

I MINA 'TRENTAI KUÅTTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN

Informational Briefing

REPORT	STANDING COMMITTEE / SENATOR	DATE	DATE FILED	NOTES
Informational Briefing	Committee on Culture and Justice	3/21/17 5:30 p.m.	5/8/17 3:48 p.m.	Committee Report for March 21, 2017 Informational Briefing Relative to Historic Properties Impacted by Proposed Urban Warfare at Anderson South and Proposed Live-Fire Training Range Complex at Ritidian and Northwest Field, AAFB.



OFFICE OF THE VICE SPEAKER
THERESE M. TERLAJE
Chairperson of the Committee
On Culture and Justice

I Mina'trentai Kuåttro na Liheslaturan Guåhan
34th Guam Legislature

May 5, 2017

The Honorable Benjamin J.F. Cruz

Speaker

I Mina'trentai Kuåttro na Liheslaturan Guåhan

34th Guam Legislature

Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

VIA: The Honorable Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
Chairperson, Committee on Rules



RE: Committee Report for March 21, 2017 Informational Briefing Relative to Historic Properties Impacted by Proposed Urban Warfare at Andersen South and Proposed Live-Fire Training Range Complex at Ritidian and Northwest Field, AAFB.

Dear Speaker Cruz:

Transmitted herewith is the Committee Report from the March 21, 2017 Informational Briefing Relative to Historic Properties Impacted by Proposed Urban Warfare at Andersen South and Proposed Live-Fire Training Range Complex at Ritidian and Northwest Field, AAFB convened by the Committee on Culture and Justice, pursuant to Section 11.06(a) of Rule XI, on Informational Briefings.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse',

Therese M. Terlaje



2017 MAY -8 PM 3:48

COMMITTEE REPORT ON

March 21, 2017 Informational Briefing

- Historic Properties to be adversely impacted by the proposed urban warfare training range at Andersen South and proposed mitigation plans.
- Cultural and Historic resources impacted by the proposed Live-Fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC) at Ritidian and Northwest Field, AAFB, the Biological Opinion on critical habitat due to U.S. Fish & Wildlife in Fall 2017, the Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP) between the U.S. Fish & Wildlife and the Department of Defense, and an update on the Programmatic Agreement for this project.



Senator Therese Terlaje <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>

FIRST Notice of Information Briefing - Tuesday, March 21, 2017, 5:30 PM

3 messages

Senator Therese Terlaje <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>

Tue, Mar 14, 2017 at 6:09 AM

To: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

Cc: Senator Therese Terlaje <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>

Håfa adai,

Please see pasted below and attached notice of Information Briefing from Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje.

Should you have any questions, please contact our office.

Thank you,

Nicole Santos

March 13, 2017

MEMORANDUM

From: Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje
Chairperson, Committee on Culture and Justice

Subject: FIRST NOTICE of Information Briefing - Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 5:30 PM

Håfa Adai!

In accordance with the Open Government Law, relative to notices for public meetings, please be advised that the Committee on Culture and Justice will convene a public hearing on **Tuesday, March 21, 2017**, beginning at **5:30 PM** in ***I Liheslaturan Guåhan's Public Hearing Room (Guam Congress Building, Hagåtña)***. On the agenda are the following items:

- Historic Properties to be adversely impacted by the proposed urban warfare training range at Andersen South, proposed mitigation plans, and the process by which public comments are due to the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas on April 24, 2017;
- Cultural and Historic resources impacted by the proposed Live-Fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC) at Northwest Field, AAFB, the Biological Opinion on critical habitat due to U.S. Fish & Wildlife in Fall 2017, the Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP) between the U.S. Fish & Wildlife and the Department of Defense, and an update on the Programmatic Agreement for this project.

The briefing will broadcast on local television, GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117/60.4 and stream online via *I Liheslaturan Guåhan's* live feed. If written testimonies are to be presented at the Information Briefing, the Committee requests that copies be submitted prior to the briefing date and should be addressed to Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje. Testimonies may be submitted via hand delivery to the Office of Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje at the Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam; at the mail room of the Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910; or via email to senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special accommodations or services should contact the Office of Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, at (671) 472-3586 or by sending an email to senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com.

We look forward to your attendance and participation.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse'!

--

The Office of Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje
Committee on Culture and Justice
I Mina'trentai Kuåttro na Liheslaturan Guåhan
34th Guam Legislature

Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

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senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com

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 **IB_First Notice_032117.pdf**
170K

Michael Carlson <mcarlson@guamlegislature.org>
To: Senator Therese Terlaje <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>

Tue, Mar 14, 2017 at 7:49 AM

Hafa Adai Nicole!

Your announcement states the meeting is an informational briefing, but the notice states it's a public hearing...

si Miguët

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Michael D. Carlson
Senior Policy Analyst
Ofc. of Sen. James V. Espaldon
I LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
Cell: 671-988-5390

Joe San Agustin <joesa@guamlegislature.org>
To: Senator Therese Terlaje <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>

Tue, Mar 14, 2017 at 8:27 AM

Received and now posted, Thank You.

On Tue, Mar 14, 2017 at 6:09 AM, Senator Therese Terlaje <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com> wrote:
[Quoted text hidden]

--

Joe San Agustin

Chief Protocol Officer (Acting)

I Mina'trentai Kuåttro na Liheslaturan Guåhan

155 Hesler Place, Suite 201, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

www.guamlegislature.com / protocol@guamlegislature.org




OFFICE OF THE VICE SPEAKER
THERESE M. TERLAJE
Chairperson of the Committee
On Culture and Justice

I Mina'trentai Kuàttro na Liheslaturan Guåhan
34th Guam Legislature

March 13, 2017

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Chairperson, Committee on Culture and Justice

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We look forward to your attendance and participation.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse'!



Senator Therese Terlaje <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>

SECOND Notice of Information Briefing - Tuesday, March 21, 2017, 5:30 PM

1 message

Senator Therese Terlaje <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>

Thu, Mar 16, 2017 at 4:25 PM

To: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

Cc: Senator Therese Terlaje <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>

Håfa adai,

Please see pasted below and attached notice of Information Briefing from Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje.

Should you have any questions, please contact our office.

Thank you,

Nicole Santos

March 16, 2017

MEMORANDUM

From: Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje

Chairperson, Committee on Culture and Justice

Subject: SECOND NOTICE of Information Briefing - Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 5:30 PM

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In accordance with the Open Government Law, relative to notices for public meetings, please be advised that the Committee on Culture and Justice will convene an information briefing

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We look forward to your attendance and participation.

Si Yu'os Ma'åse'!

--
The Office of Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje
Committee on Culture and Justice
I Mina'trentai Kuåtto na Liheslaturan Guåhan
34th Guam Legislature

Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

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THERESE M. TERLAJE
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I Mina'trentai Kuàttro na Liheslaturan Guåhan
34th Guam Legislature

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We look forward to your attendance and participation.

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w/media

PHNOTICE Listing

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xiosormd@yahoo.com
ylee2@guam.gannett.com
yourvoice.guam@gmail.com

ON THE FRIDGE

Send your submissions for "On the Fridge" to life@guampdn.com. Include: who, what, where, when and how much — as well as a point of contact for more information.

TODAY

Public hearing: The Guam Legislature's Com-

mittee on Culture and Justice will convene an informational briefing for the public at 5:30 p.m. March 21 in I Liheslaturan Guåhan's Public Hearing Room (Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, 96910) to discuss: (1) historic properties to be adversely impacted by the proposed urban warfare training range at Andersen South, proposed mitigation plans, and the process by

which public comments are due to the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas on April 24, 2017; and (2) cultural and historic resources impacted by the proposed Live-Fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC) at Northwest Field and an update on the Programmatic Agreement for this project. The public is invited to attend the informational briefing and provide comments. For more information, con-

tact the Office of Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje at (671) 472-3586 or email senatorterlaje-guam@gmail.com.

Lupus support group: Lupus Awareness Group of Guam Member Support Session will be held beginning at 6 p.m. March 21 at the Agana Heights Senior Center. For questions, email lupusguam@gmail.com.

Parent training: Parent training on emotional disabilities from 5:30 to 7 p.m. March 21 at the Chief Brodie Elementary School, SPED Training Room 2. For special accommodations or to register by phone, call DOE SPED Parent Service Office at 300-1321 or email the Division of Special Education at sped@gdoe.net.

World Down Syndrome Day: In commemoration of World Down Syndrome Day, the Down Syndrome Association of Guam will be celebrating Mass at 7 p.m. March 21 at St. Jude Catholic Church in Sinajana. Additional activities will continue from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 25 in collaboration with the Guam Developmental Disabilities Council in conjunction with Disabilities Month at the Castle Building in Mangilao. The goal of this event is to encourage families and friends of individuals with

Down Syndrome to congregate and socialize. Please join us for food, fun and activities. Open to the public and volunteers. For more information, please contact Nacrina Mendiola at nacrina.mendiola@gmail.com or 480-0005/789-7610.

TOMORROW

Volunteers for coral reef: The Guam Community Coral Reef Monitoring Program will host training sessions for residents who want to become members and help monitor Guam's coral reefs. Interested residents must pre-register and complete Class Training and In-Water Training. Class Training will be from 10 a.m. to noon March 18, 22, and 29 at the NOAA Fisheries Office in Tiyan. Participants need to attend one Classroom Training. In-Water Training will follow from 9 to 11 a.m. April 1 at Tepungan Beach Park in Piti. Combo training to satisfy both Class and In-Water training will be from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. April 8 next to the Merizo Basketball Court. Participants will learn how to collect data on corals and other marine species on Guam's reef flats using scientific survey methods. Members can participate in monitoring surveys

See FRIDGE, Page 20

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	BOX PRICE	WITH INSTALLATION	COUPON
13 SEER			
*9000 BTU	\$280	\$410	\$35
*12000 BTU	\$340	\$470	\$35
*18000 BTU	\$485	\$650	\$50
*24000 BTU	\$665	\$875	\$50

13 SEER STANDING UNIT

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16 SEER SPLIT AC UNIT ★FREE INSTALLATION COUPON

9000 BTU	\$550	\$35
12000 BTU	\$650	\$35
18000 BTU	\$780	\$50
24000 BTU	SOLD OUT	\$50

WINDOW UNIT

5000BTU	\$129	8000BTU	\$249
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WELL KNOWN BRAND MORE THAN 20 YEARS

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ON THE FRIDGE

Send your submissions for "On the Fridge" to life@guampdn.com. Include: who, what, where, when and how much — as well as a point of contact for more information.

TOMORROW

Public hearing: The Guam Legislature's Committee on Culture and Justice will convene an informational briefing for the public at 5:30 p.m. March 21 in I Liheslaturan Guåhan's Public Hearing Room (Guam Congress Building,

163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, 96910) to discuss: (1) historic properties to be adversely impacted by the proposed urban warfare training range at Andersen South, proposed mitigation plans, and the process by which public comments are due to the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas on April 24, 2017; and (2) cultural and historic resources impacted by the proposed Live-Fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC) at Northwest Field and an update on the Programmatic Agreement for this project. The public is invited to attend the informational briefing and provide comments.

For more information, contact (671) 472-3586 or email senatorterlajeguan@gmail.com.

Lupus support group: Lupus Awareness Group of Guam Member Support Session will be held beginning at 6 p.m. March 21 at the Agana Heights Senior Center. For questions, email lupusguam@gmail.com.

Parent training: Parent training on emotional disabilities from 5:30 to 7 p.m. March 21 at the Chief Brodie Elementary School, SPED Training Room 2. For special accommodations or to register by phone, call DOE SPED Parent Service Office at 300-1321 or email the Division of

Special Education at sped@gdoe.net.

World Down Syndrome Day

Day: In commemoration of World Down Syndrome Day, the Down Syndrome Association of Guam will be celebrating Mass at 7 p.m. March 21 at St. Jude Catholic Church in Sinajana. Additional activities will continue from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 25 in collaboration with the Guam Developmental Disabilities Council in conjunction with Disabilities Month at the Castle Building in Mangilao. The goal of this event is to encourage families and friends of individuals with Down Syndrome to congregate and socialize. Please join us for food, fun and activities. Open to the public and volunteers. For more information, please contact 480-0005/789-7610.

ONGOING

Volunteers for coral reef: The Guam Community Coral Reef Monitoring Program will host training sessions for residents who want to become members and help monitor Guam's coral

Water training will be from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. April 8 next to the Merizo Basketball Court. Participants will learn how to collect data on corals and other marine species on Guam's reef flats using scientific survey methods. Members can participate in monitoring surveys after training. Data collected by members will help track changes in the health of Guam's reef flats over time. Service learning credit available for high school students. To pre-register or for more information, call 646-1905 or email gureefmonitoring@gmail.com.

Women's Art exhibit: Soroptimist International of Guam, Guam Council of Women's Clubs, Guam Council on the Arts & Humanities Agency, Department of Chamorro Affairs and Isla Center for the Arts will be holding the 12th Annual Women's Art Exhibit in honor of Women's History Month at the regular business hours Monday through Sunday from March 17 to 25 at the Infiniti Art Gallery, Nissan Showroom, Upper Tumon. Free



GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

March 21

» The Southern Guam Soil and Water Conservation District will hold its regular monthly board meeting at 4 p.m. March 21 at the University of Guam's Agriculture and Life Sciences Building, Room 202. For information, email southern-guamswcd@gmail.com.

» The Guam Legislature's Committee on Culture and Justice will convene an informational briefing for the public at 5:30 p.m. March 21 in I Liheslaturan Guahan's Public Hearing Room (Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, 96910) to discuss: (1) historic properties to be adversely impacted by the proposed urban warfare training range at Andersen South, proposed mitigation plans, and the process by which public comments are due to the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas on April 24, 2017; and (2) cultural and historic resources impacted by the proposed Live-Fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC) at Northwest Field and an update on the Programmatic Agreement for this project. For special accommodations, contact the Office of Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje at (671) 472-3586 or email senatorterlaje-guam@gmail.com.

» The Consolidated Commission on Utilities will hold their regular monthly meeting at 5:30 p.m. March 21 at

the CCU Conference Room, 3rd floor, Gloria B. Nelson Public Service building, Route 15, Mangilao. For special accommodations, contact Lou Sablan at 648-3002.

» The Civil Service Commission board will have a meeting at 5:45 p.m. March 21 in their conference room located in Suite 6A, 777 Route 4, Sinajana. For information or special accommodations, call 647-1855, 647-1857, FAX 647-1867, TTY 649-7002.

March 22

» Alcoholic Beverage Control board meeting will be held at 5 p.m. March 22 at the 1240 Army Drive Route 16 Barrigada, Department of Revenue and Taxation Director's Conference Room. For more information, call 635-1806.

March 23

» The Guam Visitors Bureau will hold a regular meeting of the board of directors at 3:30 p.m. March 23 in GVB's Main Conference Room. For special accommodations, contact GVB at 646-5278.

» The Guam Board of Accountancy will meet at 4 p.m. March 23 at 335 South Marine Corps Drive, Suite 101, Tamuning. Individuals requiring special accommodations please call 647-0813.

» The Department of Chamorro Affairs board of trustees (DCA) will hold its board meeting at 4 p.m.

March 23 at the DCA/CAHA Conference Room, 194 Hernan Cortez Avenue, 1st Floor Terlaje Professional Building, Hagåtña. For information or special accommodations, contact Patti Hernandez at 475-4278.

» The Civil Service Commission board will have a meeting at 5:45 p.m. March 23 in their conference room located in Suite 6A, 777 Route 4, Sinajana. For information or special accommodations, call 647-1855, 647-1857, FAX 647-1867, TTY 649-7002.

March 24

» The Government of Guam Retirement Fund

board of trustees re meeting is scheduled noon March 24 in the Fund Conference Room, 424 Route 8, 1 Agenda will be made available prior to the meeting. For special accommodations, contact the board trustees' office at 8900-1.

March 28

» The Guam Board Registration for Professional Engineers, Architect Land Surveyors (PLS) meeting is scheduled p.m. March 28 in the Board conference room, located at the East West Business Center Unit D Suite 208

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GU16R0838	12801	RED	GU16R0871	12377	WI
GU16R0840	11244	WHITE	GU16R0873	12221	P
GU16R0841	12873	RED	GU16R0874	12243	BRO
GU16R0846	11680	BLACK	GU16R0875	12026	P

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Benefiting Guam National Golf Federation 649-LUCK (5825)

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HALF BLACKOUT GIVEAWAY \$1,500	7 PACKAGE GAMES \$1,000

ON THE FRIDGE

Continued from Page 12

Monitoring Program and National Park Service invite the public to attend Science Sunday at 2 p.m. March 19 at the T. Stell Newman Visitor Center in Santa Rita. In celebration of Mes Chamoru, Ignacio "Nash" Camacho, one of Guam's traditional navigators, will talk about the science behind traditional navigation and share his seafaring experience. Event is free to the public. Seating is limited and based on a first-come, first-served basis. More information: 646-1905 or email gureefmonitoring@gmail.com.

ONGOING

Volunteers for coral reef: The Guam Community Coral Reef Monitoring Program will host training sessions for residents who want to become members and help monitor Guam's coral reefs. Interested residents must pre-register and complete Class Training and In-Water Training. Class Training will be from 10 a.m. to noon March 18, 22, and 29 at the NOAA Fisheries Office in Tiyan. Participants need to attend one Classroom Training. In-Water Training will follow from 9 to 11 a.m. April 1 at Tepungan Beach Park in Piti. Combo training to satisfy both Class and In-Water training will be from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. April 8 next to the Merizo Basketball Court. Participants will learn how to collect data on corals and other marine species on Guam's reef flats using scientific survey methods. Members can participate in monitoring surveys after training. Data collected by members will help track changes in the health of Guam's reef flats over

regular business hours Monday through Sunday from March 17 to 25 at the Infiniti Art Gallery, Nissan Showroom, Upper Tumon. Free admission. For more information contact Mark Duenas or Sherrie Barcinas at 300-1204-8.

Art show: The Guam Council of the Arts and Humanities Agency will present a dual exhibit by Yeon Sook Park and Chul Wan Kim from March 3 to 31 at its gallery in Hagåtña. The CAHA gallery is located on the first floor of the Terlaje Professional Building at 194 Hernan Cortez Avenue. For inquiries, call Mark Duenas/Yeon Sook Park at 300-1204 to 08/988-3302.

MARCH

Public hearing: The Guam Legislature's Committee on Culture and Justice will convene an informational briefing for the public at 5:30 p.m. March 21 in I Liheslaturan Guåhan's Public Hearing Room (Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, 96910) to discuss: (1) historic properties to be adversely impacted by the proposed urban warfare training range at Andersen South, proposed mitigation plans, and the process by which public comments are due to the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas on April 24, 2017; and (2) cultural and historic resources impacted by the proposed Live-Fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC) at Northwest Field and an update on the Programmatic Agreement for this project. The public is invited to attend the informational briefing and provide comments. For more information, contact the Office of Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje at (671) 472-3586 or email senatorterlaje-guam@gmail.com.

Church in Sinajana. Additional activities will continue from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 25 in collaboration with the Guam Developmental Disabilities Council in conjunction with Disabilities Month at the Castle Building in Mangilao. The goal of this event is to encourage families and friends of individuals with Down Syndrome to congregate and socialize. Please join us for food, fun and activities. Open to the public and volunteers. For more information, please contact Nacrina Mendiola at nacrina.mendiola@gmail.com or 480-0005/789-7610.

Wave to save Pago Bay: Save Southern Guam, Inc. continues the quest to limit development of Pago Bay and stop the proposed construction of high-rise towers on the seashore beside the river. Join the protest to let government leaders know the public is not in favor of a high-rise hotel/condominium at Pago Bay. Bring family and friends to our eighth wave from 4:30 to 6 p.m. March 23 at the Pago River pavilion/bridge. For more information, call Linda at 828-7704 or email lindian@teleguam.net.

Parenting seminar: Life in the Son Christian Fellowship is holding a parenting seminar on how to meet contemporary challenges of parenting and how to discipline with a purpose from 6:30 to 8 p.m. March 24 at the MTM Mayor's Office. Cost is free. Free food care package while supplies last. For more information, contact 477-5487 or visit lifeinthetonguam.org.

Malesso festival: The Merizo Mayor and his Merizo Municipal Planning Council in conjunction with the Guam Visitors Bureau will be hosting the 9th Annual Malesso Gupot Chamorro/Crab Festival on March 24,

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ON THE FRIDGE

Send your submissions for "On the Fridge" to life@guampdn.com. Include: who, what, where, when and how much — as well as a point of contact for more information.

NEW LISTINGS

Public hearing: The Guam Legislature's Committee on Culture and Justice will convene an informational briefing for the public at 5:30 p.m. March 21 in I Liheslaturan Guåhan's Public Hearing Room (Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, 96910) to discuss: (1) historic properties to be adversely impacted by the proposed urban warfare training range at Andersen South, proposed mitigation plans, and the process by which public comments are due to the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas on April 24, 2017; and (2) cultural and historic resources impacted by the proposed Live-Fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC) at Northwest Field and an update on the Programmatic

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TODAY

Weddings in Paradise show: The 11th annual Weddings in Paradise Show from 1 to 6 p.m. March 18 at the Dusit Thani Guam Resort. Admission is free. Dreamy inspirations, creative ideas and expert advice under one roof. From ceremony to reception, over thirty exhibitors to help you plan your big day. Check out the seminars from budgeting to planning to looking good, these experts share their tips to help you save time, money and stress. Winners of the Bridal Boot Camp season three and the Picture Perfect Photo Contest will also be announced. For details, call 479-0501.

Wave against marijuana

na: Wave against recreational marijuana from 4 to 5:30 p.m. March 18 at BOG/FHP clinic in Tamarindo intersection.

Bye Bye Birdie musical at Guam High School is p



Chelsea Clinton writes children's book, 'She Persisted'

NEW YORK (AP) — Chelsea Clinton has written a children's book, with a sharply worded title.

The book is called "She Persisted" and comes out May 30, Penguin Young Readers announced Thursday.

Clinton will honor 13 American women. "who never take no for an answer," including Harriet Tubman, Sonia Sotomayor and Oprah Winfrey. "She Persisted"

will also feature a "special" and unidentified cameo, presumably Clinton's mother, Hillary Clinton.

The book will be illustrated by Alexandra Boiger.

"I wrote this book for everyone who's ever wanted to speak up but has been told to quiet down — for everyone who's ever been made to feel less than," Chelsea Clinton said in a statement. "The 13 women in 'She Persisted' all overcame adversity to help

shape our country — sometimes through speaking out, sometimes by staying seated, sometimes by captivating an audience. With this book, I want to send a message to young readers around the country — and the world — that persistence is power."

The title refers to a comment — now a catchphrase — by Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell after the silencing of Sen. Eliza-

beth Warren during a debate in February about the confirmation of attorney general nominee Jeff Sessions. Warren, a Democrat, posed the nomination was speaking against the Senate floor when publicans invoked a known rule to stop her.

"Sen. Warren was given a lengthy speech," McConnell later explained. had appeared to violate the rule. She was warned

GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

New Listings

» The Consolidated Commission on Utilities will hold their regular monthly meeting at 5:30 p.m. March 21 at the CCU Conference Room, 3rd floor, Gloria B. Nelson Public Service building, Route 15, Mangilao. For special accommodations, contact 648-3002.

March 21

» The Southern Guam Soil and Water Conservation District will hold its regular monthly board meeting at 4 p.m. March 21 at the University of Guam's Agriculture and Life Sciences Building, Room 202. For information, email southernguamswcd@gmail.com.

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dations please call 647-

» The Department of Chamorro Affairs board trustees (DCA) will hold board meeting at 4 March 23 at the DCA/Conference Room, 19½ nan Cortez Avenue, 1st Terlaje Professional Building, Hagåtña. For information or special accommodations, contact Patti Hernandez at 475-4278.

» The Civil Service Commission board will hold meeting at 5:45 p.m. March 23 in their conference room located in Suite 6A Route 4, Sinajana. For information or special accommodations, call 647-1855 649-7002.

March 24

» The Government of Guam Retirement board of trustees regular meeting is scheduled noon March 24 in the Retirement Fund Conference Room, 424 Route 8,



HAFU ADAL I

Samoa PM rejects call to change gambling law

SAMOA (Samoa Observer/PacNews) - The law governing Samoans' access to the casino should stay as it is, according to Prime Minister Tuilaepa Sa'ilele Malielego'i, who believes there is no need to amend the law to allow locals to gamble. Malielego'i was responding to calls from several members of Parliament for the government to consider chang-

“If we allow locals to play casino, no one might ever want to play bingo anymore.”

- Samoa Prime Minister Tuilaepa Sa'ilele Malielego'i

FSM voters head to polls; dual citizenship fails

(Kaselehlie Press/PacNews) Federated States of Micronesia - Last week voters in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) turned out to elect their representatives for the two-year seats at the Congress, and to decide whether the constitution should be amended to allow for dual citizenship.

Kaselehlie Press reports the National Election Commission has



Votes

Eighty-five percent of Kosrae voters voted for the amendment. Pohnpei's votes fell short of the standard by 4.79 percent. Only 61 percent of Chuuk's voters approved the amendment, and in Yap it was only 52 percent.

Congress for the next two years will



I Mina'trentai Kuáttro na Liheslaturan Guåhan 34th Guam Legislature

OFFICE OF THE VICE SPEAKER
THERESE M. TERLAJE
COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND JUSTICE

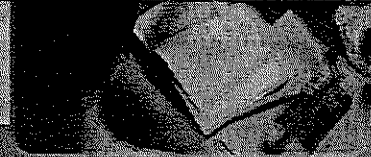
Information Briefing
Tuesday, March 21, 2017, 5:30 p.m.
Guam Legislature Public Hearing Room,
Guam Congress Building, Hagåtña

AGENDA

- Historic Properties to be adversely impacted by the proposed urban warfare training range at Andersen South, proposed mitigation plans, and the process by which public comments are due to the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas on April 24, 2017;
- Cultural and Historic resources impacted by the proposed Live-Fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC) at Northwest Field, AAFB, the Biological Opinion on critical habitat due to U.S. Fish & Wildlife in Fall 2017, the Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP) between the U.S. Fish & Wildlife and the Department of Defense, and an update on the Programmatic Agreement for this project.

If you require any special accommodations, auxiliary aids, or other special services, or for further information, please call the Office of Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje at (671) 472-3586. For copies of any of the Bills or Resolutions listed on this agenda, you may log on to the Guam Legislature's website at www.guamlegislature.com. Testimonies may be submitted directly to our office at the Guam Congress Building at 163 Chalan Santo Papa in Hagåtña or at the Protocol Office of the Guam Congress Building, via fax at (671) 472-3589, or via email at senatorterlaje@guam.gov.

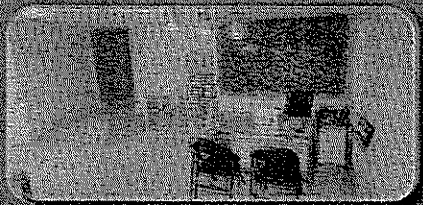
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"Genius without education is like silver in the mine."
- Benjamin Franklin

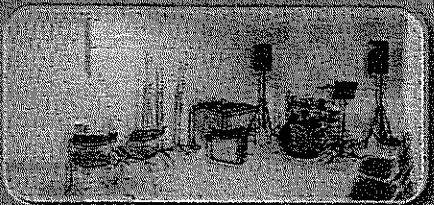
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I Mina'trentai Kuåtto na Liheslaturan Guåhan

34th Guam Legislature

OFFICE OF THE VICE SPEAKER

THERESE M. TERLAJE

Chairperson of the Committee
On Culture and Justice

Information Briefing

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

5:30 p.m.

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The hearing will broadcast on local television, GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117/60.4 and stream online via [I Liheslaturan Guåhan's](#) live feed. If written testimonies are to be presented at the Information Briefing, the Committee requests that copies be submitted prior to the information briefing date and should be addressed to Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje. Testimonies may be submitted via hand delivery to the Office of Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje at the Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam; at the mail room of the Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910; or via email to senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special accommodations or services should contact the Office of Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, at [\(671\) 472-3586](tel:671-472-3586) or by sending an email to senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com.



I Mina'trentai Kuáttro na Liheslaturan Guáhan
Office of the Vice Speaker
Senator Therese M. Terlaje
Committee On Culture and Justice

Date:

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Time: 5:30 PM

INFORMATION BRIEFING

Sign In Sheet

The intent of the briefing is to focus on the following:

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	NAME	ADDRESS	CONTACT NO.	E-MAIL	Type of Testimony	
					WRITTEN	ORAL
1	Manning Cruz		Post News	manm1@postnews.com		
2	Red Nelson	Box 181179	7270311	Sluggan		
3	Joe Quinafa	PO Box 6063 Tam. GU 96931	472 9479	jquinafa@guam.net		
4	Rose M. Cristobal	PO Box 7932	649-0097			
5	JOSEPH M. BORJA		473-3301/2	jborja@senatorada.org		
6	JOSE U GARRIDO	-Dededo	686-9075	-		✓
7	Tino Aquon	DAWR	735-3982			
8	Sabina Perez	Barrigada		famoksaiyan.sabina@gmail.com		✓
9	Dave Lutz	Yigo	929-8118	davelutz@tc.net		✓
11	Jeff Quitugua	DAWR	735-0284			
12	Kelly Marsh			keymarsh@gmail.com		✓



I Mina'trentai Kuáttro na Liheslaturan Guáhan
Office of the Vice Speaker
Senator Therese M. Terlaje
Committee On Culture and Justice

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	NAME	ADDRESS	CONTACT NO.	E-MAIL	Type of Testimony	
					WRITTEN	ORAL
1	John Diston			jdiston.mars@gmail.com		
2	Angela Santos		788-8133 788-1111			
3	Nieves Makerna		969-0669			
4	Beverly Lotz		653-2897	bevolotz@hotmail.com		
5	Catherine McCollan		488-6662	pink.guan@gmail		
6	Teris Santos		9891962			
7	Jesse Castro		688-4377			
8	Carlos T. Laguana	YMLG / cultural preservation	488-5299	carlostlaguana@gmail.com		
9	Sayo Saruta		+81-90-4001 -6745	sayo.saruta @nifty.com		
11	MICHAEL MAKHO	QPT	471 9772	mimakho@traj.gov.com		
12	TRICIA TENSIEV	Mangla	688-6422			



I Mina'trentai Kuáttro na Liheslaturan Guáhan
 Office of the Vice Speaker
 Senator Therese M. Terlaje
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					WRITTEN	ORAL
1	<i>Greg L. Smith</i>					
2	<i>Shane Motoyama</i>					
3	<i>Touhi Mikan</i>					
4						
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 Office of the Vice Speaker
 Senator Therese M. Terlaje
 Committee On Culture and Justice

Date:

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

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INFORMATION BRIEFING

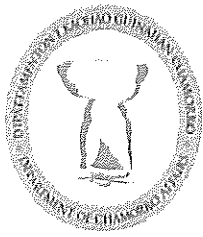
Sign In Sheet

The intent of the briefing is to focus on the following:

- Historic Properties to be adversely impacted by the proposed urban warfare training range at Andersen South, proposed mitigation plans, and the process by which public comments are due to the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas on April 24, 2017;

- Cultural and historic resources impacted by the proposed Live-Fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC) at Northwest Field, AAFB, the Biological Opinion on critical habitat due to U.S. Fish & Wildlife in Fall 2017, the Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP) between the U.S. Fish & Wildlife and the Department of Defense, and an update on the Programmatic Agreement for this project.

	NAME	ADDRESS	CONTACT NO.	E-MAIL	Type of Testimony	
					WRITTEN	ORAL
1	Jesse Castro	P.O. Box 12171 Tamuning Guam 96931	688-4377	jcastro@yaho.com jcastro688@yahoo.com	✓	✓
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DIPĀTTAMENTON I KAOGAO GUINAHAN CHAMORRO DEPARTMENT OF CHAMORRO AFFAIRS



Honorable Edward J.B. Galvo
Governor of Guam

Johnny G. Sablan
President, DCA

Raymond S. Tenorio
Lieutenant Governor of Guam

March 21, 2017



The Honorable Vice-Speaker Senator Therese M. Terlaje, Chairperson, Committee on Culture and Justice

I Mina'trentai Kuåttro na Liheslaturan Guåhan
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910



Subject: Programmatic Agreement relative to the Mogfog AsAtdas Andersen South Military Training Area



GUAM MUSEUM

Buenas yan Håfa Adai Chairperson Vice-Speaker Terlaje and Committee Members on Culture and Justice. **I Dipåttamenton I Kaohao Guinahan Chamorro's** role is to assist in the implementation of an integrated program for the preservation, development, and promotion of the Chamorro heritage of Guam. As a leader and catalyst in that preservation, development, and promotion of language, arts, humanities, historic and cultural preservation, research, restoration, museum activities and support programs significant to Guam's history and culture, it becomes even more resolute that any land use development, whether military, public, or private, that **I Dipåttamenton I Kaohao Guinahan Chamorro** engages with its partners to protect, preserve, emphasize, and feature what is rightly our Chamorro heritage. Therefore, the 2009 Programmatic Agreement with the Department Of Defense Representative Guam Commander, Joint Region Marianas; Commander, 36th Wing, Andersen Air Force Base; and the Guam Historic Preservation Officer, regarding Military Training in the Marianas must be fulfilled through the appropriate studies and impact statements before any type of military training activity occurs.



Sección I Letterhan Dapåhan Guåhan



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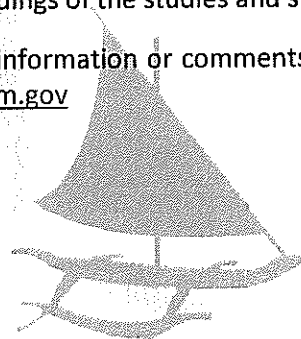


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Although this area is known as *Mogfog* and *AsAtdas*, it is now called Andersen South and was on the original Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) list. Nevertheless, the programmatic agreement allows Guam to ensure that any adverse impacts are mitigated and permits the inclusion of our people's voice in protecting, preserving, and collecting what is rightly our heritage. It is our understanding that the area is a part of the Marianas Islands Range Complex (MIRC) and will include urban operations type training such as "MOUT Facility/Rappelling Phase 2, company level maneuvers, general improvements/breaching house, and driver convoy course". As reiterated earlier, it with reserved confidence that the Department of Defense's agent complies with the Programmatic Agreement with our partners confirming the findings of the studies and statements.

Should you require additional information or comments, please contact my office at 475-4278 or via e-mail johnny.sablan@dca.guam.gov

Senseramente,



JOHNNY G. SABLAN
Ge'hilo (President)
I Dipåttamenton I Kaohao Guinahan Chamorro

"Department of Chamorro Affairs is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer"

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Questions for Lynda Aguon (State Historic Preservation Officer)
March 21, 2017 Information Briefing
Scheduled by Vice-Speaker Therese Terlaje
Submitted by Sabina Perez
Of Prutehi Litekyan: Save Ritidian

Since the signing of the Programmatic agreement in March 9, 2011

1. How many Chamorro Burials have been uncovered? How many have been preserved in place? Where are these burials stored? Was there proper notification to consulting parties to these discoveries?
2. How many burials ceremonies have been conducted and were the consulting parties informed?
3. Section 800.5 of the 36 CFR 800 Protection of Historic Properties part (V) states that "the introduction of audible elements diminishes the integrity of the properties significant feature", is the DoD compliant in addressing this potential adverse effect of the proposed firing range to Chamorro burials located in Litekyan and Inapsan – historic properties listed in the Guam Register of Historic Places?
4. At the signing of the programmatic Agreement in 2011, did the DoD include the Litekyan and Inapasan archaeological sites areas to be potentially affected by a proposed firing range? Where consulting parties given the opportunity to comment?
5. On page 17 of the March 9, 2011 Programmatic Agreement – "Develop Range Mitigation Plan" (RMP), where is this plan and where consulting parties or the public able to have opportunity to review the plan? Does the SHPO have any concern to the DoD compliance to this section of the PA?
6. If consulting parties did not sign the programmatic agreement in 2011 for whatever reason as concurring parties – will those consulting parties lose their right to review the implementation of the PA?
7. The announcement by DoD that areas that are slotted for clearing of forest containing traditional medicinal plants – will grant access to traditional healers a certain number of hours to collect significantly important traditional healing plants(amot) – was this mitigation measure been reviewed as flawed? Are there any measures to preserve these forests instead and relocate military building footprint or any undertaking elsewhere? How many acres of culturally significant plants have been destroyed since the implementation of the PA?
8. Is the DoD compliant in the proper storage of archaeological artifacts? Where are they stored? Is DoD compliant in the proper storage and treatment of the historic properties?
9. How many historic properties eligible for listing on the National Register have been nominated for inclusion to the list?
10. On page 36 of the PA, "Termination" . Is this section allows for the SHPO to terminate the PA if DoD is not in compliant with the agreements listed in the PA?
11. Is there a list of violations of the PA compliance?
12. Will the SHPO provide regular updates to the public concerning status mitigation projects?

1. How many Chamorro Burials have been uncovered? How many have been preserved in place? Where are these burials stored? Was there proper notification to consulting parties to these discoveries?

(1a) How many Chamorro Burials were uncovered?

None have been uncovered as part of construction activity for the Guam Relocation. However, the Navy reported four (4) burials within the water wells survey area, which includes 1 partial burial:

- Official notification letter, JRM (Oviedo) to SHPO, dated 21 Oct 2013 informing of discovery of a burial and separate foot bone on a site in the water wells survey area.
- Official notification letter, JRM (Oviedo) to SHPO, dated 26 Nov 2013 informing of a discovery of two human burials in the water wells survey area.

The ethnicity of the human remains discovered within the water wells survey area has not been determined. Per the Navy's P-103 Water Phase 2 Programmatic Agreement (PA) Memo #2 submitted to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) on 14 June 2016, the locations of these burials are outside the proposed construction footprint.

In addition to burials, there were fragmentary non-burial context human bones discovered in the lab as part of the Navy's data recovery work. In accordance with the 2011 PA, the Navy notified SHPO and provided details via the following correspondence:

- Official notification letter, JRM (Salas) to SHPO, dated 29 July 2016 announcing discovery of non-burial context human remains at 66-08-2530 from P-715 data recovery mitigation.
- Official notification letter, JRM (Salas) to SHPO, dated 17 August 2016 with attached osteological report from J-001B data recovery mitigation.
- Official notification letter, NBG (Moon) to SHPO, dated 2 Feb 2017 regarding lab discovery of non-burial context human bones, sites 66-08-2303, 66-08-2305, and 66-08-2308 from J-001B data recovery mitigation.

(1b) How many have been preserved in place?

All discovered human burials at the water wells survey area have been inspected by the SHPO, with instructions to the Navy to record GPS locations and preserve in place.

(1c) Where are these burials stored?

The burials were preserved in place by the Navy within the AAFB munition storage area where access is restricted.

Fragmentary or partial human bones discovered in the lab will be properly packaged per the SHPO's instructions and will be turned over by the contract archaeologists to the Navy upon data recovery work completion.

(1d) Was there proper notification to consulting parties to these discoveries?

In accordance with discovery procedures in Appendix G of the 2011 PA, the Navy sent both informal and formal notifications to the SHPO. Stipulation I.C. of the 2011 PA states that the term "consulting party" applies to entities the Navy originally invited to sign the PA as "Concurring Parties."

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Concurring Parties to the 2011 PA include the Guam Preservation Trust and the Department of Chamorro Affairs.

Per Appendix G of the 2011 PA, the Navy is required to notify and consult with the SHPO for the discovery of human remains, but other persons, agencies or organizations who express cultural affiliation may request to be included in any given consultation on human remains.

2. How many burials ceremonies have been conducted and were the consulting parties informed?

Ceremonies are only conducted as when burials need to be removed and reinterred. The SHPO has advised the Navy to preserve burials in place for activities related to 2011 PA (see responses to Question 1), so no reburials have been necessary. Ceremonies may be conducted in accordance with Guam reburial guidelines are referenced in Appendix G of 2011 PA, as excerpted below:

"2011 PA, Appendix G - Standard Operating Procedures Regarding the Inadvertent Discovery of Human Remains on Guam

STEP IV DISPOSITION

CJRM shall follow Sections II and III of the Policy Guidance in the Guam Department of Parks and Recreation General Guidelines for Archaeological Burials when dealing with the disposition of human remains older than WWII. Reiterated below are procedures tailored specifically to burials found on Navy property on Guam using the Department of Parks and Recreation General Guidelines for Archaeological Burials as a general guideline and Section IV (C through G) of the Reburial Guidelines Amendment (March 2010).

3. Section 800.5 of the 36 CFR 800 Protection of Historic Properties part (V) states that "the introduction of audible elements diminishes the integrity of the properties significant feature", is the DoD compliant in addressing this potential adverse effect of the proposed firing range to Chamorro burials located in Litekyan and Inapasan – historic properties listed in the Guam Register of Historic Places?

The SHPO signed the Range Mitigation Plan (RMP) on 30 September 2015. The RMP is a consultation document that considers the impacts of sound on the integrity and provides for the plan to resolve adverse effects on historic properties. A periodic monitoring plan is included in the RMP to determine if operational sound has impacts to a representative number of historic sites. The Navy has not begun construction of the ranges. The following are excerpts from the RMP as it pertains to mitigation of potential auditory effects from Live Fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC) operations:

RMP:

"Areas that would be affected indirectly are those areas where operation of the LFTRC introduces auditory effects within a 65 decibels (Db) noise contour and/or access to cultural sites within the surface danger zones (SDZs) would be restricted."

"B. Mitigation for auditory impacts associated with weapons firing is incorporated in the siting and design of the LFTRC. Approximately 300 linear feet (ft) of dense vegetation will be retained at the closest location between the firing range and the sensitive historic properties in the SDZs. Additionally, there is a natural change in elevation of approximately 500 ft from the location of the noise sources at the ranges to the sensitive historic properties below the cliffs. Together, these measures will substantially mitigate the indirect auditory effects of range operations."

RMP Appendix B: Periodic Inspection Plan

"I. Purpose of inspections

a. Onsite Inspections will examine representative locations and resources to assess the following:

- i. Physical damage due to inadvertent, unauthorized traffic and ground disturbance, illegal removal of artifacts, etc.*
- ii. Physical damage from auditory effects of LFTRC operations."*

"V. Consultation

- a. Guam State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the PA Parties will be invited to accompany the Department of the Navy (DON) staff during site visits.*
- b. DON will notify Guam SHPO immediately if unanticipated adverse effects, not identified in the Range Mitigation Plan, are found.*
- c. The parties to the 2011 Programmatic Agreement will review results and the periodic inspection plan during annual workshops."*

4. At the signing of the Programmatic Agreement in 2011, did the DoD include the Litekyan and Inapasan archaeological sites areas to be potentially affected by a proposed firing range? Where consulting parties given the opportunity to comment?

The Navy indicated descriptions of potential effects on these areas on maps displayed at public meetings (see <http://guambuildupeis.us/involvement/scoping-meetings>) and the resources affected were described in draft and final National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents (i.e. 2010 Final EIS, 2015 Final SEIS and corresponding Records of Decision or ROD), and in the TRRA (Training Range Review and Analysis), but the DOD did not depict the specific historic sites themselves, in compliance with confidentiality provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA). The Range Mitigation Plan (RMP) was developed in consultation with the PA Parties; however, it cannot be released to the public in its current form due to aforementioned confidentiality provisions. The RMP considered information that was consulted upon in the TRRA. The following are excerpts of the consultation requirements in the PA (<http://historicguam.org/downloads.htm>) and the history of public participation as summarized in the TRRA (<http://go.usa.gov/kZWG>):

2011 PA:

"I. Review of the Range Location, Orientation, and Design. DoD will consult with the parties to the PA and the public to address range location, orientation, and design within any site that may be selected in the Navy's ROD for the live fire training range complex, in order to assess, avoid, minimize, and mitigate potential direct and indirect effects on historic properties."

TRRA:

"3.2 Public Participation

Throughout the development of the LFTRC alternatives, the DON worked to support meaningful public participation and coordinate reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act and NHPA. The DON conducted two SEIS public scoping periods, the first time for the LFTRC SEIS in February–April 2012, and the second time in October–December 2012 after the scope of the SEIS was expanded. The public input from the scoping periods was taken into consideration in the planning efforts and the development of the SEIS. Similar to the public scoping meetings held on Guam in March 2012, three public scoping meetings were held on Guam between November 8 through 12, 2012. During the scoping meetings, the DON cultural resources subject matter experts were on hand to explain how the 2011 PA supports NHPA requirements for the revised relocation action and to discuss the public's concerns about cultural resource issues.

A 75-day public comment period, which commenced with the release of the Draft SEIS to the public, took place from April–July 2014. The Draft SEIS was distributed to federal, state, and local agencies; elected officials; and other interested individuals and organizations to provide opportunities for those involved to learn about the proposed action and express their views. Three public meetings were held on Guam between May 17 through 20, 2014. Each meeting began with a two-hour open house session that provided

the opportunity for project team members and subject matter experts to talk to the public about the proposed action and potential environmental impacts, and to receive comments. A poster station provided cultural resources information related to the Draft SEIS. Cultural resources subject matter experts also communicated to the public that the 2011 PA remains in place to fulfill the requirements under Section 106 of the NHPA for the revised action described in the Draft SEIS. They also explained how the 2011 PA would be applied to engage the public and the PA Parties in the project review process, as projects are developed for the revised action and answered questions and discussed concerns with members of the public. Public hearings followed each open house session to provide the public with a forum to communicate views about the proposed action to the DON and fellow members of the public.

