THE BULL HEAD** • 10211 S. Electric St., Four Lakes • 509-838-9971  
**CHAN'S RED DRAGON** • 1406 W. Third Ave. • 509-838-6688  
**COEUR D'ALENE CASINO** • 37914 S. Nukwalqwa St., Worley • 800-523-2464  
**COEUR D'ALENE CELLARS** • 3890 N. Schreiber Way, Coeur d'Alene • 208-664-2336  
**CRUISERS BAR & GRILL** • 6105 W. Seltice Way, Post Falls • 208-446-7154  
**CURLEY'S HAUSER JUNCTION** • 26433 W. Hwy. 53, Post Falls • 208-773-5816  
**EICHARDT'S PUB** • 212 Cedar St., Sandpoint • 208-263-4005  
**FIRST INTERSTATE CENTER FOR THE ARTS** • 334 W. Spokane Falls Blvd. • 509-279-7000  
**FOX THEATER** • 1001 W. Sprague Ave. • 509-624-1200  
**IRON HORSE** • 407 E. Sherman, Coeur d'Alene • 208-667-7314  
**IRON HORSE BAR & GRILL** • 11105 E. Sprague Ave., Spokane Valley • 509-926-8411  
**JOHN'S ALLEY** • 114 E. Sixth St., Moscow • 208-883-7662  
**KNITTING FACTORY** • 911 W. Sprague Ave. • 509-244-3279  
**LEFTBANK WINE BAR** • 108 N. Washington St. • 509-315-8623  
**LUCKY YOU LOUNGE** • 1801 W. Sunset Blvd. • 509-474-0511  
**MARYHILL WINERY** • 1303 W. Summit Pkwy. • 509-443-3832  
**THE MASON JAR** • 1011 St. Cheney • 509-359-8052  
**MAX AT MIRABEAU** • 1100 N. Sullivan Rd., Spokane Valley • 509-922-6252  
**MILLIE'S** • 28441 Hwy 57, Priest Lake • 208-443-0510  
**MOOSE LOUNGE** • 401 E. Sherman Ave., Coeur d'Alene • 208-664-7901  
**MOOTSYS** • 406 W. Sprague Ave. • 509-838-1570  
**NASHVILLE NORTH** • 6361 W. Seltice Way, Post Falls • 208-457-9128  
**NORTHERN QUEST RESORT & CASINO** • 100 N. Hayford Rd., Airway Heights • 877-871-6772  
**NYNE BAR & BISTRO** • 232 W. Sprague Ave. • 509-474-1621  
**PEND D'OREILLE WINERY** • 301 Cedar St., Sandpoint • 208-265-8545  
**THE PODIUM** • 511 W. Dean Ave. • 509-279-7000  
**POST FALLS BREWING CO.** • 112 N. Spokane St., Post Falls • 208-773-7301  
**RAZZLE'S BAR & GRILL** • 10325 N. Government Way, Hayden • 208-635-5814  
**RED ROOM LOUNGE** • 521 W. Sprague Ave. • 509-838-7613  
**THE RIDLER PIANO BAR** • 718 W. Riverside Ave. • 509-822-7938  
**SEASONS OF COEUR D'ALENE** • 1004 S. Perry St. • 208-664-9008  
**SPOKANE ARENA** • 720 W. Mallon Ave. • 509-279-7000  
**SOUTH PERRY LANTERN** • 12303 E. Trent Ave., Spokane Valley • 509-473-9098  
**STEAM PLANT** • 159 S. Lincoln St. • 509-777-3900  
**STORMIN' NORMAN'S SHIPFACED SALOON** • 12303 E. Trent Ave., Spokane Valley • 509-862-4852  
**TRANCHE** • 705 Bernier Dr., Wall Walla • 509-526-3500  
**ZOLA** • 22 W. Main Ave. • 509-624-2416



## NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

**The U.S. Department of the Air Force invites you to review the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and attend Public Hearings for the Proposed Beddown of KC-46A Tanker Aircraft for Main Operating Base #6**

**PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED.** Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, the U.S. Department of the Air Force (DAF), has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for public review that analyzes the potential environmental consequences associated with the proposal to beddown and replace 1950s-era aerial refueling tankers with the KC-46A Main Operating Base #6 (MOB 6) aircraft and mission at either MacDill Air Force Base (AFB), Florida or at Fairchild AFB, Washington, to include the proposal's effect on historic properties. The MOB 6 beddown requires an active duty installation in the continental United States with the aerial refueling tankers and mission to be replaced, as well as the capacity to support KC-46A infrastructure, facilities, airfield operations, training activities, and personnel.

The DAF's Preferred Alternative is to beddown the MOB 6 mission with 24 KC-46A aircraft at MacDill AFB. The EIS also evaluates Fairchild AFB as a reasonable alternative for the MOB 6 beddown, and the No Action Alternative. Depending on the selected installation, the KC-46A would either fully or partially replace the current active duty tanker mission.

**OBTAIN AND REVIEW THE DRAFT EIS.** The DAF has initiated a 45-day comment period and invites the public to review and provide comments on the Draft EIS, which is available for download at [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com) and may also be viewed at the following local libraries:

**MacDill AFB Area:** Jan Kaminis Platt Regional Library (3910 S. Manhattan Ave, Tampa, FL 33611), John F. Germany Public Library (900 N. Ashley Dr, Tampa, FL 33602), Port Tampa City Public Library (4902 W Commerce St, Tampa, FL 33616), and MacDill AFB Library (8102 Condon St, Bldg 252, Tampa, FL 33621)

**Fairchild AFB Area:** Airway Heights Library (1213 S. Lundstrom St, Airway Heights, WA 99001), Medical Lake Library (321 E Herb St, Medical lake, WA 99022), Spokane Central Public Library (906 W Main Ave, Spokane, WA 99201), and Fairchild AFB Library (2 W Castle St, Fairchild AFB, WA 99011)

**VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARINGS - PLEASE ATTEND.** The DAF requests comments from interested local, state, and federal agencies; federally recognized tribes; and interested members of the public. The DAF is holding two virtual public hearings to provide the public with the opportunity to learn more about the proposal, it's effect on historic properties, and to provide input in March 2023 (see table below for specific dates and times). Information regarding the impact assessment is accessible via the project website ([www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com)), and a pre-recorded public hearing presentation will be available to access and listen to on the day of the virtual public hearing. A weblink and phone number to access the online virtual public hearings will be provided via flyers at the specified local libraries and on the project website allowing interested parties to participate in the public hearings either by phone or online. Those without internet access are invited to participate by phone.

One virtual public hearing will be held in the local time of each installation alternative. Each virtual public hearing will begin at 5:30 local time with the DAF giving a brief presentation about the proposal. Formal public testimony will begin at approximately 6 p.m. The hearing venue will close at 8:00 p.m., but may adjourn before 8:00 p.m. upon or after verification that all participants who desire to speak have been heard and there are no more registered speakers. All members of the public are invited and encouraged to attend. Verbal comments will be accepted at the hearings, but you can also submit your comments in writing via email, postal mail, the project website (see details below). Verbal comments will be limited to 3 minutes or less; therefore, the DAF suggests submitting statements of considerable length in writing. Your input is valuable and assists the DAF in making more informed decisions.

To request a CD of the hearing presentation, or if you need to request accommodation to access the printed or audio portion of the presentation or need additional accommodation to make a telephone comment (per the Americans with Disabilities Act), please submit your request at the project website ([www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com)) or contact the MacDill AFB 6 Aerial Refueling VIng (ARWV) Public Affairs Office (PAO) by phone (813-828-2215) or email (6.arw.pa@us.af.mil) or Fairchild AFB PAO by phone (509-247-5705) or email (92arw.pa@us.af.mil) no later than one week prior to the virtual hearing date. Dates for each virtual hearing are provided below:

Date	Time	Installation
March 7, 2023	5:30 to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time	MacDill AFB
March 9, 2023	5:30 to 8:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time	Fairchild AFB

**PUBLIC COMMENT.** Comments on the Draft EIS can be submitted online at [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com); verbally at the public hearings; via email to MacDill AFB 6 ARW PA at [6.arw.pa@us.af.mil](mailto:6.arw.pa@us.af.mil), SUBJECT: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS, or to Fairchild AFB PAO at [92arw.pa@us.af.mil](mailto:92arw.pa@us.af.mil), SUBJECT: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS, or by postal mail via USPS to AFCEC CZN, ATTN: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS, 2281 Hughes Ave, Suite 155, JBAS Lackland, Texas 78236-9853 or via FedEx or UPS to AFCEC CZN, ATTN: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS, Building 1 Bay 8 Room 8009, 3515 South General McMullen, San Antonio, TX 78226-1710. In order to fully address public concerns or comments, the DAF suggests attendees submit their intention to participate in the public hearing with an indication of which environmental impact(s) they wish to address prior to the hearing via email or phone, though it is not required.

For additional information, or to request hard or CD copies of the Draft EIS, please contact MacDill AFB 6 ARW PAO via the phone, email, or postal mail contact information provided in this notice. Please consider the environment when requesting print materials.

*We will accept comments at any time during the environmental process. Written and oral comments will be given equal weight; however, to ensure the DAF has sufficient time to consider public input in preparation of the Final EIS, please submit comments by March 27, 2023.*

FEBRUARY 16, 2023 INLANDER 31





### A.1.6 Draft EIS Comments and Responses

**Sections A.1.6** and **A.1.7** contain all comments received during the public comment period for the KC-46A MOB 6 Beddown Draft EIS. The Notice of Availability for the Draft EIS appeared in the Federal Register on February 10, 2023 (see **Section A.1.4**), which initiated a 45-day comment period. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, public and agency comments on the Draft EIS were reviewed and incorporated into the Final EIS. The comments and DAF responses are contained in **Table A-3**. The original comments are contained in **Section A.1.7**. These public and agency comments will be taken into consideration by the DAF in its decision-making process. Public comment was encouraged at the public hearings or through written submissions by newspaper display advertisements, flyers provided to multiple local libraries for each installation alternative, the project website, and in letters announcing the availability of the Draft EIS document that were sent to agencies and interested parties.

While all comments submitted were assessed and considered by the DAF, only substantive comments are addressed either individually or collectively in the Final EIS. Substantive comments are those that identify issues and concerns related to the quality of the document in consideration of the accuracy of the facts, adequacy of analysis, precision of language, consistency of analysis or facts, justifications for conclusions, and/or the merits of other alternatives than those discussed. Non-substantive comments are those that only express a conclusion, an opinion, or a vote for or against the proposal itself, or that otherwise state a personal preference or opinion.

**Table A-3. Public Comment on the Draft EIS and DAF Responses**

#	Commenter Name	Affiliation	Comment	Topic	DAF Response
<b>Substantive Comments</b>					
1	Ntale Kajumba	USEPA	<p>The portion of Hillsborough County, Florida containing MacDill AFB is in attainment with National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), however flight operations extend into the air mixing zone that is in maintenance status for lead and sulfur dioxide. DAF analyzed air quality impacts from the Proposed Action using the Air Force's Air Conformity Applicability Model. Air emissions inventories evaluated for the MOB 6 Beddown at MacDill AFB indicate that General Conformity requirements will be met because criteria pollutants would remain below the federal <i>de minimis</i> thresholds of 100-Tons Per Year (TPY) for sulfur dioxide and 25-TPY for lead. The air emissions inventory also determined that the Beddown would produce an additional 12,750.5 TPY of carbon dioxide equivalent greenhouse gasses.</p> <p>Section 2.5 of the Draft EIS identifies MacDill AFB's developmental mitigation plan in response to climate change that includes emergency response training, hardened facilities and utilities, stormwater drainage infrastructure, shore protection, and a regional resiliency response plan for sea level rise.</p> <p>The portion of Spokane County, Washington containing Fairchild AFB is in attainment with NAAQS, however flight operations extend into the air mixing zone that is in maintenance status for carbon monoxide and particulate matter (PM)</p>	Air Quality and Climate Change	If Alternative 2 is selected for the MOB 6 beddown, the DAF will develop a comprehensive climate change mitigation plan, per USEPA's recommendation.