During the public comment period for the Draft SEIS, individuals from Govt. of Guam agencies, federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, and the public, commented on cultural resources issues related to the LFTRC. Comments collected during the Draft SEIS review period were taken into account as part of the DON's consideration of the proposed action.

On October 22, 2014, the DON made the Draft TRRA available for a 45-day comment period to the public and those United States and Guam agencies and non-governmental organizations that participated in the 2011 PA consultations. The review period ended on December 9, 2014, Chamorro Standard Time.

To initiate the Draft TRRA review period, the DON emailed copies to the PA Parties, and a public version was made available via Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Pacific's Cultural Resource Information and JRM websites. The DON also provided hard copies of the public version of the Draft TRRA to the Guam SHPO office for dissemination to the interested public. The availability of the Draft TRRA and the remainder of the review period timelines were announced in the NAVFAC public service announcements.

During the Draft TRRA review period, the DON held three consultation meetings/calls with the 2011 PA Parties to identify the Parties' key issues and concerns with the Draft TRRA. The PA Parties provided their comments during the meetings/calls and followed up with written comments. The DON received written comments from four PA Parties: USAR, Guam SHPO, ACHP, and the Guam Preservation Trust. The DON also received comments from 11 public commenters via NAVFAC Pacific's cultural resource information website.

The DON reviewed and addressed the comments on the Draft TRRA as it finalized this TRRA. As noted in Section I, consultations on the TRRA will contribute to the development of an RMP for historic properties in the LFTRC alternative selected in the ROD. The Draft TRRA comment response matrices are provided in Appendix E."

5. On page 17 of the March 9, 2011 Programmatic Agreement – “Develop Range Mitigation Plan” (RMP), where is this plan and were consulting parties or the public able to have opportunity to review the plan? Does the SHPO have any concern to the DoD compliance to this section of the PA?

(5a) On page 17 of the March 9, 2011 Programmatic Agreement – “Develop Range Mitigation Plan” (RMP), where is this plan and were consulting parties or the public able to have opportunity to review the plan?

Please see response to Questions 3 and 4 regarding the RMP, which has been signed by all Signatories and other PA Parties. The SHPO welcomes inquiries from the public and organizations regarding specific provisions of this plan. The following excerpt of the 2011 PA contains the process for developing the RMP:

2011 PA:

"4. Develop Range Mitigation Plan

If the Guam range review process outlined above results in a determination of adverse effect, DoD will develop a Range Mitigation Plan (RMP) stipulating measures to avoid, minimize and mitigate adverse effects, as applicable. The RMP will also include a plan for access consistent with Stipulation VI.C.2, or provisions for amending an existing access plan, to include opportunities for access to culturally sensitive locations that would be constrained by construction or operation of the proposed training ranges.

a. DoD will provide drafts of the RMP to the Signatories, invited Signatories, and Concurring Parties. DoD will take into account all comments received from those parties within 45 days of distributing the draft language. If no comments are received during the comment period, DoD will finalize the RMP for signature."

(5b) Does the SHPO have any concern to the DoD compliance to this section of the PA?

The SHPO does not currently have any concerns with the Navy's compliance for the RMP. Mitigation in progress includes the Navy's draft data recovery reports for the Live Fire Training Range Complex, currently under SHPO review.

6. If consulting parties did not sign the programmatic agreement in 2011 for whatever reason as concurring parties – will those consulting parties lose their right to review the implementation of the PA?

The public retains their right to participate as provided for under the National Historic Preservation Act. The major project-specific component of the PA process is consultation via PA Memos, which are available for review by the public for 45 days once published (Stipulations IV and V of the 2011 PA). The public receives notices of availability of information through Public Service Announcements. As required, information is also to be sent to the Guam Legislature and to the Mayor's Council. PA Parties (Signatories, Invited Signatories, and Concurring Parties) will be directly contacted regarding availability of this information for review. Nobody forfeits their right to make comments on proposed projects or be part of consultation; the difference is that the PA Parties receive direct notification of new information through regular reporting and are able to participate in discussions during Annual Workshops.

Per the 2011 PA, Stipulation I.C.3., "DoD may invite additional organizations and individuals to become Concurring Parties in the future, based on expression of interest and involvement with historic preservation issues."

7. The announcement by DoD stated that areas that are slotted for clearing of forest containing traditional medicinal plants – will access be granted to traditional healers a certain number of hours to collect significantly important traditional healing plants (amot) – has this mitigation measure been reviewed as flawed? Are there any measures to preserve these forests instead and relocate military building footprint or any undertaking elsewhere? How many acres of culturally significant plants have been destroyed since the implementation of the PA?

(7a) The announcement by DoD stated that areas that are slotted for clearing of forest containing traditional medicinal plants – will access be granted to traditional healers a certain number of hours to collect significantly important traditional healing plants (amot) – has this mitigation measure been reviewed as flawed?

The resulting provisions of the 2011 PA affording opportunities for suruhanu/suruhana to collect medicinal plants on military installations already promote flexibility for access with recognition that the access must be framed within operational/security needs of an active military base. An excerpt of the requirement follows from the 2011 PA, as well as statements from the Navy in 2014 and 2016 semi-annual reports detailing collection activity:

2011 PA:

"4. If suruhanus request installation access for medicinal plant collection, DoD will afford access consistent with applicable DoD and installation security instructions and other safety related guidelines for individuals that practice traditional healing methods and allow medical plant collection if the plants collected are not threatened or endangered species. All such requests for access, allowances of access, and methods or manners of access will be conducted in accordance with the access plans discussed in VI.C.2 above"

Semi-Annual Report for the Period of July to December 2014:

"NFM worked with JRM and AAFB security to develop internal processes consistent with the Public Access Plan to provide access for traditional medicinal and herbal practitioners into the J-200 project area ahead of vegetation clearing. In order to provide access to the area for traditional healers and herbal practitioners, NFM consulted with Guam SHPO and the Department of Chamorro Affairs (DCA) on 29 Jul and 23 Sep 2014, to plan the process of identifying traditional herbalists and informing them of the opportunity to collect plants from the J-200 project area at AAFB.

JRM Public Affairs Officers assisted in reaching out to potential participants through Public Service Announcements and media coverage. More than 40 individuals attended the initial planning meeting at DCA on November 21, 2014. Additional coordination meetings were scheduled for early January 2015; with escorted access to the area provided throughout January. Planning was also conducted with DCA to make culturally-important wood (e.g. Ifit) from the J-200 area available to designated master artisans for use in education and training."

Semi-Annual Report for the Period of July to December 2016:

"Stipulation VI.D.3: Provide Access to collect culturally important natural resources from project areas

- 2016 Summer months: Joint Region Marianas (JRM) Access Plan Coordinator (APC) met with representatives of the Department of Chamorro Affairs and Guam Historic Resources Division, Dept. of Parks and Recreation.*
- The group identified 74 individuals who are interested in the collection of medicinal plants and/or the identification and harvest of trees useful for carving.*
- Of the 74 – 23 are interested in medicinal plants, 36 are cultural artisans, e.g., carvers or canoe builders, and 15 are GovGuam employees and department heads.*
- 29 Aug 2016: E-mail was sent out to medicinal plant collectors announcing opportunity to collect from the J-001B project area at North Finegayan.*
- Cultural Artisans were also contacted in August.*
- Trees of cultural value in the J-001B project area at North Finegayan have been identified, marked and plotted on GIS maps.*
- Harvesting trees for the carvers has been put on hold pending award of the contract for J-001B Utilities and Site Improvements (contractor will assist with safe harvest of selected trees).*
- Received about a dozen responses indicating interest in participating in the plant collection program.*
- Eight individuals received UXO Awareness Training.*
- 24 and 26 October 2016: APC and a Navy natural resource specialist accompanied eight individuals into the jungle to collect plants.*
- The participants were happy with the general process and plants collected.*
- The 26 October 2016 collection was covered in the media by KUAM-TV and the Pacific Daily News. Coverage was favorable.*
- APC hopes to enroll about one dozen more medicinal plant collectors to bring our total number of interested individuals up to 20. Once this happens, the APC hopes to escort the plant collectors on harvesting trips throughout the 2017 calendar year."*



(7b) Are there any measures to preserve these forests instead and relocate military building footprint or any undertaking elsewhere?

The Navy selected the family housing development alternative at Andersen Air Force Base in the 2015 Record of Decision, which avoided around 200 acres of forest and other habitat at Finegayan. The Guam Micronesia Kingfisher Memorandum of Agreement between the Navy and USFWS also set aside 5,234 acres of conservation land within military installations in Northern Guam for protection and restoration to mitigate approximately 1,000 acres of direct and indirect impacts to forest and other habitat proposed for the Guam Relocation.

(7c) How many acres of culturally significant plants have been destroyed since the implementation of the PA?

The Navy estimates around 50 acres of forest and other habitat that may contain medicinal plants have been cleared based on tabulation of development areas in the 2015 Biological Opinion (i.e. North Gate and North Ramp construction at AAFB).

8. Is the DoD compliant in the proper storage of archaeological artifacts? Where are they stored? Is DoD compliant in the proper storage and treatment of the historic properties?

The Navy is not fully compliant with proper storage of archaeological artifacts but is making progress. The Navy was in the process of assessing the condition of their collections and available facilities before the signing of the 2011 PA. The Joint Region Marianas Curation Needs Assessment study located collections, evaluated compliance with standards and determined if curation facilities on Guam (and CNMI) met federal standards. Only the T. Stell Newman NPS facility was fully compliant at the time. A follow-on Navy project brought the collections up to standards, standardized packaging and created an interactive inventory of the collections. The Navy complied with the PA stipulation that returned off-island collections to Guam and those boxes were included in the project to meet standards. The PA stipulated that if a suitable repository was not available, the Navy would enter into an agreement with NPS to temporarily curate collections with them pending availability of a suitable Guam facility. The temporary agreement was entered into, and so far, about half of the volume of collections under JRM custody are now temporarily stored with NPS, with the rest in progress.

After the agreement was signed, the Navy completed the 2016 Osteological Analysis for Archaeological Collections Management/Ethnicity Determination, for the separation and identification of human remains from the other artifacts. This follow-on study was required since NPS, who operates under NAGPRA, does not accept human remains for curation (with the exception of bone tools, and such artifacts). At this time, boxes that have not yet been delivered to NPS and boxes containing human remains are stored at Naval Base Guam in a secure, climate controlled room pending the completion of the Guam Cultural Repository. The JRM Cultural Resource Manager is responsible for management of JRM collections.

“Historic properties” as defined by the Advisory Council consist of five categories: districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects. The Navy considers effects on historic properties that are eligible for listing in the NRHP. These are referred to as “significant” properties. Most of the historic properties impacted by the military relocation projects are archaeological sites. Planners attempt to avoid, minimize impacts, or mitigate adverse impacts in that order. The Navy accomplished avoidance through several projects: a larger area than needed was surveyed for the water wells, then the project was designed to avoid all sites; in reviewing the LFTRC ranges with SHPO, a recommend change in a project feature shows the opportunity to avoid several eligible sites (pending final design). Overall, approximately 28 significant sites could be directly impacted by construction. Most of the sites affected are small artifact scatters that represent evidence of short-term visits to the northern plateau by ancient Chamorro people to collect and process forest products.

9. How many historic properties eligible for listing on the National Register have been nominated for inclusion to the list?

The 2011 PA stipulates that DoD will nominate at least two properties per year on Guam. At this time (March 30, 2017), three nominations have resulted in listing in the NRHP so far with more nominations in progress. Three additional completed nominations are at Naval Facilities Engineering Command headquarters pending signing by the Navy Federal Preservation Officer (FPO), a position that has been vacant for several months. Upon appointment, the FPO is expected to sign the nominations and forward them to the Keeper for listing. Three nominations are currently being prepared and two more are in the process of contracting. For further details the Navy has provided the SHPO with a summary of nominations completed and in progress.

10. On page 36 of the PA, "Termination". Is this section allows for the SHPO to terminate the PA if DoD is not in compliant with the agreements listed in the PA?

Yes, any of the "Signatories" (SHPO, JRM, Marine Corps, and ACHP) may terminate for reasons including violation of the terms of the agreement (see excerpt of Stipulation XV below). Signatories should exhaust dispute resolution options before taking such a drastic measure. The Government of Guam, the DoD and other signatories spent considerable time and resources in negotiating and developing the 2011 PA. Programmatic mitigations in the 2011 PA, include but not limited to, funding for the cultural repository, access plan, medicinal plant and tree collection opportunities, NRHP nominations, public information booklets, development of CRI (Cultural Resources Information) website, and extended review periods for individual projects.

2011 PA Stipulation XV. TERMINATION:

"A. Any of the Signatories may propose to terminate this PA.

C. The termination process starts when a Signatory provides written notice the other Signatories, Invited Signatories, and Concurring Parties of its intent to terminate. Termination shall take effect no less than 30 days after this notification. The notice must explain in detail the reasons for the proposed termination. The PA will be terminated at the end of the 30-day period unless the parties agree to longer period of consultation."

11. Is there a list of violations of the PA compliance?

The Navy has complied with the terms of the stipulations in the 2011 PA and there have been no violations reported by PA Parties since inception. Violations are critical topics of discussion that must be discussed as part of semi-annual reports and the annual workshop. The following is an excerpt of minutes from the last Annual Workshop that describes major action items:

12. Will the SHPO provide regular updates to the public concerning status mitigation projects?

The Guam SHPO receives regular information from the Navy on the status of mitigation projects as part of the semi-annual reporting required under the 2011 PA. This report may contain information that may not be releasable to the public. There is an opportunity for SHPO to work with the Navy's Liaison to make publically-available versions of reports available to the public but remains to be discussed.

There is an opportunity for SHPO to work with the Navy's Liaison to make certain summary reports suitable for public dissemination, however, this will require further discussion.

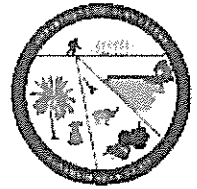
Questions for Department of Agriculture for the March 21, 2017 Information Briefing
Scheduled by Vice-Speaker Therese Terlaje
Submitted by Sabina Perez
Of Prutehi Litekyan: Save Ritidian

- 1) Is the Department of Agriculture responsible for providing the clearing permit for the Live-Fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC) at Northwest Field Site (NWF) on Andersen Air Force Base? If so, by not providing a permit, would that affect the funding that they receive by the federal government?
- 2) Please outline the federal funding received by Department of Agriculture and their associated projects.
- 3) Was Department of Agriculture involved in surveying the forest slated to be cleared to make way for the Live-Fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC) at NWF? If so, please provide dates and results of your studies, and to which parties they were communicated.
- 4) Does Department of Agriculture participate or oversee mitigation projects concerning critical habitat of the Mariana fruit bat *or fanihi*; Guam Micronesian kingfisher or sihek; and the Mariana crow or a'ga? If so, please provide email communications, documents pertaining to their involvement with these aforementioned critical habitats, especially connected to the siting of the LFTRC at NWF.
- 5) To their knowledge, has Department of Defense used Government of Guam lands for their mitigation projects? If so, please indicate which ones. What was the mitigation proposal and what is the status of their mitigation?
- 6) To their knowledge, is the Department of Defense considering using Government of Guam lands for the mitigation projects. If any information arises, will the Department of Agriculture relay that information to the Legislature and/or the public?
- 7) Does the Department of Agriculture participate or oversee any mitigation projects related to the LFTRC? (Please see the 2015 Biological Opinion). If so, please indicate which projects and the status of mitigation projects.
- 8) Will the Department of Agriculture provide a listing of ongoing mitigation projects by the Department of Defense and regular updates of their status to the public and/or legislature?
- 9) The USFWS came out with a relatively new listing of threatened and endangered species for Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands on October 1, 2015 (Federal Register volume 80, No. 190). Has the Guam Department of Agriculture been involved in surveying these plants on Department of Defense controlled-lands and other civilian owned or controlled lands?
- 10) To what extent are or have been experts of medicinal plants, such as suruhanos(a), used during forest inventory or surveys to help identify and locate endangered medicinal plants?



**Department of Agriculture
Dipattamenton Agrikottura**

163 Dairy Road, Mangilao, Guam 96913



Edward J.B. Calvo
Governor

Raymond S. Tenorio
Lt. Governor

Director's Office	300-7965/7966; Fax 734-6569
Agricultural Dev. Services	300-7973/7972; Fax 734-8096
Animal Health	300-7965
Aquatic & Wildlife Resources	735-0294/0281; Fax 734-6569
Forestry & Soil Resources	300-7976; Fax 734-0111
Plant Nursery	300-7974
Plant Inspection Facility	472-1426; 475-1427; Fax 477-9487

Matthew L.G. Sablan
Director

Jessie B. Palican
Deputy Director

GUAM LEGISLATURE
CENTRAL FILES

April 17, 2017

ACKNOWLEDGMENT RECEIPT
Received by: [Signature]
Time: 10:00
Date: 4/27/17

Honorable Senator Therese Terlaje
34th Guam Legislature
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagatna, GU 96910

Re: Department of Defense Live Fire Training Range Complex Proposed Action and its Impact to Guam

Dear Senator:

Hafa Adai! In response to questions dated March 29, 2017, and to the Department's testimony on March 21, 2017 pertaining to the Live Fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC) – Record of Decision (ROD), by the Department of Defense (DOD), we provide the following input:

1. The proposed action is planned for the Northwest Field (NWF), Guam, Andersen Air Force Base (AAFB). The abandoned airfield was used during the 1970's for DOD use for the US-Korean Conflict.
2. The Government of Guam had responded to the decision to use NWF prior the final decision as an active airfield by DOD.
3. The Department was not part of any discussion on mitigation to the island or its resources. The Department of Recreation was involved in mitigation.
4. In relation to mitigation projects and information, historically, DAWR had been conducting bird surveys during the 1970's-1980's, monitoring the status of birds, as part of an island-wide monitoring project. During that period the decline of Guam's forest birds was documented. The brown treesnake's impact was realized after introduction to Guam during the post-war period.

5. There's no Government of Guam land that has been used for mitigation by the U.S. DOD. Unfortunately, there is government of Guam property that is land-locked, with only access via military land. For example, Urunao is only accessible via NWF, a military owned property.

Thank you for allowing us to provide input in regarding this issue. Should you have any questions, please contact me at 300-7964/65/66.

Sincerely,


MATTHEW L.G. SABLAN

Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje

APR 28 2007
8:15
by CHM



Senator Therese Terlaje <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>

Department of Agriculture follow up for 3/21 Information Briefing

Senator Therese Terlaje <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>

Thu, May 4, 2017 at 6:03 PM

To: matt.sablan@agriculture.guam.gov, matt.sablan12@yahoo.com

Cc: tino_aguon@hotmail.com, "Aguon Celestino F." <tinoaguon@gmail.com>, jeff.quitugua@yahoo.com

Håfa adai Director Sablan,

Thank you for your response to questions dated March 29, 2017. At the request of Vice Speaker Terlaje, would we be able to get more details regarding Dept of Agriculture's response to question number 2? Also, would it be possible to get response to questions 6 through 10?

Thank you for your time on this matter. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Thank you,
Nicole Santos
Chief of Staff

--

The Office of Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje
Committee on Culture and Justice
I Mina'trentai Kuåttro na Liheslaturan Guåhan
34th Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910
T: (671) 472-3586 F: (671) 472-3589
senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com

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[Quoted text hidden]



Nihitā Fanhasso'

Cultural and Historical Consulting

PO Box 3373, Hagåtña Guam 96932

Ph: (671) 472-6951; Cell: (671) 988-4612/4690

22 March 2017

Therese M. Terlaje
Vice-Speaker, 34th Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guahan

Hafa Adai Vice-Speaker Terlaje,

Having studied Cultural Heritage Studies, Hestorian Guahan (History of Guam), and the ancestral villages of Urunao, Litekyan, Pahon, and Inapsan to some degree in the last several years, and having read through specific portions of the DEIS, the EIS, the DSEIS, the FSEIS, the SEIS ROD and associated studies, I offer this testimony regarding Alternative 5 as the site for the Live-fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC) and how it will impact those villages.

First, we need to understand what those villages are to Chamorros and the community at large. The value of *i Sengsong Litekyan*, and to lesser and greater degrees, the neighboring villages of Urunao, Pahon, and Inapsan is manifold. In addition to generational family ties to such lands which are significant features of the Chamorro culture and identity and should not be undervalued, there are some other considerations to share and have guide us in considering the proposed impacts to them.

Each *songsong* (ancestral village) represents particular individuals and a particular thread in the rich tapestry of understanding and connecting to *i Manmofo'na* (Chamorro ancestors). Visiting another village is connecting with a different part of the tapestry and different sets of ancestors. Unlike modern western buildings, one representative sample does not convey the diversity and the complexity of that which was *i Manmofo'na* as they lived throughout the island or the archipelago.

i sengsong Litekyan (the ancestral village of Ritidian) is rare in the protection given it and, at the same time, its accessibility to the community. I study *latte* villages and they are either greatly disturbed, re-created, inaccessible, and unprotected in many ways.

As such, *i sengsong Litekyan* serves an integral role to the Chamorro culture and the community. Owing to its extraordinary level of integrity and intactness, it provides us all a yearned for window into understanding ancestral villages, which is at this point, is very limited given the potential of what we desire to know, and what is there for us to learn from. At *i*

sengsong Litekyan, we see i gima' siha (houses) in proximity to one another, in clusters, and with features such as katso' ([latte] support stones), possible âcho (stones) for stepping into i gima', âcho outlining the front "patio" area of i gima', âcho-lined wells, âcho terraces, chahan (earth ovens), and more.

I sengsong Litekyan, provides opportunity to better understand what i Manmofo'na concept of i sengsong were—from the coastal plains where i gima' siha still stand, to the reef and the deep ocean beyond, and up to the ridge above, where the LFTRC is proposed to be. That is the importance and priceless value of the pottery sherds and other cultural heritage there, which are proposed to be bulldozed, not just cleared, but cleared before any understanding of how those pieces of the puzzle fit together in the larger i sengsong Litekyan.

I sengsong Litekyan is part of the overall understanding of the complex of northern coastal villages, which we are losing one by one in recent years. Yet, they are something unique and particular, each unto themselves, and also as a complex—how they were different and the same as one another, and how northern, central/inland, and southern villages related to, interacted, and complemented one another.

I Manmofo'na crafted and left behind rare ancestral heritage at Litekyan. Throughout the Mariana Islands there are just a handful of rock art, or pictograph, sites of which several are at Litekyan. There are also what appear to be latte quarry areas that can help us in our contemporary efforts to recapture that lost tradition. And there is much more that is still in the process of being understood.

And finally, i sengsong Litekyan is nestled in what is perhaps the closest to a 'natural habitat' than any other songsong siha on the entire island. Experiencing ancestral villages is multi-sensory, their setting looked, sounded, smelled, and felt different. Litekyan is perhaps the closest one we have available that allows us to see, hear, smell, and feel those differences. It is: where endemic and native flora and fauna are; where the paluma, fanihi, and ababbang (birds, bats, and butterflies) soar and flutter through the sky; where the akeleha' (snails) special to Guam, hilitai (monitor lizard), and other fauna sit on the leaves or wind their way through the forest; where tangantangan and the Spanish Love Chain do not dominate the landscape but is instead where fadang (cycads), dokdok (native seeded breadfruit), and âmot rule the landscape as primary forest.

Given the cultural significance of Urunao, Litekyan, Pahon, and Inapsan to Chamorros and us all, there are questions regarding the material in the Final SEIS and the SEIS ROD. Many of these questions relate to adverse effects identified in the military's own assessment in directly noting that, "There would be more adverse [harmful] effects from operations under Alternative 5 than under any of the other alternatives" (SEIS:3-393). More specifically, it is more than evident that the following questions need to be answered.

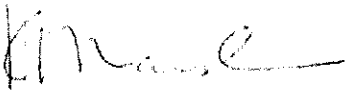
1. What reports demonstrate the new found supposed suitability of Litekyan as a site for the LFTRC? These new findings now refute all previous findings that determined Litekyan as not a reasonable alternative with such a high degree of adverse impact that the study of Litekyan's feasibility was specifically terminated prior to full examination (ie, Information Report. Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement Live-Fire Training & Range Complex on Guam Technical Report. (February 9, 2012); Guam Live-Fire Training Range Alternatives in Consideration of Probabilistic Methodology Modeling (March 2012).) Further, if this was indeed the case, that they were able to meet to address and supposedly mitigate issues until a site is feasible, then they should be able to do that for a site that is not, literally, out of the entire island, the one area where our last known remaining culturally valued and significant free-ranging fanihi colony is, where our last endemic hâyun lãgu is, where the largest known collection of the threatened Guam orchid is, where some of our last remaining 5% of primary limestone forest are, where Green and Hawksbill turtles breed and nest, where numerous other endangered and threatened species are, and where we having been working for decades to make into a safe recovery habitat for our threatened and endangered species.
2. Why can't they use pre-existing ranges? We hear that it is because they want their own separate set of ranges. We are one community, with limited land and space, a large portion of which is already used for various military activities, we cannot afford to use any additional land, federal, family-owned, or otherwise for another set of damaging activities because one branch of the Joint Region presence wants their own facilities.
3. There is the important question of what taking or increasing their footprint truly means. When Guam's community said to not increase the military footprint, it meant in any way, shape, or form. How is desecrating and denying access to one of our oldest ancestral sites in all the archipelago and adversely impacting environmental missions that are in place, all of which are held in trust for our children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, not taking, not increasing the size of their footprint and decreasing ours in ways that will impact us forever?
4. What scale did they use to weigh the adverse impacts to sacred ancestral sites that help maintain Chamorro personal and cultural health and identity versus the adverse impacts to other sites without those impacts to our Indigenous community, such as sites in Orote or Agat, which have already been bulldozed and highly altered from past activities?
5. How is a berm a sound barrier? I live near the unofficial range that also uses a berm and it does not serve as much of a sound barrier for the low level of shooting practice that occurs there versus the shooting of some 18,000-25,000 rounds of ammunition a day at the Northwest Field which is on a ridge so that sound will really carry. Once things are in place, cultural and historical sites are bulldozed, and the noise of the shooting range begins, there is no undoing those adverse impacts to the landscape and our soundscapes.
6. Over 900 public comments were submitted for the SEIS and more than 10,000 for the EIS, having read through some of these, it seems that a lot of community concerns were not adequately listened to and considered, or addressed in the Final SEIS or RODs.

7. And finally how can federal authorities say their assessment is correct when the SEIS mischaracterizes culturally significant resources as recreational—such as pictographs and traditional fishing grounds—and therefore concludes that the adverse impact to loss of those as not significant or mitigatable by hiking or fishing somewhere else? That line of reasoning/assessment is completely inaccurate for on-going traditional cultural practices and visitation of ancestral sites.

These questions remain unanswered but are deserving of a response while so much of our cultural heritage hangs in the balance.

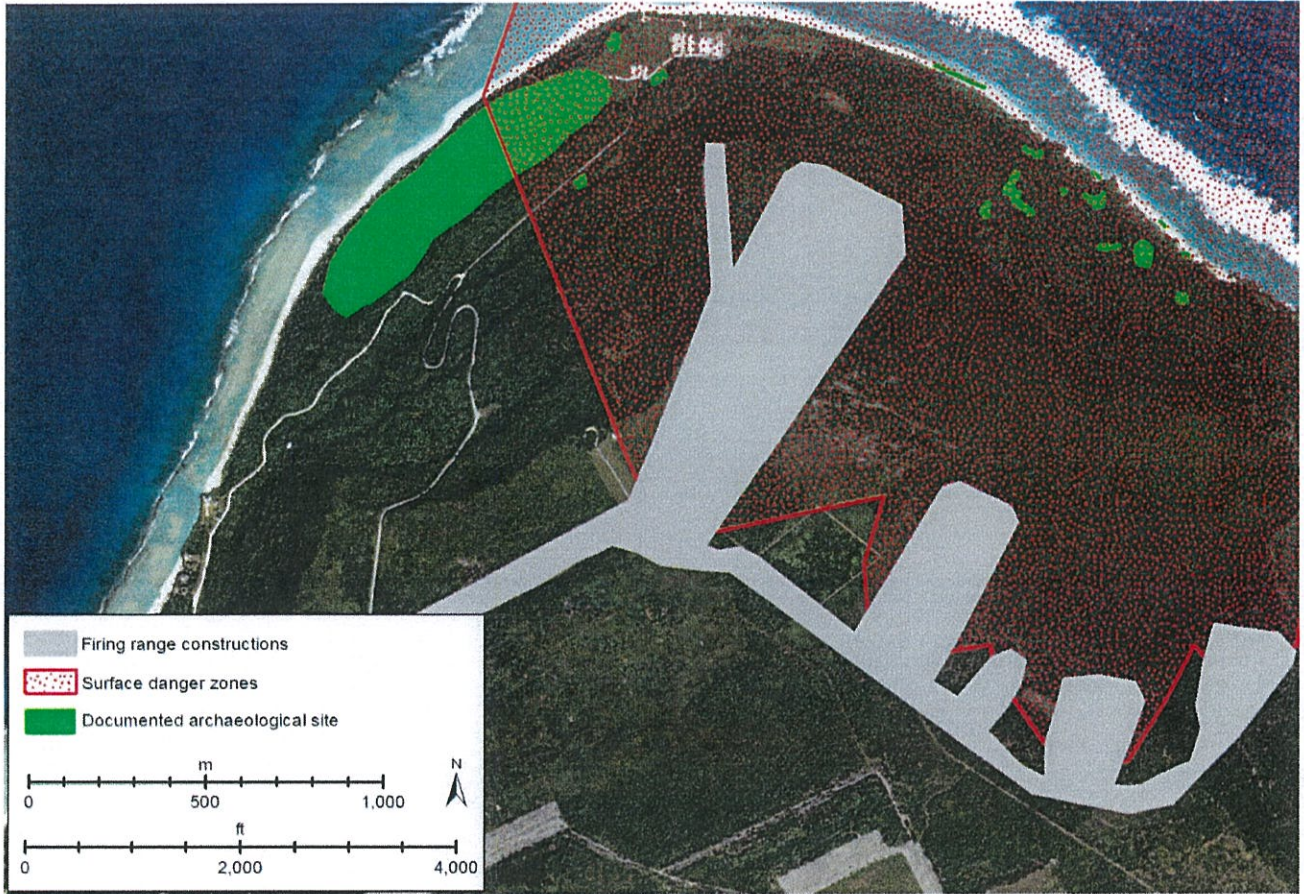
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3/22/2017

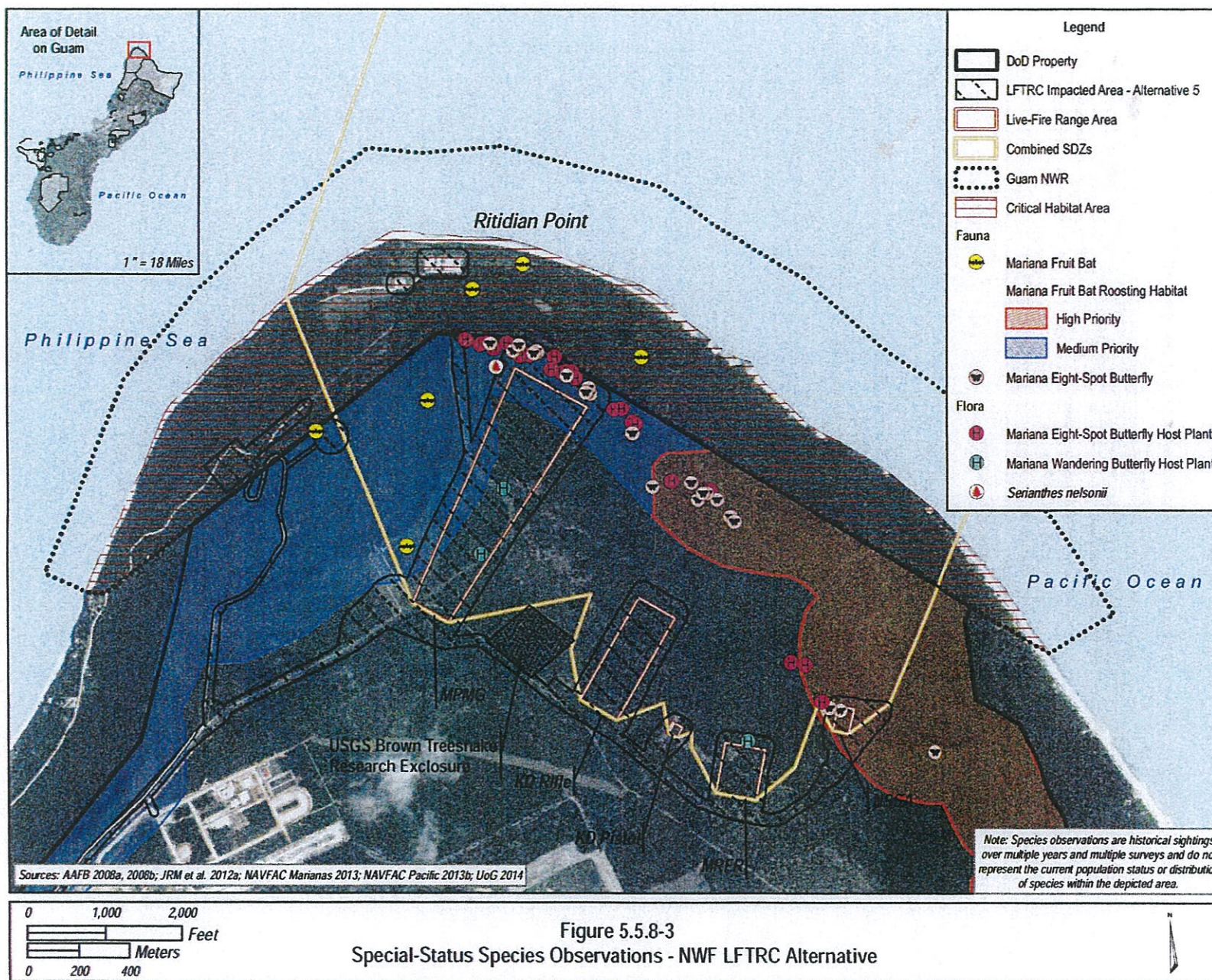
X 

Dr. Kelly G. Marsh (Taitano)

Adjunct Professor, University of Guam
Principle Researcher, Nihi Ta Fanhasso' Cultural
and Historical Consulting



Ritidian Firing Zone map as prepared by Mike Carson, Micronesian Area Research Center, University of Guam, January 2017.



5-335

of transportation, item of equipment, or facility under the control of a public entity or State or local government that is used by, or constructed for the benefit of, the general public.

(c) **REPEAL OF SUPERSEDED LAW.**—Section 2822 of the Military Construction Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (division B of Public Law 113-66; 127 Stat. 1016) is repealed. The repeal of such section does not affect the validity of the amendment made by subsection (f) of such section or the responsibilities of the Economic Adjustment Committee and the Secretary of Defense under subsection (d) of such section, as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 2822. ESTABLISHMENT OF SURFACE DANGER ZONE, RITIDIAN UNIT, GUAM NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE.

(a) **AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH.**—In order to accommodate the operation of a live-fire training range complex on Andersen Air Force Base-Northwest Field and the management of the adjacent Ritidian Unit of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge, the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Interior, notwithstanding the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.), may enter into an agreement providing for the establishment and operation of a surface danger zone which overlays the Ritidian Unit or such portion thereof as the Secretaries consider necessary.

(b) **ELEMENTS OF AGREEMENT.**—The agreement to establish a surface danger zone over all or a portion of the Ritidian Unit of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge shall include—

(1) measures to maintain the purposes of the Refuge; and
 (2) as appropriate, measures, funded by the Secretary of the Navy from funds appropriated after the date of enactment of this Act and otherwise available to the Secretary, for the following purposes:

(A) Relocation and reconstruction of structures and facilities of the Refuge in existence as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

(B) Mitigation of impacts to wildlife species present on the Refuge or to be reintroduced in the future in accordance with applicable laws.

(C) Use of Department of Defense personnel to undertake conservation activities within the Ritidian Unit normally performed by Department of the Interior personnel, including habitat maintenance, maintaining the boundary fence, and conducting the brown tree snake eradication program.

(D) Openings and closures of the surface danger zone to the public as may be necessary.

Subtitle D—Land Conveyances

SEC. 2831. LAND CONVEYANCE, GORDO ARMY RESERVE CENTER, GORDO, ALABAMA.

(a) **CONVEYANCE AUTHORIZED.**—The Secretary of the Army may convey, without consideration, to the town of Gordo, Alabama (in this section referred to as the “Town”), all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a parcel of real property, including any improvements thereon, consisting of approximately 3.79 acres

Public Law 106-504
106th Congress

An Act

To amend the Organic Act of Guam, and for other purposes.

Nov. 13, 2000
[H.R. 2462]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM TO ACQUIRE EXCESS REAL PROPERTY IN GUAM.

40 USC 483 note.

(a) TRANSFER OF EXCESS REAL PROPERTY.—(1) Except as provided in subsection (d), before screening excess real property located on Guam for further Federal utilization under section 202 of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 471 et seq.) (hereinafter the "Property Act"), the Administrator shall notify the Government of Guam that the property is available for transfer pursuant to this section.

(2) If the Government of Guam, within 180 days after receiving notification under paragraph (1), notifies the Administrator that the Government of Guam intends to acquire the property under this section, the Administrator shall transfer such property in accordance with subsection (b). Otherwise, the property shall be screened for further Federal use and then, if there is no other Federal use, shall be disposed of in accordance with the Property Act.

(b) CONDITIONS OF TRANSFER.—(1) Any transfer of excess real property to the Government of Guam may be only for a public purpose and shall be without further consideration.

(2) All transfers of excess real property to the Government of Guam shall be subject to such restrictive covenants as the Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, in the case of property reported excess by a military department, determines to be necessary to ensure that: (A) the use of the property is compatible with continued military activities on Guam; (B) the use of the property is consistent with the environmental condition of the property; (C) access is available to the United States to conduct any additional environmental remediation or monitoring that may be required; (D) the property is used only for a public purpose and can not be converted to any other use; and (E) to the extent that facilities on the property have been occupied and used by another Federal agency for a minimum of 2 years, that the transfer to the Government of Guam is subject to the terms and conditions for such use and occupancy.

(3) All transfers of excess real property to the Government of Guam are subject to all otherwise applicable Federal laws, except section 2696 of title 10, United States Code, or section 501 of Public Law 100-77 (42 U.S.C. 11411).

(c) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section:

Deadline.
Notification.

Deadlines.

Notification.

Reports.

(1) The term "Administrator" means—
(A) the Administrator of General Services; or
(B) the head of any Federal agency with the authority to dispose of excess real property on Guam.

(2) The term "base closure law" means the Defense Authorization Amendments and Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-526), the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510), or similar base closure authority.

(3) The term "excess real property" means excess property (as that term is defined in section 3 of the Property Act) that is real property and was acquired by the United States prior to the enactment of this section.

(4) The term "Guam National Wildlife Refuge" includes those lands within the refuge overlay under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense, identified as DoD lands in figure 3, on page 74, and as submerged lands in figure 7, on page 78 of the "Final Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Guam National Wildlife Refuge, Territory of Guam, July 1993" to the extent that the Federal Government holds title to such lands.

(5) The term "public purpose" means those public benefit purposes for which the United States may dispose of property pursuant to section 203 of the Property Act, as implemented by the Federal Property Management Regulations (41 CFR 101-47) or the specific public benefit uses set forth in section 3(c) of the Guam Excess Lands Act (Public Law 103-339; 108 Stat. 3116), except that such definition shall not include the transfer of land to an individual or entity for private use other than on a nondiscriminatory basis.

(d) EXEMPTIONS.—Notwithstanding that such property may be excess real property, the provisions of this section shall not apply—

(1) to real property on Guam that is declared excess by the Department of Defense for the purpose of transferring that property to the Coast Guard;

(2) to real property on Guam that is located within the Guam National Wildlife Refuge, which shall be transferred according to the following procedure:

(A) The Administrator shall notify the Government of Guam and the Fish and Wildlife Service that such property has been declared excess. The Government of Guam and the Fish and Wildlife Service shall have 180 days to engage in discussions toward an agreement providing for the future ownership and management of such real property.

(B) If the parties reach an agreement under subparagraph (A) within 180 days after notification of the declaration of excess, the real property shall be transferred and managed in accordance with such agreement. *Provided*, That such agreement shall be transmitted to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate and the appropriate committees of the United States House of Representatives not less than 60 days prior to such transfer and any such transfer shall be subject to the other provisions of this section.

(C) If the parties do not reach an agreement under subparagraph (A) within 180 days after notification of the

declaration of excess, the Administrator shall provide a report to Congress on the status of the discussions, together with his recommendations on the likelihood of resolution of differences and the comments of the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Government of Guam. If the subject property is under the jurisdiction of a military department, the military department may transfer administrative control over the property to the General Services Administration subject to any terms and conditions applicable to such property. In the event of such a transfer by a military department to the General Services Administration, the Department of the Interior shall be responsible for all reasonable costs associated with the custody, accountability and control of such property until final disposition.

(D) If the parties come to agreement prior to congressional action, the real property shall be transferred and managed in accordance with such agreement: *Provided*, That such agreement shall be transmitted to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate and the appropriate committees of the United States House of Representatives not less than 60 days prior to such transfer and any such transfer shall be subject to the other provisions of this section.

(E) Absent an agreement on the future ownership and use of the property, such property may not be transferred to another Federal agency or out of Federal ownership except pursuant to an Act of Congress specifically identifying such property.

(3) to real property described in the Guam Excess Lands Act (Public Law 103-339; 108 Stat. 3116) which shall be disposed of in accordance with such Act;

(4) to real property on Guam that is declared excess as a result of a base closure law; or

(5) to facilities on Guam declared excess by the managing Federal agency for the purpose of transferring the facility to a Federal agency that has occupied the facility for a minimum of 2 years when the facility is declared excess together with the minimum land or interest therein necessary to support the facility.

(c) **DUAL CLASSIFICATION PROPERTY.**—If a parcel of real property on Guam that is declared excess as a result of a base closure law also falls within the boundary of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge, such parcel of property shall be disposed of in accordance with the base closure law.

(f) **AUTHORITY TO ISSUE REGULATIONS.**—The Administrator of General Services, after consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Interior, may issue such regulations as he deems necessary to carry out this section.

SEC. 2. COMPACT IMPACT REPORTS.

Section 104(e)(2) of Public Law 99-239 (99 Stat. 1770, 1788) is amended by deleting "President shall report to the Congress with respect to the impact of the Compact on the United States territories and commonwealths and on the State of Hawaii" and inserting in lieu thereof, "Governor of any of the United States territories or commonwealths or the State of Hawaii may report to the Secretary of the Interior by February 1 of each year with

respect to the impacts of the compacts of free association on the Governor's respective jurisdiction. The Secretary of the Interior shall review and forward any such reports to the Congress with the comments of the Administration. The Secretary of the Interior shall, either directly or, subject to available technical assistance funds, through a grant to the affected jurisdiction, provide for a census of Micronesians at intervals no greater than 5 years from each decennial United States census using generally acceptable statistical methodologies for each of the impact jurisdictions where the Governor requests such assistance, except that the total expenditures to carry out this sentence may not exceed \$300,000 in any year."

48 USC 1901
note.

SEC. 3. APPLICATION OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS UNDER THE COMPACTS OF FREE ASSOCIATION.

(a) The freely associated states of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau, respectively, and citizens thereof, shall remain eligible for all Federal programs, grant assistance, and services of the United States, to the extent that such programs, grant assistance, and services are provided to States and local governments of the United States and residents of such States, for which a freely associated State or its citizens were eligible on October 1, 1999. This eligibility shall continue through the period of negotiations referred to in section 231 of the Compact of Free Association with the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia, approved in Public Law 99-239, and during consideration by the Congress of legislation submitted by an Executive branch agency as a result of such negotiations.

(b) Section 214(a) of the Housing Community Development Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 1436a(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking "or" at the end of paragraph (5);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (6) and inserting "; or"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(7) an alien who is lawfully resident in the United States and its territories and possessions under section 141 of the Compacts of Free Association between the Government of the United States and the Governments of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia (48 U.S.C. 1901 note) and Palau (48 U.S.C. 1931 note) while the applicable section is in effect: *Provided*, That, within Guam any such alien shall not be entitled to a preference in receiving assistance under

48 USC 1904.

PUBLIC LAW 106-504—NOV. 13, 2000

114 STAT. 2313

this Act over any United States citizen or national resident therein who is otherwise eligible for such assistance.”

Approved November 13, 2000.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 2462:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 106-787 (Comm. on Resources).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 146 (2000):

July 25, considered and passed House.

Oct. 24, considered and passed Senate, amended.

Oct. 31, House concurred in Senate amendment.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF GUAM TO ACQUIRE EXCESS REAL PROPERTY IN GUAM

Pub. L. 106-504, §1, Nov. 13, 2000, 114 Stat. 2309, as amended by Pub. L. 109-163, div. A, title X, §1056(a)(6), Jan. 6, 2006, 119 Stat. 3439, provided that:

“(a) Transfer of Excess Real Property.—(1) Except as provided in subsection (d), before screening excess real property located on Guam for further Federal utilization under section 202 [now 40 U.S.C. 521 et seq.] of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 471 et seq.) [now 40 U.S.C. 101 et seq.] (hereinafter the ‘Property Act’), the Administrator shall notify the Government of Guam that the property is available for transfer pursuant to this section.

“(2) If the Government of Guam, within 180 days after receiving notification under paragraph (1), notifies the Administrator that the Government of Guam intends to acquire the property under this section, the Administrator shall transfer such property in accordance with subsection (b). Otherwise, the property shall be screened for further Federal use and then, if there is no other Federal use, shall be disposed of in accordance with the Property Act.

“(b) Conditions of Transfer.—(1) Any transfer of excess real property to the Government of Guam may be only for a public purpose and shall be without further consideration.

“(2) All transfers of excess real property to the Government of Guam shall be subject to such restrictive covenants as the Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, in the case of property reported excess by a military department, determines to be necessary to ensure that: (A) the use of the property is compatible with continued military activities on Guam; (B) the use of the property is consistent with the environmental condition of the property; (C) access is available to the United States to conduct any additional environmental remediation or monitoring that may be required; (D) the property is used only for a public purpose and can not be converted to any other use; and (E) to the extent that facilities on the property have been occupied and used by another Federal agency for a minimum of 2 years, that the transfer to the Government of Guam is subject to the terms and conditions for such use and occupancy.

“(3) All transfers of excess real property to the Government of Guam are subject to all otherwise applicable Federal laws, except section 2696 of title 10, United States Code, or section 501 of Public Law 100-77 (42 U.S.C. 11411).

“(c) Definitions.—For the purposes of this section:

“(1) The term ‘Administrator’ means—

“(A) the Administrator of General Services; or

“(B) the head of any Federal agency with the authority to dispose of excess real property on Guam.

“(2) The term ‘base closure law’ has the meaning given such term in section 101(a)(17) of title 10, United States Code.

“(3) The term ‘excess real property’ means excess property (as that term is defined in section 3 of the Property Act [now 40 U.S.C. 102]) that is real property and was acquired by the United States prior to the enactment of this section [Nov. 13, 2000].

“(4) The term ‘Guam National Wildlife Refuge’ includes those lands within the refuge overlay under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense, identified as DoD lands in figure 3, on page 74, and as submerged lands in figure 7, on page 78 of the

‘Final Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Guam National Wildlife Refuge, Territory of Guam, July 1993’ to the extent that the Federal Government holds title to such lands.

“(5) The term ‘public purpose’ means those public benefit purposes for which the United States may dispose of property pursuant to section 203 of the Property Act [now 40 U.S.C. 541 et seq.], as implemented by the Federal Property Management Regulations (41 CFR 101-47) or the specific public benefit uses set forth in section 3(c) of the Guam Excess Lands Act (Public Law 103-339; 108 Stat. 3116), except that such definition shall not include the transfer of land to an individual or entity for private use other than on a nondiscriminatory basis.

“(d) Exemptions.—Notwithstanding that such property may be excess real property, the provisions of this section shall not apply—

“(1) to real property on Guam that is declared excess by the Department of Defense for the purpose of transferring that property to the Coast Guard;

“(2) to real property on Guam that is located within the Guam National Wildlife Refuge, which shall be transferred according to the following procedure:

“(A) The Administrator shall notify the Government of Guam and the Fish and Wildlife Service that such property has been declared excess. The Government of Guam and the Fish and Wildlife Service shall have 180 days to engage in discussions toward an agreement providing for the future ownership and management of such real property.

“(B) If the parties reach an agreement under subparagraph (A) within 180 days after notification of the declaration of excess, the real property shall be transferred and managed in accordance with such agreement: *Provided*, That such agreement shall be transmitted to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate and the appropriate committees of the United States House of Representatives not less than 60 days prior to such transfer and any such transfer shall be subject to the other provisions of this section.

“(C) If the parties do not reach an agreement under subparagraph (A) within 180 days after notification of the declaration of excess, the Administrator shall provide a report to Congress on the status of the discussions, together with his recommendations on the likelihood of resolution of differences and the comments of the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Government of Guam. If the subject property is under the jurisdiction of a military department, the military department may transfer administrative control over the property to the General Services Administration subject to any terms and conditions applicable to such property. In the event of such a transfer by a military department to the General Services Administration, the Department of the Interior shall be responsible for all reasonable costs associated with the custody, accountability and control of such property until final disposition.

“(D) If the parties come to agreement prior to congressional action, the real property shall be transferred and managed in accordance with such agreement: *Provided*, That such agreement shall be transmitted to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate and the appropriate committees of the United States House of Representatives not less than 60 days

prior to such transfer and any such transfer shall be subject to the other provisions of this section.

"(E) Absent an agreement on the future ownership and use of the property, such property may not be transferred to another Federal agency or out of Federal ownership except pursuant to an Act of Congress specifically identifying such property;

"(3) to real property described in the Guam Excess Lands Act (Public Law 103-339; 108 Stat. 3116) which shall be disposed of in accordance with such Act;

"(4) to real property on Guam that is declared excess as a result of a base closure law; or

"(5) to facilities on Guam declared excess by the managing Federal agency for the purpose of transferring the facility to a Federal agency that has occupied the facility for a minimum of 2 years when the facility is declared excess together with the minimum land or interest therein necessary to support the facility.

"(e) Dual Classification Property.-If a parcel of real property on Guam that is declared excess as a result of a base closure law also falls within the boundary of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge, such parcel of property shall be disposed of in accordance with the base closure law.

"(f) Authority To Issue Regulations.-The Administrator of General Services, after consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Interior, may issue such regulations as he deems necessary to carry out this section."

**PRUTEH!
LITEKYAN!
SAVE
RITIDIAN**



FACTS ON THE MILITARIZATION OF LITEKYAN (RITIDIAN)

LIVE-FIRE TRAINING RANGE COMPLEX (LFTRC) DETAILS

According to the Department of the Navy's Record of Decision, which was signed on August 28, 2015, after completing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) that analyzed the impacts on 5 alternatives considered for the construction of a U.S. Marines' Live-Fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC), the Department of the Navy chose to construct the range at Northwest Field a.k.a. "Alternative 5" on Andersen Air Force Base above Litekyan. As a result, this important cultural and historic site will not be accessible to our community while the range is in use, because it is within the LFTRC's Surface Danger Zone (SDZ).

FACT: The LFTRC will consist of 5 units for firing machine guns, assault rifles, pistols, and non-standard small arms. (SEIS: ES-5; 2-8&67)

FACT: Artillery will be fired at the LFTRC up to 273 days (39 weeks) out of the year on weekdays and some weekends during the day and night. (SEIS:ES-5; 2-10)

FACT: Almost 7 million (6,719,190) rounds of ammunition are estimated to be fired each year. (SEIS:2-10)

FACT: Live-fire training ranges already exist within Guam's military units, and do not need to be together as one large complex, though preferred by the military. (eg, Guam LFTR Alt.:3)

FACT: Stray rounds could escape beyond the live-fire ranges. (SEIS: 5-391)

FROM THIS...



TO THIS...



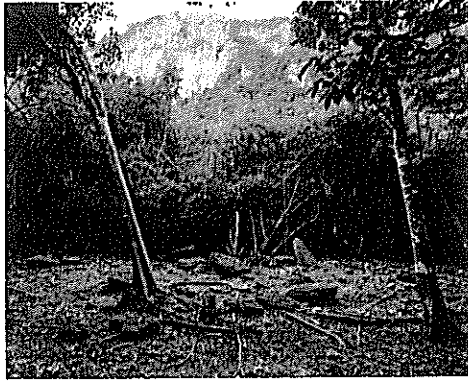
NO SOUND BARRIERS

LARGE BULLDOZED AREAS

MOST DESTRUCTIVE OPTION

FACT: According to the military's study, "There would be MORE ADVERSE [HARMFUL] EFFECTS from operations under Alternative 5 THAN UNDER ANY OF THE OTHER ALTERNATIVES." (SEIS:3-393)

FACT: In other studies conducted by the military, it was determined that due to the **NOISE, COST, LAND USE INCOMPATIBILITY, AND IMPACT TO THE COMMUNITY** as a result of the LFTRC near Litekyan, Alternative 5 was "NOT CONSIDERED TO BE A REASONABLE ALTERNATIVE" even with a smaller Surface Danger Zone footprint (eg, Guam LFTR Alt.:15, 34&36).



IMPACTS TO CULTURE AND HERITAGE

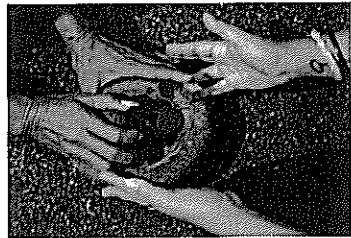
FACT: Litekyan, "contains an abundance of cultural resources, including latte sets, water wells, limestone mortars, cave drawings, pottery and shell artifacts. The land and seascapes provide evidence of changing climates and sea levels which impacted the settlement and use of this area by the earliest inhabitants of the island. Archaeological research has revealed that the area was the site of a thriving Chamorro village that predates the arrival of the Spanish in 1521 by over 600 years. Recent work has also uncovered a 3,300 year old fishing camp." (Carson, Guampedia)

FACT: Four or more ancestral villages with associated burials will be impacted by the live-fire noise of machine guns, assault rifles, and other weapons on a

nearly daily basis — Urunao, Litekyan, Pahon, & Inapsan. (SEIS:5-388-9)

FACT: More than 79 ancestral and historical sites on land and in the water will be bulldozed or otherwise adversely impacted at or near Litekyan. (SEIS:5-349&389-92)

FACT: "Excavation and soil removal associated with the construction of Alternative 5 would adversely affect 20 known archaeological sites eligible for [National Registry of Historic Places] NRHP listing, including Pre-Contact artifact scatters and sites containing latte components. In addition, culturally important natural resources could be directly impacted due to removal of limestone forest." (Guam Training Ranges Review and Analysis)



FACT: Many sites and activities are mis-characterized as "recreational" instead of recognized as "cultural," "sacred," "ancestral," and "traditional" therefore, assessments incorrectly based on recreational sites and activities are false and misleading.

FACT: Yo'amte (traditional healers), who currently gather *âmot* (medicinal plants and herbs) at Litekyan, will not be able to access these native plants while the range is in use.

FACT: The Surface Danger Zone extends out into the ocean, which will drastically limit traditional fishing practices.

RESTRICTED ACCESS TO FAMILY LANDS

FACT: The US federal government never properly compensated the original landowners of Litekyan for condemning their land, and continues to restrict the families' access to their properties, including access to family graves. (Family testimony)

FACT: One family-owned business in the general area has been forced to close due to military-imposed restricted access, and at least one other, a beach resort, will be severely impacted by the sounds of machine guns, assault rifles, and pistols being fired nearly daily (even if distant). (eg, SEIS:5-349&392)



THE COSTS TO OUR CHILDREN & COMMUNITY

FACT: More than 150,000 of our schoolchildren have benefited from visiting the nature, wildlife, and ancestral sites of Litekyan over the years. Much of this access will become limited or no longer allowed. (SEIS:4-347)

FACT: The environmental study itself says that feelings of social and psychological marginalization and injustice may arise from taking, destroying, and restricting access to land and heritage associated with the LFTRC near Litekyan. (SEIS:5-400)

FACT: On Guam and elsewhere, the US military has a long standing history of contaminating sites—burying canisters of mustard gas, leaving behind unexploded ordinance, (UXO), etc. (eg, SEIS:5-405)

FACT: A LFTRC at Northwest Field and other activities associated with the relocation of the Marines to Guam will adversely impact the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer (NGLA), our main source of drinking water. According to the SEIS Record of Decision, we will experience: a long-term increase in annual groundwater production (withdrawal) of 1.7 million gallons per day; an increase in the rate of sewage spills, impacting groundwater quality from potential exposure to additional raw sewage; and an increased withdrawal from the NGLA that may result in higher levels of chloride concentrations.

ENVIRONMENTAL DESTRUCTION

FACT: Failing grades — U.S. military environmental impact studies related to the Mariana Islands keep getting failing or dismal grades for being inadequate according to the US Environmental Protection Agency and environmental experts. Two lawsuits have been filed as a result of these inadequacies. (eg, EPA Comments on DEIS, 2010)

FACT: Too many of the impacted areas are IRREPLACEABLE PARTS OF OUR ECOSYSTEMS.

FACT: Critical and recovery habitat for our endangered and threatened species are hard to come by. If we don't safeguard them, our children and grandchildren will lose the possibility of living in the island our parents, grandparents, and ancestors once knew.

FACT: The Department of Defense took up a legal battle to stop consultations aimed at saving recovery habitat.

FACT: Training Range impact areas are recovery habitat for our special wildlife including the *Ko'ko'* (Guam Rail), *Sihek* (Micronesian kingfisher), *Fanihi* (Mariana fruit bat), & the *Åga* (Mariana crow). (GNWR Comprehensive Conservation Plan, Ch 3)

FACT: Training Range impact areas are where a wide variety of native marine species can be found, including the *Haggan*, or Green & Hawksbill turtles and their breeding grounds and nesting areas. (GNWR Comprehensive Conservation Plan, Ch 3)

FACT: Training Range impact areas have a collection of special plants & trees that no longer exist anywhere else as a community in Guam or the rest of the Mariana Islands.

FACT: Some of flora & fauna are endemic to Guam or the Mariana Islands, meaning they don't occur anywhere else in the world. That is how special & rare they are.

FACT: The Following Endangered (E) and Threatened (T) Wild Life & Vegetation found at & around Litekyan will be further threatened by the LFTRC:

Wild Life

- *Ababbang* (E) — Mariana eight-spot butterfly (*Hypolimnas octocula marianensis*); Mariana Wandering Butterfly (*Vagrans egistina*)
- *Akeleha'* (E) — Partulid snails
- *Fanihi* (T) — Mariana Fruit Bat (*Pteropus mariannus*)



Vegetation

- *Aplokating-palaoan* (E) (*Psychotria malaspinae*)
- *Cebello halumtåno* (T) (orchid; *Bulbophyllum guamense*)
- *Fadang* (T) (Cycads; *Cycas micronesica*)
- Guam orchid (T) (*Tuberolabium guamense*) — the highest density found in Guam is in the main Marines' cantonment area
- *Håyan Lågu* (E) (Fire Tree; *Serianthes nelsonii*)
- *Håyan Sumak* (T) (also *Trongkon Sumak*; *Tabernaemontana rotensis*)
- *Ufa Halom Tano* (T) (Looking Glass Tree; *Heritiera longipetiolata*)

WE MAY HAVE LESS THAN 5% LEFT OF OUR ORIGINAL PRIMARY LIMESTONE FORESTS ON GUAM. FURTHER DESTRUCTION OF OUR REMAINING LIMESTONE FORESTS "IS NOT MITIGABLE" (THE DAMAGING IMPACT CANNOT BE LESSENERED). THESE HABITATS ARE IRREPLACEABLE AND CANNOT BE RECREATED ONCE DESTROYED FOR THE LFTRC. THEY ARE VITAL TO SEVERAL OF THE SPECIES UNIQUE TO GUAM LISTED ABOVE, AND TO SEVERAL OTHER SPECIES THAT ARE RARE OR MAY SOON BE LISTED AS THREATENED OR ENDANGERED.



LESSONS FROM OUR PAST & OUR FELLOW ISLANDERS

FACT: Military actions have consequences — to our community & our environment.

Guam

FACT: There are over 80 contaminated military dump sites on Guam, most of which have not been cleaned up.

FACT: Guam continues to discover WWII Unexploded Ordnance over 70 years after the war.

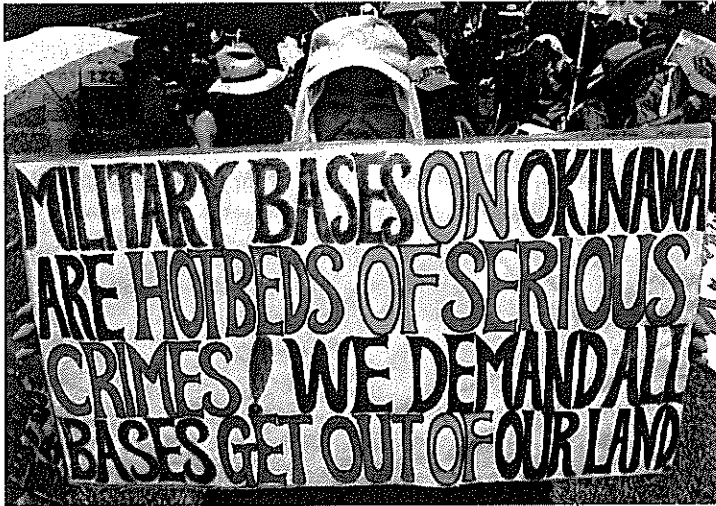
FACT: Guam is currently investigating the military's use of Agent Orange on the island.

FACT: Guam has been exposed to radiation and nuclear contamination from nuclear testing in the region, and from nuclear submarines that have leaked radiation into our waters.

Kaho'olawe, Hawai'i (<http://www.kahoolawe.hawaii.gov/history.shtml>)

FACT: For nearly 30 years the US used the entire island of Kaho'olawe as a bombing range for military exercise by the U.S. military and its allies. The military was supposed to ensure clean up of the island, yet 25% or 6,692 acres were not cleared of unexploded ordinance and access to these areas is unsafe.

FACT: The entire island is sacred. Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana (Family) worked to occupy and rescue the island to stop the continual bombing and heavy metal contamination of the sacred sites there.



Okinawa, Japan

FACT: The presence of the US military (soldiers, marines, sailors, and airmen) has increased the number of serious crimes committed in Okinawa, from rape to murder, which crystallized community-wide opposition to the presence of the Marines in Okinawa and led to their realignment to Guam. (McCurry, Thousands protest)

FACT: Many Okinawans resent bearing the heavy burden placed on them by the national governments of Japan and the US in hosting US bases. (Associated Press, US military imposes)

FACT: Okinawan demonstrators protesting the US military in their island have said, "I really don't want any more victims," and have expressed that as long as there are US military bases in their island, violent crimes will continue to occur.

FACT: Okinawans feel like they have become a "military colony of the United States." Okinawans have protested against the US military in the tens of thousands, and in 2010, nearly 100,000 gathered in protest of the base. (AFP, Protesters rally against US military)

FACT: Between 2002 & 2017, 270 or more US military base-caused environmental accidents occurred in Okinawa, contaminating land and local waterways. These accidents resulted in: the release of over 14,000 liters of jet fuel and diesel; leakage of over 2,600 liters of fuels and other substances like antifreeze; other accidents involving over 4,000 liters of mixed water/POL (petroleum, oils, and lubricants), and another 2,600 liters of fuel. (Mitchell, Environmental Contamination)

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All photos of Litekyan were taken by Anthony Tamayo, Jr., courtesy of the R.F.T. Micronesia Area Research Center at the University of Guam.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Record of Decision for the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Military Relocation

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, Department of Defense

ACTION: Record of Decision

SUMMARY: The Department of the Navy (DON), after carefully considering the environmental consequences of the proposed action, as well as strategic, operational, and training requirements, obligations under treaties and other international agreements, and cost, announces its decision to construct and operate a main base (cantonment area), a family housing area, a live-fire training range complex (LFTRC), and associated infrastructure on Guam to support the relocation of a substantially reduced number of Marines and dependents than previously analyzed in a 2010 Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) (*Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Military Relocation; Relocating Marines from Okinawa, Visiting Aircraft Carrier Berthing, and Army Air and Missile Defense Task Force*). The DON has selected the preferred alternative as identified in the 2015 Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS), consisting of a cantonment at Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station Finegayan (Finegayan) and family housing at Andersen Air Force Base (AAFB) (Alternative E in the 2015 Final SEIS), and a LFTRC at AAFB-Northwest Field (NWF) (Alternative 5 in the 2015 Final SEIS). The LFTRC also includes a stand-alone hand grenade range at Andersen South. Under Alternatives E and 5, the DON will be able to meet current and future DON and Department of Defense (DoD) training and operational requirements.

This Record of Decision (ROD) documents why the DoD has chosen to implement the preferred alternatives as described in the 2015 Final SEIS. The ROD includes descriptions and discussions of the anticipated environmental impacts of the proposed action. It also includes descriptions and discussions of all related actions and their anticipated impacts.

The selected cantonment/family housing Alternative E comprises approximately 1,751 acres (709 hectares [ha]) of land (not including offsite utility corridor improvements which total approximately 150 acres [60 ha]) that are currently under the custody and control of the DoD. The selected LFTRC Alternative 5 at AAFB-NWF includes a construction footprint area of approximately 338 acres (137 ha) plus an additional 3,701 acres (1,498 ha) of land and submerged land for surface danger zones (SDZs). The entire LFTRC Alternative 5 construction footprint is currently under the custody and control of the federal government. Although the selected alternative does not require acquisition of non-federal land on Guam, access restrictions already established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) at the Ritiidian Unit of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) (which is managed by the USFWS) may be adjusted to account for the establishment of the SDZs for the LFTRC once it is operational. In accordance with the provisions of section 2822 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for the fiscal year (FY) 2015 (Pub. L. No. 113-291), the DON will pursue an agreement with the USFWS to establish and operate a SDZ associated with LFTRC Alternative 5 that will allow for the continued management of and access to the Ritiidian Unit consistent with the purposes for which it was established.

This decision adopts all of the mitigation measures that were identified in the 2015 Final SEIS to avoid or minimize adverse environmental impacts from the preferred alternatives with the exception of proposed

mitigation to designate an Ecological Reserve Area (ERA) on Naval Munition Site (NAVMAG) and for the expansion of Oroto Peninsula ERA. The ERA on NAVMAG and Oroto Peninsula ERA expansion were proposed to mitigate for loss of native habitat from direct and indirect impacts of the preferred alternatives. To mitigate for loss of recovery habitat for the endangered Guam Micronesian kingfisher, the DON and the USFWS entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on June 11, 2015, which commits the DON to designate approximately 5,234 acres under the custody and control of the DoD in northern Guam to a status that will provide durable habitat protection needed to support recovery habitat and land management for the survival and recovery of the species. This designation and management commitment, together with other MOA provisions, the conservation measures and best management practices identified in the Final SEIS, and the terms and conditions in July 31, 2015 Biological Opinion issued by the USFWS, adequately mitigate for impacts to recovery habitat for the Guam Micronesian kingfisher resulting from implementation of the selected alternatives. This ROD was prepared in accordance with Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §§ 1500-1508, and specifically, 40 CFR § 1505.2 ("Record of decision in cases requiring environmental impact statements").

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Director, Joint Guam Program Office Forward, P.O. Box 153246, Santa Rita, Guam 96915.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to 42 United States Code (U.S.C.) §§ 4321 *et seq.* (section 101 *et seq.* of NEPA), the regulations of the CEQ that implement NEPA procedures (40 CFR §§1500-1508), and applicable DoD and DON environmental regulations and instructions that implement these laws and regulations, the DON announces its decision to construct and operate a cantonment, family housing, a LFTRC, and associated infrastructure on Guam to support the relocation of a reconfigured and substantially reduced U.S. Marine Corps force to Guam than originally was addressed in the 2010 Final ROD. This decision will enable the DON to: (1) ensure that the relocated Marines are organized, trained, and equipped as mandated by 10 U.S.C. § 5063; (2) satisfy individual live-fire training requirements as described in the 2015 Final SEIS; and (3) establish an operational Marine Corps presence on Guam in accordance with the April 27, 2012, joint statement issued by the U.S.-Japan Security Consultative Committee (hereinafter the "2012 Roadmap Adjustments").

BACKGROUND: On September 30, 2010, the DON signed a ROD (75 Federal Register [FR] 60438) regarding the 2010 Final EIS for the *Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Military Relocation; Relocating Marines from Okinawa, Visiting Aircraft Carrier Berthing, and Army Air and Missile Defense Task Force*. The 2010 ROD documented, in pertinent part, the DON's decision to implement the preferred alternatives identified for the main cantonment area, aviation, and waterfront operations to support relocation of approximately 8,600 Marines and approximately 9,000 dependents to Guam. The 2010 ROD deferred a decision on the specific site for a LFTRC pending completion of the section 106 consultation process under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHRA) (16 U.S.C. § 470 *et seq.*). In March 2011, subsequent to issuance of the 2010 ROD, the DoD executed the *Programmatic Agreement among the Department of Defense, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Guam State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding the Military Relocation to the Islands of Guam and Tintan* (2011 Programmatic Agreement [PA]). The 2011 PA was developed in consultation with the Guam and CNMI State Historic Preservation Offices (SEPO), the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), the National Park Service (NPS), other federal and Guam and CNMI agencies, and the public.

On February 7, 2011, the Undersecretary of the Navy sent a letter to the Governor of Guam reiterating the 4-pillars that would guide DoD's approach to the military buildup. The DON remains committed to the 4-pillars. Relative to the analysis in the 2015 Final SEIS, one of the pillars was a commitment to provide 24 hour a day, 7 days a week access to the Pagan Village and Pagan Cave historical sites, to include the existing trail. Having deferred a decision on the location for the LFTRC along Route 15, the DON subsequently applied a probabilistic methodology to more precisely model the size of the SDZ associated with the Multi-Purpose Machine Gun (MPMG) Range that will be part of the LFTRC. Application of this methodology reduced the size of the overall footprint and enabled the DON to reevaluate potential LFTRC locations on Guam, including those locations previously considered but not carried forward for detailed analysis. This reevaluation resulted in the identification of additional LFTRC preliminary alternatives. In light of this information, the DON initially elected to prepare a SEIS limited solely to the evaluation of potential impacts associated with the construction and operation of a LFTRC on Guam (hereinafter "LFTRC SEIS"). The DON issued a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare the LFTRC SEIS on February 9, 2012, (77 FR 6787), and held three public scoping meetings on Guam on March 17, 19, and 20, 2012.

On April 27, 2012, the U.S.-Japan Security Consultative Committee issued a joint statement announcing its decision to adjust the plans outlined in the May 2006 Roadmap for Realignment Implementation. In accordance with these 2012 Roadmap Adjustments, the DoD adapted a new force posture in the Pacific, providing for a materially smaller and reconfigured force on Guam. In conjunction with changes to the mix of personnel involved in the relocation, the force adjustments reduced the originally planned relocation of approximately 8,600 Marines with 9,000 dependents to a force of approximately 5,000 Marines with approximately 1,300 dependents. That decision prompted the DON's review of the actions previously planned for Guam and approved in the 2010 Final ROD. This review concluded that while some actions remained unchanged, others, such as the size and location of the cantonment and family housing areas, could significantly change as a result of the modified force. Therefore, the DON published a new NOI on October 11, 2012, (77 FR 61746), and amended the scope of the ongoing LFTRC SEIS to add those actions that materially changed as a result of the new force posture.

The proposed change in size and composition of the new force structure under the 2012 Roadmap Adjustments and the reconsideration of the LFTRC SDZ footprint did not affect all of the decisions made in the 2010 Final ROD. For example, the location of Aviation Combat Element facilities, the air embarkation facilities (Air Mobility Command Complex), the development of the North Gate and access road at AAFB, the wharf improvements at the Navy base at Apra Harbor, and the non-live fire and maneuver training ranges on Andersen South remain unaffected by the changes in force structure resulting from the 2012 Roadmap Adjustments. For those decisions not affected by the new force structure, the 2010 Final ROD stands as the final agency action. The 2015 Final SEIS and this ROD do not include the transient aircraft carrier berthing in Apra Harbor or the U.S. Army Air and Missile Defense Task Force deployment that were addressed in the 2010 Final EIS. The disposition of those projects is independent of the proposed action analyzed in the 2015 Final SEIS and in this ROD.

PURPOSE AND NEED: The overarching purpose of the proposed action is to meet international agreement and treaty requirements and to fulfill U.S. national security policy requirements to provide mutual defense, deter aggression, and dissuade coercion in the Western Pacific Region. From a global strategic perspective, the U.S. maintains military capabilities in the Western Pacific to support U.S. and regional security, economic, and political interests. The Guam Military Relocation proposes distinct, yet related actions to support this position.

The purpose and need for the proposed action evaluated in the 2015 Final SEIS is to (1) ensure that the relocated Marines are organized, trained, and equipped as mandated by 10 U.S.C. § 5063, (2) satisfy individual live-fire training requirements as described in the 2010 Final EIS, and (3) establish an operational Marine Corps presence on Guam and ensure consistency with the new force posture adopted by the DoD in accordance with the 2012 Roadmap Adjustments.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT: On October 11, 2012, the DON published a NOI (77 FR 61746) to prepare a SEIS to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of the construction and operations of a main base (cantonment), family housing, a LFTRC, and associated infrastructure on Guam to support the relocation of a substantially reduced number of Marines and dependents than previously analyzed in a 2010 EIS (*Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Military Relocation; Relocating Marines from Okinawa, Visiting Aircraft Carrier Berthing, and Army Air and Missile Defense Task Force*). This notice included a project description and scoping meeting dates and locations. In addition, a NOI/Notice of Scoping Meetings was distributed concurrently to federal, state, and local elected officials and government agencies, non-governmental organization representatives, and other entities interested in the SEIS. The DON held three public scoping meetings on Guam on November 8, 9, and 10, 2012, which were attended by a total of 241 people. During the 60-day scoping period that concluded on December 10, 2012, the DON received 398 comment letters, including 10 duplicate comments, 131 identical form letters from members of the Community Advocates of the Raceway, and 52 comments from Community Advocates of the Raceway that attached signed petitions (collectively totaling more than 13,000 signatures). All topics identified during the scoping period were considered in the development of the scope of the environmental impact analysis.

On April 18, 2014, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a Notice of Availability (NOA) for the Draft SEIS (79 FR 21917). Concurrently, DON published a NOA and a Notice of Public Meetings (79 FR 21907) and in Guam newspapers. The Draft SEIS was distributed for public and agency review. The DON's NOA identified locations (e.g., public libraries) where the Draft SEIS was available for review, the duration of the public review and comment period, the available options for submitting comments, and the time and location of three scheduled public information meetings and public hearings on Guam.

The DON held three open-house style meetings combined with three public hearings to both inform the public about the proposed action and identified impacts and to receive written and verbal feedback about the Draft SEIS from the public. Informational posters were displayed, fact sheets about the project (including one translated into Chamorro) were handed out, and subject matter experts were available during each open house to answer questions on the Draft SEIS. Consistent with the meeting announcements, the DON provided information and supported discussion of how compliance with NEPA will be accomplished through continued implementation of the 2011 PA. Comment forms, a stenographer, and a Chamorro language translator were available during the open house portion of each meeting to receive written and oral comments. Oral comments were recorded during the public hearing portion of each meeting, and transcripts of each hearing are included in the record. The public meetings/hearings took place on Guam on May 17, May 19, and May 20, 2014. Each meeting consisted of an open house, immediately followed by a public hearing.

The public comment period for the Draft SEIS was initially scheduled to last 60 days, with a published end date of June 16, 2014. In response to public comments, the DON extended the public comment period for the Draft SEIS by 15 days to July 1, 2014. The DON received a total of 906 unique comments during the public comment period covering a number of topics.

The EPA published a NOA for the Final SEIS on July 17, 2015 (30 FR 42491). The DON published a NOA for the July 2015 Final SEIS in local newspapers and posted it on the project website (www.guambuildupseis.us). The notice announced the availability of the 2015 Final SEIS and gave an overview of the proposed actions and potential environmental impacts as presented in the document. The DON distributed copies of the 2015 Final SEIS in the same manner as the Draft SEIS (i.e., distributed to libraries on Guam, regulatory agencies, elected officials, and individuals and groups who had requested copies). The DON also mailed post cards announcing the availability of the 2015 Final SEIS to those individuals requesting such notice.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED: NEPA requires the identification, consideration, and analysis of alternatives that contribute to the goal of objective decision making. CEQ's implementing regulations require the decision maker to consider the environmental effects of the proposed action, including a no action alternative to the proposed action (40 CFR § 1502.14). As a result of the reduced acreage requirements for the cantonment and family housing facilities, as well as other factors such as the reconfigured SDZ footprint for the proposed LFTRC, public input, refined range designs and criteria, and a reassessment of operational requirements, conflicts, and opportunities, the DON considered a broad range of siting alternatives in the Draft SEIS. Some of these siting alternatives were not feasible under the conditions evaluated in the 2010 Final EIS but were reconsidered for the 2012 Roadmap Adjustments that launched the SEIS.

Cantonment/Family Housing: The DON analyzed five cantonment/family housing alternatives in the 2015 Final SEIS, all of which are located on land under the custody and control of the DoD.

- **Finsegayan Cantonment/Family Housing (Alternative A):** Alternative A would be completely contained on existing federally owned land. This alternative would be bound on the north by AAFB-NWF, on the east by Route 3, and on the west by a cliff line (within federal property), the Haputo Ecological Reserve, and the Philippine Sea. The site also would be bound to the east by limited residential development and to the south by the Dos Amantes planned area, also known as the former Harmon Village (non-federal property). This alternative would comprise approximately 1,495 acres (605 ha) within one contiguous parcel of land, although the family housing area would be separated from the cantonment core by approximately 1.5 miles (2.4 kilometers [km]).
- **Finsegayan Cantonment/South Finsegayan Family Housing (Alternative B):** Alternative B would include approximately 1,450 acres (587 ha) of federally owned land. The cantonment area of this alternative would be in the same location as the proposed cantonment for Alternative A. The family housing area would be located at the South Finsegayan site, approximately 1.0 mile (1.6 km) from the southern boundary of Finsegayan. The portion of the South Finsegayan parcel proposed for development of family housing would cover approximately 290 acres (117 ha).
- **AAFB Cantonment/Family Housing (Alternative C):** Alternative C would be located on AAFB, which is bound to the north and east by the Pacific Ocean, to the south by privately owned residential areas, and to the west by Route 9 and AAFB-NWF. Alternative C would utilize approximately 1,819 acres (736 ha) of federally owned land. The cantonment/family housing areas of Alternative C would not be contiguous, but both areas would be contained within the same installation fence line. The family housing area for Alternative C would be located at the current AAFB family housing area approximately 2 miles (3.2 km) southeast of the proposed cantonment area.

- **Barrigada Cantonment/Family Housing (Alternative D):** Alternative D would be located on the eastern side of Guam, with Route 15 bordering the site to the east and south, and Routes 16 and 10 to the west. The northern and southern sections of the Barrigada property are connected by a strip of open space that was the former Nimitz Golf Course. Alternative D would comprise approximately 1,194 acres (483 ha) of federally owned land. The cantonment and family housing areas would be located on one contiguous parcel of land. This is the environmentally preferred alternative for cantonment/family housing.
- **Finsegayan Cantonment/AAFB Family Housing (Alternative E):** Alternative E, the preferred alternative in the 2015 Final SEIS, would consist of a combination of the main cantonment at Finsegayan that was previously analyzed in the Draft SEIS under Alternatives A and B, and the family housing at AAFB that was analyzed in the Draft SEIS under Alternative C. Alternative E would comprise approximately 1,723 acres (697 ha) of federally owned land. The cantonment for this alternative would consist of 1,213 acres (491 ha) located at Finsegayan. The family housing area for Alternative E would consist of 510 acres (206 ha) located at the current AAFB family housing area.

Live-Fire Training Range Complex: The DON analyzed five alternatives for the LFTRC in the 2015 Final SEIS. As identified in the Final SEIS, the location for the hand grenade range is common to all LFTRC alternatives and is located at Andersen South as identified in the Final SEIS. Working with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), establishment of Special Use Airspace (SUA) would be required for each alternative. Configuration of the SUA would be specific to each LFTRC alternative, the determination of which would be made with issuance of this ROD.

- **Route 15A (Alternative 1):** Alternative 1 would consist of approximately 3,762 acres (1,522 ha) and would require federal land acquisition of an estimated 872 acres (353 ha) of Chantano Land Trust Commission, Guam Ancestral Lands Commission (GALC), and GovGuam lands. Direct physical disturbance would potentially occur on approximately 383 acres (155 ha) of this site for the construction of the individual ranges, range support building, parking areas, range towers, internal range access roads, a perimeter fence, and the realignment location of Route 15. Approximately 3,379 acres (1,367 ha) would include lands and submerged lands within the SDZ that would not be directly impacted as a result of construction or operation of the LFTRC. This includes approximately 574 acres (232 ha) of GovGuam land and 2,805 acres (1,135 ha) of the submerged lands of the Pacific Ocean.
- **NAVMAG (East/West) (Alternative 2):** Alternative 2 would consist of approximately 3,815 acres (1,544 ha) (not including the hand grenade range at Andersen South) and would require acquisition of approximately 1,894 acres (766 ha) of privately owned and GovGuam land. Direct physical disturbance would occur on approximately 382 acres (154 ha), including 275 acres (111 ha) for the construction of the individual ranges, range support building, internal range access roads, and a perimeter fence, plus approximately 107 acres (43 ha) to construct an external LFTRC access road from Route 4. The remaining approximately 3,433 acres (1,389 ha) would include 3,026 acres (1,225 ha) of lands within the SDZ and 407 acres (165 ha) of land surrounding the individual ranges that would not be directly affected by construction or operation of the LFTRC. Alternative 2 would be located in a single location on the non-federal land to the southeast of the NAVMAG. The ranges would be oriented to the west and the composite SDZ would extend over portions of the NAVMAG. Access to the ranges would be via a new access road from Dandan Road that would be constructed with the LFTRC.

Approximately 5 miles (8 km) of roads would be constructed to provide access between the individual ranges. This is the environmentally preferred alternative for the LFTRC.

- NAVMAG (North/South) (Alternative 3): Alternative 3 would comprise approximately 3,549 acres (1,436 ha) (not including the stand-alone hand grenade range at Andersen South) and would require acquisition of 252 acres (102 ha) of GovGuam and privately owned lands. Approximately 370 acres (150 ha) would be required for construction of the proposed range facilities, while 3,179 acres (1,285 ha) would be land within the SDZ that would not be directly affected by construction or operation of the LFTRC. The 370 acres (150 ha) that would be developed would include the areas for construction of the individual ranges, range support building, range access roads, munitions magazine relocation area, and a perimeter fence along the western edge of the LFTRC. An estimated 72 new concrete munitions storage magazines would be constructed at Orute Point to accommodate the transfer of munitions from the existing magazines that would be encumbered by the range SDZs. The existing magazines would be abandoned in place.

- NAVMAG (L-Shaped) (Alternative 4): Alternative 4 would consist of approximately 4,895 acres (1,981 ha) (not including the hand grenade range at Andersen South) and would require the acquisition of approximately 914 acres (370 ha) of privately owned and GovGuam land. Direct physical ground disturbance would occur on approximately 477 acres (193 ha), which would include approximately 356 acres (144 ha) for the construction of the individual ranges, range support building, internal range access roads, munitions magazine relocation area, and a perimeter fence along the western and southern edges of the LFTRC, and approximately 121 acres (49 ha) to construct an external LFTRC access road from Route 4 to the east/west facing ranges (see Figure 2.5-1). The remaining 4,418 acres (1,788 ha) would include 4,165 acres (1,686 ha) of land within the SDZ and 253 acres (102 ha) of land surrounding the individual ranges that would not be built up. An estimated 66 new concrete munitions storage magazines would be constructed at Orute Point to accommodate existing magazines that would be encumbered by the range SDZs. The existing magazines would be abandoned in place.

Alternative 4 would be divided between two locations: the MPMG Range and range maintenance facility would be located in the same locations identified in Alternative 3, and the other ranges would be located on adjacent non-federal property to the southeast of the NAVMAG (near the area of Alternative 2). Access to the MPMG Range and range maintenance building would be the same as described for Alternative 3. Approximately 1 mile (1.6 km) of new roadway would be required.

Access to the ranges located east of the NAVMAG would occur via a new access road from Route 4. The new access road would follow the existing road from Route 4 to the Dandan Communication Site and then would continue to the KD Rifle Range. Access between the ranges proposed in the southeastern portion of the LFTRC would be via approximately 3.0 miles (4.8 km) of new roads constructed as part of the LFTRC.

- AAFB-NWF (Alternative 5) (Preferred Alternative): Alternative 5 would consist of approximately 4,016 acres (1,625 ha) (not including the hand grenade range at Andersen South). Although Alternative 5 would not require acquisition of non-federal land, access restrictions already established by the USFWS at the Ritidian Unit of the Guam NWR would be adjusted to account for the establishment of the SDZs for the LFTRC. The Ritidian Unit of the Guam NWR is owned and managed by the USFWS. The DON would pursue an agreement with the USFWS in accordance with the provisions of section 2822 of the FY 2015 NDAA that would allow for

the continued management of the Ritidian Unit consistent with the purposes for which it was established and the operation of the SDZs associated with the LFTRC alternative at AAFB-NWF. The DON anticipates that access restrictions will be addressed in this agreement.

Construction of Alternative 5 would cause direct disturbance to approximately 315 acres (128 ha) of land, including 256 acres (104 ha) for the construction of the individual ranges, range support building, range towers, internal range access roads, a perimeter fence (all within federally controlled land at AAFB-NWF), and the potential relocation of the USFWS facilities within the Ritidian Unit of the Guam NWR that would be encumbered by the range SDZs. The remaining approximately 59 acres (24 ha) of disturbed area would be required for construction to improve existing roadways from the intersection of Routes 3, 3A, and 9 to the Ritidian Unit of the Guam NWR. Conclusion of the consultation under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) excluded the proposed relocation of the USFWS facility and the improved access road to the Ritidian Unit of the Guam NWR. Any decisions ensuring continued access to the Ritidian Unit of the Guam NWR are dependent on the outcome of the negotiation of the agreement authorized by section 2822 of the FY 2015 NDAA. The remaining 3,701 acres (1,498 ha) in the overall Alternative 5 footprint would include additional lands and submerged lands under the exclusive custody and control of the DON and the USFWS within the SDZ that would not be affected by construction. This includes approximately 267 acres (108 ha) of the Ritidian Unit of the Guam NWR and 3,434 acres (1,390 ha) of the submerged lands of the Philippine Sea.

In compliance with CEQ's implementing regulations, the DON analyzed the potential environmental consequences of implementing each alternative (and each combination of a cantonment/family housing and a LFTRC alternative) with the same level of scrutiny. The 2015 Final SEIS evaluated all alternatives for potential direct, indirect, additive (associated with combinations of cantonment/family housing and LFTRC alternatives), and cumulative impacts.

No-Action Alternative: Under the No-Action Alternative, the DON would continue to implement the 2010 Final EIS and ROD. The decision to construct and operate the LFTRC would remain deferred, and the DON would establish a cantonment/family housing area for a larger force of approximately 8,600 Marines and approximately 9,000 dependents on federally controlled lands at Finegayan and South Finegayan by acquiring land known as the former FAA parcel. The No-Action Alternative is not a reasonable alternative because it would not meet the purpose and need for the proposed action as defined above. Foremost, it would be inconsistent with the new force posture adopted by the DoD in accordance with the 2012 Roadmap Adjustments that provides for a materially smaller relocated force on Guam. Furthermore, the No-Action Alternative would neither satisfy the training requirements for the relocated Marines as mandated by 10 U.S.C. § 5063 nor satisfy the individual live-fire training requirements as described in the 2010 Final EIS and ROD. Although the No-Action Alternative presumes the course of action identified in the 2010 ROD, for purposes of assessing the environmental impacts of the proposed alternatives in the 2015 SEIS, the DON compared the impacts of the proposed action to the baseline conditions identified in the 2010 Final EIS. The DON updated baseline conditions, as appropriate, based upon the availability of new information.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS: The DON prepared the 2015 Final SEIS to evaluate the potential environmental consequences of implementing each of the alternatives that were carried forward for analysis. Impacts were assessed for the following resource areas: geological and soil resources; water resources; air quality; noise; airspace; land and submerged land use; recreation; terrestrial biological resources; marine biological resources; cultural resources; visual resources; ground transportation; marine transportation; utilities; socioeconomics and general services; hazardous materials and waste; public

health and safety; and environmental justice/protection of children. The following discussion summarizes environmental impacts for the alternatives selected for implementation in this ROD (Alternative B and Alternative 5) and only addresses those resources that may result in significant impacts or significant but mitigable impacts. The significant impacts designation applies to impacts that may be significant, and either no mitigation measures were identified that could reduce the impact to a less than significant level or the impact may remain significant even with the application of mitigation measures. The significant but mitigable impacts designation applies when the impact on a resource may be significant without mitigation but may be reduced to a less than significant level with the application of identified mitigation measures. This section of the ROD summarizes the potential impacts, while associated mitigation measures are summarized in a later section.