			<p>10. Air emissions inventories evaluated for the MOB6 Beddown at Fairchild AFB indicate that General Conformity requirements will be met because criteria pollutants would remain below the federal <i>de minimis</i> thresholds of 100-TPY for each pollutant.</p> <p><i>Recommendation:</i> While the USEPA acknowledges the Draft EIS's inclusion of a climate change mitigation plan for Alternative 1, we recommend that DAF develop a climate change mitigation plan for Fairchild AFB if Alternative 2 is identified as the ultimate site for the Beddown. A comprehensive mitigation plan may include analysis of potential social impacts to surrounding communities. Examples of off-base impacts may include those to subsistence economies, contributions to droughts at Fairchild AFB and the Spokane area, wildfire damage, and impacts to Native Americans.</p>		
2	Ntale Kajumba	USEPA	<p>The USEPA supports efforts to mitigate environmental impacts to communities surrounding the KC-46A Beddown. As identified in Section 3.3.12 Environmental Justice (EJ), U.S. Census Bureau data shows that one of three MacDill adjacent census tracts have a People of Color population of 64.8% residing within the project area. These three census tracts were also selected for EJ analysis because these tracts contain the populated extent of the Proposed Action's 65-dBA Day Night Average (DNL) noise contour. Three census tracts surrounding Fairchild AFB were also analyzed. One of these tracts was determined to have a low-income population of 22.2%. Sections 3.3.12.2.2 and 3.4.12.2.2 state that neither of the two proposed alternatives would result in</p>	Environmental Justice and Noise	<p>The DAF engaged general stakeholders and the local communities through letters, flyers sent to multiple local libraries per installation alternative, Federal Register publications, print and online newspaper publications, and the project website announcing the scoping period and DEIS public comment periods, as well as providing copies of project related documents. During the NEPA scoping and DEIS comment periods, the public were asked to provide their feedback on the Proposed Action and alternatives, impacts analyses (including noise and vibration), and identification of additional alternatives.</p> <p>Additionally, virtual public hearings were held for each installation alternative's local community in their local time zone providing a presentation summarizing the</p>

			<p>disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority populations or low-income populations.</p> <p>The USEPA understands that final noise levels at MacDill AFB are projected to decrease following implementation of the Beddown because KC-46A engines are required to meet Federal Aviation Administration Part 36 Stage 4 noise standards-the most restrictive commercial aircraft noise standards.</p> <p><i>Recommendation:</i> The USEPA recommends DAF identify efforts to meaningfully engage communities, including communities with EJ concerns, associated with MacDill AFB and Fairchild AFB. DAF should ensure that surrounding communities are aware of the Proposed Action and its impacts, and how to address any concerns including noise and vibration with DAF. Section 3.4.3.2.2 states that consultations with Tribal Governments associated with Fairchild AFB are ongoing. The Final EIS should describe issues raised by Tribal Governments during consultations and how those issues were addressed, consistent with Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments.</p>		<p>Proposed Action, alternatives, and potential impacts. Members of the public were invited to provide oral comment during the hearings, and were also invited to submit comments online through the project website or by postal mail.</p> <p>Further, the Cultural Resources section in Chapter 3 and Appendix A of the EIS address comments received from Tribal governments on the Proposed Action and alternatives.</p>
3	Ntale Kajumba/Douglas White	USEPA	<p>The construction of proposed facilities will result in soil disturbances of 16.6-acres at MacDill AFB or 70.7-acres at Fairchild AFB. DAF has identified construction stormwater permits that will be required before construction projects can begin. To prevent soil erosion, Best Management Practices (BMP) would be implemented and maintained, as indicated by Section 2.6, Sustained Compliance Actions. According to the Draft EIS, Alternative 1 would create up to 9.4-</p>	Water Resources (Water Quality and Streams)	<p>Text was added to Sections 3.3.6 (MacDill, Water Resources) and 3.4.6 (Fairchild, Water Resources) to clarify the status of WOTUS present within or near the respective project sites, and to note that the DAF would coordinate with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, as applicable, per comment.</p>

			<p>acres of impervious surfaces, while Alternative 2 would create up to 70.7-acres. In addition, existing stormwater runoff profiles of the proposed sites will be maintained, in accordance with Section 438 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. New construction will take place above the 100-year floodplain. The Draft EIS does not identify impacts to Water of the United States (WOTUS).</p> <p><i>Recommendation:</i> The USEPA recommends that the Final EIS identify WOTUS on or near the project sites of the MOB6 Beddown or confirm that WOTUS do not exist at these locations. If the construction necessitates disturbance of WOTUS, DAF should coordinate with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.</p>		
4	Ntale Kajumba	USEPA	<p>The Draft EIS states that prior to the start of any construction, demolition, or renovation that would result in ground disturbance, DAF would coordinate with the MacDill AFB or the Fairchild AFB Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) office to ensure that ground disturbance is coordinated with ongoing remediation and investigation activities. The ERP office would ensure necessary consultation and coordination is completed with the USEPA and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) or Washington State Department of Ecology. Some MOB6 proposed facilities are located above groundwater and soil contamination sites. At MacDill AFB, these ERP sites are Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) 35, SWMU 61, SWMU 76, and Site 57. At Fairchild AFB these ERP sites are SS039 and TU500. The proposed facilities would not impair the ability to monitor</p>	Hazardous Materials and Containment	<p>Text provided at EIS Sections 3.3.9.2 (MacDill AFB Hazardous Materials and Waste) and 3.4.9.2 (Fairchild AFB Hazardous Materials and Waste) emphasizes the DAF's commitment to appropriate coordination and planning with the FDEP, and WA Ecology, and implementation of appropriate control measures for ERP sites and secondary containment measures for storage and handling of POL.</p>

			<p>the ERP sites within the project area because any existing groundwater monitoring wells or treatment systems would be protected or relocated during ground-disturbing activities. Contractors would develop BMPs in accordance with site-specific contamination and would obtain all necessary permits prior to ground disturbance. Proper characterization, handling, and disposition procedures for contaminated groundwater and soils would be followed.</p> <p><i>Recommendation:</i> The USEPA recommends communication and coordination of planned and ongoing activities between DAF, the FDEP, the Washington State Department of Ecology. DAF should implement appropriate control measures where disturbance is planned to approach ERP sites. In accordance with Section 3.3.9.2.2, the USEPA recommends the use of secondary containment for storage and handling of Petroleum, Oils, and Lubricants (POL) to protect surface waters of Hillsborough and Spokane Counties and as required by the Clean Water Act. Where secondary containment is not directly practicable, spill ponds and oil water separators should be constructed downstream of POL related activities. Construction and operations in support of the Proposed Action should ensure that Resource Conservation and Recovery Act-regulated solid wastes generated are disposed of in accordance with federal regulations.</p>		
5	Ntale Kajumba	USEPA	<p>The USEPA understands that DAF is coordinating with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regarding Alternative 1's compliance with the Endangered Species Act. <b>Section 3.3.2</b>, Federally Listed Threatened and Endangered Species (TES) indicates that no critical habitat is present on MacDill AFB and the</p>	Biological Resources	Recommended conservation measures identified by the USFWS during the Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation process were incorporated in the Final EIS and will be implemented by the DAF to the extent practicable.

			<p>project area does not contain TES roosting sites. Burrowing sites for an owl and tortoise are adjacent to the project site. The Draft EIS states that USFWS has determined that consultation is not needed for Alternative 2 because all potentially impacted species had a “no effect” determination.</p> <p><i>Recommendation:</i> The USEPA principally defers to USFWS regarding compliance with the Endangered Species Act. The USEPA recommends that all conservation measures identified by USFWS be implemented and included in the Final EIS.</p>		
6	Ntale Kajumba	USEPA	<p>Sections 3.3.7.2.2 and 3.4.7.2.2 indicate that Alternative 1 is projected to produce a total of 6,717-tons of construction and demolition debris, while Alternative 2 would produce 13,028-tons. MacDill AFB and Fairchild AFB have existing recycling rates of 59% and 70% respectively. The Draft EIS also states that all new construction and renovations will meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design silver certificate requirements for energy conservation.</p> <p><i>Recommendation:</i> The USEPA recommends that any offsite disposal of recyclable materials such as concrete, steel, and asphalt prioritize recycling where practicable. The USEPA also recommends the use of renewable energy including solar power for infrastructure developed for the MOB 6 Beddown.</p>	Infrastructure (Energy Efficiency and Recycling)	As recognized in the comment, and noted in the EIS sections specified in the comment, the DAF recycles construction and demolition debris to the extent practicable. The DAF will continue to prioritize recycling materials offsite to the maximum extent practicable and consider renewable energy options during design and construction of infrastructure, per USEPA's recommendation.
<b>Non-Substantive Comments</b>					
7	Greg Figg	WSDOT	<p>WSDOT Eastern Region has reviewed the draft document and has been in contact with FAFB officials regarding this proposal. WSDOT finds that this action has the potential to add some employment at the base, however we do not see a significant adverse impact to traffic operations.</p>	Transportation	Thank you for your review and comment.

			This is due in part to the base increasing operations of the Thrope Road gate as a means to divert some traffic away from the main gate on US 2. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you should have any questions regarding the above.		
8	Unidentified Local Washington State Stakeholder	N/A	The KC-46A MOB 6 EIS website is confusing. At the bottom of the first webpage, it refers to scoping in 2022.	Request for Information	The Home page of the project website ( <a href="http://www.kc46amob6eis.com">www.kc46amob6eis.com</a> ) does specify that scoping occurred and when it was conducted. Inclusion of this information on the project timeline highlights the DAF's decision to offer an extended scoping period to ensure the public had sufficient time to consider the action and provide comments. Language was added to the end of the Home page Welcome statement to guide members of the public to scroll down the page to the "EIS Process", so they can see where we are now in the KC-46A MOB 6 EIS effort. Further, the dates (February 10, 2023 – March 27, 2023) were added under the "We Are Here" that points to the 45-day Draft EIS public comment period, to clearly identify the current status of NEPA public involvement.
9	Spokane County Planning Director	Spokane County	The Spokane Planning Director plans on presenting the scoping presentation slides from the website to the Spokane Planning Board on Tuesday Feb 21. Are these slides the most current?	Request for Information	The commenter was referring to the project scoping presentation that was provided online via the project website. To support the Spokane Planning Director, the DAF provided a similar presentation (included in this Appendix) to the Spokane County Planning Director to present to the Spokane Planning Board on Tuesday February 21, 2023.
10	Spokane County Board of Commissioners	Spokane County	Spokane County thanks you for the opportunity to again reinforce our commitment to Fairchild Air Force Base, its current, and future missions. Please find the attached as statements of the Spokane County Board of Commissioners' support.	Approval of Project	Thank you for your review and comment.
11	Julia McHugh	Private Citizen	What has become of this issue or action? I have not seen any followup or decision statement(s).	Project Status Inquiry	The Record of Decision has not yet been prepared. A Notice of Availability of the draft EIS was placed in the Spokesman Review and Pacific Northwest Inlander on 10 and 16 February respectively. Hardcopies were placed in the following area libraries:



				<p>Fairchild AFB Library (2 W Castle St, Fairchild AFB, WA 99011)</p> <p>Spokane Central Public Library (906 W Main Ave, Spokane, WA 99201)</p> <p>Airway Heights Library (1213 S. Lundstrom St, Airway Heights, WA 99001)</p> <p>Medical Lake Library (321 E Herb St, Medical Lake, WA 99022)</p> <p>To ensure the DAF has sufficient time to consider public input in preparation of the Final EIS, public comments were requested by March 27, 2023. However, we are still accepting comments and continue to make the draft EIS and supplemental materials available on the public website:</p> <p><a href="https://www.kc46amob6eis.com/documents">https://www.kc46amob6eis.com/documents</a></p> <p>Please contact Fairchild Public Affairs office (cc'd here) for further questions: 92arw.pa@us.af.mil.</p>
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## **A.1.7 Copy of Public Comments**

### *A.1.7.1 United States Environmental Protection Agency*



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
REGION 4  
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

Mr. David R. Steele  
Department of the Air Force  
AFCEC/CZN  
2261 Hughes Avenue, Suite 155  
JBSA Lackland, Texas 78236-9853

Re: EPA Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for KC-46A Main Operating Base 6 Beddown at MacDill Air Force Base, Hillsborough County, Florida; CEQ No: 20230024

Dear Mr. Steele:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) for the Main Operating Base 6 (MOB6) KC-46A Beddown (Beddown) in accordance with Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The CAA Section 309 role is unique to EPA. It requires EPA to review and comment publicly on any proposed federal action subject to NEPA's environmental impact statement requirement.

The U.S. Department of the Air Force (DAF) is the lead federal agency for this action. The purpose of the Beddown is for DAF to transition from KC-135 tanker aircraft to the KC-46A aircraft, in support of the air refueling mission of the 6<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing at MacDill Air Force Base (AFB) in Hillsborough County, Florida. DAF's projections indicate that future air combat missions, supported by bases throughout the Southeast, will require expanded capability beyond the currently used air refueling aircraft.

DAF identified site alternatives for analysis through an initial criteria screening process for all Air Force bases within the continental United States. The MOB6 Beddown specific criteria involved the presence of an existing refueling mission at an Air Mobility Command active duty-led base that is not yet planned to base KC-46A aircraft and adequate support infrastructure, such as a runway and hangars. Two acceptable sites were identified by DAF and analyzed in detail, in addition to the No-Action Alternative:

- **Alternative 1** (Preferred Alternative): MacDill AFB, Florida.
- **Alternative 2:** Fairchild AFB, Washington.

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, DAF would recapitalize existing air refueling operations at MacDill AFB by replacing the 24 locally based KC-135 aircraft with 24 new KC-46A aircraft. In support of operations and maintenance of the new aircraft, DAF would construct 2 buildings including a Dash 21 Life Support facility and a warehouse. Further construction would include renovations and upgrades to 11 maintenance and support facilities, 5 aircraft hangars, 3 wash racks, and multiple refueling containment pits. The EPA understands that the transition to KC-46A flight operations would leave existing airspace configurations above Florida, the Gulf of Mexico, and Atlantic Ocean



unchanged. Under Alternative 2, DAF would base the 24 new aircraft at Fairchild AFB in Spokane County, Washington, instead of MacDill AFB. Alternative 2 would require the construction of a new hangar and 4 maintenance and support facilities, renovation of 9 support facilities, and upgrades to deicing, fueling, and engine run-up facilities. Under the No-Action Alternative, DAF would continue to operate KC-135 aircraft using existing infrastructure and limit air combat mission within the Southeast to levels that can be sustained by existing tanker aircraft.

On 5/31/2022, the EPA provided scoping comments for the MOB6 Beddown. The EPA made recommendations regarding air quality modeling, greenhouse gas quantification, water quality impacts and mitigations, environmental justice analysis, noise impacts, hazardous materials containment and disposal, energy efficiency and recycling, and alternatives analysis. Additionally, the EPA recommended that DAF coordinate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding compliance with the Endangered Species Act. The EPA notes that the EPA's scoping comments were generally addressed by this Draft EIS. We have enclosed additional technical recommendations for your consideration (see enclosure). The EPA requests that DAF continue to work with federal and local government partners, Tribal Governments, communities surrounding MacDill AFB and Fairchild AFB, and other stakeholders to address impacts as they are identified and to disseminate project status updates.

The EPA appreciates the opportunity to review the Draft EIS and looks forward to continued participation in the KC-46A Beddown process. If you have any questions regarding our technical recommendations, please contact Mr. Douglas White of the NEPA Section at (404) 562-8586 or at [white.douglas@epa.gov](mailto:white.douglas@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

NTALE  
KAJUMBA

Digitally signed by  
NTALE KAJUMBA  
Date: 2023.03.24  
08:48:36 -04'00'

Ntale Kajumba  
NEPA Chief  
Strategic Programs Office

Enclosure

Enclosure  
Detailed Technical Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS)  
for KC-46A Main Operating Base 6 Beddown  
CEQ No: 20230024

**Air Quality and Climate Change:** The portion of Hillsborough County, Florida containing MacDill AFB is in attainment with National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), however flight operations extend into the air mixing zone that is in maintenance status for lead and sulfur dioxide. DAF analyzed air quality impacts from the Proposed Action using the Air Force's Air Conformity Applicability Model. Air emissions inventories evaluated for the MOB6 Beddown at MacDill AFB indicate that General Conformity requirements will be met because criteria pollutants would remain below the federal *de minimis* thresholds of 100-Tons Per Year (TPY) for sulfur dioxide and 25-TPY for lead. The air emissions inventory also determined that the Beddown would produce an additional 12,750.5 TPY of carbon dioxide equivalent greenhouse gasses.

Section 2.5 of the Draft EIS identifies MacDill AFB's developmental mitigation plan in response to climate change that includes emergency response training, hardened facilities and utilities, stormwater drainage infrastructure, shore protection, and a regional resiliency response plan for sea level rise.

- 1** The portion of Spokane County, Washington containing Fairchild AFB is in attainment with NAAQS, however flight operations extend into the air mixing zone that is in maintenance status for carbon monoxide and particulate matter (PM) 10. Air emissions inventories evaluated for the MOB6 Beddown at Fairchild AFB indicate that General Conformity requirements will be met because criteria pollutants would remain below the federal *de minimis* thresholds of 100-TPY for each pollutant.

Recommendation: While the EPA acknowledges the Draft EIS's inclusion of a climate change mitigation plan for Alternative 1, we recommend that DAF develop a climate change mitigation plan for Fairchild AFB if Alternative 2 is identified as the ultimate site for the Beddown. A comprehensive mitigation plan may include analysis of potential social impacts to surrounding communities. Examples of off-base impacts may include those to subsistence economies, contributions to droughts at Fairchild AFB and the Spokane area, wildfire damage, and impacts to Native Americans.

- 2** **Environmental Justice and Noise:** The EPA supports efforts to mitigate environmental impacts to communities surrounding the KC-46A Beddown. As identified in Section 3.3.12 Environmental Justice (EJ), U.S. Census Bureau data shows that one of three MacDill adjacent census tracts have a People of Color population of 64.8% residing within the project area. These three census tracts were also selected for EJ analysis because these tracts contain the populated extent of the Proposed Action's 65-dBA Day Night Average (DNL) noise contour. Three census tracts surrounding Fairchild AFB were also analyzed. One of these tracts was determined to have a low-income population of 22.2%. Sections 3.3.12.2.2 and 3.4.12.2.2 state that neither of the two proposed alternatives would result in disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority populations or low-income populations.

The EPA understands that final noise levels at MacDill AFB are projected to decrease following implementation of the Beddown because KC-46A engines are required to meet Federal Aviation Administration Part 36 Stage 4 noise standards- the most restrictive commercial aircraft noise standards.

Recommendation: The EPA recommends DAF identify efforts to meaningfully engage communities, including communities with EJ concerns, associated with MacDill AFB and Fairchild AFB. DAF should



ensure that surrounding communities are aware of the Proposed Action and its impacts, and how to address any concerns including noise and vibration with DAF. Section 3.4.3.2.2 states that consultations with Tribal Governments associated with Fairchild AFB are ongoing. The Final EIS should describe issues raised by Tribal Governments during consultations and how those issues were addressed, consistent with Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments.

- 3 Water Quality and Streams:** The construction of proposed facilities will result in soil disturbances of 16.6-acres at MacDill AFB or 70.7-acres at Fairchild AFB. DAF has identified construction stormwater permits that will be required before construction projects can begin. To prevent soil erosion, Best Management Practices (BMP) would be implemented and maintained, as indicated by Section 2.6, Sustained Compliance Actions. According to the Draft EIS, Alternative 1 would create up to 9.4-acres of impervious surfaces, while Alternative 2 would create up to 70.7-acres. In addition, existing stormwater runoff profiles of the proposed sites will be maintained, in accordance with Section 438 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. New construction will take place above the 100-year floodplain. The Draft EIS does not identify impacts to Water of the United States (WOTUS).

Recommendation: The EPA recommends that the Final EIS identify WOTUS on or near the project sites of the MOB6 Beddown or confirm that WOTUS do not exist at these locations. If the construction necessitates disturbance of WOTUS, DAF should coordinate with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

- 4 Hazardous Materials and Containment:** The Draft EIS states that prior to the start of any construction, demolition, or renovation that would result in ground disturbance, DAF would coordinate with the MacDill AFB or the Fairchild AFB Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) office to ensure that ground disturbance is coordinated with ongoing remediation and investigation activities. The ERP office would ensure necessary consultation and coordination is completed with the EPA and Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) or Washington State Department of Ecology. Some MOB6 proposed facilities are located above groundwater and soil contamination sites. At MacDill AFB, these ERP sites are Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) 35, SWMU 61, SWMU 76, and Site 57. At Fairchild AFB these ERP sites are SS039 and TU500. The proposed facilities would not impair the ability to monitor the ERP sites within the project area because any existing groundwater monitoring wells or treatment systems would be protected or relocated during ground-disturbing activities. Contractors would develop BMPs in accordance with site-specific contamination and would obtain all necessary permits prior to ground disturbance. Proper characterization, handling, and disposition procedures for contaminated groundwater and soils would be followed.

Recommendation: The EPA recommends communication and coordination of planned and ongoing activities between DAF, the FDEP, the Washington State Department of Ecology. DAF should implement appropriate control measures where disturbance is planned to approach ERP sites. In accordance with Section 3.3.9.2.2, the EPA recommends the use of secondary containment for storage and handling of Petroleum, Oils, and Lubricants (POL) to protect surface waters of Hillsborough and Spokane Counties and as required by the Clean Water Act. Where secondary containment is not directly practicable, spill ponds and oil water separators should be constructed downstream of POL related activities. Construction and operations in support of the Proposed Action should ensure that Resource Conservation and Recovery Act-regulated solid wastes generated are disposed of in accordance with federal regulations.

- 5 Biological Resources:** The EPA understands that DAF is coordinating with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) regarding Alternative 1's compliance with the Endangered Species Act. Section 3.3.2

Federally Listed Threatened and Endangered Species (TES) indicates that no critical habitat is present on MacDill AFB and the project area does not contain TES roosting sites. Burrowing sites for an owl and tortoise are adjacent to the project site. The Draft EIS states that FWS has determined that consultation is not needed for Alternative 2 because all potentially impacted species had a “no effect” determination.

Recommendation: The EPA principally defers to FWS regarding compliance with the Endangered Species Act. The EPA recommends that all conservation measures identified by FWS be implemented and included in the Final EIS.

- 6 Energy Efficiency and Recycling:** Sections 3.3.7.2.2 and 3.4.7.2.2 indicate that Alternative 1 is projected to produce a total of 6,717-tons of construction and demolition debris, while Alternative 2 would produce 13,028-tons. MacDill AFB and Fairchild AFB have existing recycling rates of 59% and 70% respectively. The Draft EIS also states that all new construction and renovations will meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design silver certificate requirements for energy conservation.

Recommendation: The EPA recommends that any offsite disposal of recyclable materials such as concrete, steel, and asphalt prioritize recycling where practicable. The EPA also recommends the use of renewable energy including solar power for infrastructure developed for the MOB6 Beddown.

*A.1.7.2 Washington State Department of Transportation*

Name:

Greg Figg

Mailing Address:

2714 N Mayfair  
Spokane, Washington 99202  
United States

Email Address:

[greg.figg@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:greg.figg@wsdot.wa.gov)

Organization:

WSDOT

Comment:

Good Afternoon,

WSDOT Eastern Region has reviewed the draft document and has been in contact with FAFB officials regarding this proposal. WSDOT finds that this action has the potential to add some employment at the base, however we do not see a significant adverse impact to traffic operations. This is due in part to the base increasing operations of the Thrope Road gate as a means to divert some traffic away from the main gate on US 2. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you should have any questions regarding the above.

Upload File (Optional):

Please check box if you would like receive notifications and materials related to the EIS. Notices will be sent to the email or mailing address provided.:

No

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*A.1.7.3 Unidentified Local Washington State Stakeholder*

**From:** POTTER, JOSHUA S CIV USAF AMC 92 CES/CEIE <joshua.potter.2@us.af.mil>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 5:16 PM  
**To:** Peer, Deborah <Deborah.Peer@hdrinc.com>  
**Cc:** KELLOGG, HELEN L CIV USAF AFMC AFCEC/CZN <helen.kellogg.1@us.af.mil>  
**Subject:** RE: Fairchild Received Feedback on KC-46 EIS Website From Local Stakeholder

Hello Deborah,

Fairchild leadership recently received feedback from a local stakeholder that part of the KC-46 EIS website is confusing. At the bottom of the first webpage it refers to scoping in 2022. I took a look today and I would concur it is confusing. I would recommend removing this information and replacing it with a direct link to the draft EIS.