The 2015 Final SEIS also evaluated additive impacts and cumulative effects. Additive impacts are those associated with a particular cantonment/family housing alternative being paired with a particular LFTRC alternative (e.g., the traffic generated between the cantonment and the LFTRC or the effects of installing information technology/communications [IT/COMM] infrastructure between a specific cantonment/family housing area, a LFTRC, and other DoD facilities on Guam). Cumulative effects are the potential impacts associated with implementing the proposed action in conjunction with those projects that remained final under the 2010 ROD and not subject to further analysis and other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects on Guam.

Significant Impacts of Cantonment/Family Housing Alternative E – Finegavan/AAFB

Water Resources

Construction Impacts

Groundwater: The Guam Waterworks Authority's (GWA) interceptor sewer from AAFB to the Northern District Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) is in a state of deterioration, and the number of spills from this system exceeds spill rate norms for similar wastewater systems. Increased wastewater flows associated with the construction/DoD workforce and induced civilian population growth during the construction phase of Alternative E will potentially accelerate deterioration and increase the rate of sewage spills, resulting in significant but mitigable indirect impacts to groundwater quality.

Nearshore Waters: Increased wastewater flows associated with induced civilian and construction/DoD workforce growth under Alternative E would result in a significant and unmitigable, indirect impact to nearshore waters from increased wastewater discharge from the Northern District WWTP outfall. The Northern District WWTP is non-compliant with the current (2013) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and increasing the wastewater discharge and corresponding increases in pollutants (e.g., orthophosphates, nitrate-nitrogen, and ammonia) from a non-compliant treatment plant would be a significant indirect impact during the period of noncompliance. WWTP upgrades are not anticipated to be completed until early in the operational phase of the proposed action. There would be an indirect and unmitigable significant impact to nearshore waters during construction until upgrades are complete.

Operation Impacts

Groundwater: Operation of the cantonment/family housing facilities under Alternative E would result in a significant but mitigable impact to groundwater in the form of a long-term increase in annual groundwater production (withdrawal) of 1.7 million gallons per day, which could result in a localized significant indirect impact to the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer (NGLA). In addition, the GWA interceptor sewer from AAFB to the Northern District WWTP is in a state of deterioration that requires refurbishment.

Increased wastewater flow from the proposed relocation would potentially accelerate this deterioration and increase the rate of sewage spills, resulting in a significant but mitigable indirect impact to groundwater quality from potential exposure to additional raw sewage.

Nearshore Waters: Operation of the cantonment and family housing facilities under Alternative E would result in a significant but mitigable impact to nearshore waters from increased wastewater discharge and corresponding pollutants as described above from the Northern District WWTP outfall. Increasing wastewater discharge from a non-compliant treatment plant would be a significant indirect impact during the period of non-compliance.

Terrestrial Biological Resources

Construction Impacts

Vegetation: Construction of the cantonment facilities under Alternative E would result in a significant but mitigable impact to vegetation as a result of the conversion of 780 acres (316 ha) of limestone forest to developed area. Construction of the family housing facilities under Alternative E would have a less than significant impact to this resource.

Terrestrial Conservation Areas: Construction of the cantonment facilities under Alternative E would result in a significant but mitigable impact to terrestrial conservation areas as a result of the conversion of 1,065 acres (431 ha) of Overlay Refuges lands to developed area.

Special-Status Species – Endangered Species Act (ESA) (16 U.S.C. §§ 1531 et seq.) – Listed/Proposed Species: Construction of the cantonment and family housing facilities under Alternative E would result in significant but mitigable impacts to special-status species (ESA-listed/proposed species) as a result of impacts to 719 acres (291 ha) of Mariana fruit bat recovery habitat, 719 acres (291 ha) of Mariana crow recovery habitat, 507 acres (205 ha) of Guam rail recovery habitat, 719 acres (291 ha) of Guam Micronesian kingfisher recovery habitat, and 648 acres (262 ha) of *Serianthes* recovery habitat conversion to developed area.

Special-Status Species – Guam-Listed and Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SOGCN): Impacts and mitigation associated with Guam-listed species that are also listed under the ESA would be the same as those described above. Impacts to other Guam-listed species from construction of the cantonment facilities under Alternative E would include significant but mitigable impacts to special-status species (Guam-listed and SOGCN) as a result of the loss of 765 acres (310 ha) of occupied moth skink and Pacific slender-toed gecko habitat.

Operation Impacts

Terrestrial Conservation Areas: Operation of the cantonment/family housing facilities under Alternative E would result in a significant but mitigable impact to terrestrial conservation areas as a result of potential increased usage by military and civilian personnel that could damage the vegetation of the Haputo Ecological Reserve Area (ERA).

Special-Status Species – ESA-Listed/Proposed Species: Operation of the cantonment/family housing facilities under Alternative E would result in significant but mitigable impacts to special-status species (ESA-listed/proposed species) as a result of impacts to Mariana fruit bat habitat from light, noise, and human activity.

Marine Biological Resources

Construction Impacts

Induced civilian and construction/DoD workforce growth under Alternative E would result in a significant, unmitigable, indirect impact to marine flora and invertebrates, fish, and Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) from increased wastewater discharge and corresponding increases in pollutants (e.g., orthophosphates, nitrate-nitrogen, and ammonia) from the Northern District WWTP outfall. The Northern District WWTP is non-compliant with the standards required by its current NPDES permit and increasing the wastewater discharge from a non-compliant treatment plant would be a significant, indirect impact. WWTP upgrades are not anticipated to be completed until early in the operational phase of the proposed action. There would be an indirect and unmitigable, significant impact to nearshore waters during construction until upgrades are complete.

Operation Impacts

Operation of the cantonment and family housing facilities under Alternative E would result in a significant but mitigable impact to marine flora and invertebrates, fish, and EFH from increased wastewater discharge, as described above, from Northern District WWTP outfall. Increasing wastewater discharge from a non-compliant treatment plant would result in significant, indirect impacts during the period of non-compliance.

Cultural Resources

Construction Impacts

Construction of the cantonment/housing family housing facilities under Alternative E would result in significant but mitigable, potential, direct, adverse effects to 17 historic properties (16 National Register of Historic Places [NRHP]-eligible archaeological sites and 1 NRHP-eligible structure) and 14 buildings not fully evaluated for NRHP eligibility and effects. All potential effects to historic properties are subject to further review under the 2011 PA.

Utilities

Construction Impacts

Wastewater: Construction of the cantonment/family housing facilities under Alternative E would result in significant direct impacts during the period of non-compliance with the 2013 NPDES permit at the Northern District WWTP.

Operation Impacts

Potable Water (NGLA Impact): Operation of the cantonment/family housing facilities under Alternative E would result in significant but mitigable, short-term, localized significant impacts to the affected basin within the NGLA but less than significant impacts to the overall NGLA. Increased withdrawal from the NGLA may result in higher levels of chloride concentrations. According to U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) modeling of the NGLA, the chloride concentration spikes could be a localized phenomenon.

Wastewater: Operation of the cantonment/family housing facilities under Alternative E would result in significant direct impacts during the period of non-compliance with the 2013 NPDES permit at the Northern District WWTP. Operation of the cantonment/family housing facilities would also generate additional wastewater flow from both AAFB family housing facilities and Finegayan cantonment that would use the existing GWA interceptor sewer system from AAFB to the Northern District WWTP. This interceptor sewer system is in a state of deterioration that requires rehabilitation. Increased flow

associated with Alternative E would accelerate this deterioration and could lead to failure of the sewer system. This would represent a significant but mitigable impact.

Socioeconomics and General Services

Construction and Operation Impacts

Population Change: The population change associated with the Marine Corps relocation would be considered significant during both the construction and operations phases (given that population change would exceed 2%). Between 2021 and 2023, the population would be 5.6% higher than it otherwise would have been without the proposed action. At a steady-state the difference would be 4.1%. However, the significant change would not be considered entirely negative. Impacts related to population change would be mixed, with some adverse and some beneficial outcomes associated with the increased demand for public services and sociocultural issues described below.

Public Services: During construction, all categories of public services agencies combined would require an estimated 185 additional employees, an increase of 3.6% over baseline staffing levels. This maximum increase in staffing levels would be temporary, lasting from approximately 2021 through 2023. During this two-year period, staffing requirements for many public service agencies would increase by more than 2%. Given existing deficiencies at many agencies, significant impacts were identified. However, over the longer term, Guam government (GovGuam) agencies would require an additional 66 staff (an increase of 1.3% over baseline levels), which would be less than significant. From a broad perspective, looking at the entire group of GovGuam public services agencies overall, impacts would be considered significant in the short-term and less than significant in the long term. While the total number of additional staff required during the relatively short construction phase may appear manageable (representing only a 3.6% increase over baseline staffing), other factors, including existing shortfalls in staffing and deficiencies in facilities and equipment were considered when determining significance. The population increase likely would not result in a significant sustained increase in demand on Guam's public services and permitting agencies, and the estimated increases in GovGuam tax revenues would likely compensate for any increased demand on public services that would occur. However, while additional tax revenues to GovGuam associated with the proposed action would compensate for additional costs that would be incurred and ample time should be available to plan for short-term staff increases, GovGuam agencies may still face challenges.

Sociocultural Issues: There is a potential for sociocultural impact associated with an increase in crime and social disorder, political and Chamorro issues, and community cohesion to occur, but the magnitude of the impacts are difficult to predict and could vary substantially based on policy and program choices yet to be made. For these reasons, and for the purposes of the 2015 Final SEIS, impacts to sociocultural issues are conservatively classified as significant but mitigable.

Environmental Justice and Protection of Children

Construction and Operation Impacts

Socioeconomics and General Services: Temporary population growth may stress some sectors of the Guam economy (e.g., housing, costs of goods and services). In the short-term (during construction), direct and indirect impacts in health services would be significant; during the steady-state period (operational phase), impacts to public health and human service agencies would be less than significant.

This impact would be felt more severely by low-income people, who often do not have resources to buffer hard economic times. However, there would also be some economic benefits as a result of increased employment opportunities. There would be adverse and disproportionate socioeconomic impacts in terms

of environmental justice on low-income populations; however, some of the socioeconomic impacts would be beneficial (e.g., economic opportunities).

Public Health and Safety: Since the number of public health and safety professionals required to maintain current levels of service at public health and safety agencies would increase by more than 2%, and because deficiencies currently exist in facilities and equipment at these agencies, there would be short-term, direct, and indirect significant impacts to public health agencies and significant, direct, and indirect impacts on public safety agencies, both in the short term (during construction) and during the steady-state period (during operation). Given that public health agencies that serve low-income and uninsured populations already have insufficient staffing levels, population increases would further strain these resources, causing a significant environmental justice impact.

Significant Impacts of LFTRC Alternative 5 – AAFB-NWF

Geological and Soil Resources

Construction Impacts

Topography: Construction of the LFTRC under Alternative 5 would result in a significant, direct, long-term impact to topography in the form of major changes to surface elevation from excavation and filling during construction.

Land and Submerged Land Use

Operation Impacts

Public Access: Although the land and submerged land use within the Ritidian Unit of the Guam NWR would remain as Conservation land use, there will be access restrictions to those lands within the SDZs while the ranges are in use. Such restrictions would be limited to the minimum SDZ area and time period required for the training on the LFTRC. Access to submerged lands adjacent to the Ritidian Unit under the custody and control of the DON would be similarly restricted.

Recreational Resources

Operation Impacts

Operation of the LFTRC under Alternative 5 would result in significant impacts as a result of intermittent loss of access (while the SDZ for the LFTRC is operational) to existing features or sites such as hiking trails, caves and other sites of interest within the Ritidian Unit of the Guam NWR. As discussed previously, access to areas within the Ritidian Unit of the Guam NWR will be addressed in the Refuge Agreement between the DON and the USFWS, pursuant to the FY 2015 NDAA and will ensure maximum, continued access. Some of these sites are currently open for access during normal refuge hours; access to others are currently restricted by the USFWS. Access to the areas within the largest of the range SDZs would be restricted during that range's operational periods. Recreational resources within that SDZ include a portion of existing hiking trails and caves with pictographs within the Ritidian Unit of the Guam NWR.

Terrestrial Biological Resources

Construction Impacts

Vegetation: Construction of the LFTRC under Alternative 5 would result in a significant but mitigable impact to vegetation as a result of the conversion of 219 acres (89 ha) of limestone forest to developed area.

Terrestrial Conservation Areas: Construction of the LFTRC under Alternative 5 would result in a significant but mitigable impact to terrestrial conservation areas as a result of the conversion of 29% acres (121 ha) of Overlay Refuge lands to developed area.

Special-Status Species – ESA-Listed/Proposed Species and Critical Habitat: Construction of the LFTRC under Alternative 5 would result in a significant but mitigable impact to special-status species as a result of impacts to 215 acres (87 ha) of Mariana fruit bat recovery habitat, 215 acres (87 ha) of Mariana crow recovery habitat, and 215 acres (87 ha) of Guam Micronesian kingfisher recovery habitat conversion to developed areas. The Mariana fruit bat may also be impacted by noise, human disturbance, and lighting during both construction and operation because they are present in the action area.

Special-Status Species – Guam-Listed and SOGCN: Impacts associated with Guam-listed species that are also federally listed would be the same as described above for those species. No additional Guam-listed species are known to occur in the project area for Alternative 5.

Cultural Resources

Construction Impacts

Construction of the LFTRC under Alternative 5 would result in significant but mitigable impacts. Twenty historic properties would be directly, adversely affected, and culturally important natural resources could be impacted by vegetation removal.

Operation Impacts

Operation of the LFTRC under Alternative 5 would result in significant impacts, which are not fully mitigable, due to restricted access to two NRHP-eligible archaeological sites. Significant but mitigable impacts would result from indirect, adverse effects to three NRHP-eligible archaeological sites as a result of substantial changes in the audible environment.

Significant Additive Impacts of the Selected Alternatives

For the purposes of the 2015 Final SEIS, additive impacts are those that would result specifically from the combination of a cantonment/family housing alternative with a LFTRC alternative. These project impacts were addressed in Chapter 6 of the 2015 Final SEIS. The additive impacts resulting from the selected combination of cantonment/family housing Alternative E and LFTRC Alternative 5 would yield additional, significant but mitigable impacts to two resource areas: cultural resources and ground transportation.

Cultural Resources

There would be significant but mitigable impacts as a result of potential adverse effects to six known historic properties from construction of II/COMM lines. There would be no adverse effects from operation of II/COMM lines once construction is complete.

Ground Transportation

There would be a slight increase in traffic on segments and intersections between the cantonment at Finegayan, the family housing at AAFB, and the LFTRC at AAFB-NWF. There would be potentially significant impact on eight segments in at least one direction and ten intersections for weekday a.m. and/or p.m. peak hours.

Significant Cumulative Impacts of the Selected Alternative

The assessment of cumulative effects presented in Chapter 7 of the 2015 Final SEIS addressed the potential long-term impacts of recently completed, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects in conjunction with the proposed action. The resources most likely to be adversely affected by these projects are terrestrial biological and cultural resources. This is largely due to the fact that most projects would result in ground disturbance and potential for removal or disturbance of habitat and cultural resources. The resource areas that benefit most from the projects evaluated for cumulative effects are ground transportation, utilities, socioeconomic and general services, public health and safety, and environmental justice/protection of children. This is because many of the evaluated projects are capital improvement projects designed to support the health and safety of the community, as discussed in the mitigation section below. A nearly equal number of projects having adverse and beneficial impacts were identified for geological and soil resources and water resources. Air quality, noise, airspace, land use, recreational resources, and marine transportation resource areas are impacted by fewer projects than other resource areas, either beneficially or adversely.

A brief summary of cumulative impacts to terrestrial biological resources and cultural resources is discussed below.

Terrestrial Biological Resources

The following are the general types of projects or activities that would result in cumulative impacts to terrestrial biological resources:

- Loss or conversion of native habitat would reduce the potential recovery and survival of ESA-listed species creating an adverse impact.
- Reductions and management activities (e.g., fencing, removal) of invasive species and/or feral ungulates or their access to habitat would have a beneficial impact.
- Projects involving ground disturbance (e.g., construction of housing or new and widened roadways) would contribute to an adverse cumulative effect. Projects that are renovations or improvements to existing facilities (e.g., resurfacing a roadway) within the existing facility footprint would have no impact on terrestrial biological resources.

The proposed action and recently completed projects, present projects, and reasonably foreseeable projects all have the potential to contribute to adverse cumulative effects to terrestrial biological resources. The primary impact from these projects would be the loss of native habitat and the increased potential for the spread of invasive species. Most of the projects require ground disturbance, and the assumption is that terrestrial biological resources would be affected. The terrestrial biological resource health on Guam would continue to decline, and threatened and endangered species would continue to be vulnerable to natural and anthropogenic stressors.

Cultural Resources

The following are the general types of projects that would result in cumulative impacts to cultural resources:

- Projects that result in adverse effects to historic properties can lead to a cumulative loss of the archaeological and built-historical record that could contribute to an adverse cumulative impact.
- Projects that affect culturally important natural resources can lead to an adverse cumulative impact.

- Projects that lead to reduced access to cultural sites can lead to an adverse cumulative impact.

Recently completed projects, present projects, and reasonably foreseeable projects all have the potential to contribute to adverse cumulative effects to cultural resources. The primary impact from these projects would be direct and indirect, adverse effects to historic properties, archaeological sites, and impacts to culturally important natural resources. Direct and indirect, adverse effects would contribute to the decline in preservation of cultural resources. Other factors unrelated to the project (e.g., vandalism and weathering) would continue to adversely impact cultural resources. Disturbance or destruction of cultural resources would further diminish the regional historic record, thus decreasing the potential of its overall research contribution. The loss of culturally important natural resources would reduce opportunities for important cultural practices. Reduced access to cultural sites, whether for cultural practices, recreation, tourism, or academic study would also diminish the cultural resources of Guam.

MITIGATION MEASURES AND MONITORING: The impact analyses described in the 2015 Final SEIS considered the influence of Best Management Practices (BMPs) as well as mitigation measures. BMPs are existing policies, practices, and measures that the DON will adopt to proactively reduce the environmental impacts of designated activities, functions, or processes. Although BMPs help to avoid, minimize, or reduce/eliminate impacts, they are distinguished from potential mitigation measures because they are (1) included in the proposed action, (2) ongoing, regularly occurring practices, or (3) not unique to the proposed action. In other words, the BMPs are proposed as part of the action (all alternatives) and are not targeted mitigation measures identified in response to the findings of the NEPA environmental review process. Specific BMPs that are included in the proposed action are described in section 2.8 of the 2015 Final SEIS.

Consistent with the CEQ Guidance, mitigation measures developed to address specific impacts identified in the 2015 Final SEIS analysis are described below. Mitigation measures will be monitored and tracked as required by applicable DON regulations and instructions. Implementation of mitigation measures will be subject to availability of funding. Implementation of ground transportation mitigation projects will be determined through the Defense Access Road Program.

Mitigation Measures for Impacts Associated with the Cantonment/Family Housing Alternative E

Mitigation for Water Resources Impacts

Groundwater

- Refurbishment of the GWA interceptor sewer system will mitigate significant impacts to groundwater resources during the construction phase of the proposed action. Section 2822(d) of the FY 2014 NDAA directed the Secretary of Defense to convene the Economic Adjustment Committee (EAC) established in Executive Order No. 12787 "to consider assistance, including assistance to support public infrastructure requirements, necessary to support the preferred alternative for the relocation of Marine Corps forces to Guam." Section 2822(d) further requires the EAC to submit a report to congressional defense committees which includes an Implementation Plan that addresses public infrastructure requirements necessary to support the preferred alternative identified in the Final SEIS. The EAC Implementation Plan, which was coordinated with EAC federal agencies, includes detailed descriptions of work, costs, and schedules for completion of construction, improvements, and repairs to Guam public infrastructure affected by the realignment, including the refurbishment of the GWA interceptor sewer from AAFB to the Northern District WWTP, and expansion/rehabilitation of the NGLA monitoring network for sustainment of the NGLA. To support the Implementation Plan, EAC

assessed GWA water and wastewater systems that may be affected by the preferred alternative. The water and wastewater assessment recommended an updated and expanded NGLA monitoring well network and the refurbishment of the GWA interceptor sewer from AAFB to the Northern District WWTP. In addition to funds (\$106.4 million) previously appropriated to the Secretary of Defense under section 8102 of the FY 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act (Pub. L. No. 113-76), DoD will seek additional funding (\$67.5 million) to complete the necessary Guam water and wastewater system upgrades identified in the EAC Implementation Plan that are estimated to be no more than \$173.9 million.

- The DoD will, as appropriate, implement enhanced water conservation measures for the proposed action, improve existing DoD potable water systems to reduce system leaks, adjust pumping rates at DoD wells, and increase the use of existing wells and/or surface water from Fena Reservoir to reduce withdrawals from the NGLA.
- The DoD will continue to support the Guam Water Resources Development Group (GWRDG) and support the USGS's recommendation to rehabilitate and expand the hydrologic data collection network and monitoring necessary to ensure sustainable management of NGLA.

Nearshore Waters

Upgrading the Northern District WWTP treatment systems (as required by the 2013 NFEDES permit, the section 7 ESA consultation and the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation Management Act [MSA] [16 U.S.C. § 1801-1891(d)] consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service [NMFS]) will mitigate significant impacts to the wastewater system on Guam once the upgrades are completed. In addition, refurbishing the main GWA sewer lines from AAFB to the Northern District WWTP along Routes 3 and 9 will mitigate potential failure of the concrete reinforced sewer lines that are in a state of deterioration. The EAC Implementation Plan will include detailed descriptions of work, costs, and schedules for completion of construction, improvements, and repairs to Guam public infrastructure affected by the realignment, including improvements and upgrades to the Guam wastewater system. The water and wastewater assessment that EAC prepared to support the Implementation Plan recommended upgrades to the Northern District WWTP and the refurbishment of the GWA interceptor sewer from AAFB to the Northern District WWTP. In addition to funds (\$106.4 million) previously appropriated to the Secretary of Defense under section 8102 of the FY 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act (Pub. L. No. 113-76); the DoD will seek additional funding (\$67.5 million) to complete the necessary Guam water and wastewater system upgrades identified in the EAC Implementation Plan. The costs are estimated to be no more than \$173.9 million.

Mitigation for Terrestrial Biological Resources Impacts

A general description of conservation measures and mitigations for terrestrial biological resources as included in the 2015 Final SEIS are provided below. As a result of completing ESA section 7 consultation with the USFWS, the DON received a final biological opinion (BO) on July 31, 2015. This BO contains detailed descriptions of the conservation measures, BMPs, additional mitigation in the form of reasonable and prudent measures, and associated terms and conditions for minimizing the anticipated incidental take of 30 Mariana fruit bats in the form of repeated harassment. The DON commits to all the conservation measures, BMPs, reasonable and prudent measures, and terms and conditions as expressed in the BO (section B, pages 36-46, and sections K & L, pages 156-159). These measures include:

Vegetation

- Forest enhancement on a minimum of 780 acres (316 ha) of limestone forest.

Terrestrial Conservation Areas

- Install fencing.
- Install informational/educational signage.
- Develop and distribute educational materials regarding sensitive biological resources.
- Conduct monitoring of visitor use at the Haputo ERA.

Special-Status Species – Federal ESA and Proposed

- Control and suppression of brown tree snakes.
- Implement forest enhancement mitigation identified for vegetation will also benefit these species.
- Install fencing, provide informational/educational signage and educational materials regarding sensitive biological resources, and monitor of visitor use at Haputo ERA.

Special-Status Species – Guam-Listed and Species of Greatest Conservation Need

- Implement the forest enhancement mitigation identified for vegetation will also benefit these species.

Mitigation for Marine Biological Resources Impacts

- Upgrade the Northern District WWTP treatment systems (as required by the 2013 NFEDES permit, the section 7 ESA consultation and the MSA (16 U.S.C. §§ 1801-1891(d)) consultation with the NMFS) as described above will mitigate significant impacts to marine biological resources.
- Monitor stormwater BMP effectiveness and if practicable, design and implement additional processes to determine the fate of stormwater for the Finegayan Caimanment and AAFB-NWF LFTRC, to sensitive nearshore reefs such as the habitat areas of particular concern (HAPCs) at Haputo ERA and the Ritidian Unit of the Guam NWR.
- Provide guidelines for programs to minimize impacts from training, recreation, and fishing activities for Marine Corps personnel.
- Institute physical training awareness and operational guidance that identifies appropriate physical training areas and sensitive areas that are off-limits for such activities in coordination with installation and regional resource management plans.
- Coordinate updates to the Joint Region Marianas (JRM) Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan and install fishing instructions to include increased awareness about destructive fishing methods for all DoD personnel deployed or permanently assigned to Guam and the CNMI for submerged lands beyond the custody and control of the DoD. The DON will also consider instituting a ban on all DoD personnel from using scuba for fishing and fishing for species of local concern such as humphead wrasse and green humphead parrotfish.

Mitigation for Cultural Resources Impacts

- Implement the 2011 PA. Mitigation processes include reviewing projects as they are developed to confirm the identification of historic properties and appropriate measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate adverse effects. The 2011 PA requires consultation with the public and the PA Parties, which include Guam SHPO, ACEP, NPS, Guam Preservation Trust (GPT), and the Department of Chamorro Affairs (DCA). Potential impacts to culturally important natural resources will be addressed through requirements in the 2011 PA in coordination with knowledgeable traditional practitioners.

Mitigation for Utilities Impacts

Wastewater

- Potential mitigation measures during construction may include constructing sewers during low flow periods by-pass pumping and having pump trucks on stand-by.
- Upgrades to the Northern District WWTP treatment systems (as required by the 2013 NPDES permit), as described above, will mitigate significant impacts to the wastewater system on Guam. In addition, refurbishing the main GWA sewer lines from AAFB to the Northern District WWTP along Routes 3 and 9 will mitigate potential failure of the concrete reinforced sewer lines that are in a state of deterioration.

Potable Water

- The DoD will, as appropriate, implement enhanced water conservation measures for the proposed action, improve existing DoD water systems to reduce system leaks, adjust pumping rates at DoD wells, and increase the use of surface water in northern Guam from Fena Reservoir to reduce withdrawals from the NGLA.
- The DoD will continue to support the GWRDG and the USGS' recommendation to rehabilitate and expand the hydrologic data collection network and monitoring necessary to ensure sustainable management of NGLA.
- As discussed in groundwater mitigation, expansion/rehabilitation of the NGLA monitoring network for sustainment of the NGLA will mitigate significant impacts to potable water.

Mitigation for Socioeconomics and General Services Impacts

Public Services

- Although the DON has determined that Adaptive Program Management as described in the 2010 ROD is no longer required (see section 2.9.2 of the 2015 Final SEIS), the DoD will continue to work towards a charter as described in the 2010 ROD and support the efforts of the Civilian Military Coordination Council (CMCC) to develop recommendations, as appropriate, regarding adjustment of construction tempo and sequencing to directly influence workforce population levels and indirectly influence induced population growth before infrastructure capabilities are exceeded. Such support may include providing project-related employment and population forecasts, participating in the identification of shortfalls in Guam public services, and assisting in the identification of federal programs and funding sources that may help GovGuam to address shortfalls.

- The DoD will continue to support existing programs that contribute and/or donate excess equipment to local agencies.

Sociocultural Issues

- Conduct orientation briefs, in accordance with the 2011 PA, for all incoming DoD personnel, their families, and contractors regarding cultural sensitivity in the area. All DoD personnel and contractors working on Guam will receive annual briefings. The DoD will develop the briefing in consultation with the Guam SHPO and will provide Guam SHPO with a copy of the final briefing materials.
- The DoD will continue to support the efforts of the CMCC to develop recommendations, as appropriate, regarding adjustment of construction tempo and sequencing to directly influence workforce population levels and indirectly influence induced population growth to address sociocultural issues.
- Consistent with the 2011 PA, the DoD has developed a public access plan in coordination with the public and interested parties. The access plan provides a consistent process for regular public access and a point of contact to handle requests for access to cultural sites on DoD lands.
- In accordance with the 2011 PA, the \$12 million appropriated under the FY 2012 Consolidated Appropriations Act (Pub. L. No. 112-74) for a Guam Cultural Repository facility to mitigate cumulative impacts remains available. The appropriation provides funding for a repository for curation of archaeological collections on Guam and to serve as a source of information on Guam history and culture. Guam Cultural Repository is included in the EAC Implementation Plan, which addresses public infrastructure requirements necessary to support the preferred alternative. The EAC Implementation Plan will include detailed description of work, cost, and schedule for completion of construction of the Guam Cultural Repository. After the release of this ROD, the EAC Implementation Plan will be submitted to the congressional defense committees as part of a FY 2014 NDAA reporting requirement.

Mitigation for Environmental Justice and Protection of Children Impacts

Socioeconomics and General Services

- The DoD will consider the recommendations, if any, of the CMCC to adjust the construction tempo and sequencing if necessary to directly influence workforce population levels and indirectly influence induced population growth before infrastructure capabilities are exceeded.

Public Health and Safety

- The DoD will consider the recommendations, if any, of the CMCC to adjust the construction tempo and sequencing if necessary to directly influence workforce population levels and indirectly influence induced population growth before infrastructure capabilities are exceeded.
- The construction of a public health laboratory to alleviate some existing deficiencies in Guam's public health infrastructure, and bolster Guam's capability to meet public health demands brought about by project-related population growth and the rotational nature of the deployable units for training in the region by providing a facility that would help identify, treat, and control diseases of public health concern. The EAC Implementation Plan, which was coordinated with EAC federal agencies, will include detailed descriptions of work, costs, and schedules for completion of construction for a regional public health laboratory with bio-safety level 2 and 3 analytical

testing capability. The cost estimate for a regional public health laboratory with bio-safety level 2 and 3 is no more than \$32.2 million. In addition to funds (\$13 million) previously appropriated to the Secretary of Defense under section 8102 of the FY 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act (Pub. L. No. 113-76), DoD will seek additional funding (\$19.2 million). After the release of this ROD, the EAC Implementation Plan will be submitted to the congressional defense committees as part of a FY 2014 NDAA reporting requirement.

Mitigation Measures for Impacts Associated with LFTRC Alternative 5

Mitigation for Terrestrial Biological Resources Impacts

A general description of conservation measures and mitigations for terrestrial resources as included in the 2015 Final SEIS are provided below. As a result of completing section 7 ESA consultation with the USFWS, the DON received a final BO on July 31, 2015. This BO contains detailed descriptions of the conservation measures, BMPs, additional mitigations in the form of reasonable and prudent measures, and associated terms and conditions for minimizing the anticipated incidental take of 30 Mariana fruit bats in the form of repeated harassment. The DON commits to all the conservation measures, BMPs, reasonable and prudent measures, and terms and conditions as expressed in the BO (section B, pages 36-46, and sections K & L, pages 156-159). These measures include:

Vegetation

- Forest enhancement on a minimum of 219 acres (89 ha) of limestone forest.

Special-Status Species – ESA-Listed/Proposed Species and Critical Habitat

- Implementing the forest enhancement identified for vegetation on a minimum of 219 acres (87 ha) of limestone forest vegetation will also benefit these species.
- Control and suppression of brown treesnakes.

Mitigation for Cultural Resources Impacts

- Implement the 2011 PA. Processes will include reviewing projects as they are developed to confirm the identification of historic properties and appropriate measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate adverse effects. The 2011 PA requires consultation with the public and the PA Parties, which include the Guam SHPO, the ACHP, NPS, GPT, and the DCA.
- Section 5(c)(4) of the 2011 PA requires development of a Range Mitigation Plan (RMP) for the construction and operation of the LFTRC. The plan will stipulate mitigation measures such as data recovery for archaeological sites, development of public education and interpretive materials, and coordination with knowledgeable traditional practitioners for culturally important natural resources.
- Partial mitigation of significant impacts resulting from changes in use and reduced access will be accomplished through the RMP, which will identify and evaluate potentially appropriate noise-reducing measures. Access will be coordinated through the existing access plan and in consultation with the USFWS.

Mitigation Measures for Additive Impacts: Combination of Alternative E and Alternative 5

Cultural Resources

- Measures outlined in the 2011 PA will reduce additive impacts to a level below significance.

Ground Transportation

To reduce impacts to less than significant levels on roadway segments, the following eight roadway widening projects are recommended for implementation when determined to be eligible through the Defense Access Roads program and when funding is available:

- Route 1, from Route 3 to Route 34
- Route 1, from Route 34 to Route 16
- Route 3, from Route 3A/9 to Finegayan Main Gate
- Route 3, from Finegayan Main Gate to Finegayan Residential Gate
- Route 3, from Finegayan Residential Gate to Route 28
- Route 3, from Route 28 to South Finegayan Main Gate
- Route 3, from South Finegayan Main Gate to Route 1
- Route 28, from Chalan Balako to Route 3

In addition, the DON acknowledges that to reduce impacts to less than significant levels on intersections, improvement projects are recommended at the following intersections:

- Route 3/3A/9
- Route 3/Royal Palm Drive
- Route 1/Route 3
- Route 1/Route 27
- Route 1/Route 26
- Route 16/Route 27
- Route 16/Route 10A
- Route 1/Route 14A
- Route 1/Route 10A

Mitigation Measures for Cumulative Impacts

Terrestrial Biological Resources

- No additional mitigation is proposed for cumulative impacts to terrestrial biological resources. GovGuam reviews public, private, and commercial development proposals for potential impacts to terrestrial biological resources. The USFWS monitors GovGuam, private and commercial development proposals and periodically adjusts the acreage of available recovery habitat island-wide. This adjustment is used to determine the impact of federal development proposals that must comply with section 7 of the ESA and may result in mitigation for federal development proposals.
- The DON completed section 7 ESA consultation with the USFWS on July 31, 2015. This consultation included the potential cumulative direct and indirect effects of the proposed military relocation.

Cultural Resources

- Support Guam SHPO's update of the Guam Historic Preservation Plan.

- Update, beginning in 2017, the Guam Synthesis with information from DoD studies in concert with the Guam Historic Preservation Plan.
- Nominate two or more historic properties on DoD land per year for listing in the NRHP.
- In accordance with the 2011 PA, the \$12 million appropriated under the FY 2012 Consolidated Appropriations Act (Pub. L. No. 112-74) for a Guam Cultural Repository facility to mitigate cumulative impacts remains in place. The appropriation provides funding for a repository for curation of archaeological collections on Guam and to serve as a source of information on Guam history and culture. Guam Cultural Repository is included in the EAC Implementation Plan, which addresses public infrastructure requirements necessary to support the preferred alternative. The EAC Implementation Plan details description of work, cost, and schedule for completion of construction of the Guam Cultural Repository. After the release of this ROD, the EAC Implementation Plan will be submitted to the congressional defense committees as part of a reporting requirement.

AGENCY COORDINATION AND CONSULTATION:

Cooperating Agency Coordination

The following agencies participated in the preparation of this SEIS as Cooperating Agencies: U.S. Air Force, FAA, Federal Highway Administration, EPA Region 9, U.S. Department of Interior (DOI) – Office of Insular Affairs, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. As defined in 40 CFR § 1508.5, a cooperating agency “means any federal agency other than a lead agency which has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved in a proposal (or a reasonable alternative) for legislation or other major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.” A cooperating agency’s responsibilities include participation in the NEPA process as early as possible, participation in the scoping process, and, upon the lead agency’s request, development of information to be included in the EIS and staff support during EIS preparation (40 CFR § 1501.6). Under 40 CFR § 1501.6, federal agencies with jurisdiction by law shall be cooperating agencies if requested by the lead agency.

Each agency signed a letter of agreement indicating its willingness to be a cooperating agency, and agreed to specific roles and responsibilities for the lead and cooperating agencies (see the 2015 SEIS, Appendix C, *Agency Correspondence*). As the lead agency, the DON has met its obligations to the cooperating agencies, including routine and periodically frequent coordination throughout the SEIS process. The cooperating agencies have also fulfilled their obligations as stipulated in their agreement.

Agency Consultations

Endangered Species Act

In accordance with section 7 of the ESA, the DON initiated and concluded formal consultation with the USFWS on the potential impacts of the proposed military relocation on eight listed species: the Mariana fruit bat (threatened), the Mariana crow (endangered and extirpated), the Guam rail (endangered and extirpated), the Guam Micronesian kingfisher (endangered and extirpated), the green sea turtle (threatened), the hawksbill sea turtle (endangered), the Hayum lagu (*Serianthes nelsonii* endangered), and the Mariana gray swiftlet (endangered). The consultation also included analysis of potential impacts to designated critical habitat for the fruit bat, crow, and kingfisher. The USFWS provided the DON its BO on July 31, 2015. This BO concurred in the DON determination that the proposed action would not likely adversely affect the Mariana gray swiftlet, the green sea turtle, and the hawksbill sea turtle. The BO

concluded that the proposed military relocation would adversely affect the Mariana fruit bat and the Hayum lagu, but not likely appreciably reduce the likelihood of both survival and recovery of the Mariana fruit bat, the Mariana crow, the Guam rail, the Guam Micronesian kingfisher, and the Hayum lagu. The BO also concluded that the proposed action would not adversely affect critical habitat for the fruit bat, crow, and kingfisher.

In accordance with section 9 of the ESA, the BO includes an incidental take statement for the Mariana fruit bat. The USFWS anticipates that the proposed action will potentially result in the repeated incidental take of up to 30 Mariana fruit bats at Andersen AFB and Finegayan in the form of harassment leading to injury from loud aircraft noise, operation of the LFTRC, construction noise, and other human disturbance. In response to this anticipated incidental take, the BO contains additional mitigations in the form of reasonable and prudent measures, and terms and conditions for minimizing the anticipated incidental take of 30 Mariana fruit bats in the form of repeated harassment. The DON commits to all the conservation measures, BMPs, reasonable and prudent measures, and terms and conditions as expressed in the BO (section B, pages 36-46, and sections K & L pages 156-159). The BO also provides conservation recommendations to further minimize or avoid adverse impacts to listed species. At this time, DON will not be implementing any of the conservation recommendations as additional mitigation.

The DON and the USFWS entered into a MOA in June 2015 to address Guam Micronesian kingfisher conservation goals on Guam. The MOA was negotiated during the ESA section 7 consultation and also informed DON’s decision for the selected alternative. In the MOA, the DON agreed to designate approximately 5,234 acres (2,118 ha) of land under the custody and control of the DoD in northern Guam to a status that will provide durable habitat protection needed to support native habitat restoration and land management for the survival and recovery of the kingfisher. Consistent with the Joint Region Marianas Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan developed in accordance with section 101 of the Sikes Act, the DON agreed to actively restore native habitat and manage, in collaboration with the USFWS, the 5,234 acres (2,118 ha) to support the reintroduction and recovery of the kingfisher. These 5,234 acres (2,118 ha) have been identified by the USFWS as habitat for the kingfisher and are necessary to offset impacts of the proposed actions. The DON and USFWS recognize that the designation of the 5,234 acres (2,118 ha) may also provide a conservation benefit to other ESA-listed species with similar habitat requirements (e.g., Mariana crow, Mariana fruit bat). This MOA became in effect upon the signing of this ROD, and commitments made within the MOA will be carried out by the DON.

On December 10, 2014, pursuant to section 7 of the ESA, the DON requested informal consultation with NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office regarding the effects of the proposed action on ESA-listed marine species: the threatened scalloped hammerhead shark and four species of threatened coral (*Acropora globiceps*, *Acropora retusa*, *Pavona diffluentis*, and *Seriatopora aculeata*). Based on further consultation with NMFS, the DON determined that only three of these recently listed coral species could occur in the vicinity of the proposed action (*Acropora globiceps*, *Acropora retusa*, and *Seriatopora aculeata*), and accordingly, the DON requested informal consultation to address potential effects to these three recently listed species. The consultation was for two separate proposed action elements, which may have the potential to affect the scalloped hammerhead shark and the three species of threatened coral identified above, and include:

- The effects of the projected increase of effluent from the Northern District WWTP outfall, a GWA facility, and
- The effects of constructing the Amphibious Vehicle Laydown Area (AVLA) in Inner Agra Harbor.

The DON determined that the projected increase of effluent from the Northern District WWTP outfall may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect *Acropora globiceps*, *Acropora retusa*, and *Seriatopora aculeata*, and the scalloped hammerhead shark because the effects are insignificant.

The AVLA includes a vehicle ramp that is the only in-water project not completed from the original 2010 EIS and associated ESA section 7 consultation with NMFS. The DON determined that the AVLA project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the scalloped hammerhead shark because the effects are discountable.

Consultation with NMFS concluded with a letter of concurrence on May 18, 2015 (see Appendix F.5 of the 2015 Final SEIS). NMFS agreed with the DON conclusion that the proposed action is not likely to adversely affect the scalloped hammerhead shark or the ESA-listed corals.

NMFS also agreed that the proposed action would have no effect on critical habitat. In its letter of concurrence, NMFS provided five conservation recommendations that it deemed prudent.

Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act

In accordance with the MSA, the DON initiated informal consultation with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office in May 2014 to determine the potential effects of construction and operations of DON's proposed action on EFH. Under the MSA, federal agencies are required to consult with NMFS when their actions may adversely impact EFH. NMFS determined that adverse effects to EFH would occur unless seven recommended conservation measures are implemented to avoid and minimize impacts to EFH. The DON plans to implement six of the seven identified conservation recommendations. The seventh conservation recommendation addressing development and implementation of the Adaptive Management Plan for the watershed will be considered by DON and as appropriate individual components of the conservation recommendation may be addressed in the INRMP. The DON does not plan to implement the majority of these conservation measures. The NMFS EFH effects determination letter of April 27, 2015, containing the complete list of recommendations and the DON's response to the determination letter are located in Vol. 2, Appendix F.5 for the 2015 Final SEIS.

Coastal Zone Management Act

The Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) coordination between Guam Bureau of Statistics and Plans and JRM has been completed. Pursuant to the CZMA, the DON assessed reasonably foreseeable direct and indirect effects of the proposed military relocation on Guam's defined coastal zone and resources and reviewed relevant management programs included within the Guam Coastal Management Program. The CZMA requires that federal activities that affect the coastal zone be undertaken in a manner that is consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with the Guam Coastal Management Program's enforceable coastal policies (which include land use and environmental policies). The DON has integrated the CZMA and NEPA processes by incorporating where necessary the accepted Guam Coastal Management Program's conditions into the 2015 Final SEIS as BMPs, if they were not already addressed elsewhere as a BMP or as a mitigation measure. In accordance with provisions for phased determinations in 15 CFR § 930.36, the DON will continue to submit future project-specific determinations to the Guam Bureau of Statistics and Plans for review as design-level information becomes available.

National Historic Preservation Act

Pursuant to section 106 of the NHPA, the 2011 PA established a program alternative to govern the implementation of programs or complex project situations, particularly when potential effects to historic properties are not fully known in advance (36 CFR § 800.14(b)). The relocation action addressed in the 2010 ROD was just such a situation, given that numerous projects making up the relocation had not been defined enough to fully evaluate effects to historic properties, and a decision on the LFTRC was deferred. In order to address responsibilities under section 106 and related requirements for the relocation action, the DON consulted with the public, key agencies, and non-governmental organizations to develop a PA. These consultations resulted in execution of the 2011 PA. To ensure adequate consideration of historic preservation requirements for the relocation action, the 2011 PA was developed consistent with 36 CFR § 800.14(b)(3) as a program alternative to satisfy section 106 responsibilities, with explicit flexibility to address changes in the undertaking.

The 2011 PA includes procedures for consulting on the identification of historic properties as specific projects are developed. Data gathered during the in-fill studies conducted for the 2015 Final SEIS and information available in other previous cultural resource investigations will contribute to the review procedures in the 2011 PA. Under the 2011 PA, the DoD conducts annual reviews of proposed projects for the purpose of seeking information from the signatories, invited signatories, concurring parties, and the public regarding historic properties in project areas as part of the process for identifying historic properties and completing determinations of eligibility. Individual project reviews are conducted via a PA memo process for the purpose of soliciting additional comments regarding the DoD's determination of effect. If adverse effects are identified, DoD solicits input on its plan for resolving the adverse effects. When new information is received regarding the potential presence of historic properties, the 2011 PA outlines a process for consideration of supplemental identification measures. The 2011 PA also includes a detailed review process for avoiding, minimizing, and mitigating adverse effects specific to the construction and operation of a LFTRC on Guam, including preparation of a Training Ranges Review and Analysis (TRRA) and a RMP. Once the identification, evaluation, and determination of effect processes summarized above have been completed, the 2011 PA outlines general and project or area-specific mitigation measures. Mitigation is generally defined as taking specific steps designed to lessen the adverse effects of a DoD action on a historic property. Mitigation for adverse effects to archaeological sites includes preparation of a mitigation plan, which is submitted to the Guam SHPO for review. All mitigation work is documented in draft reports submitted to Guam SHPO for review prior to being finalized.

The DON has consulted with the parties to the 2011 PA and the public on the Draft TRRA. Consistent with the 2011 PA, the TRRA provided planning level information on potential direct and indirect effects to historic properties within areas that may be selected in the DON's ROD for the LFTRC, including the selected LFTRC alternative. The Draft TRRA includes information on the locations, orientations, and designs of each proposed LFTRC location. In addition to receipt of written comments, DON cultural resources professionals conducted three consultation sessions with the parties to the PA to discuss the analysis. The DON considered all comments in its preparation of the Final TRRA, which was published shortly after the 2015 Final SEIS. Comments and considerations developed during the Draft TRRA consultation process were incorporated in the 2015 Final SEIS and informed the Draft RMP, which is currently undergoing consultation with the PA Parties. The RMP will be finalized based on this ROD.