Very respectfully,

Joshua S. Potter

Fairchild Air Force Base Air Quality Engineer/EPCRA/Toxic/Rideshare/NEPA Program Manager  
Phone: 509-247-8139  
Cell: 360-516-7769  
Email: [joshua.potter.2@us.af.mil](mailto:joshua.potter.2@us.af.mil) <<mailto:joshua.potter.2@us.af.mil>>

- 8** \* Local stakeholder feedback was provided during a personal conversation with Fairchild AFB leadership. The concern was communicated with the FAFB NEPA Program Manager who raised awareness with the KC-46A MOB 6 EIS Team.



**From:** [Peer, Deborah](#)  
**To:** [POTTER, JOSHUA S CIV USAF AMC 92 CES/CEIF](#)  
**Cc:** [KELLOGG, HELEN L CIV USAF AFMC AFCEC/CZN](#); [Humphreys, Abbey](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Fairchild Received Feedback on KC-46 EIS Website From Local Stakeholder  
**Date:** Thursday, February 16, 2023 10:12:12 AM

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Hi Josh,

Yes - the Home page of the project website does mention that scoping occurred and when it was conducted. That's deliberate, to highlight DAF's decision to offer an extended scoping period to ensure the public had sufficient time to consider the action and provide comments. And as noted on the website, all public involvement materials will be accessible from the point that they are posted for the duration of the project.

The "What's New" section of the Home page is clear about where we are in the EIS Process, and that the 45-day Public Comment Period for the Draft EIS is happening now. Also, folks can peruse the website's FAQs, Documents, and Get Involved pages to get the update on available documents and for additional guidance on the current public involvement stage – which is noted, throughout.

Considering the public stakeholder's and your feedback – we added language to the end of the Home Page Welcome statement to guide the public to scroll down the page to the EIS process - so they can see where we are now in the KC-46A MOB 6 EIS effort. And the actual dates (February 10, 2023 - March 27, 2023) were added under the existing "We Are Here" that points to the 45-day Draft EIS public comment period.

Do you think these additional clarifications cover the need?

Thanks,  
Deb

**Deborah Peer**

She/Her  
HDR, NEPA Project Manager  
D [410-253-7215]. C [410-610-1002]

[Deborah.Peer@hdrinc.com](mailto:Deborah.Peer@hdrinc.com)  
[hdrinc.com/follow-us](https://hdrinc.com/follow-us)



*A.1.7.4 Spokane County Planning Director*

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**From:** POTTER, JOSHUA S CIV USAF AMC 92 CES/CEIE <joshua.potter.2@us.af.mil>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023 6:03 PM  
**To:** Peer, Deborah <Deborah.Peer@hdrinc.com>  
**Cc:** KELLOGG, HELEN L CIV USAF AFMC AFCEC/CZN <helen.kellogg.1@us.af.mil>  
**Subject:** RE: KC-46 MOB 6

Hello Deborah,

The Spokane Planning Director is planning on presenting the attached slides to the Spokane Planning Board on Tuesday Feb 21. The slides are dated April 2022 and I have no idea where they got them. Do you have a more up-to-date set of slides I can pass off to the Director? I think what he is ultimately looking for is a couple of accurate comments to let the board know that they received the stakeholder letter and what it means and actions they need to take if any.

Very respectfully,

Joshua S. Potter

Fairchild Air Force Base Air Quality Engineer/EPCRA/Toxic/Rideshare/NEPA Program Manager  
Phone: 509-247-8139  
Cell: 360-516-7769  
Email: [joshua.potter.2@us.af.mil](mailto:joshua.potter.2@us.af.mil) <<mailto:joshua.potter.2@us.af.mil>>

-----Original Message-----

From: KELLOGG, HELEN L CIV USAF AFMC AFCEC/CZN <helen.kellogg.1@us.af.mil>  
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 9:30 AM  
To: Peer, Deborah <Deborah.Peer@hdrinc.com>; POTTER, JOSHUA S CIV USAF AMC 92 CES/CEIE <joshua.potter.2@us.af.mil>  
Cc: Humphreys, Abbey <Abbey.Humphreys@hdrinc.com>  
Subject: RE: KC-46 MOB 6\_slides, maybe defer to the project website?

Hi Josh,

Did we close the loop on this? The project website has the most updated information. The following may also be helpful if they want the high level of what receiving the stakeholder letter means:

As far as what actions they need to take- nothing is required, but they can voluntarily participate in our public involvement process if they would like. Although the public scoping period occurred in spring/summer 2022, they are welcome to make a public comment NLT 27 March to ensure we can consider it for the final EIS. The Draft EIS materials are on the project website and they can make a comment that way. We also have hard copies in the public libraries listed on the website. (kc46amob6eis.com)



That being said, they are not obligated to do anything- or even acknowledge the receipt of the letter. It is up to them.

Thanks,  
Helen Kellogg  
AFCEC NEPA Division  
Cell: 830-273-9156

-----Original Message-----

From: POTTER, JOSHUA S CIV USAF AMC 92 CES/CEIE <joshua.potter.2@us.af.mil>  
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 12:34 PM  
To: KELLOGG, HELEN L CIV USAF AFMC AFCEC/CZN <helen.kellogg.1@us.af.mil>; Peer, Deborah <Deborah.Peer@hdrinc.com>  
Cc: Humphreys, Abbey <Abbey.Humphreys@hdrinc.com>  
Subject: RE: KC-46 MOB 6\_slides, maybe defer to the project website?

I ended up making my own slides from the Public Scoping slides to hand to them.

Very respectfully,

Joshua S. Potter

Fairchild Air Force Base Air Quality Engineer/EPCRA/Toxic/Rideshare/NEPA  
Program Manager  
Phone: 509-247-8139  
Cell: 360-516-7769  
Email: joshua.potter.2@us.af.mil <mailto:joshua.potter.2@us.af.mil>



Slides provided by Fairchild AFB in response to Spokane Planning Director's request



**KC-46A MAIN OPERATING  
BASE NO.6 BEDDOWN**



**HEADQUARTERS AIR  
MOBILITY COMMAND**

# Draft EIS

## Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)





**KC-46A MAIN OPERATING  
BASE NO.6 BEDDOWN**

## The National Environmental Policy Act

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 was enacted to address concerns about federal actions and their effects on the environment.

- Under NEPA, the analysis of environmental consequences is presented in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which accomplishes the following objectives:
  - Identify and describe the affected environment
  - Evaluate the potential environmental consequences of reasonable alternatives
  - Identify environmental permits and specific mitigation measures to avoid, minimize, or reduce adverse environmental impacts, if required
- The NEPA process concludes with a Record of Decision (ROD) that identifies which alternative is selected and outlines any mitigation measures that are required.
- The U.S. Department of the Air Force (DAF) has issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS in accordance with NEPA. Publication of the NOI in the Federal Register for the proposed KC-46A MOB 6 beddown.

### Steps in the EIS Process



## Where Can I Find Information on the Project?

Copies of draft EIS materials are made available to the public as follows:

- **Electronic Copies on the Project Website:** [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com).
- **Hard Copies at Local Libraries:**

**Fairchild AFB Area**

Fairchild AFB Library  
Spokane Central Public Library  
Airway Heights Library  
Medical lake Library

**MacDill AFB Area**

MacDill AFB Library  
Port City Public Library  
John F. Germany Public Library

To request electronic copies by email, or hardcopies by postal mail, please use one of the methods listed below. For printed material requests, the standard U.S. Postal Service shipping timeline will apply. Please consider the environment before requesting printed material.



**Postal Mail:** Ms. Helen Kellogg, AFCEC/CZN, Attn: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS, 2261 Hughes Ave, Suite 155, JBSA Lackland, TX 78236-9853



**Email:** [Helen.Kellogg.1@us.af.mil](mailto:Helen.Kellogg.1@us.af.mil); Subject: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS




**Project Website:** [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com)



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
KC-46A MOB 6 Beddown at MacDill AFB, FL or Fairchild AFB, WA

3



**Environmental Impact Statement  
Public Hearing Flyer**


The Department of the Air Force (DAF) invites you to remotely participate in a virtual Public Hearing for the KC-46A Main Operating Base #6 (MOB 6) Beddown at either MacDill Air Force Base (AFB), Florida (Preferred Alternative) or Fairchild AFB, Washington. The DAF encourages you to attend the meeting to provide your input.

**What:** DAF Virtual Public Hearing on the KC-46A MOB 6 Draft EIS

**When and Where:** [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com)

Public involvement for the EIS is being conducted through the project website ([www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com)). Additionally, two public hearings are planned that will accommodate the time zones of communities local to each installation. Webex event links and dial-in (phone) numbers to access the hearings are provided below. Members of the public without internet access are encouraged to participate by phone using the provided dial-in.

Scan the QR  
CODE for Project  
Details



Accommodating the MacDill AFB, FL area, the virtual public hearing will be held on March 7, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time.

**Webex Event Link:**  
<https://meetlink.webex.com/jmeethdrj.php?MTID=cm39e9a6c3d0db723d21fe533bd437e42>  
2 Password: JVVWnu7mw67  
**DialIn:** 1-408-418-9388, Code: 2481 766 6934 #, Password: 593688768


Accommodating the Fairchild AFB, WA area, the virtual public hearing will be held on March 9, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. Pacific Time.

**Webex Event Link:**  
<https://meetlink.webex.com/jmeethdrj.php?MTID=cm39e9a6c3d0db723d21fe533bd437e42>  
Password: hZDtsRmkK966  
**DialIn:** 1-408-418-9388, Code: 2498 850 9869 #, Password: 493877658

\* Translation and teleprinter or typewriter (TTY) services would be provided upon request. Requests must be made at least 7 days in advance of the hearing.

**Why:** To learn about and submit comments on the Draft EIS for the KC-46A MOB 6 Beddown.

**How:** All members of the public are encouraged to attend via the Webex Event Link provided, or via telephone.





## Proposed Action Background and Overview

- In April 2006, the DAF completed an Analysis of Alternatives to determine the most appropriate strategy for modernizing the existing aerial refueling tanker aircraft fleet. Based on that analysis, the DAF concluded that a tanker derived from a commercial aircraft would result in the best value. In 2009, the DAF selected the KC-46A to replace the aging refueling tankers in the fleet. Since then, Congressional authority funded the purchase of 179 KC-46A aircraft to be phased into DAF operation by 2029 to modernize the fleet, enhance operations, and increase mission effectiveness.
- To date, the DAF has completed EISs for the KC-46A Formal Training Unit (FTU) and MOB 1, MOB 2, MOB 3, and MOB 4 missions addressing recapitalization (replacement) of existing tanker aircraft through the basing of KC-46A aircraft at Continental U.S. (CONUS) Air Force Bases (AFBs) in Oklahoma, New Hampshire, North Carolina, California, and New Jersey. The MOB 5 NEPA effort is anticipated to begin in 2022.
- The MOB 6 EIS, being prepared by the DAF's Air Mobility Command (AMC), addresses the proposal to replace KC-135 aircraft through the beddown of KC-46A aircraft at one active duty CONUS AFB with an existing aerial refueling mission.
- The DAF's proposed action would base 24 KC-46A Primary Authorized Aircraft (PAA), infrastructure, facilities, airfield operations, training activities, personnel to support the MOB 6 mission at either of the identified reasonable installation alternatives: MacDill AFB in Florida (Preferred Alternative) or Fairchild AFB in Washington State.



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
KC-46A MOB 6 Beddown at MacDill AFB, FL or Fairchild AFB, WA

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## Purpose of and Need for the Proposed Action

### Purpose

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to recapitalize aging tanker aircraft currently utilized by the DAF with the KC-46A model to better address future mission requirements, offer expanded capability, and provide life-cycle cost savings in comparison to continued operation of existing KC-135 Stratotanker.