National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act

The Ritidian Unit of the Guam NWR is managed by the USFWS and under its custody and control. As discussed above, under the authority provided in Section 2822 of the FY 2015 NDAA, the DON will pursue an agreement with the USFWS to establish and operate a surface danger zone that overlays portions of the Ritidian Unit. The agreement will allow for the continued management of the Ritidian Unit consistent with the purposes for which it was established.

RESPONSES TO COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE 2015 FINAL SEIS: The DON reviewed and considered all comments that were received during the 30-day waiting period, initiated with publication of the 2015 Final SEIS NOA (80 FR 42491) on July 17, 2015. Two comment letters were received—one from the GPT containing 7 comments and the other from the EPA Region 9 containing 16 comments. No additional mitigation measures are required as a result of comments on the Final SEIS. Following is a summary of the comments received from the GPT and EPA, many of which were received on the Draft SEIS.

GPT – All of the comments received from the GPT are covered in the 2015 Final SEIS. Specific comments from GPT included:

- Continued strong opposition to any LFTRC location on Guam; supports providing input to the RMP;
- Observed that DoD has shown a “greater expression to show sensitivity towards cultural resources”;
- Concerned about limestone forest impacts and that impacts be mitigated in the RMP
- Advocates for public access to cultural sites and an agreement between DoI and DoD to mitigate access impacts;
- Recommends funding public education, outreach and awareness to address cultural resource impacts and loss;
- Agrees with 2015 Final SEIS mitigation to fund a cultural repository; and
- Looks forward to partnering with DoD to promote historic preservation and awareness in Guam.

The DON commits continued coordination and partnership with the GPT as a Concerning Party to the 2011 PA and the RMP to adequately address impacts associated cultural resource protection and mitigation. The DON will update GPT and other parties to the 2011 PA on DOI-DoD progress establishing Guam NWR Agreement in accordance with section 2822 of the 2015 NDAA and associated cultural resources management (including access), continued development of information on cultural resources in accordance with 2011 PA and RMP, and strive to secure authorization for construction of a Cultural Repository.

EPA – All of the comments received from EPA are covered in the 2015 Final SEIS. Specific comments from EPA included:

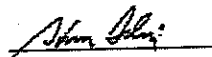
- Appreciates DoD support for the EAC Implementation Plan;
 - Appreciates DoD efforts to obtain funding for GWA wastewater system;
- Provided Recommendations for ROD;
 - Provide DoD funding for hydrologic data collection network improvements, monitoring for 10 years and to support the GWRDG;
 - Specify the stringency of DoD’s Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessment (REVA) and Operational Range Clearance Programs, the receptors to be evaluated and

CONCLUSION:

After careful consideration of the purpose and need for the proposed action, the analysis contained in the 2015 Final SEIS, and comments received on the Draft and Final SEIS from federal agencies, Guam agencies, non-governmental organizations and the public, mitigation and other factors discussed above, the DON has decided to proceed with implementation of the preferred alternatives as identified in the 2015 Final SEIS: Alternative E for the cantonment/family housing component and Alternative 5 for the LFTRC component of the proposed action, with mitigation as described in this ROD. The LFTRC also includes a stand-alone hand grenade range at Andersen South. In addition, the exact configuration of the SUA associated with this alternative is subject to ongoing actions between DoD and the FAA. The preferred alternatives best meet current and future military training requirements on Guam.

The proposed action and selected alternatives differ significantly from those analyzed in the 2010 Final EIS and addressed in the 2010 ROD in a number of important ways. In addition to the significantly reduced number of Marines and their dependents relocating to Guam, the proposed action selected in this ROD will be implemented at a more gradual pace over 13 years compared to 7 years for the original proposed action considered in the 2010 ROD thus avoiding short-term population and construction tempo peaks and associated environmental impacts. Construction of the cantonment at Finegayan will impact approximately 850 fewer acres than was projected in 2010 and, unlike 2010, the cantonment, family housing and LFTRC construction will occur only on land currently under the custody and control of the DoD. The selected cantonment alternative maintains a natural buffer area between developed areas and nearby sensitive coastal resources and, by placing the family housing at AAFB, leverages the availability of an existing family housing area and supporting infrastructure at AAFB.

9/29/15
Date


Steve Iselin
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the
Navy (Energy, Installations and Environment)

J-755 Urban Training Range Complex Mogfog AsAtdas (Andersen South)

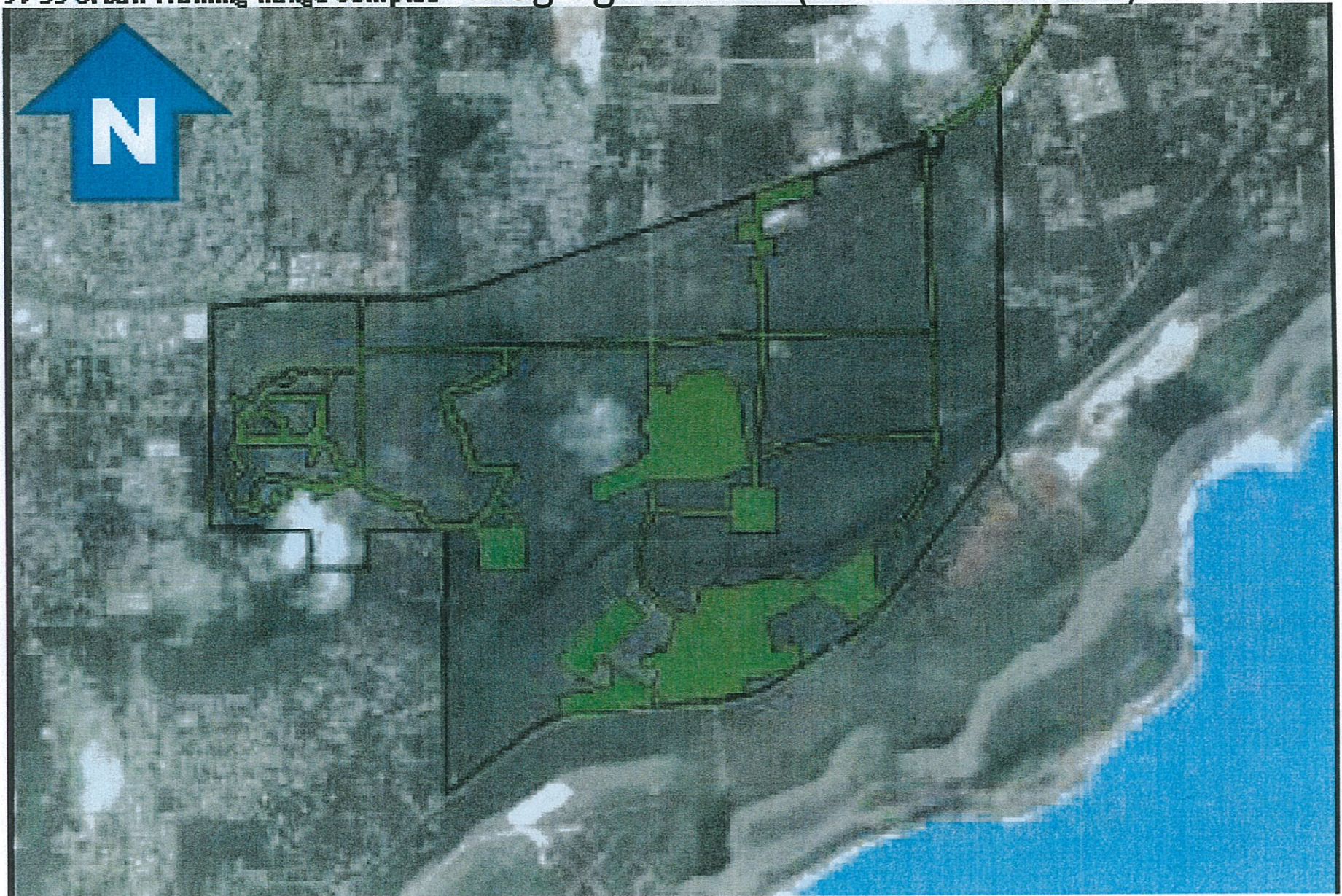


Figure includes construction footprint (green) where construction will occur. The interior of Andersen South (Andy South) will be used for unrestricted maneuver training per the 2010 FEIS.



Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Marine Corps Activity Guam (Planning and Design)
PSC 455 Box 195
FPO AP 96540-2937

MILITARY RELOCATION TO GUAM AND CNMI PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT (PA) MEMO #1

Project: J-755 Urban Combat Training Project – Construction & Operation (Andersen South) (RC# 2013-1101) **Date:** March 9, 2017

Project Location: Andersen South

Prepared By: MCAG P&D

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project J-755 (Urban Combat Training Project) is a Government of Japan-funded (Mamizu) project identified in Appendix E of the 2011 *Programmatic Agreement among the Department of Defense, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Guam State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding the Relocation to the Islands of Guam and Tinian* (2011 PA). This Programmatic Agreement Memorandum (PA Memo) covers the J-755 construction and operation activities of Andersen South. Accordingly, as per Stipulation V.B., this PA Memo presents information to allow interested members of the public to provide comments on the DoD's identification and evaluation of historic properties within the project's area of potential effect (APE), as well as the DoD's determination of effect.

The J-755 Urban Combat Training Project is being developed to serve training needs of the U.S. Marine Corps for the future Andersen South Training Complex (ASTC). Andersen South is located within the villages or municipalities of Dededo and Yigo. Project activities under J-755 include vegetation removal/management, utility trenching, building/structure demolition, excavation, grading, and preparation, renovation and construction of various permanent training facilities and areas. Once the complex is completed, training operations include activities such as hand grenade and breaching exercises, urban/jungle troop maneuvers, vehicle/convoy courses and fixed/tilt-rotor drop zone training.

PROJECT LOCATION

Formerly known as the Andersen Administrative Annex or the Marianas Bonins (MARBO) Command Annex of Andersen Air Force Base, Andersen South covers 787 ha (1,946 acres) in east central Guam. The installation is situated on the eastern side of the northern limestone plateau, about 5 km (3 miles) from the east coast of the island. Some of the traditional Chamorro place names in this vicinity are Mogfog, Pâgat, and Sasayan.

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| <p>1 The posting of this PA Memo on the Cultural Resources Information (CRI) website is required by Stipulation IV.E.2. of the 2011 Military Relocation PA as a means for interested members of the public to provide comments on the identification and evaluation of historic properties. Confidentiality requirements under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) prohibit federal agencies from publicly disclosing the exact nature and location of archaeological sites and other types of historic properties such as traditional cultural properties (TCPs).</p> |
|--|

The J-755 project is located within the boundaries of Andersen South, Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. The site is bordered by Marine Corps Drive (Route 1) to the north and Route 15 to the south. Andersen South generally slopes from the east to the west. The area has a number of existing roads and domestic well sites. The APE shown in Figure 1 shows Andersen South areas affected by Construction and Operations. Figure 2 shows the utility corridors connecting to other DoD properties. These utility corridors were presented and SHPO concurred in the J-755 Design Phase PA Memos #1 (August 2013) and #2 (August 2016). Figure 1 shows the entire footprint for the Andersen South lands that may potentially be impacted when the Marine Corps operations within the installation begins. This PA Memo addresses the largest footprint of the APE of Figure 1.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

There will be four major training areas.

Training Area 1 requires construction of Combat Vehicle Operators Course (CVOC) for wheeled and tracked vehicles. This will entail clearing, grubbing, earthwork, drainage improvements, and resurfacing of the roads.

Training Area 2 will have four components: a Hand Grenade Range, a Grenade Qualification Course, a Live Fire Shoot House (LFSH), and a Breacher Facility. These will entail clearing, grubbing, earthwork, new aggregate roads, a helicopter pad, drainage improvements for the training ranges, new buildings, parking/staging areas, fencing, utilities, lighting and bleachers. Additionally, Fire Protection water for hydrants will be required near the LFSH, After Action Review (AAR) area and Grenade Range.

Training Area 3 North will have facilities and site improvements such as a main entry control point from Route 1, roads and parking pavements, Range Warehouse, Area Distribution Node (ADN) Building, Communications Tower, and security fencing. These will entail clearing, grubbing, earthwork, and drainage improvements for the new buildings, roads, parking lot, utilities, lighting and water service to the Range Warehouse, as well as fire protection water at the Range Warehouse and ADN Building. There will also be wastewater collection for the Range Warehouse as well as a Vehicle wash-down area to meet Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) requirements (Construction wash-down will be left in place for permanent use).

Training Area 3 South will require demolition of some of the abandoned structures at Andersen South such as some Bachelor Enlisted Quarters and construction of new Military Operations on Urbanized Terrain (MOUT) buildings (including a Communications Tower, an Embassy, an Apartment Building, a Bank, a Church, a Courthouse/Jail, a Gas Station, a Hotel, a United Nations Building, an Office Building, a School, and a Warehouse). This will entail clearing, grubbing, earthwork, and drainage improvements for the new

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- 2 The posting of this PA Memo on the Cultural Resources Information (CRI) website is required by Stipulation IV.E.2. of the 2011 Military Relocation PA as a means for interested members of the public to provide comments on the identification and evaluation of historic properties. Confidentiality requirements under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) prohibit federal agencies from publicly disclosing the exact nature and location of archaeological sites and other types of historic properties such as traditional cultural properties (TCPs).

buildings, utilities, lighting, roads, walls, parking lot, and fence. There will also be water service and wastewater collection/storage for the MOUT AAR area.

Additionally, the entire ASTC will be enclosed by a perimeter fence with an unpaved patrol road along this fence. The eventual training utilization for company level maneuvers will occur throughout the Andersen South installation as per Appendix E of the 2011 PA (Figure 1).

IDENTIFICATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Scope of DoD Identification Efforts

In planning for J-755, the Department of the Navy (Navy) first conducted evaluation surveys. The Navy provided documentation of these efforts to the Signatories and Parties to the PA, and the public via the design phase PA Memos. Guam SHPO concurred with PA Memo #2 of the design phase on October 14, 2016. This PA Memo #1 includes the construction and operation plans, as well as the historic properties to be affected. Once the Navy receives comments, the Navy will prepare PA Memo #2 outlining the proposed mitigation plan. The APE has been subject to one or more of the historic property identification efforts below:

2015 Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan, Andersen Air Force Base, Joint Region Marianas, Prepared by SEARCH and Cardno-TEC through IDIQ Contract N62742-09-D-1960, Delivery Order JQ03, May 2015.

2015 Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement: Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Military Relocation, Prepared for Joint Guam Program Office, Washington, DC, by Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific, Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i

Athens, J.S.

2009 Final Archaeological Surveys and Cultural Resources Studies on Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Support of the Joint Guam Build-Up Environmental Impact Statement Volume I: Guam. Prepared by International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc. Honolulu, Hawai'i.

Dixon, B., S. Walker, and M. Carson

2011 Cultural Resource Investigations Conducted in the Territory of Guam Supporting the Joint Guam Build-Up Environmental Impact Statement: Final Archaeological Surveys on Guam 2008-2009 at Air Force Barrigada, Proposed Live Fire Training Range, Andersen South, and Naval Base Guam. Prepared for Department of the Navy, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, by TEC Inc. Joint Venture.

3 The posting of this PA Memo on the Cultural Resources Information (CRI) website is required by Stipulation IV.E.2. of the 2011 Military Relocation PA as a means for interested members of the public to provide comments on the identification and evaluation of historic properties. Confidentiality requirements under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) prohibit federal agencies from publicly disclosing the exact nature and location of archaeological sites and other types of historic properties such as traditional cultural properties (TCPs).

Welch, D.

2010 *Final Archaeological Surveys and Cultural Resources Studies Conducted in 2007 on the Island of Guam in Support of the Joint Guam Build-Up Environmental Impact Statement; Volume I: Narrative and Volume II: Site Descriptions*. Prepared for Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pacific, Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i under Contract N62742-06-D-1870, Task Order 10 to TEC, Inc. Joint Venture.

DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY

The Navy, in consultation with SHPO, has determined there are known cultural resources within the J-755 APE that are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. There are five historic properties within the APE.

Guam Historic Property Inventory (GHPI) Site 66-04-2324 is a Latte Period artifact scatter measuring approximately 270 meters east-west by 50 meters north-south, comprised of varying densities of potsherds, stone tool fragments (chert flakes, pestles/pounders), a shell adze fragment, and fire-altered pieces of coral. A few pieces of charcoal, terrestrial gastropod shells and a bird bone fragment were also observed. This site is eligible under Criterion D.

GHPI Site 66-04-2325 is also a Latte Period artifact scatter; measuring approximately 60 meters northeast-southwest by 40 meters northwest-southeast, situated at the southeast side of what is known as the Mogfog Depression. The site is comprised of varying densities of potsherds, stone tool fragments and fire-altered pieces of coral. This site is eligible under Criterion D.

GHPI Site 66-04-2326 is a Second American Administration site described as a concrete structure possibly associated with the 204th Army Hospital. Rectangular in shape with some metal components, the structure measures approximately 2 meters north-south by 4 meters (east-west with a maximum height of 2.5 meters. The structure's design and location suggests it may have been used as an incinerator. The site is being treated as eligible for the purposes of this project, under Criterion A.

Temporary Site AS-T-2008-01 is comprised of displaced, bulldozed remnants of a latte set. There are several broken columns and capstones, one complete column and capstone and a mortar stone. The non-bulldozed portion of the site includes a sparse surface-visible concentration of 19 potsherds. This site is eligible under Criterion D.

Temporary Site AS-T-2008-04 is comprised of 23 surface-visible Latte Period potsherds situated in an area measuring 8 meters north-south by 5 meters east-west. This site is eligible under Criterion D.

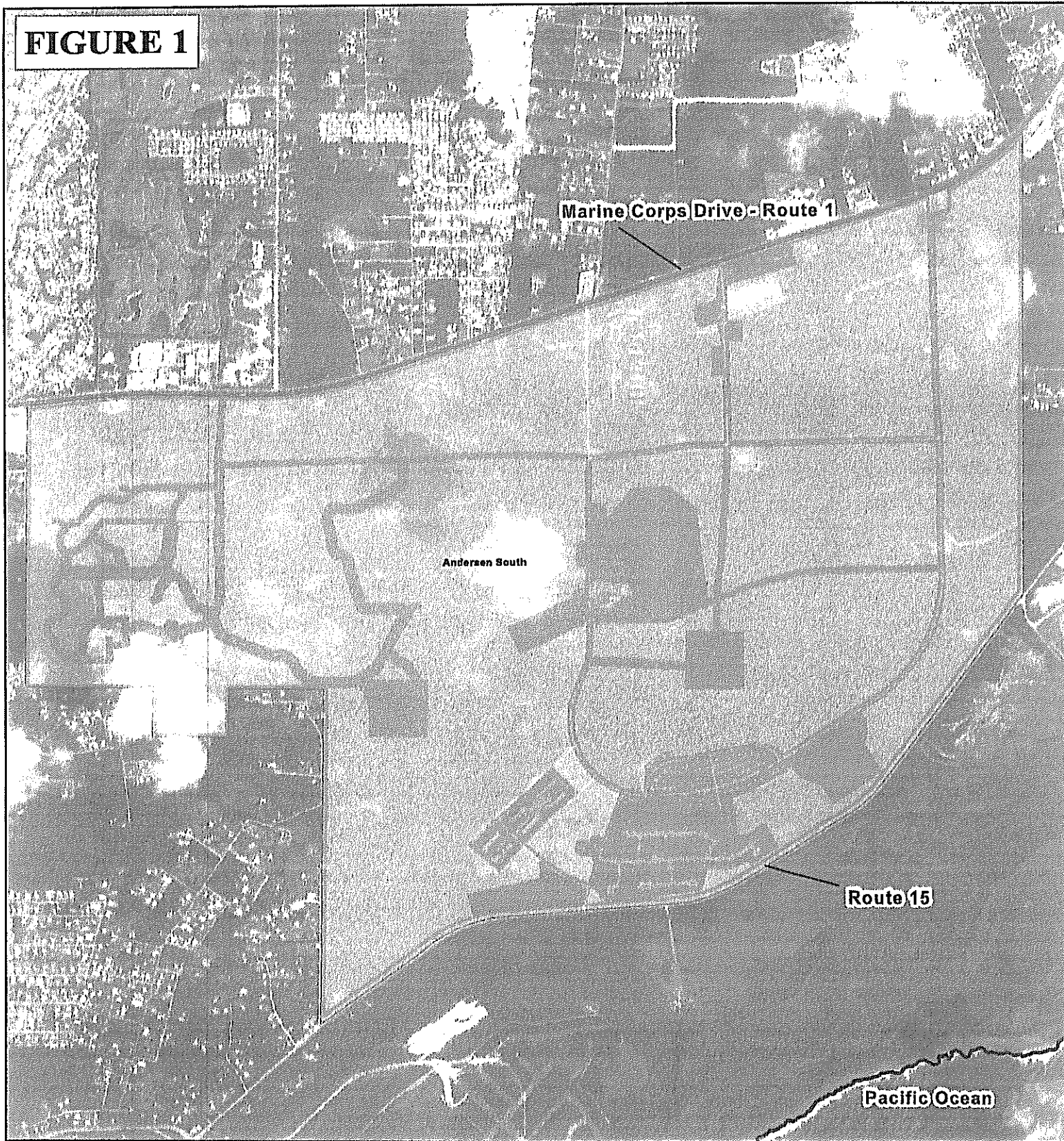
4 | The posting of this PA Memo on the Cultural Resources Information (CRI) website is required by Stipulation IV.E.2. of the 2011 Military Relocation PA as a means for interested members of the public to provide comments on the identification and evaluation of historic properties. Confidentiality requirements under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) prohibit federal agencies from publicly disclosing the exact nature and location of archaeological sites and other types of historic properties such as traditional cultural properties (TCPs).

DETERMINATION OF EFFECT:

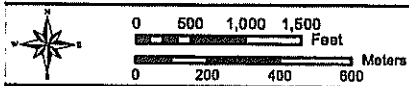
The Navy determined J-755 will have an adverse effect on known historic properties. A mitigation plan will be developed in consultation with Guam SHPO as part of a forthcoming J-755 PA Memo #2.

-
- 5** The posting of this PA Memo on the Cultural Resources Information (CRI) website is required by Stipulation IV.E.2. of the 2011 Military Relocation PA as a means for interested members of the public to provide comments on the identification and evaluation of historic properties. Confidentiality requirements under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) prohibit federal agencies from publicly disclosing the exact nature and location of archaeological sites and other types of historic properties such as traditional cultural properties (TCPs).

FIGURE 1



**J-755
Urban Combat Training**



PREPARED BY:
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Marines
Date: 3/6/2017



Coordinate System: UTM Zone 65 North
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: D WGS 84

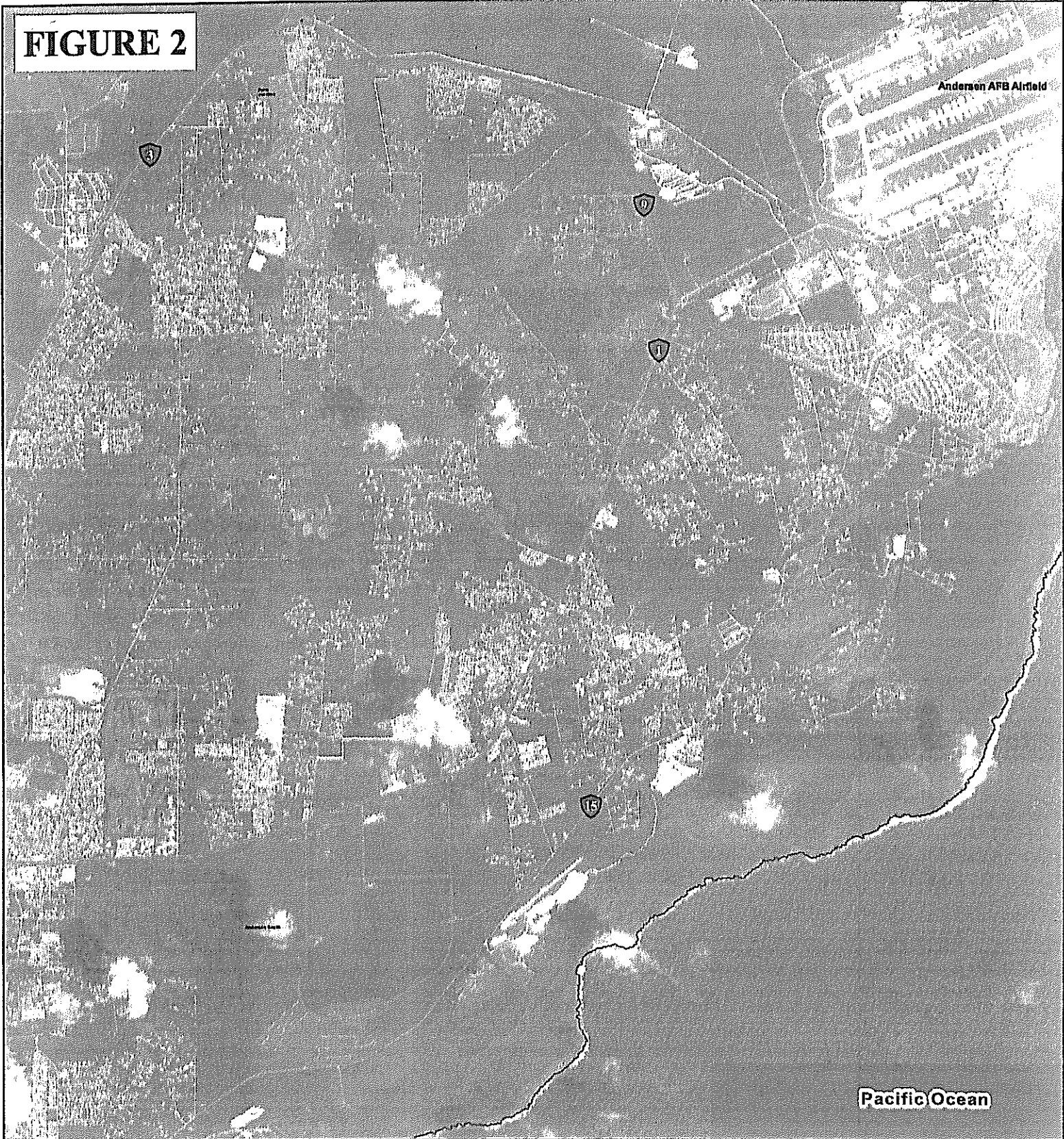
**Andersen South J-755 APEs
(Construction and Operations)**

- Area of Potential Effect (APE)
for Construction Activities at Andersen South
- Area of Potential Effect (APE)
for Operation Activities at Andersen South

GUAM



FIGURE 2



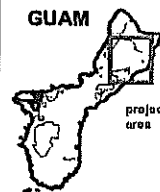
**J-755
Urban Combat Training**

**Andersen South J-755
Construction APE and Utility Corridors**



Area of Potential Effect (APE)
for Construction for J-755

GUAM



project
area

PREPARED BY:
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Maitland

Date: 3/9/2017



Coordinate System: UTM Zone 55 North
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: D WGS 84

Military Relocation PA Memo Comment Form

2017

If submitting via e-mail, scan and send to: criwebcomment@navy.mil

If submitting via postal mail, send to:

Attn: CRI Web Comments
Code EV23, NAVFAC Pacific
258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100
JBPHH, Hawaii 96860-3134

Submitted comments will be posted on the Navy's Cultural Resources Information (CRI) web site. Information presented on the CRI web site is considered public. The sections highlighted in red are required to be completed in order for a comment to be posted.

Privacy Act Statement

Personal information will only be used to contact you regarding the comments you submit. This information will only be shared with another government agency if your inquiry relates to that agency, or as otherwise required by law. We will not create individual profiles or give your information to any private organization. While you must provide a valid e-mail address or postal address, please **DO NOT** include personally identifying information such as a social security number.

By submitting this comment form, you agree not to include content that is offensive in nature, such as profanity, personal attacks on individuals, and racist or abusive language.

PROJECT: J-755 Urban Combat Training Project – Construction & Operation (Formerly Andersen South)

SUBJECT: PA Memo #1, Determination of Effect

Date: _____

Name: _____

CRI User Name (if you don't want your real name to be posted with your comment on the CRI web site):

E-Mail Address: _____

and/or

Postal Mail Address: _____

COMMENTS: _____

Comment ID: #366

Name: Joseph Quinata

SEIS User Name:

Email Address: jqpreservation@guam.net

Topic: Comments on Guam and CNMI Military Relocation Military Relocation
(2012 Roadmap Adjustments) Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact
Statement

Comment:

Refer to attached pdf file (GPT Comments to DEIS).

Organization: Guam Preservation Trust

Address:

P.O. Box 3036

Hagatna, Guam 96932

Mailing List? No Attachment: Yes Don't Use Name: No

Prefer Email: Yes Prefer Mail: Yes Sensitive Info: No

Date Received: 6/30/2014 2:22:58 AM

Comment Date: 6/30/2014 12:00:00 AM



GUAM PRESERVATION TRUST

INANGOKKON INADAHI GUAHAN

P.O. BOX 3038 • Hagåtña, Guam 96932
Tel: (671) 472-9499/40 • Fax: (671) 477-2047
www.guampreservationtrust.org

June 30, 2014

Joint Guam Program Office Forward
P.O. Box 153246
Santa Rita, Guam 96915

**Comments on Guam and CNMI Military Relocation (2012
Roadmap Adjustments) Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement**

Executive Summary

The Guam Preservation Trust (GPT) is a non-profit, public corporation governed by a Board of Directors (Board) dedicated to the education and advocacy of Guam's cultural heritage. GPT finds that Guam's cultural heritage is comprised of traditional cultural properties, archaeological resources, indigenous practices, and other historic resources that are imperative to the sustainability of the island's heritage.

GPT's Board is comprised of members who are experts in the fields of Architecture, Archaeology, Chamorro Culture, History, and Planning who have and continue to work with local and federal communities within the scope of GPT's vision and mission. The Board does not exclusively sit with the GPT, they are primarily appointed as the Guam Historic Review Board which oversees the review of nominations to the local and national register of historic places, a mandate of the Historic Resources Division under the Department of Parks and Recreation. However in this current capacity, the Board sits with GPT as an advocate for the continued protection of historic sites, the resources found on these sites, and the ethnographic and oral history related to these sites for the benefit of the island community. GPT utilizes the preservation of historic sites and archaeologically rich properties to educate the island community and to increase public appreciation for the benefit of future generations.

The Guam Preservation Trust hereby submit comments on the proposed Cantonment/Family Housing and the Live Fire Training Range Complex relative solely to its mission to preserve and protect Guam's historic sites, culture, and perspectives for the benefit of our people and our future.

366:A – Thank you for your comment. Your comments are addressed below.

366:A

Comment ID: #366 (Cont.)

Statement

GPT appreciates that the Department of the Navy conducted a review of the cultural properties for the 5 alternatives for the Live Fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC) and the Cantonment/Family Housing construction and operation. It is our general observation that the DSEIS remains insufficient and incomplete and GPT strongly requests the Department of Navy to reconsider the placement of the LFTRC.

366:B

i. Statement of Position on LFTRC and Cantonment

GPT expresses strong opposition to any proposal or suggestion for an LFTRC on any site on Guam as such development will disturb the cultural significance and appreciation by Guam's community and will adversely affect the area's integrity and traditional cultural property.

366:C

Alternative 1

We remain consistent throughout this process that Págat is, and has always been, the wrong site for the LFTRC. Described also as the Route 15 alternative in the Draft SEIS, the analysis of Alternative 1 still contains numerous inadequacies and misrepresentations about the impacts that would occur if the ranges were developed at this site.

366:D

Págat was the first site on the National Register of Historic Places listed from Guam in 1974 and was identified by the Navy as early as May 2009 as a Traditional Cultural Property, embodying significant cultural value as a latte village and regularly used for education and interpretation, as well as a spiritual site by the Chamorro people. The Navy proposed for the Ranges to be built in very close proximity to Págat which would adversely impact cultural and environmental values in the area.

Alternative 5 (Preferred Alternative)

Regarding the Preferred Alternative, though the area has been designated as Northwest Field by the DSEIS, the ancient Chamorro name for the area is *Tailalo* and it is further noted that the proposed LFTRC will not be contained on the area utilized as the airstrip during WWII but rather in pristine limestone forest adjacent to Northwest Field. The proposed Surface Danger Zone (SDZ) extends over areas where the current Fish & Wildlife Services have jurisdiction, and as the area also includes areas of cultural significance, the construction and operation of a LFTRC in the Northwest Field Area should not take place without appropriate and full mitigation prior to commencement of operations of the LFTRC. On the operation and construction of the cantonment, GPT strongly recommends that the Department of the Navy minimize the adverse effects towards cultural resources.

366:E

366:B – Your opposition to the LFTRC is noted. No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

366:C – Your opposition to the LFTRC is noted. No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

366:D – Your opposition to the placement of the LFTRC at Route 15 is noted. Potential impacts to the Págat site and other nearby historic properties is discussed in Section 4.1.10.2.

366:E – The DoD understands and recognizes the significance of cultural sites located on Guam. To the degree possible, impacts to historic properties and natural resources of cultural importance would be avoided or minimized during the planning process. Consultation under the 2011 Programmatic Agreement, which would include the Guam State Historic Preservation Officer, would address potential adverse effects and alternatives to avoid adverse effects. The identification of this area as "Tailalo" has been added to the Final SEIS.D

GUAM PRESERVATION TRUST
INANGORRON INADAH! GUAHAN

P.O. Box 3038 • Agaña, Guam 96910 • Tel: (671) 734-1102 • Fax: (671) 734-1103

II. GPT provides the following Mitigation Recommendations

A. Revised or Amended Programmatic Agreement

Currently, efforts to mitigate cultural properties are addressed by the 2011 Programmatic Agreement (PA) as well as other program agreements in an effort to meet the requirements of section 106 of NHPA as well as to reduce the risk of any damage of TCPs and cultural resources. This is insufficient and needs to be reevaluated and updated given the new scope of the SEIS. GPT officially requests to be a signatory of a revised or amended PA to ensure that cultural resources are protected accordingly. GPT requests that a revised or amended PA be developed, prior to any attempt to publish a Final SEIS or announce a Final Record of Decision, relative to the new SEIS.

366:F

B. Creation of a Guam Historic Properties and Indigenous Resources Council

We recommend that a council called the Guam Historic Properties and Indigenous Resources Council be created to address and resolve the issues from the proposed Range and Cantonment Mitigation Plan. GPT feels this Council should be comprised of non-DOD employees and of which one member from each of the following: the State Historic Preservation Office, the Guam Preservation Trust, the University of Guam, the Guam Legislature's Committee on Historic Preservation and Land, two scientific specialists in the fields of biology, geology and archeology and three knowledgeable traditional practitioners. To ensure that the said Council has statutory authority, GPT recommends that the Council be established through enactment of law by the Guam Legislature and Governor of Guam and appended to statutes enabling the State Historic Preservation Office and the Guam Preservation Trust.

366:G

It is imperative that this Council which is comprised of local stakeholders and knowledgeable traditional practitioners will have the first rights of notification before any action occurs as well as the authority to acquire the expertise and the time to address and resolve the potential removal or destruction of the TCPs and cultural resources.

C. Partnership with Chamorro Non-Profit Organizations for Cultural Resource Awareness.

Additionally, GPT recommends that the DOD submit a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Chamorro Cultural Non-profit organizations, Government of Guam's Department of Chamorro Affairs and/or University of Guam or Guam Community College to conduct the proposed Cultural Resource Awareness program to carry out the said mitigation. This will ensure that the institutional, cultural and historical knowledge of these important cultural resources is properly addressed and paramount to the program

366:H

366:F – The 2011 Programmatic Agreement applies to actions proposed under the previous EIS and for those that are being reassessed under the SEIS. Additional coordination is being conducted in accordance with the 2011 Programmatic Agreement to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts on historic properties for the LFTRC and cantonment alternatives. The DoD is in the process of contacting the original invited parties to re-confirm whether or not they would like to be signatories on the 2011 Programmatic Agreement. Both Guam Preservation Trust and the National Trust for Historic Preservation will be invited to be signatories on the 2011 Programmatic Agreement.

366:G – Consistent with the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act and other statutory requirements, the 2011 Programmatic Agreement establishes adequate and appropriate processes by which the DON will address and resolve effects to historic properties and other cultural resources that may result from the proposed action. In accordance with the 2011 Programmatic Agreement, the DON will conduct further review of projects as project details become available, and provide notification to the Signatories, Invited Signatories, Concurring Parties, and the public regarding these reviews. Participation in review of projects is open to the organizations and individuals indicated, to include the State Historic Preservation Office, the Guam Preservation Trust, the University of Guam, the Guam Legislature's Committee on Historic Preservation and Land, and the public.

366:H – Your recommendation for a Request for Proposal for Chamorro cultural non-profit organizations, GovGuam's Department of Chamorro Affairs and/or University of Guam or Guam Community College to conduct the proposed Cultural Resource Awareness program is noted. Any Request for Proposals issued by the federal government can be found at <https://www.fbo.gov/>.

GUAM PRESERVATION TRUST

INANGOKON INADAH I GUAHAN

P.O. Box 2036 • Agaña, Guam 98910 • Tel: (871) 734-1102 • Fax: (871) 734-1103

Comment ID: #366 (Cont.)

D. Limestone Reforestation

In regards to the removal of Limestone Forests in Northern Guam, GPT is requesting that detailed plans and specifications be publicly disclosed as to how DoD proposes to replace or replant these important natural resources elsewhere or how they can remain within the footprint of the proposed LFTRC and/or Cantonment/Family Housing areas with controlled public access authorized. GPT contends that the Limestone Forest in Northern Guam is crucial and critical to Guam's overall ecosystem for flora and fauna and believes that the DOD should replant or reforest, on an area-for-area basis, the exact amount of hectares of limestone forest proposed to be removed or disturbed and that such mitigation and reforestation shall be on DOD property in Guam with public access authorized in accordance with installation security requirements.

366:I

E. Access to Ritidian areas under the SDZ

Additionally, access to cultural properties in Ritidian must be allowed every weekend as well as every day of Mes Chamorro (Chamorro Month) which is currently celebrated in March of every year. This will allow appreciation of Guam's cultural heritage. Furthermore, regular and frequent consultation with traditional healers must be conducted to ensure appropriate access to harvest traditional medicinal plants.

366:J

F. Funding Educational Outreach and Awareness programs

Should the current wildlife refuge be relocated, space within the refuge must provide opportunity to educate the public on the historic and cultural significance of Ritidian as well as provide opportunities to experience the flora and fauna of Ritidian. Grant funding provided to non-profit organizations capable of doing educational outreach and awareness will also provide alternatives to understand and appreciate the area when access to the refuge is restricted. Lastly, a program to conduct directed archaeological field schools must be provided.

366:K

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the Guam Preservation Trust considers the DSEIS to have several errors, omissions, and deficiencies in providing information on DONs plan for the construction and operation of a LFTRC and Cantonment. GPT must state strong opposition to the areas where cultural properties are adversely affected and not properly mitigated. Guam's traditional, cultural resources and eco-system of the island must be protected. Definite and substantive plans for any mitigation which may be required must be ensured and thoroughly reviewed by the public before the approval of the final SEIS and before the Record of Decision (ROD) to which construction is to proceed.

366:L

It is GPT's hope that the 2011 PA also be revisited and revised or amended to address mitigation of the development of the LFTRC and Cantonment as well as other plans such as the Cultural Resource Awareness program and on-site access plan for the public. While GPT seeks

366:M

366:I – The DoD understands and recognizes the significance of natural resources of cultural importance, such as limestone forests, located on DoD property in Guam. The Final SEIS will include more information regarding the details of the proposed forest enhancement. Access to these areas will be granted at approved times such as when lands are not being used for military training. Final plans concerning access to areas potentially impacted by the proposed action have not been developed. The DoD looks forward to working with stakeholders to develop plans for cultural stewardship and access that balances operational needs, public safety concerns and the continuing public use and enjoyment of these resources.

366:J – Your request to access the sites at Ritidian during Chamorro Month and by traditional healers a regular intervals is noted. Much of the currently publicly accessible areas of Ritidian Unit and cultural properties at Ritidian Unit would be outside range surface danger zones and access would still be available via a proposed new beach access adjacent to relocated U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service buildings. Additionally, it should be noted that the public is currently restricted from accessing the majority of the Ritidian Unit of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The addition of the LFTRC under Alternative 5 would increase the amount of beach restricted to public access by approximately 10%. Access to these areas would be consistent with established Refuge rules and regulations. For areas that fall within the Surface Danger Zones, access will be granted at approved times such as when lands are not being used for military training. The Final SEIS has been amended to address the DON's intent to coordinate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for new beach access to ensure the public can access the remaining portion of the beach at Ritidian Point not encumbered by the LFTRC surface danger zones. DoD looks forward to working with stakeholders to develop plans for cultural stewardship and access that balances operational needs, public safety concerns and the continuing public use and enjoyment of these resources.

366:K – The SEIS proposed action does not include relocation of the wildlife refuge. Refuge facilities and operations are the responsibility of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

366:L – The DoD understands and recognizes the significance of cultural sites located on Guam. To the degree possible, impacts to historic properties and natural resources of cultural importance would be avoided or minimized during the planning process. Consultation under the 2011 Programmatic Agreement, would address potential adverse effects and alternatives to avoid adverse effects and develop specific mitigation to minimize and reduce impacts to historic properties.

366:M – The 2011 Programmatic Agreement applies to actions proposed under the previous EIS and for those that are being reassessed under the SEIS. Additional coordination is being conducted in accordance with the 2011 Programmatic Agreement to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts on historic properties for the LFTRC and cantonment alternatives. The processes, as outlined in the 2011 Programmatic Agreement, include procedures for mitigation, cultural resources awareness, and public access. The specific mitigations will be developed through the consultation process.

GUAM PRESERVATION TRUST
INANGKORON INADAH I GUAHAN

Comment ID: #366 (Cont.)

to work with the Department of Defense, and in order to meet its mission to preserve and protect Guam's historic sites, culture, and perspectives for the benefit of Guam's people and future, to meet this goal, should DCD not properly mitigate their plan as stated in the SEIS, they must continue to look for alternatives to construct the LFTRC and Cantonment within their footprint and without adverse impact to cultural resources.

Si Yu'os Ma'ase



JOE GUINATA
Chief Program Officer

GUAM PRESERVATION TRUST
INANGKOKON INADAH I GUAHAN

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sponse:

Comment ID: #649



Edward J.B. Calvo
Governor
Raymond S. Tenorio
Lt. Governor

**Department of Agriculture
Dipattamenton Agrikottura**
163 Dairy Road, Mangilao, Guam 96913

Director's Office 380-7966/64; Fax 734-6569
Agricultural Dev. Services 300-7973/300-7967
Animal Health 300-7965
Aquatic & Wildlife Resources 735-3985/56; Fax 734-6570
Forestry & Soil Resources 300-7976; Fax 300-3201
Plant Nursery 300-7974
Plant Inspection Facility 475-1426/27; Fax 477-9487



Mariquita F. Taitague
Director
Matthew L.G. Sablan
Deputy Director

649:A - Thank you for your summary of the project. Responses to your comments are provided on the following pages.

July 01, 2014

CDR Curtis Duncan
JGPO Public Affairs Officer
Joint Guam Program Office Forward
P.O. Box 153246
Santa Rita, Guam 96915

Re: Guam and CNMI Military Relocation (2012 Roadmap Adjustments) SEIS
Comments

Dear Sir:

Hafa Adai! The Department of Agriculture, Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources is by statute, a regulatory agency of Guam. It submits comments by authority of Title 5 Guam Code Annotated Chapter 63, the Stevens Magnuson Act, Federal Coordination, Guam's Endangered Species Act, the Endangered Species Act of 1973; the Federal Mandate regarding Essential Fish Habitat; Pittman-Robertson Act; and other Coastal Zone Management Act, EO 13089, Coral Reef Protection, EO 13112, Invasive Species, EO 13158, Marine Protected Areas 12962, Recreational Fisheries, as amended by EO 13474, Guam's Public Law 24-12 for Marine Preserves. REFERENCE Public law related to Biosecurity.

649:A

The Department would like to make the following points:

1. The ROD documented the DON's decision to implement the preferred alternatives identified in the 2010 Final EIS for the main base (cantonnement), aviation, and waterfront operations to support relocation of approximately 8,600 Marines and approximately 9,000 dependents from Okinawa to Guam. The ROD deferred a decision on the development of a live-fire training range complex (LFTRC) along Route 15 in the northeastern part of Guam.
2. The ROD documented the DON's decisions regarding the 2006 Roadmap for Realignment Implementation, including the selection of specific alternatives analyzed in the 2010 Final EIS for the main base (cantonnement area), aviation, and waterfront operations to support relocation of approximately 8,600 Marines and 9,000 dependents from Okinawa to Guam. The ROD deferred a decision on the specific site for an LFTRC.