### Need

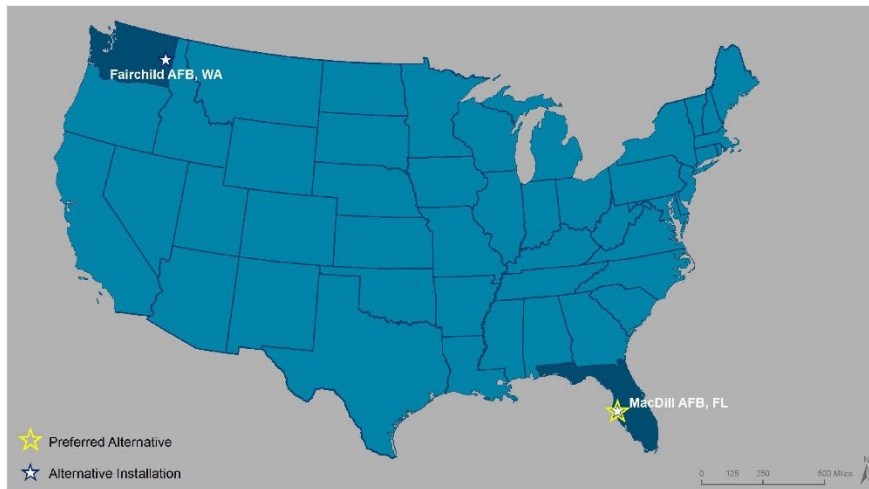
The Proposed Action is needed because the KC-46A will provide capabilities currently lacking in the existing tanker fleet, resulting in a fully capable, combat operational tanker force to accomplish aerial refueling and related worldwide missions.



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
KC-46A MOB 6 Beddown at MacDill AFB, FL or Fairchild AFB, WA

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## Alternatives Consideration



### Selection Criteria to Identify Reasonable Alternatives :

- Active duty CONUS AFB
- Existing KC-135 mission
- Runways at least 7,000 feet long
- Capacity to support the KC-46A aerial refueling mission.

**Reasonable Alternatives:**  
Proposed Action at MacDill AFB, FL (Preferred Alternative)  
Fairchild AFB, WA



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
KC-46A MOB 6 Beddown at MacDill AFB, FL or Fairchild AFB, WA

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## Topics Analyzed in the EIS

### Biological Resources

- Threatened and endangered species
- Wildlife and vegetation
- Wetlands and floodplains

### Cultural Resources

- Archaeological resources (prehistoric and historic)
- Historic architectural resources
- Traditional resources

### Water Resources

- Water quality (surface water and stormwater)
- Groundwater aquifers

### Social Resources

- Land Use
- Health and Safety
- Socioeconomics
- Environmental Justice

### Other Considerations

- Airfield management and aircraft safety
- Air Quality
- Geology and Soils
- Noise
- Infrastructure and Utilities
- Transportation
- Hazardous materials and waste



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
KC-46A MOB 6 Beddown at MacDill AFB, FL or Fairchild AFB, WA

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## You are Invited To Submit Comments

Comments, suggestions, and relevant information are welcomed on the KC-46A MOB 6 Beddown proposal. Please submit comments using one of the following methods:

- **Postal Mail:** Ms. Helen Kellogg, AFCEC/CZN, Attn: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS, 2261 Hughes Ave, Suite 155, JBSA Lackland, TX 78236-9853
- **Email:** [Helen.Kellogg.1@us.af.mil](mailto:Helen.Kellogg.1@us.af.mil); Subject: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS
- **Project Website:** [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com)

The DAF also welcomes comments under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800).





*A.1.7.5 Spokane County Board of Commissioners*

**From:** [KELLOGG, HELEN L CIV USAF AFMC AFCEC/CZN](#)  
**To:** [Peer, Deborah](#); [Humphreys, Abbey](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Fairchild Air Force Base Support by Spokane County  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 2:33:13 PM

---

-----Original Message-----

From: KELLOGG, HELEN L CIV USAF AFMC AFCEC/CZN  
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 1:33 PM  
To: Chesney, Scott <[SCHESENEY@SpokaneCounty.org](mailto:SCHESENEY@SpokaneCounty.org)>  
Cc: JOHNSON, JEFFREY R CIV USAF AMC 92 MSG/DD  
<[jeffrey.johnson.64@us.af.mil](mailto:jeffrey.johnson.64@us.af.mil)>; Vasquez, Ginna <[GVASQUEZ@spokanecounty.org](mailto:GVASQUEZ@spokanecounty.org)>  
Subject: RE: Fairchild Air Force Base Support by Spokane County

Mr. Chesney,

Thanks to Spokane County for participating in the Department of the Air Force's stakeholder and public involvement process for this EIS. I will ensure your submittal gets documented in accordance with our process.

Thank you,  
Helen Kellogg  
AFCEC NEPA Division  
Cell: 830-273-9156

-----Original Message-----

From: Chesney, Scott <[SCHESENEY@SpokaneCounty.org](mailto:SCHESENEY@SpokaneCounty.org)>  
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 1:14 PM  
To: KELLOGG, HELEN L CIV USAF AFMC AFCEC/CZN <[helen.kellogg.1@us.af.mil](mailto:helen.kellogg.1@us.af.mil)>  
Cc: JOHNSON, JEFFREY R CIV USAF AMC 92 MSG/DD  
<[jeffrey.johnson.64@us.af.mil](mailto:jeffrey.johnson.64@us.af.mil)>; Vasquez, Ginna <[GVASQUEZ@spokanecounty.org](mailto:GVASQUEZ@spokanecounty.org)>  
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Fairchild Air Force Base Support by Spokane County

Ms. Kellogg,

**10** Spokane County thanks you for the opportunity to again reinforce our commitment to Fairchild Air Force Base, its current, and future missions.

Please find the attached as statements of the Spokane County Board of Commissioners' support.

Original hard copy will follow via U.S. Mail.

Respectfully,

Scott R. Chesney, AICP | Planning Director | O: 509.477.7212 |  
M: 509.850.8372  
Spokane County Building & Planning | [www.spokanecounty.org/BP](http://www.spokanecounty.org/BP)  
<<http://www.spokanecounty.org/BP>>





**Spokane County**

OFFICE OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS

Chris Jordan, District 1 | Amber Waldref, District 2 | District Josh Kerns, District 3 |  
Mary L. Kuney, District 4 | Al French, District 5

March 13, 2023

**Helen Kellogg, AFCEC/CZN**  
**Attn: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS**  
**2261 Hughes Ave, Suite 155**  
**JB SA Lackland, TX 78236-9853**

[Helen.Kellogg.1@us.af.mil](mailto:Helen.Kellogg.1@us.af.mil)

*Re: KC-46 MOB 6 beddown and Fairchild Air Force Base*

Ms. Kellogg,

Thank you for allowing Spokane County the opportunity to comment on the KC-46A EIS beddown decision regarding MacDill and Fairchild Air Force Bases.

We received notice of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the KC-46A Main Operating Base 6 on February 9, 2023 via FedEx delivery. We understand that the Air Force will accept comments before final EIS preparation and an anticipated Record of Decision in the Fall of 2023.

We understand that MacDill AFB is the preferred alternative.

Spokane County wishes to confirm again its long-term commitment to the current and future mission of Fairchild AFB. The County has continuously acted to preserve airspace through land use regulatory decisions including the 2012 Joint Land Use Study that resulted in the creation of a Spokane County zoning code prohibiting any increase in residential density within the areas defined by Military Influence Areas 3-4.

Since then, Spokane County has worked with the State of Washington on projects to clear mission-critical areas where feasible and has guided development to prevent encroachment on the mission and on Fairchild AFB itself.

Fairchild AFB is a critical national defense facility and Spokane County is steadfast in ensuring growth and development remains compatible with the base while supporting its mission and personnel through comprehensive planning and development regulations.

1116 WEST BROADWAY AVENUE, SPOKANE, WA 99260-0100  
(509) 477-2265



FAFB KC46EIS Response  
Page 2

(Continued)  
Spokane County Opposition to NSC Funding Pause (Continued)  
Page 2 of 2

Selection criteria show that Fairchild AFB is suitable for the KC-46A mission. We understand that the draft EIS shows no clear obstacle for the preferred alternative.

We ask for your consideration via the draft and final EIS processes that Fairchild AFB be reviewed for suitability for the MOB6 selection.

Respectfully,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF SPOKANE COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
MARY L. KUNEY, CHAIR

  
JOSH KERNS, VICE-CHAIR

  
AL FRENCH, COMMISSIONER

  
AMBER WALDREF, COMMISSIONER

  
CHRIS JORDAN, COMMISSIONER

1116 WEST BROADWAY AVENUE, SPOKANE, WA 99260-0100  
(509) 477-2265



NO. **23-0169**

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF SPOKANE COUNTY, WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING THE )  
SIGNING OF A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR )  
FAIRCHILD AIR FORCE BASE AS AN )  
ALTERNATE MAIN OPERATING BASE 6 )  
SITE FOR THE KC-46A MISSION )

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of Washington, Spokane County, Washington is a class A county duly organized and existing; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the provisions of the Revised Code of Washington (“RCW”) 36.01.030, the powers of Spokane County can only be exercised through the Board of County Commissioners of Spokane County, Washington (“Board” or “Board of County Commissioners”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners has long supported Fairchild Air Force Base, its missions, and its personnel; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board received a letter on February 9, 2023 from Mr. David R. Steele Chief, Programs Division, Directorate of Strategy, Plans, Requirements and Programs, Headquarters Air Mobility Command soliciting comment on the draft Environmental Impact Statement for the KC-46A mission; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board believes that the support of Fairchild Air Force Base is in the interests of all Spokane County citizens, towns, and cities; and

**WHEREAS**, Fairchild Air Force Base is under consideration as a main operating base for the KC-46A mission; and

**WHEREAS**, the draft Environmental Impact Statement demonstrates that Fairchild Air Force Base is capable of serving as a main operating base for the KC-46A mission.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Spokane County, Washington, that the Board hereby confirms its support of Fairchild Air Force Base and the potential KC-46A MOB6 mission, and hereby approves the signing of the attached letter to the Air Force Air Mobility Command noting that support. That the Chair of the Board, and or a majority of the Board be and are hereby authorized to sign the letter at other than an open public meeting.

[signature pages follow]



PASSED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of March, 2023.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF SPOKANE COUNTY, WASHINGTON



ATTEST:

GINNA VASQUEZ  
GINNA Vasquez, Clerk of the Board

MARY L. KUNY  
Mary L. Kuny, Chair

JOE KERN  
Josh Kerns, Vice-Chair

AL FRENCH  
Al French, Commissioner

AMBER WALDREF  
Amber Waldref, Commissioner

CHRIS JORDAN  
Chris Jordan, Commissioner

A.1.7.6 Private Citizen Comment (Julia McHugh)

> -----Original Message-----  
> From: Julia McHugh <jemchugh@hotmail.com>  
> Sent: Monday, May 1, 2023 10:43 AM  
> To: KELLOGG, HELEN L CIV USAF AFMC AFCEC/CZN  
> <helen.kellogg.1@us.af.mil>  
> Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: kc46amob6eis  
>  
> Greetings Ms. Kellogg.  
>  
> What has become of this issue or action?  
> I've not seen any followup or decision statement(s).  
>  
> Thank you,  
>  
> Julia McHugh, neighbor to FAFB  
> 360-480-5080  
>  
>

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To support this EIS, the DAF consulted on a government-to-government basis with potentially affected federally-recognized Native American tribes with historic cultural association to the areas around MacDill Air Force Base (AFB) and Fairchild AFB. **Table A-4** provides a list of Indian tribes, by installation.

**Table A-4. KC-46A MOB 6 Tribal Contact List**

Tribe	City	State
<b>MacDill AFB</b>		
Miccosukee Tribe of Indians	Miami	FL
Seminole Tribe of Florida	Hollywood	FL
The Seminole Nation of Oklahoma	Wewoka	OK
The Muscogee (Creek) Nation	Okmulgee	OK
<b>Fairchild AFB</b>		
Coeur d'Alene Tribe	Plummer	ID
Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation	Nespelem	WA
Kalispel Indian Community	Usk	WA
Spokane Tribe of Indians	Wellpinit	WA

Key: AFB = Air Force Base; FL = Florida; OK = Oklahoma; ID = Idaho; WA = Washington

**Table A-5** summarizes the DAF's communications with each Native American tribe. All Native American tribes listed in **Table A-4** received notification letters of the DAF's intent to prepare an EIS for the Proposed Action and alternatives and initiating government-to-government consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and follow up letters that defined the Area of Potential Effects (APE). Several tribes responded to consultation requests or coordination letters; these responses are included in **Table A-5**.

Follow-up correspondence was conducted for Native American tribes that did not respond to initial consultation and coordination efforts, as detailed in **Table A-5**. This additional outreach may have included additional telephone, email, or letter correspondence. Unless requested otherwise, all tribes received a copy of the Draft EIS.



**Table A-5. Tribal Consultation Record**

Tribe	Summary Response	Section 106 Initial Consultation	APE Letter	DEIS Notification Letter	Follow-up Correspondence
<b>MacDill AFB</b>					
Miccosukee Tribe of Indians	N/A	5/2/2022	5/2/2022	2/10/2023	Follow-up email sent on 09/09/22; no response.
Seminole Tribe of Florida	Tribe stated the project does fall within the Seminole Tribe of Florida Area of Concern, but that they have no objections to the Proposed Action based on the information provided prior to DEIS review.	5/2/2022	5/2/2022	2/10/2023	Follow-up email sent on 09/09/22, which garnered the response.
The Seminole Nation of Oklahoma	N/A	5/2/2022	5/2/2022	2/10/2023	Follow-up email sent on 09/09/22; no response.
The Muscogee (Creek) Nation	N/A	5/2/2022	5/2/2022	2/10/2023	Follow-up email sent on 09/09/22; no response.
<b>Fairchild AFB</b>					
Coeur d'Alene Tribe	N/A	4/14/2022	4/14/2022	2/10/2023	Follow-up emails sent on 5/20/2022 and 4/20/2023; no response.
Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation	Tribe agreed to being a consulting party for this project, expressing concern that the APE likely overlaps the Spokane Plains battleground.	4/14/2022	4/14/2022	2/10/2023	No additional follow up prior to DEIS release. Follow-up email post-DEIS release sent on 4/20/2023.
Kalispel Indian Community	N/A	4/14/2022	4/14/2022	2/10/2023	Follow-up emails sent on 5/20/2022 and 4/20/2023; no response.
Spokane Tribe of Indians	Tribe expressed no concern based on existing cultural surveys, but requests that the project include an inadvertent discovery plan of action.	4/14/2022	4/14/2022	2/10/2023	No additional follow up prior to DEIS release. Follow-up email post-DEIS release sent on 4/20/2023.

Key: AFB = Air Force Base; APE = Area of Potential Effect; EIS = Environmental Impact Statement; N/A = not applicable



## **A.1.8 Government-to-Government Consultation Initiation Letter from MacDill AFB** **Example**



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

**JAN 18 2022**

Colonel Benjamin Jonsson  
Commander  
6th Air Refueling Wing  
8208 Hangar Loop Drive, Suite 1  
MacDill Air Force Base FL 33621-5407

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

Dear Mr. Cypress

The Department of the Air Force (DAF) intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the potential environmental consequences associated with the Main Operating Base #6 (MOB 6) beddown of the KC-46A tanker aircraft. DAF has identified MacDill Air Force Base (AFB) in Florida as the preferred alternative and Fairchild AFB in Washington as a reasonable alternative for the MOB 6 mission. A Notice of Intent for this EIS is being published in the Federal Register per 32 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 989.17. This letter serves as notification of the start of the environmental impact assessment and scoping process.

The Air Force would like to initiate government-to-government consultation on the proposed beddown of KC-46A aircraft for MOB 6. The Air Force desires to discuss the proposal in detail with you so that we may understand and consider any comments, concerns, and suggestions you may have. This letter initiates our consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Part 800) and requests any information you have on properties of religious and cultural significance on MacDill AFB. The DAF will continue to contact your tribe under NEPA, and consult with your tribe under EO 13175, unless you request otherwise. Details on the proposed actions associated with the MOB 6 beddown are provided below.

The basing action would require infrastructure, facilities, airfield operations, training activities, and personnel to support the KC-46A mission. Renovation of existing facilities and construction of new facilities would be required on-installation to support the KC-46A, and facility requirements would vary depending on the installation. All flight operations would take place within existing airspace; additions to or alterations of airspace are not being considered. Additional information about the MOB 6 Proposed Action is provided on the project website at [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com).

**MISSION FOCUSED...VALUED AIRMEN**



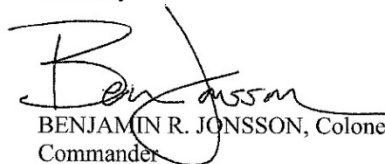
The EIS will assess the potential environmental consequences of the proposed KC-46A MOB 6 Beddown at either Fairchild AFB, Washington or MacDill AFB, Florida. The No Action Alternative will be addressed in the EIS as well. Consultation will be incorporated into preparation of the Draft EIS and will include, but not be limited to, consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Increases of air emissions as a result of this action at either installation will be analyzed in the EIS. Currently, no short- or long-term notable impacts are anticipated. Additional analysis will be provided in the Draft EIS, which is anticipated in early 2023. The Final EIS and a decision on the Proposed Action are expected in late 2023 to early 2024.

Due to public health concerns related to COVID-19, the DAF will not hold face-to-face public scoping meetings. Public scoping is being accomplished remotely, in accordance with the 2020 version of 40 CFR Part 1506.6, via the project website at [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com) and two virtual public scoping meetings. The website provides posters, a presentation, an informational brochure, a capability for the public to provide public scoping comments, and information on the virtual public scoping meetings. Comments or questions regarding this project may be directed to Ms. Helen Kellogg via email at [afcec.czn.workflow@us.af.mil](mailto:afcec.czn.workflow@us.af.mil) including KC-46A MOB 6 EIS in the subject line or via postal mail to: AFCEC/CZN, Attn: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS, 2261 Hughes Ave, Suite 155, JBSA Lackland, TX 78236-9853.

All tribal, public, agency, and stakeholder comments provided to the DAF will be considered during preparation of the EIS. We respect the unique government-to-government relationship that exists between the DAF and your tribe, and your input on the project is welcome at any time during the EIS process. However, submitting scoping comments by May 18, 2022 will ensure we have sufficient time to consider your input in the Draft EIS.

Please let us know when you would be available to discuss the proposed MOB 6 beddown and your expectations on how to proceed with consultation. Please contact me at (813) 828-4444 to discuss dates and times for consultation.

Sincerely

  
BENJAMIN R. JONSSON, Colonel, USAF  
Commander



## A.1.9 Government-to-Government Follow-Up Letter with APE from MacDill AFB Example



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

2 May 2022

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

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

Dear Mr. Cypress

This letter provides an update on the proposed Main Operating Base #6 (MOB 6) beddown of the KC-46A tanker aircraft at MacDill Air Force Base (AFB) in Florida. The Department of the Air Force (DAF) sent you an initial government-to-government consultation letter regarding preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the potential environmental consequences associated with the proposed undertaking at both Fairchild AFB and MacDill AFB in Florida. The beddown associated with this proposal would occur at one of the two bases with MacDill AFB identified as preferred alternative for the MOB 6 mission. The basing action would require infrastructure, facilities, airfield operations, training activities, and personnel to support the KC-46A mission at the selected alternative. Renovation of existing facilities and construction of new facilities would be required at the selected installation to support the KC-46A. Facility requirements would vary depending on the installation. All flight operations would take place within existing airspace of the selected alternative; additions to or alterations of airspace are not being considered. Additional information about the MOB 6 Proposed Action is provided on the project website at [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com). Please note this update/correction regarding virtual public scoping meetings: The initial letter sent to your tribe indicated virtual public scoping meetings would be held; however, the DAF determined all public scoping for this project will occur through the project website.

The DAF is providing this update as part of the consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Part 800). Since the mailing of the initial government-to-government consultation letter for the proposed beddown of KC-46A aircraft for MOB 6, the DAF has established an Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the MacDill AFB alternative based on preliminary site assessments. The proposed APE includes the following:

- 1) existing buildings and structures that would require alterations to accommodate the





KC-46 aircraft and mission,  
2) the locations of proposed new buildings and structures necessary to support the KC-46A mission, and  
3) a 0.25-mile buffer around the buildings and structures mentioned in items 1 and 2 above to evaluate potential effects of the proposed alternative on those buildings and structures and any historic properties that would have a view of the proposed construction activities.

A map of the APE is included as an Attachment 1. No ground disturbing activities would occur near known archaeological sites at MacDill AFB. A map of the APE and its proximity to the closest known archaeological sites is included as Attachment 2.

The DAF requests your review of the APE and any information you have on properties of religious and cultural significance in the APE on MacDill AFB. The DAF will continue to contact your tribe under NEPA, and consult with your tribe under EO 13175, unless you request otherwise. Comments or questions regarding this project may be directed to Ms. Helen Kellogg via email at [afcec.Helen.Kellogg.1@us.af.mil](mailto:afcec.Helen.Kellogg.1@us.af.mil) including KC-46A MOB 6 EIS in the subject line or via postal mail to: Hellen Kellogg, AFCEC/CZN, Attn: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS, 2261 Hughes Ave, Suite 155, JBSA Lackland, TX 78236-9853. Please address all comments for this matter to the MacDill AFB point of contact, Mr. Andy Lykens, 6 CES/CEIE, to the address above, or via email at [andrew.lykens.ctr@us.af.mil](mailto:andrew.lykens.ctr@us.af.mil), or by phone at 813-828-0460.

All tribal, public, agency, and stakeholder comments provided to the DAF will be considered during preparation of the EIS. We respect the unique government-to-government relationship that exists between the DAF and your tribe, and your input on the project is welcome at any time during the EIS process. However, submitting scoping comments within 30 days of receipt of this letter will ensure we have sufficient time to consider your input in the Draft EIS.

Sincerely



AMY M. DOYE, P.E., DAF  
Director, 6th Civil Engineer Squadron

Attachment 1: *Figure 1. Map Showing Area of Potential Effects (APE)*

Attachment 2: *Figure 2. Map Showing APE and Archaeological Resources*





Figure 1. Map Showing Area of Potential Effects (APE)

## A.1.10 Sample Draft EIS Distribution Letter from MacDill AFB



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

JAN 24 2023

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

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

Dear Mr. Cypress

The Department of the Air Force (DAF) is pleased to provide you with a copy of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS; Enclosure 1) for the KC-46A Main Operating Base #6 (MOB 6). The DAF previously contacted you via an initial government-to-government consultation letter and a follow-up letter regarding preparation of the EIS, which is now being provided in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This document is also available online at [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com).

Notification of the availability of the Draft EIS will appear in the Federal Register to initiate the public review period. The EIS analyzes alternative installations (MacDill AFB, Florida [Alternative 1 – Preferred Alternative] and Fairchild AFB, Washington [Alternative 2]) for the MOB 6 beddown, which includes the basing of 24 KC-46A tanker aircraft and the infrastructure, facilities, airfield operations, training activities, personnel, and airspace to support the mission transition between fiscal years 2026 and 2028. The DAF understands that there is the potential for the MOB 6 beddown to affect properties of religious and cultural significance. The Draft EIS analyzes and presents the potential environmental consequences on properties of religious and cultural significance associated with the Proposed Action and Alternatives, including the No Action Alternative. The DAF is consulting with the appropriate resource agencies to determine the potential for significant impacts on cultural and natural resources and corresponding mitigation measures, if needed. Consultation will continue to be incorporated into the EIS process and includes, but is not limited to, consultation with Federally-Recognized Tribes, consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. It is anticipated that the potentially long-term, major, adverse effects on architectural resources under National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 that would result from Alternative 1 at MacDill AFB could be successfully mitigated in consultation with the Florida State Historic Preservation Office through the development and implementation of a Memorandum of Understanding, and the resulting long-term effects would be reduced to moderate. Therefore, no significant impacts would be expected on any resource

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





on the Proposed Action are expected in Fall 2023. Additional information is also available on the project website at [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com).

The DAF will hold two virtual public hearings on the Draft EIS via internet/phone on March 7, 2023 from 5:30 pm to 8 pm EST to accommodate the public located near the MacDill AFB Alternative and March 9, 2023 from 5:30 pm to 8 pm PST to accommodate the public located near the Fairchild AFB Alternative. The purpose of the hearings is to receive input on the proposed action and alternatives and the Draft EIS analysis. The hearings will also be announced through local media. Instructions for participating in the virtual public hearing and more information are provided on the project website, [www.kc46mob6eis.com](http://www.kc46mob6eis.com). Links to the on-line virtual public hearings will be provided on the project website allowing interested parties to electronically participate in the public hearings, and a phone number will be provided for those without internet access.