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3. DON, to meet this commitment, applied a probabilistic methodology to more precisely model the size of the surface danger zone (SDZ) associated with the Multi-Purpose Machine Gun (MPMG) Range, which would be part of the LFTRC.
4. This Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) evaluates five alternatives for the proposed LFTRC, all of which include a proposed stand-alone Hand Grenade (HG) Range at Andersen South. In comparison, the 2010 Final EIS evaluated two site alternatives for the LFTRC, including a separate proposed location for an HG Range at each site alternative.
5. In light of this information, the DON initially elected to prepare a SEIS limited solely to the evaluation of potential impacts associated with the construction and operation of an LFTRC on Guam (hereinafter "LFTRC SEIS"). The DON issued a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare the LFTRC SEIS in February 2012 (77 FR 6787, February 9, 2012) and held public scoping meetings on Guam in March 2012.
6. In conjunction with changes in the mix of personnel involved in the relocation, the adjustments would reduce the originally planned relocation of approximately 8,600 Marines with approximately 9,000 dependents to a force of approximately 5,000 Marines with approximately 1,300 dependents. That decision prompted the DON's review of the actions previously planned for Guam and approved in the September 2010 ROD. This review concluded that while some actions remained unchanged, others, such as the size and location of the cantonment and family housing areas, could significantly change because of the force modification.
7. The DON prepared this SEIS in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S. Code [USC] §§ 4321, et seq.) and the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ's) implementing regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500-1508). Pursuant to 40 CFR § 1502.9, the DON prepared this SEIS for the purpose of supplementing the portions of the 2010 Final EIS regarding the establishment on Guam of a cantonment (including family housing), an LFTRC, and associated infrastructure to support the relocation of a substantially reduced number of Marines and dependents than was previously analyzed.
8. By supplementing the 2010 Final EIS, the SEIS advances NEPA's purpose of informing decision-makers and the public about the environmental effects of the DON's proposed action.
9. The proposed Marine Corps relocation to implement the 2012 Roadmap Adjustments would consist of approximately 5,000 Marines accompanied by approximately 1,300 dependents, a 64% reduction in the relocated Marine Corps population compared to the proposed relocation in the 2010 Final EIS. The relocation of Marine Corps uniformed personnel and their dependents would be augmented by civilian military workers and off-island construction workers, as well as indirect and induced population associated with economic growth from the proposed action.

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- 10. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) declined the invitation to join a cooperative agreement that other federal agencies joined in (USDA, FAA, FHWA, USDOJ-OIA, USAF, USEPA-Region 9, but the USFWS would continue to collaborate with the DON through the Section 7 consultation process with the DON as required under the Endangered Species Act, National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act, and relevant interagency agreements.
- 11. The proposed action is needed to ensure consistency with the new force posture adopted by the DoD in accordance with the 2012 Roadmap Adjustments, which provide for a materially smaller force on Guam than was originally proposed in the 2010 Final EIS, while fulfilling U.S. national security obligations to provide mutual defense, deter aggression, and dissuade coercion in the Western Pacific Region.
- 12. NWF LFTRC alternative would impact Guam NWR by closure of the Guam NWR for 39 weeks per year.
- 13. This component of the proposed action includes the construction and operation of five live-fire training ranges and associated range control facilities and access roads at a single consolidated location to meet the individual weapons training/qualification requirements of the relocating Marines. It also includes construction and operation of a stand-alone hand grenade range at a single location on federally owned land at Andersen South. The characteristics (though not the specific layout or footprint) of all proposed training ranges are consistent with the descriptions contained in the 2010 Final EIS, with the exception of a revised probabilistic SDZ configuration for the largest range in the LFTRC (i.e., the MPMG Range) and updated estimates of range utilization and ammunition usage.
- 14. The preferred alternative for the LFTRC is Northwest Field, and the Finegayan (NCTAMS) for the cantonment housing. Though both sites are within the Federal proper, it does compromise important natural resources that were identified in previous actions. These areas include the Haputo Ecological Reserve (ERA) and the Northwest Field area, which includes the Guam National Wildlife Refuge (GNWR), Green sea turtles, remnant Vanikoro Swiflet, *Aerodramus vanikorensis* nests, the Endangered Seianthes Tree, *Serianthes nelsonii*, Hayon Lago. There are additional concerns related to impact of land clearing needed to provide for the LFTRC, and safety zones needed for them-SDZs.
- 15. The primary impact from these projects in the SEIS would be the potential loss of native habitat and the increased potential for the spread of invasive species. Much of Guam's wildlife remains in low numbers or found in captivity. The loss of these habitats would make these species recovery very difficult.
- 16. The SEIS does not discuss with sufficient detail how DOD will manage and prevent perturbations of biosecurity. How it will handle instances of accidental introductions.

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17. Of the 18,538 acres (7,502 ha) of primary and secondary limestone forest found on Guam, approximately 13,110 acres (5,305 ha) (or 71%) are found primarily within AAFB, Finegayan, and NAVMAG (USFS 2006).
18. The cost of enforcing Guam's natural resource laws will come at a cost to the Government of Guam. The cost of the impact should be included in the mitigation of this action. The move would entail additional pressures on Guam's resources.
19. The impact to the fishing community with the Surface Danger Zones in the north-northwest quadrant of the island will surely impact the fishing community even further. The establishment of Marine preserves areas and the exclusion of the local community (with no military base access) from fishing on federally controlled lands has further exacerbated the perception and negative sentiment of "defacto" marine preserves.
20. Increase in market demands for local fruits and vegetables.
21. Increase in production activity to meet the demands for locally grown fruits and vegetables thus production of agricultural commodities will place greater impact in the use of larger land areas which will lead to higher usage of synthetic pesticides and fertilizers increasing levels of nitrates to be leached into the island aquifers. Highly erodible land areas will contribute to greater silt runoff to coastal areas impacting marine life.
22. The increased demand on irrigation water placing greater demand of Plant Nursery stocks.
23. Increase in home gardens, which will put a greater demand on Plant Nursery stocks.
24. The Department of Agriculture does not have the capacity in personnel and resources to adequately address the monitoring of increased farming activities as well as providing a wider nursery stock in light of existing infrastructure and funding.
25. The Department of Agriculture, Animal Health Section will be impacted on animal control and quarantine because DoD helps sponsor the costs associated with moving pets, most families opt to bring their pets. The proposed build-up would increase roughly arithmetically the workload on the quarantine section. This is because more than 90% of incoming animals on Guam are military pets. If the DoD family footprint increases by a certain percentage, our quarantine workload is likely to increase by nearly the same percentage. There might be also an impact on Animal Control, but it would likely be insignificant and easily handled with current manpower and resources.

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Response:

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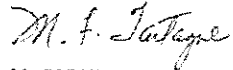
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Thank you for your response addressing our concerns. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, at 300-7964/65/66. We look forward to your response regarding our concerns.

649.A
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Sincerely,



MARIQUITA F. TAITAGUE

Attachments: Spreadsheet to SEIS-LFTRC and previous Military Buildup-2016 FIS

No.	Page	Chapter	Subtitle	Paragraph	Subject Matter	SEIS Statement	Comment
1	ES-2	Summary				Purpose and Need - The proposed action is to construct and operate a mess hall, including family housing, and an LFTRC on Guam to support the Marine Corps relocation. To meet the purpose of and need for the proposed action, the Marine Corps required facilities that can fully support the missions of the relocated units.	The impact of reconstruction of these facilities and resulting infrastructure remains to support the island of Guam, in general.
2	IS-2		Preferred Alternative			The DON's preferred alternative is to construct and operate the mess hall/family housing at the Naval Base Guam, Telecommunications Site at Fincapayan (Perepangan "Fincapayan") and the LFTRC at Northwest Field (NWF) on AAFB (see Section ES-6 Preferred Alternative for more information).	The construction for facilities to meet the family housing needs is not a big issue. However, the preferred LFTRC at Northwest Field remains a concern for its impact to native forest resources at Ritidian Point and GNWR.
3	ES 7.1	Relocation of marines and associated population change				The proposed action for the SEIS includes a longer and more gradual construction period (13 years compared to 7 years for the 2010 Final EIS), providing a substantially smaller requirement for off-island construction workers.	The SEIS allows for a longer period to lessen the impact - good point. 7,400 additional Guam residents, a 75% reduction compared to the steady state population increase described in the 2010 Final EIS of over 25,000 support personnel.
4	ES 6					The SDZ indicated in the Diagram encompasses an area that extends beyond Ritidian Point. Figure 1, indicated that an area that extends beyond Ritidian Point.	It may indicate that a good portion of the area would exclude fishermen from utilizing the cove during 297 days of the year.
5	ES 4.1.1					Evaluated the Preliminary Contingent Family Housing Alternatives 5-alternatives were compared that included: Fincapayan; Contingent Family Housing; Fincapayan; Contingent South Fincapayan Family Housing; AAFB; Contingent Family Housing; Barrigada.	These alternatives are found in military/federal property.

649 B

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649:B – The DON recognizes the importance of managing the implementation of the proposed military relocation to limit the adverse effects on the people of Guam, its natural resources, and infrastructure to the extent possible. The SEIS process identifies ways to mitigate adverse impacts where feasible. The DON will continue to work to ensure that the short-term impacts of construction are managed effectively and that the long-term effects of the military relocation reflect DoD policies to be good neighbors and responsible citizens on Guam. The DON has kept the public informed as required by NEPA, which included holding public scoping meetings and public hearings and consideration of public comments on the Draft SEIS. The DON has had ongoing discussions with regulatory agencies at the federal and Government of Guam levels and has also met with elected officials and community leaders.

649:C – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

649:D – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

649:E – Significant adverse impacts to land use were identified in Section 5.5.6, Land and Submerged Land Use due to the new restrictions on public access to submerged lands under the Northwest Field LFTRC. The text of Section 3.6, Affected Environment and Figure 3.6.1-1 were edited to include fishing areas, including Fish Aggregating Devices. The recreational and sociocultural impacts of the new public access restrictions on fishing are described in Sections 5.5.7 and 5.5.15, respectively. Specifically, there would be loss of access to areas relevant to recreational boaters and fishermen. Offshore fishing areas located within the LFTRC Surface Danger Zones would be inaccessible during associated range use. To provide awareness of times that the range is in use, the DON would provide the proposed training schedule to the U.S. Coast Guard, who would issue and broadcast a Notice to Mariners that would identify the location of the Surface Danger Zones and direct vessel operators to navigate clear of the active Surface Danger Zones. Additionally, boaters and fishermen would be able to contact range control via radio or phone to get real time updates of active ranges, which would minimize impacts. Section 7.7.6 identifies a significant cumulative impact on submerged lands access. Mitigation is proposed that would entail DoD supporting GovGuam Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources in their management of the Fish Aggregating Devices. Specific Fish Aggregating Devices locations and level of support have not been determined. No additional mitigation is proposed.

649:F – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

Response:

649:G – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

649:H – The infrequent occurrence of the Micronesian starling at Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station (i.e., Finegayan in the SEIS) is discussed in Section 4.1.8.1 of the Draft SEIS. Section 4.1.8.2 of the Draft SEIS addresses potential impacts to Micronesian starlings and the Haputo Ecological Reserve Area.

649:I – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

649:J – Best Management Practices are included as part of the proposed action. No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

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Page 2

						Comments/Family Housing and Area Habitat Comments/Family Housing		
6	ES 4.2.1					Although the DON had previously analyzed and dismissed NWF as a potential LFTRC alternative primarily due to operational conflicts, the DON worked with the Air Force to develop a NWF LFTRC alternative.	The NWF alternative was eliminated. The recent historic presence of endangered species, and the presence of the endangered <i>Serapius setchellii</i> further emphasize the sensitivity of the area.	649-G
7	ES-4	Conservation				All four alternatives involve land parcels that are already under the custody and control of the federal government, and therefore no acquisition of non-federal lands would be required; the analysis includes both Finegayan and the Bantiguan Area.	Micronesian starlings are known to occur on NCTAMS property. These are locally listed species. The area also contains the Haputo Ecological Area (HEA) that was a mitigation site for previously approved actions. Use of lands within the Conservation area seems appropriate.	649-I
8	Table ES-2	Farm Range Alternatives				LFTRC alternatives-Route 11-Alternative 1; NAVMAG (East/West)-Alternative 2; NAVMAG (North/South)-Alternative 3; NAVMAG (L-Shape)-Alternative 4; Northwest Field Alternative 5; Hand Grande Range (All Alternatives)	The construction footprint of the NWF would require 165 acres - the GRWR is only 529 acres large, and includes a Federally listed tree. Additionally, the coastal area of the refuge has the federally threatened Green sea turtle. The SDZ would include 3,707 acres, 270 days of the year.	649-I
9	ES-5	Best Management Practices					BMPs are a required part of the action and are met in addition to the action.	649-J

10		Preferred Alternative			The DON considered military requirements, known infrastructure and environmental impacts and constraints, and seeking input from the public, resource agencies, and the Government of Guam (Gov-Guam) during the process of identifying a preferred alternative. The DON's preferred alternative is to construct and operate a cantonment (including family housing) at Finegayan (Alternative A) and an LFTRC at NWF (Alternative S).	We do not oppose the Cantonment for the family housing at Sewi Finegayan, but we opposed to the placement of LFTRC at NWF (Alternative S). The loss of natural resources that would result would be tremendous/catastrophic. The placement of the LFTRC in NWF would result in a large ocean area being excluded from fishing from most of the year.	649:K
11	ES18	Table ES-5			Table ES-5 also indicates that the preferred Alternative S is the only LFTRC alternative that would not result in significant operational impacts to civilian airports, and is one of only two alternatives that would result in no significant impacts to water resources (wetlands), recreation (operations impacts), and visual resources (operations impacts).		649:J
13	ES19	Table 5- Terrestrial Native Wildlife			Natural Resources - are listed as being LSI or SI to natural resources. SOGCN are listed as being as NL.	The impact to Guam's wildlife is significant in terms of our habitat, and the direct impact to species that would be driven from the area because of the activity. Upon conversion of the area to a LFTRC, no species can be recovered, without a tremendous amount of resources.	649:M
14	ES 20	Table 5 - Marine Resources - EFH			Relative to marine resources, EFH, marine conservation areas, LSI-N) is listed.	It seems appropriate, as much of the coastal areas will not be impacted by the action. However, fishing areas for fishermen would be impacted by the SDZs.	649:N

649:K – DoD understands and recognizes the significance of natural resources on Guam. To the degree possible, impacts to natural resources would be avoided or minimized during the planning process. Significant adverse impacts to land use were identified in Section 5.5.6. Land and Submerged Land Use due to the new restrictions on public access to submerged lands under the Northwest Field LFTRC. The text of Section 3.6. Affected Environment and Figure 3.6.1-1 were edited to include fishing areas, including Fish Aggregating Devices. The recreational and sociocultural impacts of the new public access restrictions on fishing are described in Sections 5.5.7 and 5.5.15, respectively. Specifically, there would be loss of access to areas relevant to recreational boaters and fishermen. Offshore fishing areas located within the LFTRC Surface Danger Zones would be inaccessible during associated range use. To provide awareness of times that the range is in use, the DON would provide the proposed training schedule to the U.S. Coast Guard, who would issue and broadcast a Notice to Mariners that would identify the location of the Surface Danger Zones and direct vessel operators to navigate clear of the active Surface Danger Zones. Additionally, boaters and fishermen would be able to contact range control via radio or phone to get real time updates of active ranges, which would minimize impacts. Section 7.7.6 identifies a significant cumulative impact on submerged lands access. Mitigation is proposed that would entail DoD supporting GovGuam Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources in their management of the Fish Aggregating Devices. Specific Fish Aggregating Devices locations and level of support have not been determined. No additional mitigation is proposed.

649:L – No comment was provided; therefore, there is no response.

649:M – As stated in the Draft SEIS, the proposed mitigation for the removal of limestone forest would be forest enhancement of an equal area of degraded forest habitat on Guam. The proposed forest enhancement would include the management of existing degraded limestone forest on other areas of Guam, including removal of non-native invasive plants, planting of native species, and control and removal of ungulates that negatively impact native forests. This forest enhancement would increase the area of native forest on Guam that is not being impacted by non-native ungulates and increase the diversity of native species within the forest, thereby providing improved habitat for Guam's native species. This multi-pronged approach will address stressors and limiting factors challenging the eventual recovery of Guam's ecosystem.

649:N – Significant adverse impacts to land use were identified in Section 5.5.6. Land and Submerged Land Use due to the new restrictions on public access to submerged lands under the Northwest Field LFTRC. The text of Section 3.6. Affected Environment and Figure 3.6.1-1 were edited to include fishing areas, including Fish Aggregating Devices. The recreational and sociocultural impacts of the new public access restrictions on fishing are described in Sections 5.5.7 and 5.5.15, respectively. Specifically, there would be loss of access to areas relevant to recreational boaters and fishermen. Offshore fishing areas located within the LFTRC Surface Danger Zones would be inaccessible during associated range use. To provide awareness of times that the range is in use, the DON would provide the proposed training schedule to the U.S. Coast Guard, who would issue and broadcast a Notice to Mariners that would identify the location of the Surface Danger Zones and direct vessel operators to navigate clear of the active

Response:

Surface Danger Zones. Additionally, boaters and fishermen would be able to contact range control via radio or phone to get real time updates of active ranges, which would minimize impacts. Section 7.7.6 identifies a significant cumulative impact on submerged lands access. Mitigation is proposed that would entail DoD supporting GovGuam Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources in their management of the Fish Aggregating Devices. Specific Fish Aggregating Devices locations and level of support have not been determined. No additional mitigation is proposed.

Response:

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15	ES23	Terrestrial Biological Resources				Construction of the containment facility housing facilities under Alternative A would result in a significant but mitigable impact to terrestrial conservation areas due to the conversion of 1,250 acres (441 ha) of Overseas Refuge lands to developed areas.	649-O
16	ES24					Special-Status Species - Federal ESA- Listed and Candidate Species (SI-M). Construction of the containment facility housing facilities under Alternative A would result in significant but mitigable impacts to special-status species (Federal ESA-listed and candidate species) as a result of impacts to 977 acres (395 ha) of Mariana fruit bat recovery habitat, 978 acres (395 ha) of Mariana crow recovery habitat, 458 acres (185 ha) of Guam rail recovery habitat, 977 acres (395 ha) of Guam Microrousops kingfisher recovery habitat, and 681 acres (288 ha) of Scaevola recovery habitat.	649-P
17	ES24					Special mitigation: Brown tree snake removal and suppression. Implementation of the potential mitigation measures under Construction Impact. Vegetation would also benefit these species.	649-Q
18	ES24				SOGCN	Potential Mitigation for SOGCN - native plank, etc. - Cat control on a maximum of 1,000 acres (413 ha) of limestone forest. Implementation of the potential mitigation measures under Construction Impact. Vegetation would also benefit these species.	649-R

649:O – No comment was provided; therefore, there is no response.

649:P – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

649:Q – As stated in Section 4.1.8.2 of the Draft SEIS, to mitigate for significant impacts to native habitat, the DON proposes to implement forest enhancement on a 1:1 ratio for acreage of impacted limestone forest. Forest enhancement would include but is not limited to the following actions:

- Ungulate management consisting of exclusion fencing and active control (i.e. trapping, snaring, shooting) with the goal of eradication within the fenced areas.
- Non-native, invasive vegetation removal.
- Propagation, planting, and establishment of dominant and rare species that are characteristic of native limestone forest habitats (e.g., *A. mariannensis*, *G. mariannae*, *F. prolixa*, *M. citrifolia*, *C. micronesica*, *W. elliptica*, *S. nelsonii*, *H. longipetiolata*, *T. rotensis*).

The anticipated benefit of implementing these potential mitigation measures is improved habitat quality for native flora and fauna, including special-status species. Forest enhancement would also support natural regeneration and seed propagation, reduce erosion, and increase water retention (i.e., reduces fire risk).

649:R – Comment is restating the mitigation measures in the SEIS. Therefore, no response to the comment is required.

Response:

649:S – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

649:T – No comment was provided; therefore, there is no response.

649:U – As stated in the Draft SEIS, the proposed mitigation for the removal of limestone forest would be forest enhancement of an equal area of degraded forest habitat on Guam. The proposed forest enhancement would include the management of existing degraded limestone forest on other areas of Guam, including removal of non-native invasive plants, planting of native species, and control and removal of ungulates that negatively impact native forests. This forest enhancement would increase the area of native forest on Guam that is not being impacted by non-native ungulates and increase the diversity of native species within the forest, thereby providing improved habitat for Guam's native species. This multi-pronged approach will address stressors and limiting factors challenging the eventual recovery of Guam's ecosystem.

18	ES-25	Comment			Special-Susceptible Species - Federal ES-Land and Candidate Species (SI-M) Operation of the trans-shipment facility burning facilities under Alternative A would result in significant but mitigable impacts to special-status species (Federal ESA-listed and candidate species) as a result of impacts to Mariana fruit bat habitat due to light, noise, and human activity. Potential Mitigation - Repeat EIA - fencing, info/educational signage, educational materials regarding sensitive biological resources, and monitoring of visitor use.	The mitigation relative to lights would also benefit shearwaters in the area-Wedge-tailed Shearwaters, and other pelagic seabirds. These mitigations would benefit green sea turtles.	649-S
20	E-29	Alternative 5		Vegetation (SI-M): Construction of the LFTRC under Alternative 5	Vegetation (SI-M): Construction of the LFTRC under Alternative 5 would result in a significant but mitigable impact to vegetation due to the conversion of 201 acres (82 ha) of limestone forest to developed area. Potential Mitigation - Forest enhancement on a minimum of 201 acres (82 ha) of limestone forest. Terrestrial Conservation Areas (SI-M): Construction of the LFTRC under Alternative 5 would result in a significant but mitigable impact to terrestrial conservation areas due to the conversion of 255 acres (103 ha) of Overlay Refuge lands to developed area.		649-T
21	E-30				Potential Mitigation: Forest enhancement on a minimum of 201 acres (82 ha) of limestone forest. Terrestrial Conservation Areas (SI-M): Construction of the LFTRC under Alternative 5 would result in a	Establishment of an IEA to compensate should be 2-4 or greater. The loss of native habitat would catastrophic and would not be guaranteed.	649:U

Response:

649:V – The SEIS anticipates that military housing would be built within the main cantonment area. It is anticipated that the majority of Marine families would rent units in the military housing and generally would not compete with Guam residents for available housing units. Civilian military workers may vie for Guam housing; however, residential housing needed for these long-term workers would likely be about 285 units by 2028 (Socioeconomic Impact Assessment Study, Table ES-3).

649:W – Practices to protect cultural resources are contained in the 2011 Programmatic Agreement. Consistent with the Programmatic Agreement process, the parties to the Programmatic Agreement and the public will be consulted on specific projects and measures for identifying, avoiding, minimizing, and mitigating adverse effects to historic properties.

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						significant but mitigable impact to terrestrial conservation areas due to the conversion of 255 acres (103 ha) of Overlay Refuge lands to developed areas. Potential Mitigation- Submit a proposal to designate an ERA on NAVMAG. Expansion of Orme Peninsula ERA.	
22	2-2	Population impacts	Projected population impacts show an increase of about 3,000-9,000 with the SEIS, compared to the 2010 FEIS military buildup that projected population influxes of 20-60 thousand people. The military would assume the cost of building the necessary homes for the Marine Corp needs.	The SEIS-LFTRC realignment numbers do show significant decreases in the numbers of people on Guam at various times through 2025; The SEIS indicated it would assume the cost of construction of 535 housing units. Very little benefit in terms of rentals, and leases.		Projected population impacts show an increase of about 3,000-9,000 with the SEIS, compared to the 2010 FEIS military buildup that projected population influxes of 20-60 thousand people. The military would assume the cost of building the necessary homes for the Marine Corp needs.	The SEIS-LFTRC realignment numbers do show significant decreases in the numbers of people on Guam at various times through 2025; The SEIS indicated it would assume the cost of construction of 535 housing units. Very little benefit in terms of rentals, and leases.
23	2-100	2	Special Status Species	Table 2.8-1	Risk Management Practices Incorporated into the Proposed Action to Reduce Impacts: Cultural Resources	No BMPs identified for Cultural Resources.	DoN should acquire local knowledge from SHED to identify BMPs for the Preferred Alternative. LFTRC is proposed on an ancestral land and the SDZs includes the areas of great cultural value for the Chamorro nation.

649-V

649-W

Response:

649:X – As no LFTRC activities would physically occur on any beach that may be used by nesting sea turtles, and noise levels from LFTRC operations would not affect nesting sea turtles, there would be no impacts to nesting sea turtles due to LFTRC operations at Northwest Field.

649:Y – The DON recognizes and respects the significance of Guam's natural resources of cultural importance. The 2011 Programmatic Agreement requires the DON to coordinate with the State Historic Preservation Officer and Concurring Parties to contact traditional practitioners and provide them the opportunity to collect these resources, consistent with operational needs and public safety concerns. This measure was developed in consultation with the Guam State Historic Preservation Officer, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Department of Chamorro Affairs, and the public. In addition, processes for identification of historic properties and to avoid, minimize, and mitigate adverse effects in the 2011 Programmatic Agreement would apply to all projects associated with the action selected in the Record of Decision for the SEIS.

649:Z – The Surface Danger Zone encompasses nearshore and offshore waters. Access to these areas would be restricted during training operations. To provide awareness of times that the range is in use, the DON would provide the proposed training schedule to the U.S. Coast Guard, who would issue and broadcast a Notice to Mariners that would identify the location of the Surface Danger Zones and direct vessel operators to navigate clear of the active Surface Danger Zones. Additionally, boaters and fishermen would be able to contact range control via radio or phone to get real time updates of active ranges, which would minimize impacts.

649:AA – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

649:AB – As stated in Section 4.1.8.2, the following measures may be implemented to mitigate potential direct, long-term impacts of proposed operational activities on cliffline habitat within the Haputo Ecological Reserve Area:

- Fencing of the Haputo Ecological Reserve Area access trail to control and manage access.
- Development and installation of informational and educational signage.
- Development of educational materials for military and civilian personnel on the sensitive biological resources within the Haputo Ecological Reserve Area.
- Monitoring of visitor use.

An Ecological Reserve Area is established to conserve and protect characteristic or outstanding botanical, ecological, geological, and scenic features or processes and where current natural conditions are maintained. These conditions are ordinarily achieved by allowing natural, physical, and biological processes to prevail without human intervention. Fencing to manage access would assist in maintaining the characteristics and integrity of the Haputo Ecological Reserve Area and would prevent overuse and potential damage to terrestrial biological

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2	2-366	2		Figure 2.3-1	Best Management Practices Implementation of Elements of the AAFB Sea Turtle Management Plan.	The AAFB sea turtle management plan includes education of recreational users, limited beach access during nesting, restrict vehicle and all-terrain vehicle usage, and develop a curfew for campers at Tangua Basin.	The AAFB Sea Turtle Management Plan focuses on beach areas within the Tangua Basin for any turtle activity. It does not address the concerns of the preferred LFTRC at NWF alternative. Turtles are known to frequent Ritidian Point where SDZs are established and will need focus to minimize impacts to the endangered species in the area.	649.X
3	2-168	2		Figure 2.3-1	No BMPs identified for Cultural Resources.		The LFTRC preferred alternative is located in a highly sensitive cultural area. The Semañites tree and numerous traditional plants found in the area are cultural resources that require BMPs.	649.Y
4	2-162	3	Special Study Species	Table 2.3-1	Best Management Practices Incorporated into the Proposed Action to Reduce Impacts: Marine Transportation	Notice to Mariners will direct vessel operators to navigate clear of the SDZ to avoid potential impacts from use of the LFTRC	navigational waters should not be restricted, especially for those who depend on fishing as a form of living. LFTRC site should work around the schedule of those dependent on fishing. Ritidian Point area is known as local fishing spot, busy boating activity.	649.Z
5	2-32	2		Figure 2.4-3	Contingency/Family Housing Alternative Carried Forward		The proposed Alternative B is more appropriate alternative for the contingent and family housing alternative. There will be few or impacts to threatened and endangered species and their habitats, which result to minimal mitigation to develop and implement.	649.AA
6	2-32	2		Figure 2.4-4	Contingency/Family Housing Alternative A		The proposed family housing may have great impact to the habitat along cliffline where threatened and endangered species occur.	649.AB

Response:

resources. These measures are consistent with the goals and objectives of the Haputo Ecological Reserve Area Management Plan (NAVFAC Marianas 2010).

7	2-42	2		Figure 2.4-8	AAPB Concerns: Land Use/ Housing Alternative C	Proposed Alternative C within AAPB footprint will have impact to foraging Mariana fruit bat in the area. Fruit bats are known to roost at the proposed site.	649:AC
8	2-72	2		2.5.4.3	NWF LFTRC Alternative 5.	Alternative 5 would not require acquisition of lands... access GNWR restricted.	649:AD
9	2-72	2		2.5.4.3	NWF LFTRC Alternative 5	Alternative 5 would not require acquisition of lands... access GNWR restricted.	649:AE
10	2-75	2		Figure 2.5-6	Proposed NWF LFTRC Alternative 2	Proposed site for the proposed LFTRC alternative is on the footprint of emergency area for an unexploded ordnance as ordered in the BO (or ROD) for the ISR STRIKE EIS.	649:AF
11	2-77	2		Table 2.5-5	Summary Comparison of Non-Federal Land Acquisition Required for LFTRC Alternative	DoD owns 13 of the island. The Government of Guam or private landowners own all these lands. Compensation to pay for the existing lands should be settled before acquiring any future lands.	649:AG
12	2-84	2		Figure 2.7-1	Preferred Alternative	Preferred LFTRC is proposed as a species sensitive area. Marines will need to get on field all training activities at the proposed LFTRC proposed site if no landowner or interested	649:AH

649:AC – In Section 4.3.8.2 of the Draft SEIS, potential impacts to the Mariana fruit bat are described. In addition, the DON proposes a number of Best Management Practices and mitigation measures that would be implemented to avoid, minimize and mitigate for the potential impacts.

649:AD – Significant adverse impacts to land use were identified in Section 5.5.6, Land and Submerged Land Use due to the new restrictions on public access to submerged lands under the Northwest Field LFTRC. The text of Section 3.6, Affected Environment and Figure 3.6.1-1 were edited to include fishing areas, including Fish Aggregating Devices. The recreational and sociocultural impacts of the new public access restrictions on fishing are described in Sections 5.5.7 and 5.5.15, respectively. Specifically, there would be loss of access to areas relevant to recreational boaters and fishermen. Offshore fishing areas located within the LFTRC Surface Danger Zones would be inaccessible during associated range use. To provide awareness of times that the range is in use, the DON would provide the proposed training schedule to the U.S. Coast Guard, who would issue and broadcast a Notice to Mariners that would identify the location of the Surface Danger Zones and direct vessel operators to navigate clear of the active Surface Danger Zones. Additionally, boaters and fishermen would be able to contact range control via radio or phone to get real time updates of active ranges, which would minimize impacts. Section 7.7.6 identifies a significant cumulative impact on submerged lands access. No additional mitigation is proposed.

649:AE – Much of the currently publicly accessible areas of Ritidian Unit and Guam National Wildlife Refuge would be outside range surface danger zones. Additionally, it should be noted that the public is currently restricted from accessing the majority of the Ritidian Unit of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The addition of the LFTRC under Alternative 5 would increase the amount of beach restricted to public access by approximately 10%. Access to these areas would be consistent with established Refuge rules and regulations. For areas that fall within the Surface Danger Zones, access will be granted at approved times such as when lands are not being used for military training. The Final SEIS has been amended to address the DON's intent to coordinate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for new beach access to ensure the public can access the remaining portion of the beach at Ritidian Point not encumbered by the LFTRC surface danger zones. DoD looks forward to working with stakeholders to develop plans for cultural stewardship and access that balances operational needs, public safety concerns and the continuing public use and enjoyment of these resources.

Response:

649:AF – As stated in the Draft SEIS (see page 5-342), the construction of the proposed Northwest Field LFTRC would require the relocation of the ungulate exclosure fence that is currently being constructed in accordance with conservation measures identified during Endangered Species Act section 7 consultation for a previous Air Force action. The relocated ungulate exclosure fence would encompass a larger area and disturb a smaller acreage of limestone forest.

649:AG – Topics related to compensation for use of existing lands on Guam are important issues but they are outside the scope of NEPA and this SEIS. The SEIS public engagement forums and the public comment period provided an indirect avenue for concerned citizens to inform local and federal policy-makers about their views on such issues but no specific changes to the text of the SEIS have been made in response to this comment.

649:AH – Based on public comments, the DON identified a new preferred alternative that moves the housing location from Finegayan to Andersen AFB. This change substantially reduces the impacts to recovery habitat for the Mariana crow, the Mariana fruit bat, and the Guam Micronesian kingfisher. Additionally, the DON is in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. A Biological Assessment has been prepared by the DON to analyze the potential impacts on Endangered Species Act-listed threatened and endangered species and critical habitat under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Biological Assessment and the SEIS specify conservation measures such as forest enhancement to minimize or avoid effects of the proposed action on listed species and critical habitat. A Biological Opinion, which would be issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service after their review of the Biological Assessment, will be the final determination of impacts to Endangered Species Act-listed species that are being evaluated in this SEIS.

							are turtle nest occur. In addition, the habitat in that area hosts the Federally Threatened Mariana fruit bat. All activities are to stop until the species leaves on its volcano in order to prevent violation to the ESA.	
13	2-96	2	Special Status Species	Table 2.8-1	Best Management Practices Incorporated into the Proposed Action to Reduce Impacts		Protection of <i>Serianthes mollis</i> is not included in the Table. In fact, most native forest species found within the boundaries of the Preferred Alternative should be mentioned. Since there is restriction on DoD lands for harvesting resources, DoD lands are only few areas where most native forest species occur, such as the <i>Serianthes</i> , <i>Tabernaemontana</i> , etc.	649-AI
14	2-96	2	Special Status Species	Table 2.8-1	Best Management Practices Incorporated into the Proposed Action to Reduce Impacts		Table 2.8-1 fails to identify numerous Special Status Species that occurs or may occur within the boundaries of the Preferred Alternative for the SEIS, i.e., <i>Serianthes</i> , native skinks, native snails, Mariana fruit bat, and numerous native vegetation.	649-AJ
15	2-97	2	Special Status Species	Table 2.8-1	Best Management Practices Incorporated into the Proposed Action to Reduce Impacts: Marine Biological Resources	Re-vegetate and permanently stabilize disturbed areas as soon as possible.	Native plants should be used for all re-vegetation projects on DoD lands. Unnecessary clearing should be minimized at the proposed project sites. Emergent tree species should be unharmed.	649-AK
16	2-97	2	Special Status Species	Table 2.8-1	Best Management Practices Incorporated into the Proposed Action to Reduce Impacts: Marine Biological Resources	Permanently remove expanded records from the ranges (conduct range clearance).		649-AL

649:AI – As the only known *Serianthes* tree on Guam occurs on Andersen AFB within the vicinity of the proposed LFTRC Alternative 5 at Northwest Field, as stated in Section 5.5.8.2, a minimum buffer of 100 feet (30 meters) would be established around the tree and no activities would be permitted within this buffer to avoid and minimize potential impacts to this individual tree. In addition, the one remaining adult *Serianthes* tree at Northwest Field is in poor condition due to termites and rotting at the base. The tree is leaning which renders it more susceptible to snapping or toppling in the event of a catastrophic typhoon. Under the proposed action, guide wires would be installed to support the tree at Northwest Field thereby reducing the potential for its collapse. Table 2.8-1 has been revised to include these Best Management Practices for the *Serianthes* tree.

649:AJ – Refer to response of previous comment regarding the revision of Table 2.8-1 to include *Serianthes*. Table 2.8-1 is not meant to provide a complete list of all special-status species and any proposed Best Management Practices. Some Best Management Practices for other biological resource sections (e.g., vegetation) will benefit special-status species but are not specifically listed within this table. For example, many Best Management Practices listed under General Biological Resources are applicable to the special-status species listed in the comment. Best Management Practices are listed in the table for the Mariana fruit bat and cycads. The discussion of applicable Best Management Practices for all special-status species are provided in the associated Environmental Consequences sections for each cantonment/family housing and LFTRC alternative.

649:AK – As described in Table 2.8-1, appropriate or non-invasive species will be planted in all new landscapes. Additionally, all construction will occur within the limits of construction shown in the Contractor Plans and Specifications.

649:AL – No comment was provided; therefore, there is no response.

Response:

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22		3-41	3.8.1.2. Terrestrial Resources		In October 2004, the USFWS designated 576 acres (152 ha) of land as critical habitat for the Guam Micronesian Kingfisher, Mariana crow, and Mariana fruit bat on the Ritiidan Unit of the Guam NWR in northern Guam. Overlay Refuge lands were excluded from this designation in northern and southern Guam. Air Force lands were excluded under section 4(a)(3) of the ESA based on the Air Force's Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) for AAFB.	Of recent, DAWR did not sign-off on the INRMP of DOD regarding because it was not a collaborative effort between Guam, and DOD, but a laundry list of projects that DOD had intended to do. The actions lead to the need to allow for recovery actions in DOD properties.	649-AM
23		3-49	Table 3.8.3-2.		The table illustrates the Potential Impacts to ESA-Listed Species Recovery Habitat on Guam as Assessed in the 2010 USFWS BO; coupled by actions in the SEIS. The table illustrates that potentially land-space remains in spite of the actions forward.	The table does not take into consideration the resulting disturbance caused by various activities of the LFTRC that would include construction, and aerial gaffing. This would result in significant reductions as a result of noise-disturbance the DOD activities.	649-AN
24		3-49	Table 3.8.3-1.		Project-specific Terrestrial Biological Resources Field Studies within Proposed Project Locations and listed species.	The preferred site has the most number of listed and SOGCN species than any of the other Alternatives.	649-AO
26		3-45	3.8.1.2		It should be noted that the presence of the brown treesnake effectively eliminates much of the existing undeveloped areas on Guam as suitable habitat for native wildlife species, particularly special-status species.	Contrary to this statement, DAWR has found that the recovery of three species requires that the Brown treesnake is reduced to a level that allow for survival. Field accomplishments point to a need to reduce snake densities to level that allows for	649-AP

649:AM – In response to concerns by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Guam Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources, the DON is revising the single Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan for all lands under the authority of Joint Region Mariana to address those concerns. Potential mitigation measures proposed within the SEIS may be incorporated into the in-progress revision of the Joint Region Marianas Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan.

649:AN – Table 3.8.3-2 does not present the potential impacts to Endangered Species Act-listed species recovery habitat from the proposed action as assessed in the SEIS. Rather, the table is from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Biological Opinion on the original 2010 Final EIS and summarizes the impacts to recovery habitat based on implementation of the original 2010 Guam Military Relocation action.

649:AO – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

649:AP – The DON agrees with your comment and the statement in the Draft SEIS is consistent with your information on brown treesnake suppression. The SEIS statement merely affirms that the brown treesnake is the major limiting factor in the recovery of extirpated species on Guam.

response:

649: AQ – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

649: AR – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

649: AS – The proposed action at Northwest Field would not eliminate all limestone forest nor preclude the recovery of native species on Guam and thousands of acres of limestone forest and other native habitats would remain, on DoD, GovGuam, and private lands, after implementation of the preferred alternative. After implementation of any action alternative assessed in the SEIS, sufficient habitat would remain on Guam to support the recovery of native species.

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						productivity.	
27		3-54	Figure 3.E.3-1		The map illustrates the areas important to the listed species of the Mariana crow, Guam Micromesian kingfisher, Mariana fruit bat;	The map illustrates that the preferred alternative - NWF, contains most of the area needed for listed species. The Naval Magazine area contains a tremendous amount of area of recovery.	NP: AQ
28		3-55	Figure 3.S.3-2		The figure illustrates the amount of habitat found on Guam that would be important to Guam rails.	The available habitat for Guam rails is tremendous, and point to their rather generalist food preferences, and habitat needs. In contrast, the crow and kingfisher are very narrow in the preferences and disturbance tolerancy.	NP: AR
29		3-52	Wildlife		Impacts would be determined significant if native wildlife species are present and the proposed project would result in measurable changes in population sizes or distributions of regionally important native wildlife species (including special-status wildlife species which are addressed separately below).	The plight of Guam's wildlife is well documented. The absence of Guam's wildlife is known, what is not mentioned, is whether Guam's wildlife can be recovered after the impact of LFTRC activities in these areas, known to contain native limestone forest.	NP: AS

Response:

649:AT – The DON agrees with your comment and the statement in the Draft SEIS is consistent with your information on brown treesnake suppression. The SEIS statement merely affirms that the brown treesnake is the major limiting factor in the recovery of extirpated species on Guam.

649:AU – Given the topography and distance from shore of the physical components of the proposed action and implementation of best practices to avoid and minimize any potential impacts, the significance of potential impacts from surface runoff and spent munitions was determined to be insignificant in accordance with the NEPA process and applicable regulations identified under Water Resources and Marine Biological Resources.

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17	4-12	c			Nearshore	The Fireguyon project area would be served by the Northern District WWTP, which discharges into the Philippine Sea near Tamparone Beach.	Contrary to this statement, DAWR has found that the recovery of these species requires that the Brown treesnake be reduced to a level that allow for survival. Field accomplishments point to a need to reduce snake densities to level that allows for productivity.	649:AT
18	4-12	d			Environmental Consequences 4.1.2.2 Construction	Construction of the proposed new component/family housing and associated support facilities along with other construction activities associated with the proposed action would occur in an area that does not cross a water of the U.S. Nevertheless, the USGS indicates that discharge to nearshore waters is possible through the porous limestone geology of northern Guam (USGS 1012).	Guam is its entirety is a coastal zone. Despite the location of the proposed project, the project has no effect to the waters surrounding Guam.	649:AU

19	4-13				Table 4.1.2-2 Potential Construction Specific BMPs and Practices		In addition to stormwater runoff and erosion, another concern is contamination from petroleum (gas, oil, diesel). Table should also include availability of absorbent pads at the site during reeling or leakage of hydraulic hoses with machinery used during construction.	649:AV
20	4-14	4			Groundwater	As discussed in Section 4.1.14, Utilities in this SEIS, it would be expected that the GWA could meet the increased potable water demand during construction and that there would only be a minimal increase in pumping from the NGLA due to construction.	Understand whether GWA is considering the foreseeable future projects as result to the Marine Relocation. Will water demand be met when lands are developed in future? The section discusses the time of construction, what is the demand during operation, or function of the construction and family housing?	649:AW
21	4-22	4	Air Quality		Environmental Consequence		SEIS will need to include dust produce from construction and post construction. Haplo ERA is located near the proposed project sites and contains threatened native tree snails, and native butterflies. Fruit bat may also occur at the ERA. Mitigation to minimize dust levels during construction and post construction will need to be developed and implemented.	649:AX
22	4-36	4			Recreational uses	Use of the recreational resources located at Fingayen are subject to the same access requirements as other on-base facilities; therefore, only immediate personnel and guests are able to use the recreational resources at Fingayen. Recreational resources in the Fingayen area include hiking trails, fishing, swimming, picnicking, and scuba diving (Lots 2004). Off-base recreational uses in the area are open to the public.	In good faith, DoD should allow original landowners of DoD lands access to recreational resources at Fingayen recreational resources. Public hunting programs in Fingayen, NCTAS, and AAFB should expand and increase. Access to beach in DoD lands should be granted. Native leaders and their assistance should be granted.	649:AY

649:AV – A comprehensive Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan would be prepared for the Proposed Action. The Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan would provide an integrated, comprehensive approach to stormwater management for all construction projects associated with the Guam military relocation. In addition to procedures and practices to prevent discharge of pollutants from construction sites and water resources in Guam, the Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan provides roles and responsibilities of various DON organizations as well as contractors/subcontractors, regular monitoring and Best Management Practice inspection, evaluation, training, and reporting procedures. Submittal of Best Management Practice inspection reports and discussion of stormwater non-compliance at weekly Quality Control/construction progress meetings would be required. The Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan would also address compliance inspections during wet weather (weekly during dry periods and daily, along with pre- and post-storm during storm/rain events), details of inspection procedures, and documentation requirements. Details of the non-compliance or discharge reporting to the DON organizations and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 would also be included in Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, as well as stormwater compliance enforcement procedures, which include discovery of non-conformance, reporting potential non-compliance, and contractual enforcement. This information has been added to Section 4.1.2.

649:AW – The potable water volume of the updated Guam utility studies includes estimated potable water demands from all sources, including forecast organic civilian growth. The construction period peak was considered as a special subset of the years through 2028 since the construction workers would be provided potable water from the Guam Waterworks Authority water system. Most increased demand for potable water from the Guam Waterworks Authority water system after the construction period would come from organic civilian growth, not from induced growth due to the proposed action. The three year-long U.S. Geological Survey aquifer study concluded that with proper management, the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer could supply adequate quantity and quality of water through the year 2028. Whether the Guam Waterworks Authority improves their system adequately to handle this increased demand is not the responsibility of the DoD. The proposed U.S. Marine Corps relocation would be provided required potable water from the proposed expansion of the DoD potable water system, estimated at 1.7 million gallons per day (Final SEIS section 2.2.4 Utilities) using a conservative approach and not considering LEED Silver and sustainability implementation of water saving features.