All tribal comments regarding properties of religious and cultural significance provided at the hearings and through written comments received via postal mail, email, and the project website will be considered in the preparation of the Final EIS. We respect the unique government-to-government relationship that exists between the DAF and your tribe, and your input on the project is welcome at any time during the EIS process. However, submitting comments within 45 days of receipt of this letter will ensure we have sufficient time to consider your input in the Final EIS. Please contact me at (813) 828-3577 with any comments or questions regarding this project.

Sincerely



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

## A.1.11 Responses from Tribes to MacDill AFB

### A.1.11.1 Seminole Tribe of Florida

**From:** [Danielle Simon](#)  
**To:** [LYKENS, ANDREW S CTR USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE](#)  
**Cc:** [THPO Compliance; RIDER, ANDREW W GS-12 USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE; KIRKPATRICK, JASON W CTR USAF AMC 6 CES/CEIE; KELLOGG, HELEN L GS-13 USAF AFMC AFCEC/CZN; SWICK, NOLAN T GS-13 USAF AFMC AFCEC/CZN; Scott Garrold](#)  
**Subject:** [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] RE: Sec 106 - KC-46A Main Operating Base #6 Beddown - MacDill Air Force Base  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 4, 2022 4:24:30 PM

---

**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.STOFTHPO.COM](http://WWW.STOFTHPO.COM)



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

October 4, 2022

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

Subject: KC-46A Main Operating Base #6 Beddown  
THPO Compliance Tracking Number: 0033729

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.

Dear Mr. Lykens,

Thank you for contacting the Seminole Tribe of Florida Tribal Historic Preservation Office (STOF THPO) Compliance Section regarding KC-46A Main Operating Base #6 Beddown.

The proposed undertaking does fall within the STOF Area of Interest. We have reviewed the documents that you provided pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 USC 470) as amended and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800). Based on the limited information available, we have no objections to



the APE as proposed at this time. However, we look forward to providing additional comments upon review of a draft Environmental Impact Statement. Please continue to consult with our office and feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,  
Danielle A. Simon, MA, RPA  
Compliance Review Supervisor  
STOF THPO, Compliance Review Section  
30290 Josie Billie Hwy, PMB 1004  
Clewiston, FL 33440  
Email: [daniellesimon@semtribe.com](mailto:daniellesimon@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, September 9, 2022 11:08 AM  
**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)>; KELLOGG, HELEN L GS-13 USAF AFMC AFCEC/CZN <[helen.kellogg.1@us.af.mil](mailto:helen.kellogg.1@us.af.mil)>; SWICK, NOLAN T GS-13 USAF AFMC AFCEC/CZN <[nolan.swick@us.af.mil](mailto:nolan.swick@us.af.mil)>  
**Subject:** RE: Sec 106 - KC-46A Main Operating Base #6 Beddown - MacDill Air Force Base

Good morning,

The Department of the Air Force has not received a response from your tribe regarding the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the potential environmental consequences associated with the proposed Main Operating Base #6 (MOB 6) beddown of the KC-46A tanker aircraft, which has identified MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, FL as the preferred alternative. Please see attached letters and supporting figures, below email sent 2 May 2022, and/or the project website: [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com), 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:** Monday, May 2, 2022 2:22 PM





**To:** [paulbackhouse@semtribe.com](mailto:paulbackhouse@semtribe.com)

**Cc:** [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)>; KELLOGG, HELEN L GS-13 USAF AFMC AFCEC/CZN  
<[helen.kellogg.1@us.af.mil](mailto:helen.kellogg.1@us.af.mil)>

**Subject:** Sec 106 - KC-46A Main Operating Base #6 Beddown - MacDill Air Force Base

Good afternoon,

The Department of the Air Force (DAF) intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the potential environmental consequences associated with the Main Operating Base #6 (MOB 6) beddown of the KC-46A tanker aircraft. DAF has identified MacDill Air Force Base (AFB) in Florida as the preferred alternative and Fairchild AFB in Washington as a reasonable alternative for the MOB 6 mission. The Air Force would like to initiate government-to-government consultation on the proposed beddown of KC-46A aircraft for MOB 6. The Air Force desires to discuss the proposal in detail with you so that we may understand and consider any comments, concerns, and suggestions you may have. The attached letters initiate the DAF consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Part 800) and requests any information you have on properties of religious and cultural significance on MacDill AFB. The DAF will continue to contact your tribe under NEPA, and consult with your tribe under EO 13175, unless you request otherwise. Details on the proposed actions associated with the MOB 6 beddown are provided in the attached letters and supporting figures. Additional project details can be found by visiting the project website: [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com). 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/PAE  
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



## **A.1.12 Government-to-Government Consultation Initiation Letter from Fairchild AFB Example**



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE**  
**HEADQUARTERS 92D AIR REFUELING WING (AMC)**  
**FAIRCHILD AIR FORCE BASE WASHINGTON**

January 18, 2022

Colonel Cassius T. Bentley III  
Commander  
92d Air Refueling Wing  
1 East Bong Street, Suite 221A  
Fairchild AFB WA 99011

Honorable Chief James Allan  
Coeur d'Alene Tribe  
P.O. Box 408  
850 A Street  
Plummer ID 83851-0408

Dear Chief Allan

The Department of the Air Force (DAF) intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the potential environmental consequences associated with the Main Operating Base #6 (MOB 6) beddown of the KC-46A tanker aircraft. DAF has identified MacDill Air Force Base (AFB) in Florida as the preferred location, and Fairchild AFB in Washington as a reasonable alternative for the MOB 6 mission. A Notice of Intent for this EIS is being published in the Federal Register per 32 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 989.17. This letter serves as notification of the start of the environmental impact assessment and scoping process.

The Air Force would like to initiate government-to-government consultation on the proposed beddown of KC-46A aircraft for MOB 6. This letter initiates our consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Part 800) and requests any information you have on properties of religious and cultural significance on Fairchild AFB. The DAF will continue to contact your tribe under NEPA, and consult with your tribe under EO 13175, unless you request otherwise. Details on the proposed actions associated with the MOB 6 beddown are provided below.

The basing action would require infrastructure, facilities, airfield operations, training activities, and personnel to support the KC-46A mission. Renovation of existing facilities and construction of new facilities would be required on-installation to support the KC-46A, and facility requirements would vary depending on the installation. All flight operations would take place within existing airspace; additions to or alterations of airspace are not being considered. Additional information about the MOB 6 Proposed Action is provided on the project website at [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com).

The EIS will assess the potential environmental consequences of the proposed KC-46A MOB 6 beddown at Fairchild AFB, Washington or MacDill AFB, Florida. The No Action



Alternative will be addressed in the EIS as well. Consultation will be incorporated into preparation of the Draft EIS and will include, but is not limited to, consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Increases of air emissions as a result of this action at both installations will be analyzed in the EIS. Currently, no short- or long-term notable impacts are anticipated. Additional analysis will be provided in the Draft EIS, which is anticipated in early 2023. The Final EIS and a decision on the Proposed Action are expected in late 2023 to early 2024.

Due to public health concerns related to COVID-19, the DAF will not hold face-to-face public scoping meetings. Public scoping is being accomplished remotely, in accordance with the 2020 version of 40 CFR Part 1506.6, via the project website at [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com) and two virtual public scoping meetings. The website provides posters, a presentation, an informational brochure, a capability for the public to provide public scoping comments, and information on the virtual public scoping meetings. Comments or questions regarding this project may be directed to Ms. Helen Kellogg via email at [afcec.czn.workflow@us.af.mil](mailto:afcec.czn.workflow@us.af.mil); include KC-46A MOB 6 EIS in the subject line or via postal mail to: AFCEC/CZN, Attn: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS, 2261 Hughes Ave, Suite 155, JBSA Lackland, TX 78236-9853.

All tribal, public, agency, and stakeholder comments provided to the DAF will be considered during preparation of the EIS. We respect the unique government-to-government relationship that exists between the DAF and your tribe, and your input on the project is welcome at any time during the EIS process. However, submitting scoping comments by May 18, 2022 will ensure we have sufficient time to consider your input in the Draft EIS.

Please let us know if you have any preferences or expectations relative to consultation regarding the KC-46A MOB6 beddown. My Installation Tribal Liaison Officer (ITLO), Mr. Jeff Johnson, will continue to provide you updates at key milestones in the EIS process and he is always available to discuss any concerns with you. You can contact him at (509)247-1470 or [jeffrey.johnson.64@us.af.mil](mailto:jeffrey.johnson.64@us.af.mil).

Sincerely

**BENTLEY.CASSIU** Digitally signed by  
BENTLEY.CASSIU.S.T.III.110290  
**S.T.III.1102901327**  
Date: 2022.01.28 12:36:58 -0800

CASSIUS T. BENTLEY, III, Colonel, USAF  
Commander



### **A.1.13 Government-to-Government Follow-Up Letter with APE from Fairchild AFB Example**



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE**  
**HEADQUARTERS 92D AIR REFUELING WING (AMC)**  
**FAIRCHILD AIR FORCE BASE WASHINGTON**

Jeffrey R. Johnson  
Installation Tribal Liaison Officer  
5 West Bong St  
Fairchild AFB WA 99011

8 April 2022

Honorable Chief James Allan  
Coeur d'Alene Tribe  
PO Box 408  
850 A Street  
Plummer, ID 83851-0408

Dear Chief Allan,

This letter provides an update on the proposed Main Operating Base #6 (MOB 6) beddown of the KC-46A tanker aircraft at Fairchild Air Force Base (AFB) in Washington State. The Department of the Air Force (DAF) sent you an initial government-to-government consultation letter regarding preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the potential environmental consequences associated with the proposed undertaking at both Fairchild AFB and MacDill AFB in Florida. The beddown associated with this proposal would occur at one of the two bases with MacDill AFB identified as preferred alternative for the MOB 6 mission. The basing action would require infrastructure, facilities, airfield operations, training activities, and personnel to support the KC-46A mission at the selected alternative. Renovation of existing facilities and construction of new facilities would be required at the selected installation to support the KC-46A. Facility requirements would vary depending on the installation. All flight operations would take place within existing airspace of the selected alternative; additions to or alterations of airspace are not being considered. Additional information about the MOB 6 Proposed Action is provided on the project website at [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com). Please note this update/correction regarding virtual public scoping meetings: The initial letter sent to your tribe indicated virtual public scoping meetings would be held; however the DAF determined all public scoping for this project will occur through the project website.

The DAF is providing this update as part of the consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Part 800). Since the mailing of the initial government-to-government consultation letter for the proposed beddown of KC-46A aircraft for MOB 6, the DAF has established an Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the Fairchild AFB alternative based on preliminary site assessments. The proposed APE includes the following:

1) existing buildings and structures that would require alterations to accommodate the KC-46 aircraft and mission,





2) the locations of proposed new buildings and structures necessary to support the KC-46 mission, and

3) a 0.25-mile buffer around the buildings and structures mentioned in items 1 and 2 above to evaluate potential effects of the proposed alternative on those buildings and structures and any historic properties that would have a view of the proposed construction activities. A map of the APE is included as an Attachment.

The DAF requests your review of the APE and any information you have on properties of religious and cultural significance in the APE on Fairchild AFB. The DAF will continue to contact your tribe under NEPA, and consult with your tribe under EO 13175, unless you request otherwise. Comments or questions regarding this project may be directed to Ms. Helen Kellogg via email at Helen.Kellogg.1@us.af.mil including KC-46A MOB 6 EIS in the subject line or via postal mail to: Helen Kellogg, AFCEC/CZN, Attn: KC-46A MOB 6 EIS, 2261 Hughes Ave, Suite 155, JB SA Lackland, TX 78236-9853.

All tribal, public, agency, and stakeholder comments provided to the DAF will be considered during preparation of the EIS. We respect the unique government-to-government relationship that exists between the DAF and your tribe, and your input on the project is welcome at any time during the EIS process. However, submitting scoping comments within 30 days of receipt of this letter will ensure we have sufficient time to consider your input in the Draft EIS.

Sincerely,

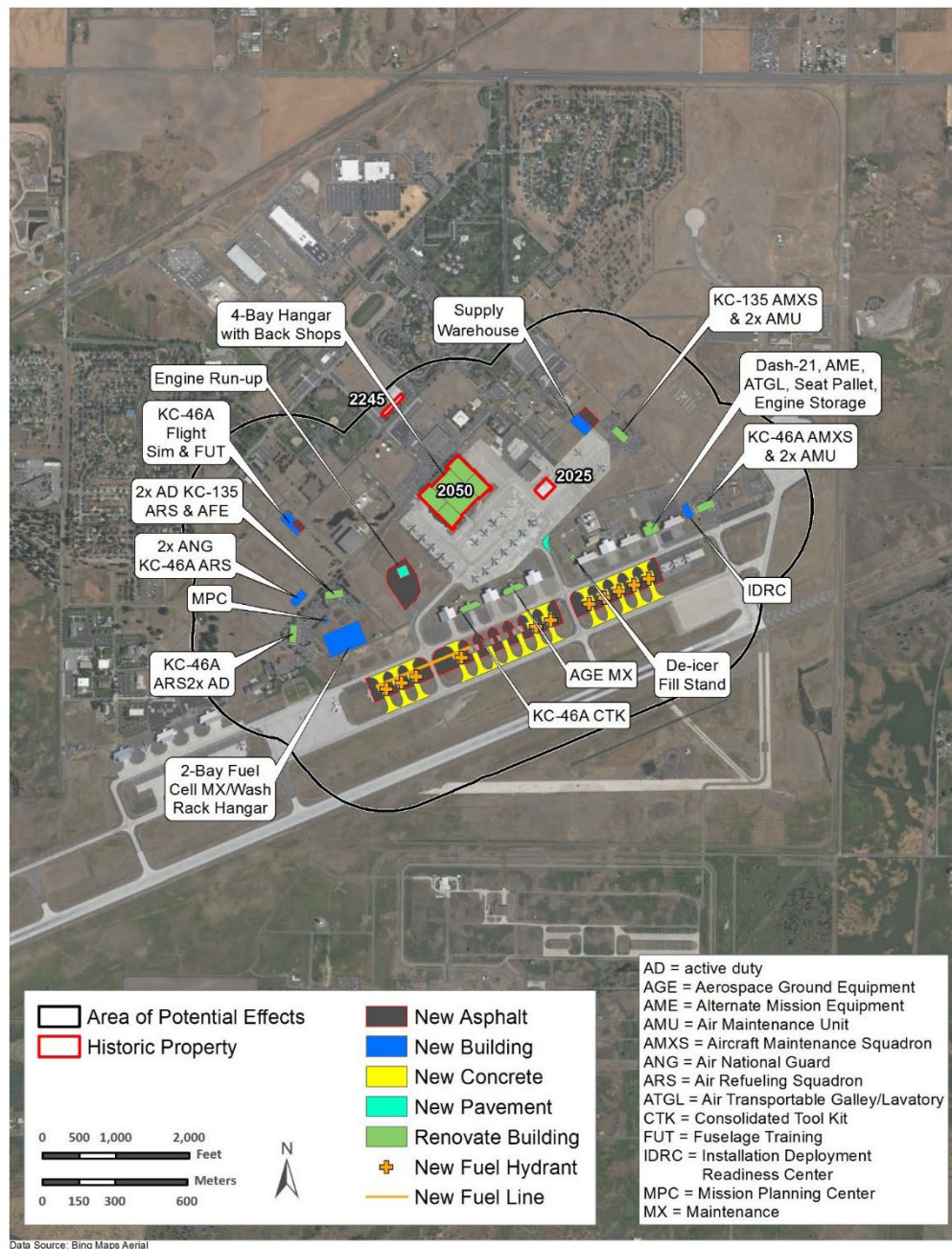
JOHNSONJEFFR  
EY.R.1044990268  
JEFFREY R. JOHNSON, GS-14, DAFC  
Installation Tribal Liaison Officer

Digitally signed by  
JOHNSONJEFFREY.R.1044990268  
Date: 2022.04.08 12:20:03 -07'00'

Attachment:

Figure 1. Map Showing Area of Potential Effects (APE)





**Figure 1. Map Showing Area of Potential Effects (APE)**

## A.1.14 Sample DEIS Distribution Letter from Fairchild AFB



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS 92D AIR REFUELING WING (AMC)  
FAIRCHILD AIR FORCE BASE WASHINGTON**

Jeffrey R. Johnson  
Installation Tribal Liaison Officer  
5 West Bong St  
Fairchild AFB WA 99011

27 January 2023

Honorable Chief James Allan  
Coeur d'Alene Tribe  
PO Box 408  
850 A Street  
Plummer, ID 83851-0408

Dear Chief Allan,

The Department of the Air Force (DAF) is pleased to provide you with a copy of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS; Enclosure 1) for the KC-46A Main Operating Base #6 (MOB 6). The DAF previously contacted you via an initial government-to-government consultation letter and a follow-up letter regarding preparation of the EIS, which is now being provided in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This document is also available online at [www.kc46amob6eis.com](http://www.kc46amob6eis.com).

Notification of the availability of the Draft EIS will appear in the Federal Register to initiate the public review period. The EIS analyzes alternative installations (MacDill AFB, Florida [Alternative 1 – Preferred Alternative] and Fairchild AFB, Washington [Alternative 2]) for the MOB 6 beddown, which includes the basing of 24 KC-46A tanker aircraft and the infrastructure, facilities, airfield operations, training activities, personnel, and airspace to support the mission transition between fiscal years 2026 and 2028. The Final EIS and a Record of Decision on the Proposed Action are expected in Fall 2023. Additional information is also available on the project website at <http://www.kc46amob6eis.com>.

The DAF will hold two virtual public hearings on the Draft EIS via internet/phone on March 7, 2023 from 5:30 pm to 8 pm EST to accommodate the public located near the MacDill AFB Alternative and March 9, 2023 from 5:30 pm to 8 pm PST to accommodate the public located near the Fairchild AFB Alternative. The purpose of the hearings is to receive input on the proposed action and alternatives and the Draft EIS analysis. The hearings will also be announced through local media. Instructions for participating in the virtual public hearing and more information are provided on the project website, [www.kc46mob6eis.com](http://www.kc46mob6eis.com). Links to the on-line virtual public hearings will be provided on the project website allowing interested parties to electronically participate in the public hearings, and a phone number will be provided for those without internet access.

All tribal comments regarding properties of religious and cultural significance provided at the hearings and through written comments received via postal mail, email, and the project website will be considered in the preparation of the Final EIS. We respect the unique government-to-



government relationship that exists between the DAF and your tribe, and your input on the project is welcome at any time during the EIS process. However, submitting comments within 45 days of receipt of this letter will ensure we have sufficient time to consider your input in the Final EIS. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any comments or questions regarding this project at (509) 247-1470 or [jeffrey.johnson.64@us.af.mil](mailto:jeffrey.johnson.64@us.af.mil).

Sincerely,



JEFFREY R. JOHNSON, GS-14, DAFC  
Installation Tribal Liaison Officer

Attachments:

DVD - KC-46 EIS MOB 6, Draft EIS

cc:

Dr. Jill Wagner, THPO



## A.1.15 Responses from Tribes to Fairchild AFB

### A.1.15.1 *Spokane Tribe of Indians*



## Spokane Tribe of Indians Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

P. Box 100 Wellpinit WA 99040

April 19, 2022

**To:** Joshua Potter, Fairchild Air Force Base Air Quality Engineer

**RE: MOB 6- KC EIS**

Mr. Potter,

Thank you for contacting the Tribe's Historic Preservation Office. We appreciate the opportunity to provide a cultural consult for your project, the intent of this process is to preserve and protect all cultural resources whenever protection is feasible.

After archive research of this area has a high probability for cultural resources this project is just renovation to the buildings there has been some cultural surveys completed on the base, T25, R41 sections 28,29,32, I have no further concern however, any new facilities would require more consultation.

**RE:** This project will require an **inadvertent discovery plan of action** implemented into the scope of work.

This letter is your notification that your project has been cleared, and your project may move forward.

As always, if any artifacts or human remains are found upon excavation, this office should be immediately notified and the work in the immediate area **cease**.

Should additional information become available or scope of work change our assessment may be revised. Again, thank you for this opportunity to comment and consider this a positive action that will assist in protecting our shared heritage.

If questions arise, please contact me at (509) 258 – 4222.

Sincerely,

Randy Abrahamson

Tribal Historic Preservation Officer – THPO

---



*A.1.15.2 Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation*

**From:** Robert Sloma <robert.sloma@colvilletribes.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 9, 2022 1:02 PM  
**To:** KELLOGG, HELEN L GS-13 USAF AFMC AFCEC/CZN <helen.kellogg.1@us.af.mil>  
**Cc:** POTTER, JOSHUA S GS-12 USAF AMC 92 CES/CEIE <joshua.potter.2@us.af.mil>; JOHNSON, JEFFREY R GS-14 USAF AMC 92 MSG/DD <jeffrey.johnson.64@us.af.mil>; Guy Moura (HSY) <guy.moura@colvilletribes.com>  
**Subject:** [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] MOB 6 KC-46 EIS Section 106 Tribal Consultation Initiation and APE Description

Dear Ms Kellogg:

The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (also known as the Colville Confederated Tribes or CCT) received notice of the above referenced EIS from Colonel Cassius T. Bentley III, Commander of the 92d Air Refueling Wing at Fairchild Air Force Base, in Spokane, Washington and Jeffrey R. Johnson, Installation Tribal Liaison Officer via Joshua S. Potter, Fairchild Air Force Base Air Quality Engineer/EPCRA/Toxic/Rideshare/NEPA Program Manager.

Fairchild Air Force Base lies within the usual and accustomed grounds and areas of the CCT. The Area of Potential Effect (APE) also likely overlaps the Spokane Plains battleground, a conflict during the Coeur d'Alene War of 1858 in which Palus and other Native American Tribes participated. This running battle stretched for fourteen miles and according to Manring (1912:204, 207) resulted in at least six Native Americans dead and three wounded. Trogdon (1970) writes that this battle is "Perhaps, one of the most important episodes in our history as well as the most deplorable, is our treatment of the American Indian."

The Palus Tribe is one of the twelve tribes that make up the CCT, which is governed by the Colville Business Council (CBC). The CBC has delegated to the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) the responsibility of representing the CCT with regard to cultural resources management issues throughout the traditional territories of all of the constituent tribes under Resolution 1996-29. This area includes parts of eastern Washington, northeastern Oregon, and the Palus (Palouse) territory in Idaho.

**The CCT desires to be included as a consulting party in regard to the proposed MOB6 beddown of the KC-46A tanker aircraft at Fairchild Air Force Base EIS and concurs with the APE as described by Mr. Johnson.**

The Fairchild Air Force Base is considered by the CCT to be highly sensitive for containing evidence of Pre Contact to historic period Native American activity. Information on Native American use in the project vicinity shows that prehistoric, ethnographic, historic, and traditional sites of value to the CCT surround the project area.

The CCT look forward to continuing consultation on this project and offer our appreciation for your assistance with protecting cultural resources. Please note that these comments are based on information available to us at this time. We reserve the right to revise our comments as information becomes available. Please contact me if you have any questions in regard to this response.





#### REFERENCES CITED

Manring, Benjamin Franklin  
1912 The Conquest of the Coeur d'Alenes, Spokanes and Palouses: The Expeditions of Colonels E.J. Steptoe and George Wright Against the "Northern Indians" in 1858. Spokane, Washington: Inland Print. Co.

Trogdon, William H.  
1970 Battle of Spokane Plains State Park [National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form.] Electronic document,  
<http://properties.historicspokane.org/pdf/properties/property-1985.pdf>, accessed

May 13, 2020.

--

**Robert A. Sloma**  
Archaeologist  
History/Archaeology Program  
Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation  
PO Box 150  
Nespelem, WA 99155  
Tel: (509) 634-2692  
Cell: (509) 557-2273  
[robert.sloma@colvilletribes.com](mailto:robert.sloma@colvilletribes.com)



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# MOB6

KC-46A MAIN OPERATING  
BASE NO.6 BEDDOWN



HEADQUARTERS AIR  
MOBILITY COMMAND