649:AX – As stated in the Draft SEIS and listed in Table 2.8-1, a Dust Control Plan would be implemented as a Best Management Practice under the proposed action.

649:AY – DoD is in the process of developing a Public Access Plan for non-DoD personnel to access DoD lands. Comments from the public were sought for this plan in July, 2014. It is the intent of DoD to maintain public access to DoD lands that contain cultural/historical sites consistent with safety and operational requirements. Access will be granted at approved times such as when lands are not being used for military training. For this SEIS, final plans concerning access to areas potentially impacted by the proposed action have not been

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developed. DoD looks forward to working with stakeholders to develop plans for cultural stewardship and access that balances operational needs, public safety concerns and the continuing public use and enjoyment of these resources.

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						Currently, the area immediately north of Tinian on AAIFB is the only banding area open on federal property on Guam and is limited to archery hunting only (RM 2013). Table 4.1.7-1 identifies the recreational resources near Alternative A.	access to harvest medicinal plants in DoD lands	
23	4-397	4	Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Construction/Family Housing Alternatives	Terrestrial Conservation Areas	Potential Mitigation Measures: Submit proposal to designate an ERA on SANMAG, expansion of Great Promised ERA.	Future proposed ERA, like the existing ERA in Hapao and Orita, should be accessible to local and Federal resource agencies to work on species recovery efforts for our island and the island's economy to benefit from.	649-AZ	
24	4-397	4	Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Construction/Family Housing Alternatives	Terrestrial Biological Resources		Table 4.6-1 does not address the potential of invasive species introduction during construction phase and operation phase. Of great concern is the Little Fur Ant that has a great impact to wildlife and public safety. EIR/EIS will have to be developed and implemented to ensure the public safety by eradicating the spread of invasive species such as LFA at the proposed site.	649-AAA	

649:AZ – In accordance with the goals and objectives of an Ecological Reserve Area when it is established, an Ecological Reserve Area is maintained in natural and near natural conditions and to have available such areas for research and scientific manipulation. All Ecological Reserve Areas would be accessible to Guam and federal resource agencies to conduct monitoring and recovery efforts of biological resources.

649:AAA – Table 2.8-1 of the Draft SEIS (pages 2-93 to 2-95) provides a summary of the Best Management Practices that would be implemented to avoid the introduction of non-native invasive species from the construction and operation of the proposed action. In particular, refer to the Contractor Education Program, Biosecurity Outreach and Education, Incorporate Biosecurity Measures, and implementation of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point Plans.

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25	4-397	2	Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Cantonment/Family Housing Alternatives	Vegetation, Construction Impacts		Forest enhancement mitigation of the preferred alternative for Cantonment and Family Housing should be restricted to native plants of Guam.	649:AAB
26	4-397	4	Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Cantonment/Family Housing Alternatives	Potential Conservation Areas, Construction Impacts	Potential Mitigation Measures. Submit proposal to designate an ERA on NAVMAG, expansion of Outer Peninsula ERA.	Proposal should include designation of ERA on AAFB by expansion of Area Conservation Area to Pati Point, through the AAFB golf course limestone forest area.	649:AAC
27	4-398	4	Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Cantonment/Family Housing Alternatives	Native Wildlife, Construction Impact	Wildlife currently present is either widespread on Guam or prefers open spaces, which would not be reduced. With implementation of BMPs, potential introduction of new or spread of existing non-native species to Guam during proposed construction activities is considered unlikely.	1. wildlife that are being addressed in residential birds (Guam tree sparrow, black drong, Philippine turtle dove) that are widespread on Guam and migratory birds (yellow billed tern) that prefers open spaces. 2. Biosecurity plan will need to be developed and implemented to prevent new or spread of non-	649:AAD

649:AAB – As stated in the Draft SEIS in the Best Management Practice and mitigation sections for each cantonment/family housing and LFTRC alternative, native species would be used for forest enhancement. For example, on page 4-52: Propagation, planting, and establishment of dominant and rare species that are characteristic of native limestone forest habitats (e.g., *A. mariannensis*, *G. mariannae*, *F. prolixa*, *M. citrifolia*, *C. micronesica*, *W. elliptica*, *S. nelsonii*, *H. longipetiolata*, *T. rotensis*).

649:AAC – Pati Point on Andersen AFB is already a designated Natural Area. Access to the existing Pati Point Natural Area is highly restricted to protect the natural resources, and is allowed only with the permission of Andersen AFB. The natural area is managed in accordance with the Joint Region Marianas Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan.

649:AAD – Table 2.8-1 of the Draft SEIS (pages 2-93 to 2-95) provides a summary of the Best Management Practices that would be implemented to avoid the introduction of non-native invasive species from the construction and operation of the proposed action. In particular, refer to the Contractor Education Program, Biosecurity Outreach and Education, Incorporate Biosecurity Measures, and implementation of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point Plans.

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							native species
28	4-398	4	Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Cantonment Family Housing Alternatives	Special-Status Species - Federal ESA-Listed and Candidate Species; Construction Impact	Brown treesnake research and suppression	Brown treesnake research has been ongoing since 1980's while the density of the native wildlife populations on Guam. ITS research should focus on the recovery and reintroduction of the native wildlife that were extirpated soon after WWII and the introduction of the BTS to our island.	649:AAE
29	4-398		Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Cantonment Family Housing Alternatives	Special-Status Species - Federal ESA-Listed and Candidate Species; Construction Impact	Implementation of the potential mitigation measures under Construction Impact. Vegetation would also benefit these species.	Unclear as to what potential mitigation measures are being referenced to benefit special status species and vegetation.	649:AAF
30	4-398		Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Cantonment Family Housing Alternatives	Special-Status Species - Federal ESA-Listed and Candidate Species; Construction Impact		The habitat requirement in the species recovery plan for the Mariana crow, Guam Kingfisher, Guam rail, Serapihan and other special status species should be aligned. The removal of habitat due to development should be equal and not less than the total acreage (hectares) needed for the recovery of special status species. Therefore, expanding existing ERA and proposing new ERA on DoD lands will need to	649:AAG

649:AAE – As stated in Section 4.1.8.2 of the Draft SEIS, as a proposed mitigation measure, the DON would fund selected research/design projects identified as priorities in the Brown Treesnake Technical Working Group Strategic Plan that are compatible with the military mission on Guam for up to 10 years from the start of cantonment construction. Dependent upon the success of current experimental suppression activities within the Habitat Management Unit or identification of an effective alternate technology, the DON would install a brown treesnake barrier to exclude brown treesnakes from approximately 160 acres (65 hectares). If the DON is successful at eradicating brown treesnakes within these 160 acres (65 hectares), the DON would install a second brown treesnake barrier to exclude brown treesnakes from approximately 300 acres (121 hectares).

649:AAF – Please refer to the beginning part of the Terrestrial Biological Resources portion of the table. Construction Impacts (page 4-397) where forest enhancement is proposed as a mitigation measure.

649:AAG – Implementation of the proposed action would not result in insufficient remaining recovery habitat for any Endangered Species Act-listed species such that it could not be reintroduced and potentially achieve proposed recovery goals as outlined in the respective recovery plans. For the original 2010 proposed action, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prepared a summary table listing the existing recovery habitat, what would potentially be lost due to the 2010 proposed action, and what would remain (see Table 3.8.3-2). As the proposed action assessed in the SEIS would impact less acreage and therefore impact less recovery habitat, the proposed action would not result in insufficient recovery habitat for any species with identified recovery habitat.

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649:AAH – As stated in the Draft SEIS and listed in Table 2.8-1, a Dust Control Plan would be implemented as a Best Management Practice under the proposed action. As stated in the Draft SEIS, all construction would occur within the limits of construction shown in the project figures and vegetation clearing would be the absolute minimum necessary.

649:AAI – As stated in the Draft SEIS and listed in Table 2.8-1, a Dust Control Plan would be implemented as a Best Management Practice under the proposed action.

649:AAJ – As stated in the Draft SEIS and listed in Table 2.8-1, a Dust Control Plan would be implemented as a Best Management Practice under the proposed action. The tree snails are located below the plateau of Finegayan and below the cliff within the Haputo Ecological Reserve Area. There would be an approximate 150-foot wide area of vegetation between the project footprint and the cliffline above Haputo Ecological Reserve Area.

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							proceed	
31	4-399	4		Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Customers/Family Housing Alternatives	Marsaus eight-spot butterfly and host plants...	Marsaus eight-spot butterfly... implementation of BMPs would avoid and minimize impacts to butterflies, host plants...	BMPs should include the control of dust, unnecessary vegetation clearing and an establish buffer zone where host plants may occur. Dust control will also prevent dust that may have potential to encroach areas where protected native tree snails may occur.	649:AAI
32	4-399	4		Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Customers/Family Housing Alternatives	Special-Status Species - Federal ESA-Listed and Candidate Species: Construction Impacts	Marsaus eight-spot butterfly, sea turtles- implementation of BMPs would avoid and minimize impacts to butterflies, host plants and sea turtles.	BMPs for the construction phase for the Customers and Family Housing alternative will need to include dust control to prevent harm to the native butterflies and their host plants. Therefore, during the dry season, the contractor will need to wet exposed soil to control dust during construction at the site (which includes the corridors of the construction site).	649:AAI
33	4-399	4		Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Customers/Family Housing Alternatives	Special-Status Species - Federal ESA-Listed and Candidate Species: Construction Impacts	Tree snails- located only within the Haputo ERA that would not be impacted.	The colony of native tree snails is adjacent to the proposed Finegayan site. Efforts to minimize dust in the area during construction are highly recommended. In addition, establishing a vegetated buffer between the construction site and the location of the tree snails will be needed to minimize or avoid impacts to the protected species.	649:AAJ

649:AAK – Table 2.8-1 of the Draft SEIS (pages 2-93 to 2-95) provides a summary of the Best Management Practices that would be implemented to avoid the introduction of non-native invasive species from the construction and operation of the proposed action. In particular, refer to the Contractor Education Program, Biosecurity Outreach and Education, Incorporate Biosecurity Measures, and implementation of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point Plans.

Regarding the rate of vegetation clearing at a project site. It would not be practicable to limit the rate of vegetation clearing by a construction contractor. In addition, even though it may seem reasonable to allow wildlife species such as skinks or geckos to seek refuge in vegetation, if the vegetation within a project area will eventually be cleared, allowing the species to move into that vegetation would not result in any benefits to the species.

649:AAL – As stated in the Draft SEIS (see Section 2.8), pre-construction butterfly and host plant surveys would be conducted within the proposed construction footprint and host plants, larvae or eggs would be salvaged/relocated. In addition, high-value (both biologically and culturally) plant species such as *T. rotensis* and *Heritiera* could be salvaged during construction activities and translocated to suitable habitat.

649:AAM – Table 4.6-1 provides a summary of the potential impacts to terrestrial biological resources with implementation of the cantonment/family housing alternatives. While the table and associated text do indicate a No Impact conclusion for the white-throated ground dove, the impact conclusion for the Mariana fruit bat is Significant Impact - Mitigable (see page 4-398 of the Draft SEIS). The impact conclusion for the white-throated ground dove is based on the extremely infrequent occurrence of the species on Guam due to individual birds flying from Rota. Given the extreme rarity of the ground-dove on Guam, the proposed construction and operation of the proposed action is expected to have no impact on the species.

34	4-400	4		Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Cantonment/Family Housing Alternatives	Special-Status Species - Federal ESA-Listed and Candidate Species: Construction Impacts	Moist skink and Pacific slender-toed gecko - less than 1,000 acres (413 ha) of occupied habitat. Potential Mitigation Measures: - Cut controls on a minimum of 1,000 acres (413 ha) of limestone forest. Implementation of the potential mitigation measures under Construction Impacts. Vegetation would also benefit these species	During the construction phase, a biosecurity plan should be implemented to prevent any new introduction and control of non-native species (invasive species), and should not be limited to cars only. The construction impact for the moist skink and Pacific slender-toed gecko should minimize or control the rate of vegetation clearing at the construction site. This allows for the special status species to seek refuge if they happen to occur at the site.	649:AAK
35	4-400	4		Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Cantonment/Family Housing Alternatives	Special-Status Species - Federal ESA-Listed and Candidate Species: Construction Impacts	LSI <i>Talassocranus ruficollis</i> - occurrence of species within impacted areas would be avoided to the maximum extent practicable. <i>Cyrtus micromisus</i> - not observed within impacted areas. Implementation of BMPs (avoidance and translocation) would reduce and avoid impacts to both plant species.	Avoidance and translocation effort for <i>Talassocranus</i> and <i>Cyrtus micromisus</i> should apply to the host plants for the Mariana night-spotted butterfly. Avoidance for native emergent trees such as <i>Elmooocarpus</i> , <i>Tristramia obtusangula</i> , <i>Artocarpus stansmannii</i> , <i>Heisteria</i> , and other rare occurring native tree species.	649:AAL
36	4-400	4		Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Cantonment/Family Housing Alternatives	Special-Status Species - Federal ESA-Listed and Candidate Species: Construction Impacts	Microcranium starlings, white-throated ground dove - species are very rarely recorded within project areas.	The White Throated ground dove, and the Mariana fruit bat were observed on northern Guam from Anso to Finagayan area to northern tip of Guam, including Ritidian, Tangua Basin, AAFB golf course limestone forest. Impacts to these species due to construction are valued more than what the SEIS stated. "NI" Microcranium starlings are known to roost areas extending to Tumon Bay and parts of Route 15. Mitigation should focus on efforts to protect the habitat and roosts that may occur at the	649:AAM

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							proposed project site.	
37	4-491	4		Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Construction/Family Housing Alternatives	Vegetation/ Operation Impacts	With implementation of BMPs, potential introduction of new or spread of existing non-native species on Guam during operation of construction housing area is considered unlikely.	Mitigation should include a biosecurity plan for household goods or personal belongings entering Guam to be inspected for non-native species. Plan should also include the spread of non-native species that occurs on island such as the LFA entering or exiting the construction and family housing area.	649-AAN
38	4-491			Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Construction/Family Housing Alternatives	Terrestrial Conservation Areas/ Operation Impacts	Hapsis ERA - potential increased usage by military and civilian personnel. Potential Mitigation Measures - Fencing. Informational signage. Educational materials regarding sensitive biological resources. Monitoring of visitor use.	Mitigation should also include the access for biological researchers from Gov/Guam, L'OO, GCC, and federal agencies to conduct projects for species that occurs or may occur at Hapsis ERA.	649-AAO
39	4-491	4		Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Construction/Family Housing Alternatives	Terrestrial Conservation Areas/ Operation Impacts	NI Overlay Refuge - with implementation of BMPs, there would be no impacts to Overlay Refuge from operation.	Some of the potential mitigation measures for the Hapsis ERA should be established and implemented for the Overlay Refuge area, such as educational materials (books), fencing of sensitive areas for special species recovery, and monitoring. Mitigation should also include and not be limited the access for biological researchers from Gov/Guam, L'OO, GCC and federal agencies.	649-AAP

649:AAN – Table 2.8-1 of the Draft SEIS (pages 2-93 to 2-95) provides a summary of the Best Management Practices that would be implemented to avoid the introduction of non-native invasive species from the construction and operation of the proposed action. In particular, refer to the Contractor Education Program, Biosecurity Outreach and Education, Incorporate Biosecurity Measures, and implementation of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point Plans. The DON has developed a biosecurity outreach and education program to inform the general public, DoD employees, military personnel, and their dependents regarding native vs. non-native, invasive species, impacts of non-native, invasive species on native species and ecosystems, and what can be done to prevent and control nonnative, invasive species. Program materials include an educational brochure, a children’s activity booklet, and an associated poster that differentiates native from introduced species, defines invasive species, describes the known impacts of invasive species on native species and ecosystems, and what can be done to prevent and control invasive species. With implementation of Best Management Practices, including ongoing implementation of standard DON and commercial biosecurity protocols (e.g., Port of Guam, A.B. Won Pat International Airport) regarding detection and management of non-native species, and 1-year post-construction monitoring to evaluate effectiveness of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point, the potential for the introduction of new or spread of existing non-native species on Guam during the operation of the proposed action is considered unlikely.

649:AAO – In accordance with the goals and objectives of an Ecological Reserve Area when it is established, an Ecological Reserve Area is maintained in natural and near natural conditions and to have available such areas for research and scientific manipulation. All Ecological Reserve Areas would be accessible to Guam and federal resource agencies to conduct monitoring and recovery efforts of biological resources.

649:AAP – All military personnel and their dependents on Guam are provided educational materials regarding the unique environment of Guam and the presence of special-status species on Overlay Refuge lands, which essentially encompass the majority of DoD lands on Guam. With appropriate coordination and in accordance with DoD security protocols, the DON currently allows research and monitoring of biological resources by local, university, and federal researchers on Overlay Refuge lands.

649:AAQ – The SEIS addresses impacts associated with construction and operation of the proposed action. Potential impacts to special-status and migratory species from operations include those impacts associated with human activities. Refer to sections 4.1.8.2, 4.2.8.2, 4.3.8.2, 4.4.8.2, 4.4.8.2, 5.1.8.2, 5.2.8.2, 5.3.8.2, 5.4.8.2, and 5.5.8.2. In addition, impacts to human activities are addressed in the Land Use and Submerged Land Use sections (see 4.1.6.2, 4.2.6.2, 4.3.6.2, 4.4.6.2, 4.5.6.2, 5.1.6.2, 5.2.6.2, 5.3.6.2, 5.4.6.2, 5.5.6.2) and Recreational Resources sections (see 4.1.7.2, 4.2.7.2, 4.3.7.2, 4.4.7.2, 4.5.7.2, 5.1.7.2, 5.2.7.2, 5.3.7.2, 5.4.7.2, 5.5.7.2) of the SEIS.

649:AAR – As stated in the Draft SEIS (see page 4-52), a number of Best Management Practices and mitigation measures would be implemented to address significant impacts to special-status species, particularly impacts to their habitat. These include using native regional plants for landscaping; prevent the introduction of invasive species; all construction would occur within the limits of construction shown in the project figures; non-native, invasive vegetation removal; propagation, planting, and establishment of dominant and rare species that are characteristic of native limestone forest habitats (e.g., *A. mariannensis*, *G. mariannae*, *F. prolixa*, *M. citrifolia*, *C. micronesica*, *W. elliptica*, *S. nelsonii*, *H. longipetiolata*, *T. rotensis*). The anticipated benefit of implementing these potential mitigation measures is improved habitat quality for native flora and fauna, including special-status species. Forest enhancement would also support natural regeneration and seed propagation, reduce erosion, and increase water retention (i.e., reduces fire risk).

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							to conduct research and studies within the Refuge Overlay proper
80	4-401	4		Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Commonwealth Family Housing Alternatives	Native wildlife: Operation Impacts	LSJ With implementation of BMPs, potential impacts to wildlife from operations would be reduced to less than significant.	Mitigation efforts should include the impact to human activity in areas where special status species, T&E species, and migratory species may occur
41	4-402	4		Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Commonwealth Family Housing Alternatives	Special-Status Species – Federal ESA-Listed and Candidate Species: Operation Impacts	NI Mariana Crow, Guam Rail, and Guam Micronesian Kingfisher – no impacts as these species no longer occur in the wild on Guam	Although the Mariana crow, Guam rail, and Guam Micronesian kingfisher no longer occur in the wild on Guam, their habitat does. The recovery efforts for these species include the safe return on Refuge Overlay property and throughout the island (refer to recovery plans). Habitat will need to be restored for a successful recovery. Operation impacts and construction impacts is significant for these special status species. Mitigation efforts should include the protected unnecessary vegetation clearing. The replanting of native tree species, and removal/control of non-native species

649-AAQ

649-AAR

649:AAS – As stated in the Draft SEIS (see page 4-62), a number of Best Management Practices and mitigation measures would be implemented to avoid and minimize impacts to the eight-spot butterfly and its host plants (e.g., pre-construction butterfly and host plant surveys within the proposed construction footprint and salvage/relocation of host plants, larvae or eggs; see Section 2.8). In addition, proposed forest enhancement would also benefit the survival of the eight-spot butterfly. In particular, the objectives of ungulate management, control/suppression of invasive plants, and outplanting of native species, including eight-spot butterfly host plants.

649:AAT – As stated in the Draft SEIS, there would be no impacts to the one remaining mature *Serianthes* tree at Northwest Field or *Serianthes* recovery habitat due to operations associated with the cantonment/family housing and LFTRC. However, Best Management Practices and mitigation measures are proposed for potential impacts to the one remaining mature *Serianthes* tree and *Serianthes* recovery habitat (see Section 4.1.8.2).

649:AAU – As stated in the Draft SEIS, Best Management Practices and mitigation measures are proposed for potential impacts to Guam-listed special-status species due to construction activities (see Table 4.6-1, page 4-400). The referenced section of Table 4.6-1 is pertaining to operational impacts.

42	4-402			Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Cantonment/Family Housing Alternatives	Special-Status Species – Federal ESA-Listed and Candidate Species; Operational Impacts.	NI Eight-spot butterfly – cantonment/housing operations would not impact butterfly or host plants.	Mariana	Mariana eight-spot butterfly and its host plants will have an impact as a result of clearing and operations at the Cantonment and Family Housing Alternative. Mitigation should be in place to prevent impacts to the butterfly and its host plants.	649:AAS
43	4-403			Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Cantonment/Family Housing Alternatives	Special-Status Species – Federal ESA-Listed and Candidate Species; Operational Impacts.	NI <i>Serianthes</i> tree – no operational impacts to <i>Serianthes</i> or recovery habitat due to cantonment/housing operations.		Recovery habitat for <i>Serianthes</i> from inclusion of the Refuge Overlay, which is on DoD lands (preferred Alternative) where the cantonment and housing operations will occur. The impact from operations is an indirect impact to the special status species and mitigation will need to be in place to provide habitat for <i>Serianthes</i> recovery. The LFTRC preferred alternative at NWF is the location of the only mature <i>Serianthes</i> . Expanding Haplo ERAs and creating a new ERA in northern Guam within DoD lands will be appropriate for the effects to <i>Serianthes</i> recovery.	649:AAT
44	4-403	4		Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Cantonment/Family Housing Alternatives	Special-Status Species – Federal ESA-Listed and Candidate Species; Operational Impacts.	NI Micronesian starling, white-rumped ground dove – species do not occur within project area. Moth skink, Pacific slender-toad gecko, <i>Taenionotus totensis</i> , <i>Cyrtura micronesica</i> – cantonment/housing operations would not impact these species.		The White-throated ground dove has been observed on parts of Southern, Central and Northern Guam, and is a visitor from Rota. The Micronesian starling is known to occur throughout northern Guam finding its way to Tostan Bay. Both species are opportunistic species and may disperse from its territory. The skink and gecko may have a large impact during construction phases, for those that survive the activities during operations may have a great impact to those.	649:AAU

							species. It is highly possible that these species may occur within the project area and mitigation will need to be developed and implemented to protect and preserve the species.
45	4-403	4	Table 4 6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Customer/Family Housing Alternatives	Marine Biological Resources- Construction Impacts	2-3-1 Increasing wastewater flow to a non-compliant treatment plant could result in significant direct impacts to marine biological resources during the period of non-compliance. With the potential mitigation to assist with locating funding to upgrade the Northern District WWTP to secondary treatment, the impact to marine biological resources via water quality would be beneficial in the long-term because wastewater discharge from the Northern District WWTP would improve over existing conditions with upgrades to secondary treatment.	649-AAV	The surrounding water of Guam is highly sensitive and in great need of protection. This water is not only for recreational use but also a resource for food security. It is highly recommended that the NDWWTP is upgraded to compliance and have the capacity to treat wastewater for the proposed system combined with the existing population in Northern Guam before any development takes place.
46	4-404	4	Table 4 6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Customer/Family Housing Alternatives	Marine Flora and Invertebrates- Construction Impacts	1-5-1 Potential indirect impacts on marine flora and invertebrates may occur from increased recreational use (damage to reefs typically caused by anchors, reef-walkers, or reckless scuba diving, snorkeling, and fishing activities) by the construction workforce, but are avoided or minimized to less than significant impacts with the implementation of BMPs.	649-AAW	What are the BMPs to be implemented for the potential indirect impacts on marine flora and invertebrates? Based on the SEIS document, the concern is the recreational use by the construction workforce and not identifying which recreational areas will have impacts.

649:AAV – DoD concurs with the assessment that additional upgrades are required to Guam's water and wastewater infrastructure to meet current and future demands. DoD has collaborated with Guam Waterworks Authority to update the SEIS to reflect the latest assessment of Guam Waterworks Authority's water and wastewater systems. As stated in the SEIS, DoD would assist Guam Waterworks Authority in locating funding from federal agencies such as the DoD Office of Economic Adjustment, the Department of the Interior, and others. As discussed in Section 2.9.1, Subsection 2822(d) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Pub. L. 113-86) directs the Secretary of Defense to convene the Economic Adjustment Committee "...to consider assistance, including assistance to support public infrastructure requirements, necessary to support the preferred alternative for the relocation of Marine Corps forces to Guam." In accordance with subsection 2822(d), the Economic Adjustment Committee will submit a report to the congressional defense committees describing the results of the Economic Adjustment Committee's deliberations and containing an implementation plan to support the DON's preferred alternative for the relocation of Marine Corps forces to Guam. The implementation plan will detail descriptions of work, costs, and schedules for completion of construction, improvements, and repairs to Guam public infrastructure affected by the realignment, including improvements and upgrades to the Guam wastewater system and expansion/rehabilitation of the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer monitoring well network for sustainment of the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer. In addition, Section 8102 of the Fiscal Year 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act (Public Law No. 113-76) appropriated \$106.4 million to the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Office of Economic Adjustment, for civilian water and wastewater improvements on Guam. These funds will remain available until expended. To support this implementation plan, DoD assessed Guam's public infrastructure, including Guam Waterworks Authority's water and wastewater systems that may be affected by the preferred alternative. The water and wastewater assessment recommends rehabilitation of existing Northern Guam Lens Aquifer monitoring wells and placement of additional monitoring wells to facilitate sustainment of the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer.

649:AAW – Best Management Practices are described in more detail within the impact analysis sections; primarily educational training for the construction workforce and DoD personnel and their dependents on the value of natural marine resources and how to avoid adversely impacting them while utilizing/enjoying them. Recreational areas likely to be impacted by the proposed action are also discussed in more detail within the impact analysis sections.

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47	2.404	4		Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Construction/Family Housing Alternatives	Fish Construction Impacts	LSI Potential indirect impacts on fish may occur from increased recreational use as mentioned above, but are avoided or minimized to less than significant impacts with the implementation of BMPs.	In addition to the MITT, the Marine Relocation project will have great impact to fish and the local fishing grounds. Fishing in local fish spots will be with limited access due to activities with MITT and LFTRC exercises. Mitigation to compensate local fishermen and allow access to these favorite public fish spots, especially during seasonal fish runs.	649:AAZ
41	2.405	4		Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Construction/Family Housing Alternatives	Essential Fish Habitat Construction Impacts	LSI Potential indirect impacts on essential fish habitat may occur from increased recreational use as mentioned above, but are avoided or minimized to less than significant impacts with the implementation of BMPs.	The greatest concern with Essential Fish Habitat is the destruction of live coral and sea grass. BMPs to avoid stepping on removal of live coral and sea grass from the habitat will need to be developed and implemented.	649:AAZ
42	2.405	4		Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Construction/Family Housing Alternatives	Special-Status Species - Federal ESA-Listed and Candidate Species Construction Impacts	LSI Potential short-term impacts to the green sea turtle from disturbance resulting from increased activity in the area. Potential indirect impact on special-status species from increased recreational use as mentioned above, but are avoided or minimized to less than significant impacts with the implementation of BMPs.	The special status species within the Marine resources of great concern are the live corals. BMPs must address the effort to minimize the impact to corals and other special status species.	649:AAZ

649:AAZ – The study area for the direct and indirect impact analysis is limited to land and submerged lands of Guam and does not extend to the CNMI. The cumulative effects study is limited to Guam and specifically excludes the CNMI because there is no proposed action for the CNMI in this SEIS. The decision regarding the military's future use of Tinian for training (which is being evaluated in the CNMI Joint Military Training EIS/Overseas EIS) could supersede the 2010 Record of Decision with regards to Tinian range projects. Cumulative Effects Section 7.5 describes other relevant DoD NEPA documents. The Mariana Islands Testing and Training EIS/Overseas EIS and the Mariana Islands Training Range Complex Airspace Environmental Assessment are addressed in the cumulative effects section, but only those aspects that are relevant to the Guam land and submerged land study area. However, significant adverse impacts to land use were identified in Section 5.5.6. Land and Submerged Land Use due to the new restrictions on public access to submerged lands under the Northwest Field LFTRC. The text of Section 3.6, Affected Environment and Figure 3.6.1-1 were edited to include fishing areas, including Fish Aggregating Devices. The recreational and sociocultural impacts of the new public access restrictions on fishing are described in Sections 5.5.7 and 5.5.15, respectively. Specifically, there would be loss of access to areas relevant to recreational boaters and fishermen. Offshore fishing areas located within the LFTRC Surface Danger Zones would be inaccessible during associated range use. To provide awareness of times that the range is in use, the DON would provide the proposed training schedule to the U.S. Coast Guard, who would issue and broadcast a Notice to Mariners that would identify the location of the Surface Danger Zones and direct vessel operators to navigate clear of the active Surface Danger Zones. Additionally, boaters and fishermen would be able to contact range control via radio or phone to get real time updates of active ranges, which would minimize impacts. Section 7.7.6 identifies a significant cumulative impact on submerged lands access. No additional mitigation is proposed.

649:AAZ – Best Management Practices to prevent damage to the marine environment during recreational use are identified within the impacts analyses sections, and include educational training for the construction workforce and DoD personnel and their dependents on the value of natural marine resources and how to avoid adversely impacting them while utilizing/enjoying them.

649:AAZ – There is no in-water construction proposed: educational training for the construction workforce and DoD personnel and their dependents on the value of natural marine resources and how to avoid adversely impacting them while utilizing/enjoying them - including minimizing and avoiding adversely impacting special status coral species.

43	4-425	4	Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Construction/Family Housing Alternatives	Marine Conservation Areas Construction Impacts	MI With implementation of access restrictions for construction personnel, use of Haputo ERA is not expected to increase as a result of the construction workforce. Therefore, no direct or indirect impacts to marine observation areas are expected.	The concern is not only for the Haputo ERA marine conservation area but also the marine conservation areas that the construction workforce may enter. The construction workforce and other members related to the construction will need to be briefed with the regulations for marine preservation (marine conservation areas).	649.ABA
44	4-426	4	Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Construction/Family Housing Alternatives	Marine Biological Resources in General: Operation Impacts	SI-MI Impacts would be similar to those described under Alternative A, Construction (Marine Biological Resources in General). Potential Mitigation Measures would be the same as described under Alternative A, Construction (Marine Biological Resources in General).	Wastewater, erosion, increase recreational use within the Marine Biological Resources in general, is a major concern. BMPs to minimize impact to the marine resources will need to be developed, implemented and enforced.	649.ABB
45	4-426	4	Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Construction/Family Housing Alternatives	Marine Flora and Invertebrates - Operation Impacts	LSI Potential indirect impacts to marine flora and invertebrates may occur from increased recreational use, as described above for construction impacts, but are avoided or minimized to less than significant impacts with the implementation of BMPs.	BMPs developed and implemented must also include enforcement for recreational use throughout the island.	649.ABC

649:ABA – The Haputo site has some access restrictions through its designation as an Ecological Reserve Area. Terrestrial access is through the discretion of the Commanding Officer of Naval Base Guam. Visitors must log in at the security office. Boat access is currently not regulated. Proposed mitigations associated with biological resources, section 4.1.8, include fencing of the access trail and monitoring of visitor use. Through cultural awareness programs highlighting the sensitivity of this site/potential Traditional Cultural Property, biological mitigation measures, and ongoing procedures for terrestrial access, the risk of inadvertent disturbance to the site would be minimized.

649:ABB – Measures to protect water resources from stormwater runoff are listed in Section 2.8 and discussed in Sections 5.2.2, 5.3.2, and 5.4.2 of the SEIS.

As noted in the Final SEIS, the DON plans for cultural sensitivity orientation and awareness programs will focus on mutual respect and tolerance and strive to educate all incoming and currently present military personnel on the rich and varied cultural and natural history of Guam. Through these programs, biological mitigation measures, and ongoing procedures for terrestrial access, the risk of inadvertent disturbance to natural resources would be minimized.

649:ABC – As noted in the Final SEIS, the DON plans for cultural sensitivity orientation and awareness programs will focus on mutual respect and tolerance and strive to educate all incoming and currently present military personnel on the rich and varied cultural and natural history of Guam. Through these programs, biological mitigation measures, and ongoing procedures for terrestrial access, the risk of inadvertent disturbance to natural resources would be minimized.

Response:

649:ABD – Most off-roading occurs in known off-road use areas that are either on GovGuam lands or private lands, and such areas are not located in sufficient proximity to either the coast or streams to result in impacts to marine resources from sedimentation or erosion. Also, sensitive areas on GovGuam lands would be managed accordingly and recreational activities would be regulated by GovGuam to avoid and minimize impacts to such areas.

649:ABE – Through cultural awareness programs highlighting the sensitivity of Marine Protected Areas, biological mitigation measures, and ongoing procedures for terrestrial access, the risk of inadvertent disturbance to these sites would be minimized.

649:ABF – Most off-roading occurs in known off-road use areas that are either on GovGuam lands or private lands, and such areas are not located in sufficient proximity to either the coast or streams to result in impacts to marine resources from sedimentation or erosion. Also, sensitive areas on GovGuam lands would be managed accordingly and recreational activities would be regulated by GovGuam to avoid and minimize impacts to such areas.

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46	4-406	4		Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Construction/Family Housing Alternatives	Marine Flora and Invertebrates - Operation Impacts	NI No impact from stormwater, sedimentation, or non-point source pollution.	The concern with sedimentation and erosion is not within the project site for the family housing and construction. The concern is extended to sensitive areas outside the construction and family housing that is used as recreation, such as off-roading. Off-roading activity may increase as direct result with the military building. Sedimentation and erosion at those sites will have an impact to marine flora and invertebrates.	649:ABD
47	4-409	4		Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Construction/Family Housing Alternatives	Fish: Operation Impacts	LSI Potential indirect impacts to fish may occur from increased recreational use as mentioned above, but are avoided or minimized to less than significant impacts with the implementation of BMPs.	BMPs should include law enforcement to regulate the implementation of BMPs, especially within the Marine Protected Areas.	649:ABF
48	4-407	4		Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Construction/Family Housing Alternatives	Fish: Operation Impacts	NI No impact from stormwater, sedimentation, or non-point source pollution.	Consistent as the same under Marine Flora and Invertebrates. (see item #55)	649:ABF

649:ABG – Most off-roading occurs in known off-road use areas that are either on GovGuam lands or private lands, and such areas are not located in sufficient proximity to either the coast or streams to result in impacts to marine resources from sedimentation or erosion. Also, sensitive areas on GovGuam lands would be managed accordingly and recreational activities would be regulated by GovGuam to avoid and minimize impacts to such areas.

649:ABH – Most off-roading occurs in known off-road use areas that are either on GovGuam lands or private lands, and such areas are not located in sufficient proximity to either the coast or streams to result in impacts to marine resources from sedimentation or erosion. Also, sensitive areas on GovGuam lands would be managed accordingly and recreational activities would be regulated by GovGuam to avoid and minimize impacts to such areas.

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69	4-407	4	Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Construction/Early Housing Alternatives	Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) : Operation Impacts	LSI Potential indirect impacts to EFH may occur from increased recreational use, as described above for construction impacts, but are avoided or minimized to low then significant impacts with the implementation of BMPs.	The area of concern is not restricted to the marine resource within the footprint of the proposed action. The area of concern includes the marine resources (EFH) in other areas throughout Guam. Implementation of BMPs to avoid or minimize to less than significant impacts to EFH should also include the education and enforcement of recreational usage.	649:ABG
30	4-407	4	Table 4.6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Construction/Early Housing Alternatives	Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) : Operation Impacts	NI No impact from stormwater, sedimentation, or non-point source pollution.	BMPs for EFHs should include areas throughout Guam where construction work from and the Marines personnel may visit for recreational use. Of great concern is the increase in off- road activity in southern Guam, which may increase the rate of sedimentation and erosion to nearby EFHs.	649:ABH

649:ABI – Impacts to vegetation and applicable Best Management Practices are described in detail under Terrestrial Biological Resources. Expansion of DoD beaches is not a component of the proposed action.

649:ABJ – The DON recognizes the importance of managing the implementation of the proposed military relocation to limit the adverse effects on the people of Guam, its natural resources, and infrastructure to the extent possible. The DON will continue to work to ensure that the short-term impacts of construction are managed effectively and that the long-term effects of the military relocation reflect DoD policies to be good neighbors and responsible citizens on Guam. The purpose of the SEIS is to identify only impacts that would result from the proposed action and alternatives, and the DON is committed to implementing Best Management Practices and mitigation measures focused specifically on areas that would be affected by the proposed action to help limit such impacts.

649:ABK – The DON recognizes the importance of managing the implementation of the proposed military relocation to limit the adverse effects on the people of Guam, its natural resources, and infrastructure to the extent possible. The DON will continue to work to ensure that the short-term impacts of construction are managed effectively and that the long-term effects of the military relocation reflect DoD policies to be good neighbors and responsible citizens on Guam. The purpose of the SEIS is to identify only impacts that would result from the proposed action and alternatives, and the DON is committed to implementing Best Management Practices and mitigation measures focused specifically on areas that would be affected by the proposed action to help limit such impacts.

54	4-407	4		Table 4-6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Castroville/Family Housing Alternatives	Special-Status Species – Federal ESA-Listed and Candidate Species Operation Impacts	LSI Potential indirect impacts to the green sea turtle and hawksbill sea turtle may occur from increased recreational use, as described above for construction impacts, but are avoided or minimized to less than significant impacts with the implementation of BMPs.	The possible increase of beach goers in DoD beaches may have an impact to nesting sea turtles habitat due to clearing vegetation to expand beach areas. BMPs should include the avoidance of clearing vegetation or altering the vegetation in DoD beach areas in order to expand due to increase of recreational users due to the proposed action.	649:ABI
57	4-407	4		Table 4-6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Castroville/Family Housing Alternatives	Special-Status Species – Federal ESA-Listed and Candidate Species Operation Impacts	NI No impact from stormwater, sedimentation, or non-point source pollution.	BMPs to avoid or minimize to less than significant impacts from stormwater, sedimentation, or non-point source pollution for marine special status species should apply to all the possible beaches throughout the island.	649:ABJ
53	4-407/8	4		Table 4-6-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for the Castroville/Family Housing Alternatives	Marine Conservation Areas: Operation Impacts	LSI Operational activities for the proposed action are expected to result in less than significant direct and indirect impacts to conservation efforts and management activities at the Hagano ERA with the implementation of BMPs. Indirect impacts from recreational activities would be minimized.	Implementation of BMPs for the Hagano ERA should be extended to the Marine Protected Areas throughout the island.	649:ABK

54	4-42	4			Special-Status Species: Federal USA-Listed and Candidate Species	One USA-listed species (Mariano fruit bat) and one candidate species (Mariano eight-spot butterfly) occur within Finegayan and its support areas in south-central AAFB.	The Guam tree snail and fragile tree snail is a candidate species that occurs within or adjacent to the Finegayan Footprint.	649-ABL
55	4-42	4			Special-Status Species: Federal ESA-Listed and Candidate Species	Usted brown treesnakes are suppressed or removed from at least targeted areas on Guam, the habitat is not in a suitable condition to support the survival of special-status species (e.g., Guam Micromesistius banggaiensis, Guam IFA, Mariana crow) due to external snail abundance on Guam.	Brown treesnake entered Guam during US military occupation during WWII. Mitigation to eradicate and control HTS on Guam should be priority of DoD so native species recovery can occur on Guam.	649-ABM
56	4-5	4	Environmental Consequences	4.1.1.2	Construction (Containment and Family Housing)	Alternative A would include clearing and grubbing, demolition of existing road pavement, excavation, filling, and landscaping. Earthwork for construction of the construction family housing areas and associated infrastructure for Alternative A would include 2,159,600 yd ³ (2,415,230 m ³) of cut (excavation) and 2,483,000 yd ³ (1,356,391 m ³) of fill, resulting in a net of 676,000 yd ³ (515,639 m ³) of cut material available for use as needed.	DoD will need to develop and implement best-practice plan for LFA and other sensitive species that may occur at the site of construction. Maximizing and removing known colonies of LFA is a priority for public safety and protection of native wildlife well being. It is highly recommended that the construction site is inspected for any LFA and screened for any other invasive species that may occur. It is also highly recommended that native forest seed collection is employed before the start of construction, the purpose of native seed	649-ABN

649:ABL – As stated in Table 4.1.8-1 in the Draft SEIS, the Guam and fragile tree snails are known to occur within the Haputo Ecological Reserve Area adjacent to the Finegayan footprint. However, based on past surveys and surveys conducted for this SEIS and the 2010 EIS, there have been no observations of either species within the Finegayan footprint.

649:ABM – As stated in Section 4.1.8.2 of the Draft SEIS, as a proposed mitigation measure, the DON would fund selected research/design projects identified as priorities in the Brown Treesnake Technical Working Group Strategic Plan that are compatible with the military mission on Guam for up to 10 years from the start of cantonment construction. Dependent upon the success of current experimental suppression activities within the Habitat Management Unit or identification of an effective alternate technology, the DON would install a brown treesnake barrier to exclude brown treesnakes from approximately 160 acres (65 hectares). If the DON is successful at eradicating brown treesnakes within these 160 acres (65 hectares), the DON would install a second brown treesnake barrier to exclude brown treesnakes from approximately 300 acres (121 hectares).

649:ABN – Table 2.8-1 of the Draft SEIS (pages 2-93 to 2-95) provides a summary of the best management practices that would be implemented to avoid the introduction of non-native invasive species from the construction and operation of the proposed action. In particular, refer to the Contractor Education Program, Biosecurity Outreach and Education, Incorporate Biosecurity Measures, and implementation of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point Plans. The DON proposes to implement forest enhancement for impacted limestone forest. Forest enhancement would include propagation (including seed collection on Guam), planting, and establishment of dominant and rare species that are characteristic of native limestone forest habitats (e.g., *A. mariannensis*, *G. mariannae*, *F. prolixa*, *M. citrifolia*, *C. micronesica*, *W. elliptica*, *S. nelsonii*, *H. longipetiolata*, *T. rotensis*).

Response:

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							effort is to maximize recovery of native flora species that is important to people of Guam, existing and foreseeable recurrence of native wildlife, and the Northern aquifer.
57	4.7	4	Environmental Consequences	4.1.1.D		The proposed utility corridors would follow existing roadways, so the construction would occur primarily in previously disturbed areas. The same BMPs described for the construction family however construction would be implemented for the utility construction. Therefore, under Alternative A, direct and indirect short-term impacts of construction of the utility routing to pipelines, to soils from erosion, and with respect to sediment loads would be less than significant. Construction of the utility routing would involve minimal excavation and filling, so direct long-term impacts to topography and slope stability would be less than significant.	Agreement between DoD and Gov/Guam's DPW will need to be developed and implemented to ensure the existing high way at the project site for utility corridors is restored for the safety of the users of that highway.
58	4.9	4			Groundwater	The mission of the Guam Water Resources Development Group is to protect Guam's water supply for quantity, quality, reliability, sustainability, and availability for all of Guam - present and future.	The GWRD group should also study the impacts from present and future projects associated to the marine resources build up. Quality of the NGLA is dependent on the health and condition above the aquifer which includes ground soil and native vegetation.

649:ABO

649:ABP

649:ABO – Prior to and during construction of the proposed utilities, proper construction permits would be obtained from the Guam government. This would include coordination with Guam Department of Public Works and meeting all of their requirements for roadway restoration upon construction completion. It is our current understanding that this would require repaving, re-lining, and restoration of any signage or safety features for entire traffic lanes that are impacted by the trenching and installation of utilities. In addition, coordination of any required traffic re-routing and other methods to minimize traffic impacts during construction would occur in such a manner to preserve safe vehicle operations and be provided as part of the construction projects.

649:ABP – The impact analysis in Chapter 4 accounts for changes to impervious area and how this would affect recharge to the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer. Potential mitigation measures to protect the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer are also outlined in the SEIS and the DoD is committed to working with stakeholders to manage and protect the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer.

Response:

649:ABQ – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

649:ABR – As discussed in section 5.1.10.2, there are no historic properties located in the proposed Hand Grenade Range at Andersen South. Therefore, no adverse effects to historic properties are anticipated due to construction of the Hand Grenade Range.

649:ABS – Significant adverse impacts to land use were identified in Section 5.5.6, Land and Submerged Land Use due to the new restrictions on public access to submerged lands under the Northwest Field LFTRC. The text of Section 3.6, Affected Environment and Figure 3.6.1-1 were edited to include fishing areas, including Fish Aggregating Devices. The recreational and sociocultural impacts of the new public access restrictions on fishing are described in Sections 5.5.7 and 5.5.15, respectively. Specifically, there would be loss of access to areas relevant to recreational boaters and fishermen. Offshore fishing areas located within the LFTRC Surface Danger Zones would be inaccessible during associated range use. To provide awareness of times that the range is in use, the DON would provide the proposed training schedule to the U.S. Coast Guard, who would issue and broadcast a Notice to Mariners that would identify the location of the Surface Danger Zones and direct vessel operators to navigate clear of the active Surface Danger Zones. Additionally, boaters and fishermen would be able to contact range control via radio or phone to get real time updates of active ranges, which would minimize impacts.

649:ABT – Significant adverse impacts to land use were identified in Section 5.5.6, Land and Submerged Land Use due to the new restrictions on public access to submerged lands under the Northwest Field LFTRC. The text of Section 3.6, Affected Environment and Figure 3.6.1-1 were edited to include fishing areas, including Fish Aggregating Devices. The recreational and sociocultural impacts of the new public access restrictions on fishing are described in Sections 5.5.7 and 5.5.15, respectively. Specifically, there would be loss of access to areas relevant to recreational boaters and fishermen. Offshore fishing areas located within the LFTRC Surface Danger Zones would be inaccessible during associated range use. To provide awareness of times that the range is in use, the DON would provide the proposed training schedule to the U.S. Coast Guard, who would issue and broadcast a Notice to Mariners that would identify the location of the Surface Danger Zones and direct vessel operators to navigate clear of the active Surface Danger Zones. Additionally, boaters and fishermen would be able to contact range control via radio or phone to get real time updates of active ranges, which would minimize impacts.

59	3-2 Altern ative	5				Chapter 5 Affected Environment And Environmental Consequences At Live-Fire-Training Range Complex Site Alternatives	Route 15 Alternative would be located in a topographically hilly area on the eastern side of Guam's northern limestone structural province.	649ABQ
60	Altern ative-1					The HG Range site at Andersen South is located about 0.6 mile (0.9 km) to the west of Alternative 1. The proposed site of the HG Range stands at an elevation of approximately 374 feet (114 m) MSL, at the crest of a gentle ridge.	There would be impacts to cultural resources in proximity to Pagat.	649ABR
61	Altern ative-1					SDZ would encompass a large portion of fishing area on the East side.	Local residents and tourist visitors who engage in recreational fishing in Guam's waters use these areas for recreational fishing activities would be affected by the SDZs.	649ABS
62	Alt.1, Airspa ce	Alt.1, Airspace				There will be an increase in Special Use Aircraft (SUA).	The increase of SUA would result in an increase in potential impact of invasive species from the various points of origin. There would impact recreational fishers by the SDZs.	649ABT

Response:

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63	Alt. 2-				Under Alternative 2, the proposed development of a live-fire training range complex would occur at NAVMAG East/West. There are known archaeological sites within the Alternative 2 FIA. Seventy-one sites are eligible for listing in the NRHP, including Pre-Contact artifact scatters, hearth sites, and rock shelters. Twenty-seven sites, consisting of Pre-Contact artifact scatters and lithic sites, have not been evaluated for listing in the NRHP.	This action would result in impacts to resources, and habitat to listed species.	649 ABU
64	5.2.2 - Alt. 3.				Alternatives 3 and 4 would have significant long-term, direct impacts to up to 36.9 acres (15.0 ha) and 25.2 acres (10.2 ha) of potentially jurisdictional wetland areas, respectively, which would be mitigated to a level below significant.	There are impacts to wetlands, affecting wetland species. Protection via the MBTA would have to be addressed.	649 ABV
65	5.3 - Alternative 3.				Alternative 3, the proposed development of a live-fire training range complex would occur at NAVMAG North/South. Alternative 3 would be located in the same mountainous area in south-central Oconee as Alternative 2. Elevations within the Alternative 3 footprint range from approximately 200 feet (61 m) above MSL in the southeast near the Magazine Reclamation Area to approximately 700 feet (213 m) MSL at the MPMG Range in the northwest.	The alternative involves some acquisition of property beyond NavMag. This alternative would directly impact up to 36.9 acres (15.0 ha) of wetland habitat. This should be mitigated after unavoidable options have been tried.	649 ABW

649:ABU – As discussed in section 5.2.10.2, excavation and soil removal associated with the construction of Alternative 2 could create direct adverse effects to nine known historic properties. If this alternative were selected in the Record of Decision, consultation under the 2011 Programmatic Agreement includes efforts to identify, avoid, minimize, and mitigate adverse effects to historic properties

649:ABV – As stated in the Draft SEIS, potential impacts to wetlands and wetland species, including MBTA-listed species, are addressed in Section 5.3.8. Terrestrial Biological Resources.

649:ABW – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. If LFTRC Alternatives 2-4 are selected, the DoD would conduct jurisdictional delineations of wetlands and other waters of the U.S within the project area. A delineation report would be submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for jurisdictional determination, a Section 404 permit would be obtained for unavoidable impacts to jurisdictional wetlands, and mitigation measures identified in the Section 404 permit would be implemented.

Response:

649:ABX – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

649:ABY – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

649:ABZ – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

649:ACA – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. If LFTRC Alternatives 2-4 are selected, the DoD would conduct jurisdictional delineations of wetlands and other waters of the U.S within the project area. A delineation report would be submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for jurisdictional determination, a Section 404 permit would be obtained for unavoidable impacts to jurisdictional wetlands, and mitigation measures identified in the Section 404 permit would be implemented.

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66	S.S.K. Biting Salt Resistant				Alt.-3. A few migratory species, yellow-bittern, skinks and geckos are known to the area.	This option has fewer impacted species, except for the impact to wetland species, and the Mariana Fruit bat, common noddies, and eight-spotted butterfly.	649:ABX
67	ES				Alt-3 would result in native limestone forest across Guam a loss of 169 acres (68 ha) of limestone forest on the NAVMAG to developed area would be a significant but mitigable impact to the regional vegetation community and its function.	The loss would be mitigated. Swiftlet caves are far from the LFTRC area and would continue to forage in the area. Vicinity of the man-roost caves on NAVMAG and the drainages of the Mablee, Mangan, and Telefofo rivers.	649:ABY
68	Alt. -4				The proposed development of a live-fire training range complex would occur at NAVMAG L-Shaped. Alternative 4 would be located in the same mountainous part of south-central Guam as Alternatives 2 and 3.	The main footprint is on DOD property.	649:ABZ
69	Alt. -4				Unavoidable direct impacts to jurisdictional wetlands would be mitigated by creating new wetlands, restoring or enhancing existing wetlands, or preserving existing wetland areas on Guam to, at a minimum, replace the area filled at a mitigation ratio greater than 1:1.	We recommend that restoration/mitigation be at a higher ratio to demonstrate a gain in wetlands. Protection of new wetlands is included.	649:ACA

Response:

649:ACB – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

649:ACC – As discussed in section 5.4.10.2, excavation and soil removal associated with the construction of Alternative 4 could create direct adverse effects to 11 known historic properties. If this alternative were selected in the Record of Decision, consultation under the 2011 Programmatic Agreement includes efforts to avoid, minimize, and mitigate adverse effects to historic properties.

649:ACD – Proposed construction associated with the LFTRC alternative at Northwest Field would not occur within or in the vicinity of green sea turtle nesting areas.

649:ACE – The potential migration of lead from range operations to the groundwater aquifer and nearshore waters are discussed in Chapter 5 of the SEIS. With implementation of the Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessment program, range management Best Management Practices, and other stormwater Best Management Practices listed in Section 2.8, lead migration would be minimized and would result in less than significant impacts to water resources.

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70	Alt-4					Therefore, direct impacts to native wildlife species would be less than significant with implementation of proposed construction activities associated with Alternative 4.	We impact to wildlife in this alternative is low, and mitigable.	649-ACB
71	Alt-4					The area includes known locations of potential direct impact due to construction. Table 5.4.10-3 summarizes the 241 known archaeological sites located within the Alternative 4 PIA.		649-ACC
72	Alt-5-Preferred Alternative					Alternative 5, the proposed development of a live-fire training range complex would occur at Northwest Field, USFWS facilities and the proposed construction footprint for the relocated USFS facilities.	This alternative is in the vicinity of primary, native forests, habitat recovery areas, and would impact the green sea turtle nesting areas.	649-ACD
73	S-107	5			Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Operation Impacts: Surface water, Groundwater, Nearshore Waters.	No monitoring of impacts from LFTRC activities, accumulation (lead) discharged into water resources. EMIPs should include the removal of lead after active operations at LFTRC to minimize lead deposited to the resources.	649-ACE

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74	5-162-173	5	Table 5.3-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Operation Impacts: Noise		Focus on noise impacts to nearby residences. There is no mention of noise impacts to Threatened and Endangered species that may occur at the LFTRC alternative sites	649:ACF
75	5-166	5	Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Operation Impacts: Loss of Vernal Pools		Under the preferred LFTRC alternative, the potential mitigation measures should be the same as Alternative 2. Access to ONWR should not be restricted for researchers, cultural groups, local medicinal healers and educational groups. LFTRC operations at ONWR sites should cater to the needs for these groups or allow access on private-forested areas within in DoD property that has the resources to serve.	649:ACG
76	5-191-297	5	Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Public Access: Operation Impacts	Public Access: S1 Although the land and the submerged land use within the Ritidian Unit of the NWR would remain as Conservation land use, there would be access restrictions...	SEIS states access restrictions to the lands within Ritidian Unit of NWR, however media reports and interviews are indicating that there will be no access issues as result to the Marine Roleman and the preferred alternative. Public access topic is pertaining to the people of Guam and the local and federal resource management of the island	649:ACH

649:ACF – The analysis of potential impacts to special-status species due to noise associated with the operation of the LFTRC alternatives is provided in the Draft SEIS in sections 5.1.8.2, 5.2.8.2, 5.2.8.3, 5.2.8.4, and 5.2.8.5 (e.g., see pages 5-52, 5-137, 5-205).

649:ACG – The DON understands and recognizes the significance of cultural and recreational sites located on DoD property on Guam. Restricting access to certain DON areas at certain times is required to maintain public safety. Impacts associated with reduced or restricted access to specific land areas are acknowledged and evaluated in the SEIS. Final plans concerning access to sites potentially impacted by the proposed action have not been developed. The DON looks forward to working with stakeholders to develop plans for cultural stewardship and access that balance operational needs, public safety concerns, and the continuing public use and enjoyment of these sites. Note that the majority of currently publicly accessible areas of Ritidian unit and cultural properties at Ritidian Unit would be outside of the LFTRC surface danger zones. Additionally, it should be noted that the public is currently restricted from accessing the majority of the Ritidian Unit of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The addition of the LFTRC under Alternative 5 would increase the amount of beach restricted to public access by approximately 10%. The Final SEIS has been amended to address the DON's intent to coordinate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service for new beach access to ensure the public can access the remaining portion of the beach at Ritidian Point not encumbered by the LFTRC surface danger zones.

649:ACH – The DON understands and recognizes the significance of cultural and recreational sites located on DoD property on Guam. Restricting access to certain DON areas at certain times is required to maintain public safety. Impacts associated with reduced or restricted access to specific land areas are acknowledged and evaluated in the SEIS. Final plans concerning access to sites potentially impacted by the proposed action have not been developed. The DON looks forward to working with stakeholders to develop plans for cultural stewardship and access that balance operational needs, public safety concerns, and the continuing public use and enjoyment of these sites. Note that the majority of currently publicly accessible areas of Ritidian unit and cultural properties at Ritidian Unit would be outside of the LFTRC surface danger zones. Additionally, it should be noted that the public is currently restricted from accessing the majority of the Ritidian Unit of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The addition of the LFTRC under Alternative 5 would increase the amount of beach restricted to public access by approximately 10%. The Final

Response:

SEIS has been amended to address the DON's intent to coordinate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service for new beach access to ensure the public can access the remaining portion of the beach at Ritidian Point not encumbered by the LFTRC surface danger zones.

77	5-234	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Recreational resources: Operative Impacts	Under Alternative 5: Access to these areas will be restricted... Recreational boat users would have to halt boat use during training periods, or avoid around the corporate SDZ.	Mitigation to assist local business fishermen (boat users) must be developed and implemented. Should include, but not limited to, fishing grounds and gas prices. SEIS should also consider the impacts to local fishermen when the BATT is in effect, therefore it is important to implement mitigation for local fishermen.	649:ACI
78	5-243	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Terrrestrial Conservation Areas: Construction Impacts	Under Alternative 5: Release of ESA- required mitigation monies from previous AAFB action (regulate forest.)	Current location of target forest was chosen due to quality of the limestone forest and T&E species found within (specifically the only Serapias tree). SEIS preferred alternative for the LFTRC is NWF project. The potential mitigation measure should include the expansion of Orote ERA, a newly established ERA in NAVMAG and an ERA along the AAFB golf course forest.	649:ACJ
79	5-266	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Native wildlife: Operative Impacts	Under Alternative 5: same as Alternative 1.	Unlike the the 15 LFTRC alternative site, habitats are known to fragment the NWF site. Impacts to native wildlife during operations of LFTRC should include significant request with mitigation.	649:ACK

649:ACI – Significant adverse impacts to land use were identified in Section 5.5.6, Land and Submerged Land Use due to the new restrictions on public access to submerged lands under the Northwest Field LFTRC. The text of Section 3.6, Affected Environment and Figure 3.6.1-1 were edited to include fishing areas, including Fish Aggregating Devices. The recreational and sociocultural impacts of the new public access restrictions on fishing are described in Sections 5.5.7 and 5.5.15, respectively. Specifically, there would be loss of access to areas relevant to recreational boaters and fishermen. Offshore fishing areas located within the LFTRC Surface Danger Zones would be inaccessible during associated range use. To provide awareness of times that the range is in use, the DON would provide the proposed training schedule to the U.S. Coast Guard, who would issue and broadcast a Notice to Mariners that would identify the location of the Surface Danger Zones and direct vessel operators to navigate clear of the active Surface Danger Zones. Additionally, boaters and fishermen would be able to contact range control via radio or phone to get real time updates of active ranges, which would minimize impacts.

The study area for the direct and indirect impact analysis is limited to land and submerged lands of Guam and does not extend to CNMI. The cumulative effects study is limited to Guam and specifically excludes the CNMI because there is no proposed action for the CNMI in this SEIS. The decision regarding the military's future use of Tinian for training (which is being evaluated in the CNMI Joint Military Training EIS/Overseas EIS) could supercede the 2010 Record of Decision with regards to Tinian range projects. Cumulative Effects Section 7.5 describes other relevant DoD NEPA documents. The Mariana Islands Testing and Training EIS/Overseas EIS and the Mariana Islands Training Range Complex Airspace Environmental Assessment are addressed in the cumulative effects section, but only those aspects that are relevant to the Guam land and submerged land study area.

649:ACJ – As stated in the Draft SEIS, the expansion of the Orote Ecological Reserve Area and establishment of an Ecological Reserve Area at NAVMAG have been proposed as mitigation measures (see Table 5.7-1, page 5-402). Pati Point on Andersen AFB is already a designated Natural Area. Access to the existing Pati Point Natural Area is highly restricted to protect the natural resources, and is allowed only with the permission of Andersen AFB. The natural area is managed in accordance with the Joint Region Marianas Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan.

649:ACK – As stated in the Draft SEIS, operational impacts associated with LFTRC operations (i.e., noise, lighting and human activity) would be similar for all alternatives. These impacts were previously assessed in the 2010 Final EIS for a similar proposed action and were found to be not significant.

Response:

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80	5-283	5	Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Surface Water Construction Impacts	N1 No surface waters are located within or near the construction area. There would be no significant direct or indirect short-term impacts to groundwater.	Given its proximity to a coastal zone, the construction activity proposed for the LFTRC at the preferred alternative may have an impact to the surface and ground waters nearby. BMPs implemented should include conditions to prevent any pollutants to enter water resources.	649-ACL
81	5-502	5	Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Ground Water Construction Impacts	LS1 Similar to Alternative 1, there would be a potential for interflow to reach Northern Guam Lens Aquifer. Stormwater runoff and sediment protection measures would serve to protect groundwater quality, resulting in less than significant direct or indirect short-term impacts.	Given its proximity to a coastal zone, the construction activity proposed for the LFTRC at the preferred alternative may have an impact to the surface and ground waters nearby. BMPs implemented should include conditions to prevent any pollutants to enter water resources.	649-ACM
82	5-391	5	Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Nearshore Waters Construction Impacts	N1 The project area would be approximately 0.04 mile (0.06 km) from nearshore waters, and would cause no impact due to compliance with the Construction General Permit and implementation of SWPPP.	The distance between the project area and nearshore waters is still relatively close. BMPs will need to be in place to avoid any impacts to the project area. The other concern is the workforce using the nearshore waters for recreation (reef walking, fishing, diving, snorkeling, etc.). Outreach and awareness will need to be part of the BMP's to minimize impacts to nearshore waters.	649-ACN

649:ACL – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. Measures to protect water resources from stormwater runoff are listed in Section 2.8 and discussed in Sections 5.2.2, 5.3.2, and 5.4.2 of the SEIS. Additionally, a comprehensive Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan would be prepared for Proposed Action. The Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan would provide an integrated, comprehensive approach to stormwater management for all construction projects associated with the Guam military relocation. In addition to procedures and practices to prevent discharge of pollutants from construction sites and water resources in Guam, the Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan provides roles and responsibilities of various DON organizations as well as contractors/subcontractors, regular monitoring and Best Management Practice inspection, evaluation, training, and reporting procedures. Submittal of Best Management Practice inspection reports and discussion of stormwater non-compliance at weekly Quality Control/construction progress meetings would be required. The Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan would also address compliance inspections during wet weather (weekly during dry periods and daily, along with pre- and post-storm during storm/rain events), details of inspection procedures, and documentation requirements. Details of the non-compliance or discharge reporting to the DON organizations and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 would also be included in Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, as well as stormwater compliance enforcement procedures, which include discovery of non-conformance, reporting potential non-compliance, and contractual enforcement.

649:ACM – The Best Management Practices listed in Section 2.8 and discussed under the Chapter 5 impact analysis for water resources and hazardous materials and wastes describe the measures that will be taken to protect aquifer resources. Text in these sections has been revised for consistency to reflect the approach that will be implemented.

Specifically, the measures to protect the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer from impacts from range operations include the Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessment program, which would involve baseline monitoring, fate and transport modeling of munitions constituents (lead, trinitrotoluene, cyclotetramethylene tetranitramine, hexahydro-trinitro-triazine, and perchlorate) using site-specific parameters, and monitoring of munitions constituents during the operational phase. The programmatic guidance to conduct range monitoring and clearance every 5 years is given for reference; however, the appropriate frequency of monitoring and range clearance for the specific range would be determined through the Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessment program and refined, as necessary. In addition, the Range Manager and the DON environmental personnel will conduct quarterly inspections of the ranges to ensure that Best Management Practices are still in place.

The analysis also states that the DoD would investigate additional technologies that could assist with range design and management to minimize potential impacts, including those recommended by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Response:

649:ACN – With the implementation of Best Management Practices, including outreach and awareness training for civilian and military workforce, impacts to groundwater and nearshore waters would be less than significant.

Response:

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63	5-292	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Surface Waters: Operational Impacts	NI No surface waters are located within or near the project area and the implementation of LID and range management BMPs would ensure that there would be no increase in off-site transport of excess runoff, sediment, or pollutants for up to the 25-year storm event.	Operations at the LFTRC includes range activities. As described in the SEIS, SDEs were established for the LFTRC. The distance from the preferred LFTRC and surface water (stream) is relative close (0.04 mi.) and is within the SDEs. Ammunition that enters these waters (lead contaminant) will accumulate with every exercise at the LFTRC and will have an impact to quality of surface water, and most importantly the living organisms that occurs. Removal of ammunition at the preferred alternative or prevention for ammunition to enter nearby surface waters will need to be mandatory to protect the resource.	649:ACO
24	5-295	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Groundwater: Operational Impacts	LSI (alternative 1) Major increase in localized recharge rates and its pollutant loading potential to the NGLA. LSI (preferred alternative) Similar to Alternative 1, resulting in less than significant long-term, direct or indirect impacts.	BMPs to avoid or minimize to less than significant impact for the quality of groundwater that occurs within the project area will need to be implemented. For parking stalls at the project site, retaining masonry at the site, absorption pads must be readily available to prevent any leaking petroleum or fuels to enter aquifer. Safety officer at the site should be in charge to inspect vehicles at the site for leaks.	649:ACP

649:ACO – The Best Management Practices listed in Section 2.8 and discussed under the Chapter 5 impact analysis for water resources and hazardous materials and wastes describe the measures that will be taken to protect aquifer resources. Text in these sections has been revised for consistency to reflect the approach that will be implemented.

Specifically, the measures to protect the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer from impacts from range operations include the Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessment program, which would involve baseline monitoring, fate and transport modeling of munitions constituents (lead, trinitrotoluene, cyclotetramethylene tetranitramine, hexahydro-trinitro-triazine, and perchlorate) using site-specific parameters, and monitoring of munitions constituents during the operational phase. The programmatic guidance to conduct range monitoring and clearance every 5 years is given for reference; however the appropriate frequency of monitoring and range clearance for the specific range would be determined through the Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessment program and refined, as necessary. In addition, the Range Manager and the DON environmental personnel will conduct quarterly inspections of the ranges to ensure that Best Management Practices are still in place.

The analysis also states that the DoD would investigate additional technologies that could assist with range design and management to minimize potential impacts, including those recommended by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

649:ACP – The following text has been added to Section 4.1.2 to address this comment: “A comprehensive Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan would be prepared for Proposed Action. The Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan would provide an integrated, comprehensive approach to stormwater management for all construction projects associated with the Guam military relocation. In addition to procedures and practices to prevent discharge of pollutants from construction sites and water resources in Guam, the Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan provides roles and responsibilities of various DON organizations as well as contractors/subcontractors, regular monitoring and Best Management Practice inspection, evaluation, training, and reporting procedures. Submittal of Best Management Practice inspection reports and discussion of stormwater non-compliance at weekly Quality Control/construction progress meetings would be required. The Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan would also address compliance inspections during wet weather (weekly during dry periods and daily, along with pre- and post-storm during storm/rain events), details of inspection procedures, and documentation requirements. Details of the non-compliance or discharge reporting to the DON organizations and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 would also be included in Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, as well as stormwater compliance enforcement procedures, which include discovery of non-conformance, reporting potential non-compliance, and contractual enforcement.”

85	5-365	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Nearshore Waters: Operation Impacts		The table summarizes impact due to stormwater for operations, no alteration with other threats (LFTRC exercise and related activities) at the preferred alternative site that pose a threat to the resource	649:ACQ
86	5-365	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Air Quality: Construction Impacts		BMPs to control dust from clearing and grading activity at the preferred project site must be implemented and enforced. Surrounding forest at the preferred project site is known as a feeding ground for the Mariana fruitbat. The vegetation near the site must be protected for fruitbats to feed.	649:ACR
87	5-369	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Air Quality: Operation Impacts		BMPs to control dust from LFTRC activities at the preferred project site must be implemented and enforced. Surrounding forest at the preferred project site is known as a feeding ground for the Mariana fruitbat. The vegetation near the site must be protected for fruitbats to feed.	649:ACS
88	5-374	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Noise: Construction Impacts	No Construction activities would be within the NWP at AAFB, and away from any sensitive receptors.	Construction work should be limited to daytime hours only. Fruitbats in the area that enter forest within and near the preferred alternative site as a foraging ground may be impacted from noise produced by machinery working on limestone (which can be mistaken as another species).	649:ACT

649:ACQ – The Best Management Practices listed in Section 2.8 and discussed under the Chapter 5 impact analysis for water resources and hazardous materials and wastes describe the measures that will be taken to protect aquifer resources. Text in these sections has been revised for consistency to reflect the approach that will be implemented.

Specifically, the measures to protect the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer from impacts from range operations include the Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessment program, which would involve baseline monitoring, fate and transport modeling of munitions constituents (lead, trinitrotoluene, cyclotetramethylene tetranitramine, hexahydro-trinitro-triazine, and perchlorate) using site-specific parameters, and monitoring of munitions constituents during the operational phase. The programmatic guidance to conduct range monitoring and clearance every 5 years is given for reference; however the appropriate frequency of monitoring and range clearance for the specific range would be determined through the Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessment program and refined, as necessary. In addition, the Range Manager and the DON environmental personnel will conduct quarterly inspections of the ranges to ensure that Best Management Practices are still in place.

The analysis also states that the DoD would investigate additional technologies that could assist with range design and management to minimize potential impacts, including those recommended by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

649:ACR – As stated in the Draft SEIS and listed in Table 2.8-1, a Dust Control Plan would be implemented as a Best Management Practice under the proposed action. As stated in the Draft SEIS, all construction would occur within the limits of construction shown in the project figures and vegetation clearing would be the absolute minimum necessary.

649:ACS – As stated in the Draft SEIS and listed in Table 2.8-1, a Dust Control Plan would be implemented as a Best Management Practice under the proposed action. As stated in the Draft SEIS, all construction would occur within the limits of construction shown in the project figures and vegetation clearing would be the absolute minimum necessary.

649:ACT – The analysis of potential impacts to special-status species (e.g., fruit bats) due to noise associated with the construction of the LFTRC alternatives is provided in the Draft SEIS in sections 5.1.8.2, 5.2.8.2, 5.2.8.3, 5.2.8.4, and 5.2.8.5. The DON would plan to conduct construction activities, to the extent feasible, during day light hours but there may be situations under which construction at night would be necessary.

58	5-394	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Noise: Operation Impacts	NI Similar to Alternative 2, no homes, residences, or sensitive receptors would be within Noise Zones 2 or 3, and there are only uninhabited houses near Jaspian Beach, under Noise Zone 1. There would be no impacts from the HQ Camp, for the same reason as Alternative 1.	Training exercises at the proposed LFTRC training sites will have great impact to foraging fruitbats in the area. Exercises should be restricted to daytime hours only with less frequency. Noise during operations will have an impact to GNWR's staff and visitors located near the preferred site. Impacts at the preferred alternative site is not "No Impact". It should be reconsidered as "Significant Impact with Mitigation".	649:ACU
59	5-397	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Land and Sub- merged land use: Construction Impacts	NI All changes in land use are considered long-term operational impacts.	Land use for the preferred LFTRC alternative should be determined as "SI". When changes in the area occur, the use of that land is restricted only for LFTRC purposes and not for other activities. During operations (exercises) the land use within the designated SDIs will be greatly impacted and restricted.	649:ACV
60	5-397	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Loss of Valued Use: Operation Impacts	NI The land use within the Ritidian Unit of the NWR encompassed by SDIs would remain Conservation.	The activities that will be occurring at the LFTRC within the Ritidian Unit of the NWR will have a great impact to species that may occur at the site. Operations at Conservation Lands require on-field projects to meet the objectives established for the purposes of the Conservation Land. The SEIS should consider changing the level of impacts for land use at the NWR as SI.	649:ACW

649:ACU – The analysis of potential impacts to special-status species (e.g., fruit bats) due to noise associated with the operation of the LFTRC alternatives is provided in the Draft SEIS in sections 5.1.8.2, 5.2.8.2, 5.2.8.3, 5.2.8.4, and 5.2.8.5 (e.g., see pages 5-52, 5-137, 5-205). As described in Section 2.2.3 of the SEIS, night training at the LFTRC (between 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. or between 6:00 a.m. and 6:59 a.m.) would occur an estimated twice per week during qualification periods and would require consecutive firing days. This type of training is necessary to meet training requirements. Noise modeling conducted for Alternative 5 and reported in Section 5.5.4 of the SEIS indicates that range operations would not impact homes, residents, or sensitive receptors in the vicinity.

649:ACV – Your comment refers to the construction phase impacts on Land and Submerged Land Use. The methodology for this resource acknowledges that there would be a significant impact on this resource with the proposed action, and that the impacts would be initiated in the construction phase with the transfer of land management or ownership and continue through operations. To avoid the redundancy of describing the same impacts in both phases, the impacts are described under operations. As described in Section 3.6.3, "Similar to the 2010 Final EIS approach, all land and submerged land use impacts are considered long-term impacts and are described under the operation phase". We agree that it is confusing to call the construction phase No Impact, when in fact the SI is initiated in the construction phase. The text and summary tables are edited to remove the No Impact and acknowledge that the impacts of construction phase are captured and described under the operation phase.

649:ACW – As no LFTRC activities would physically occur on any beach that may be used by nesting sea turtles, and noise levels from LFTRC operations would not affect nesting sea turtles, there would be no impacts to nesting sea turtles due to LFTRC operations at Northwest Field. The analysis of potential impacts to special-status species (e.g., fruit bats) due to noise associated with the operation of the LFTRC alternatives is provided in the Draft SEIS in sections 5.1.8.2, 5.2.8.2, 5.2.8.3, 5.2.8.4, and 5.2.8.5 (e.g., see pages 5-52, 5-137, 5-205). With appropriate coordination and in accordance with DoD security protocols, the DON would allow research and monitoring of biological resources at the Ritidian National Wildlife Refuge by local, university, and federal researchers. As stated in the Draft SEIS (see page 5-342), the construction of the proposed Northwest Field LFTRC would require the relocation of the ungulate enclosure fence that is currently being constructed in accordance with conservation measures identified during Endangered Species Act section 7 consultation for a previous Air Force action. The relocated ungulate enclosure fence would encompass a larger area and disturb a smaller acreage of limestone forest.

91	5-398	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Public Access, Operation Impacts	SI Although the land and submerged land use within the Ritidian Unit of the NWR would remain as Conservation land use, there would be access restrictions to the land and submerged lands within the SDZs. Such restrictions would be limited to the minimum SDZ area and period of use required for the LFTRC. Access to non-NWR submerged lands under the custody and control of the DON would be similarly restricted. The DON would coordinate with the USFWS to ensure that the portion of the SDZ overlaying the Ritidian Unit is compatible with the purposes of the NWR.	Mitigation will need to be developed and implemented for areas within designated SDZs on Ritidian and Jaapan. LFTRC subtidal activities should cause no Conservation land use at Ritidian, especially if a nesting turtle occurs or when fruit bats occur. Once the Gunnis fall is released at the Ritidian NWR, researchers must have access to monitor the species on a daily basis, which will conflict with subtidal activities at the preferred LFTRC alternative. LFTRC plans should not alter the objectives approved by Congress with the subventions of the GNWR Comprehensive Plan and the GCWC. The LFTRC at the preferred site in NWF is placed on a recent mitigation action set on the BO for the ISS/STRIKE for an ungulate enclosure in efforts to protect the forest quality of the area by maintaining the presence of vulnerability in the area.	649-ACX
92	5-366	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Compatibility with Current and Future Use, Operation Impacts	N: The LFTRC near Zone 2 would extend slightly into private property but there would be no impact to land use.	The steps of the land at the preferred LFTRC alternative are not only humans. The users of the lands are also the protected species that occurs within the area. Noise from operations at the LFTRC will have an impact to the protected species that may be found at the preferred site. Mitigation to minimize impacts to the protected species is not include a biologist to inspect forested areas adjacent to the LFTRC activities. Level of impact should be SI.	649-ACY

649:ACX – As no LFTRC activities would physically occur on any beach that may be used by nesting sea turtles, and noise levels from LFTRC operations would not affect nesting sea turtles, there would be no impacts to nesting sea turtles due to LFTRC operations at Northwest Field. The analysis of potential impacts to special-status species (e.g., fruit bats) due to noise associated with the operation of the LFTRC alternatives is provided in the Draft SEIS in sections 5.1.8.2, 5.2.8.2, 5.2.8.3, 5.2.8.4, and 5.2.8.5 (e.g., see pages 5-52, 5-137, 5-205). With appropriate coordination and in accordance with DoD security protocols, the DON would allow research and monitoring of biological resources at the Ritidian National Wildlife Refuge by local, university, and federal researchers. As stated in the Draft SEIS (see page 5-342), the construction of the proposed Northwest Field LFTRC would require the relocation of the ungulate enclosure fence that is currently being constructed in accordance with conservation measures identified during Endangered Species Act section 7 consultation for a previous Air Force action. The relocated ungulate enclosure fence would encompass a larger area and disturb a smaller acreage of limestone forest.

649:ACY – Potential impacts to protected species and associated potential mitigation measures are addressed in the Terrestrial Biological Resources section for each alternative. The No Impact conclusion is based on the analysis of impacts to land use and is supported by the discussion in the Draft SEIS. As stated in the text for each alternative, the impact conclusion for operational impacts to special-status species is less than significant.

93	5-378	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Compatibility with Current and Future Use: Operational Impacts	The HD Range area Zone 2 and 3 contours would not extend off base.	The preferred HD Range discovery site is known to occupy the protected Micronesian starling. The starling is an opportunistic species that may become territorial. Their home range has extended to areas near Andy South. Operational impacts at the HD site for the starling and possibly the frigate are possible to occur. Mitigation or avoidance measures will need to be developed and implemented.	649:ACZ
94	5-379	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Compatibility with Current and Future Use: Operational Impacts	No impact from relocation of NWR and USFWS administrative facilities, visitor center and recreational access roads.	Impact from relocation should be mitigated as SL. Relocation requires space for facilities and access. As result from the proposed alternative, the level of impact is low if relocation is not proposed and existing structures for NWR remain.	649:ADA
95	5-401	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Recreational resources: Construction Impacts	NI The Guam NWR Nature Center would be replaced at a location outside the RDZs prior to the construction of the LFTRC. The existing center would be utilized until the new center becomes operational. This would ensure uninterrupted visitor use of the center during the construction period, and yield no direct or indirect adverse impacts to recreational resources.	The impact to the recreational resources at the Guam NWR is mitigated with and beach areas within the established SDZs. With the established SDZs from the proposed LFTRC, recreational areas within the Guam NWR will be restricted. The impact level for this segment should be classified with mitigation.	649:ADB

649:ACZ – Based on previous biological surveys and surveys conducted in support of the SEIS, there are no records of Micronesian starlings or fruit bats at Andersen South. Given the current level of human activity at Andersen South and lack of suitable foraging and roosting habitat, the occurrence of fruit bats at Andersen South is considered highly unlikely.

649:ADA – The methodology for the Land and Submerged Land Use (Section 3.6.3.2) impact analysis is based on land use compatibility. The site planning confirmed sufficient vacant land for the relocated U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service facilities and access. The new facilities would be a compatible land use at the new location; therefore, no significant impact was identified.

649:ADB – The DON understands and recognizes the significance of cultural and recreational sites located on DoD property on Guam. Restricting access to certain DON areas at certain times is required to maintain public safety. Impacts associated with reduced or restricted access to specific land areas are acknowledged and evaluated in the SEIS. Final plans concerning access to sites potentially impacted by the proposed action have not been developed. The DON looks forward to working with stakeholders to develop plans for cultural stewardship and access that balance operational needs, public safety concerns, and the continuing public use and enjoyment of these sites. Note that the majority of currently publicly accessible areas of Ritidian unit and cultural properties at Ritidian Unit would be outside of the LFTRC surface danger zones. Additionally, it should be noted that the public is currently restricted from accessing the majority of the Ritidian Unit of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The addition of the LFTRC under Alternative 5 would increase the amount of beach restricted to public access by approximately 10%. The Final SEIS has been amended to address the DON's intent to coordinate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for new beach access to ensure the public can access the remaining portion of the beach at Ritidian Point not encumbered by the LFTRC surface danger zones.

56	5-401	3	Table 3.5-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Recreational resource Operation Impacts	RI Direct and long-term impact from SPVs extending over the Ritidian cultural site, impeding the public's access to this archeological area during Marine Corps training.	Mitigation will need to be established to avoid harm to the recreational uses near the LG Range (SDZ). There are several public activities (hiking, bathing, medicinal plant harvesting, etc.) adjacent to the LG Range where safety will need to be ensured and access not impeded from MC training and exercises.	649:ADE
57	5-4012	3	Table 3.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Recreational resource Operation Impacts	LSI Long-term direct impacts from restricted access to popular dive spots and fishing areas for the public when ranges are being used. There would be fishlessness on access to hiking and cave exploring as well. Access to these areas would be restricted during operations of the LFTRC. However, the DON would coordinate with USFWS to ensure that access restrictions to the Ritidian Unit of the Great NWR are consistent with the purpose for which the Unit was established. Access to the Ritidian Unit during these periods when the ranges are not in use is a matter under the management authority of the USFWS. Recreational boat users would have to halt boat use during training periods, or travel around the perimeter SDZ.	The NWE Alternative for the LFTRC impedes the purposes of which the Guam NWR was established. The designated SDZs at the Unit restrict the public to access recreational resources within the unit. Aside from the general public, the native species that occurs at the site are in danger from the proposed action. Results from the operations will have a great impact to the resources found at the Unit. Recreational boat users operate more frequently during seasonal fish runs, and usually along the western coast of the island. In addition to the Marine Corps operations, the MITT activities have a cumulative adverse impact for recreational users on the island.	649:ADF

649:ADE – The 2010 Final EIS describes the non-live fire training that is planned for Andersen South. Figure 2.3-6 of that 2010 Final EIS shows that the entire Andersen South parcel would have a perimeter security fence. The hand grenade range would be within the perimeter boundary of Andersen South. There would be no public access permitted through the site. The fence and the impact on public access is not included in the SEIS proposed action.

649:ADF – The DON understands and recognizes the significance of cultural and recreational sites located on DoD property on Guam. Restricting access to certain DON areas at certain times is required to maintain public safety. Impacts associated with reduced or restricted access to specific land areas are acknowledged and evaluated in the SEIS. Final plans concerning access to sites potentially impacted by the proposed action have not been developed. The DON looks forward to working with stakeholders to develop plans for cultural stewardship and access that balance operational needs, public safety concerns, and the continuing public use and enjoyment of these sites. Note that the majority of currently publicly accessible areas of Ritidian unit and cultural properties at Ritidian Unit would be outside of the LFTRC surface danger zones. Additionally, it should be noted that the public is currently restricted from accessing the majority of the Ritidian Unit of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The addition of the LFTRC under Alternative 5 would increase the amount of beach restricted to public access by approximately 10%. The Final SEIS has been amended to address the DON's intent to coordinate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for new beach access to ensure the public can access the remaining portion of the beach at Ritidian Point not encumbered by the LFTRC surface danger zones.

Significant adverse impacts to land use were identified in Section 5.5.6, Land and Submerged Land Use due to the new restrictions on public access to submerged lands under the Northwest Field LFTRC. The text of Section 3.6, Affected Environment and Figure 3.6.1-1 were edited to include fishing areas, including Fish Aggregating Devices. The recreational and sociocultural impacts of the new public access restrictions on fishing are described in Sections 5.5.7 and 5.5.15, respectively. Specifically, there would be loss of access to areas relevant to recreational boaters and fishermen. Offshore fishing areas located within the LFTRC Surface Danger Zones would be inaccessible during associated range use. To provide awareness of times that the range is in use, the DON would provide the proposed training schedule to the U.S. Coast Guard, who would issue and broadcast a Notice to Mariners that would identify the location of the Surface Danger Zones and direct vessel operators to navigate clear of the active Surface

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Danger Zones. Additionally, boaters and fishermen would be able to contact range control via radio or phone to get real time updates of active ranges, which would minimize impacts. Section 7.7.6 identifies a significant cumulative impact on submerged lands access. No additional mitigation is proposed.

The study area for the direct and indirect impact analysis is limited to land and submerged lands of Guam and does not extend to the CNMI. The cumulative effects study is limited to Guam and specifically excludes the CNMI because there is no proposed action for the CNMI in this SEIS. The decision regarding the military's future use of Tinian for training (which is being evaluated in the CNMI Joint Military Training EIS/Overseas EIS) could supercede the 2010 Record of Decision with regards to Tinian range projects. Cumulative Effects Section 7.5 describes other relevant DoD NEPA documents. The Mariana Islands Testing and Training EIS/Overseas EIS and the Mariana Islands Training Range Complex Airspace Environmental Assessment are addressed in the cumulative effects section, but only those aspects that are relevant to the Guam land and submerged land study area.

99	5-402	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Terrestrial Biological Resources; Vegetation Construction Impacts	Alternative 1: 50-N Conversion of 255 acres (102 ha) of limestone forest to developed area, which is the greatest of all alternatives.	The preferred Alternative for the HGR located in Andy South requires 255 acres of limestone forest. There are a variety of native vegetation that is rare to find in other limestone forest due to agriculture activity and clearing. In addition, Andy South host a number of rare occurring native limestone trees. Mitigation to protect and preserve the vegetative species that are important to the culture and native wildlife that may occur.	649:ADG
99	5-402	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Terrestrial Biological Resources; Vegetation Construction Impacts	Alternative 5: 50-M Conversion of 201 acres (82 ha) of limestone forest to developed area.	The quality of limestone forest at the preferred LFTRC alternative is considered pristine and of great value. Several native vegetation that occurs here is rare in other limestone forests, especially the <i>Serianthes</i> . Sustainable and fairly agriculture and clearing of its surroundings may have a great impact for its health and its fate.	649:ADI
100	5-402	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Terrestrial Conservation Areas Construction Impacts	NI None present	Andy South is not designated as a conservation area, however it is considered as a historical site of cultural importance (artifacts present). The area is also of great value for the fruit bats that may occur there for roosting and foraging.	649:ADI
101	5-403	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Terrestrial Conservation Areas Construction Impacts	LSI Relocation of ESA-required mitigation structure from previous AAB action (longular forest).	Work has already begun for the ESA-required mitigation fence. The area was selected because of the Subclass and the composition of the limestone forest in the area. The fence between Pati Point to Anso Point should be designated as ERA.	649:ADI

649:ADG – The proposed hand grenade range at Andersen South would only impact 19 acres of limestone forest (see Table 5.1.8-2, page 5-42 in the Draft SEIS). The vegetation at Andersen South is highly disturbed due to past development and extensive damage by feral pigs, so it is unlikely that many rare plant species occur within Andersen South.

649:ADH – As the only known *Serianthes* tree on Guam occurs on Andersen AFB within the vicinity of the proposed LFTRC Alternative 5 at Northwest Field, as stated in Section 5.5.8.2, the to avoid and minimize potential impacts to this individual tree, a minimum buffer of 100 feet (30 meters) would be established around the tree and no activities would be permitted within this buffer. In addition, the one remaining adult *Serianthes* tree at Northwest Field is in poor condition due to termites and rotting at the base. The tree is leaning which renders it more susceptible to snapping or toppling in the event of a catastrophic typhoon. Under the proposed action, guide wires would be installed to support the tree at Northwest Field thereby reducing the potential for its collapse.

649:ADI – Impacts to historic properties at Andersen South were presented in Section 5.1.10.2. No historic properties located in the proposed Hand Grenade Range at Andersen South would be affected. Other resources at Andersen South potentially affected by road realignment and range construction are assessed in section 5.1.10.2.

649:ADJ – As stated in the Draft SEIS, there would be no impacts to the one remaining mature *Serianthes* tree at Northwest Field or *Serianthes* recovery habitat due to operations associated with the cantonment/family housing and LFTRC. However, Best Management Practices and mitigation measures are proposed for potential impacts to the one remaining mature *Serianthes* tree and *Serianthes* recovery habitat (see Section 4.1.8.2, page 4-62). Pati Point on Andersen AFB is already a designated Natural Area. Access to the existing Pati Point Natural Area is highly restricted to protect the natural resources, and is allowed only with the permission of Andersen AFB. The natural area is managed in accordance with the Joint Region Marianas Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan.

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102	5-403	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Native Wildlife Construction Impacts	LSI Direct impacts to 202 acres (122 ha) of potential wildlife habitat. Wildlife currently present is widespread on Guam. With implementation of BMPs, potential introduction of new or spread of existing non-native species on Guam during construction activities is considered unlikely.	The native wildlife that may be impacted at the HGR alternative is the frigate, stilts and native ducks. The cumulative impact is much greater for the survival of these species since habitat is degraded and space is limited. Spread of invasive species has always been a great concern, especially with Little fire ants. A bio-security plan will need to be developed and implemented to prevent LFA to spread at the project site, or if they do exist at the project site, not to spread out of the area.	649-ADK
103	5-403	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Native Wildlife Construction Impacts	LSI Direct impacts to 245 acres (99 ha) of potential wildlife habitat. Wildlife currently present is widespread on Guam. With implementation of BMPs, potential introduction of new or spread of existing non-native species on Guam during construction activities is considered unlikely.	The native wildlife that may be impacted at the LFTRC alternative is the frigate, and native ducks. The cumulative impact is much greater for the survival of these species since habitat is degraded and space is limited. Spread of invasive species has always been a great concern, especially with Little fire ants. A bio-security plan will need to be developed and implemented to prevent LFA to spread at the project site, or if they do exist at the project site, not to spread out of the area. The LFTRC site is also known for migratory birds that frequent during the winter.	649-ADL

649:ADK – As the only known *Serianthes* tree on Guam occurs on Andersen AFB within the vicinity of the proposed LFTRC Alternative 5 at Northwest Field, as stated in Section 5.5.8.2, the to avoid and minimize potential impacts to this individual tree, a minimum buffer of 100 feet (30 meters) would be established around the tree and no activities would be permitted within this buffer. In addition, the one remaining adult *Serianthes* tree at Northwest Field is in poor condition due to termites and rotting at the base. The tree is leaning which renders it more susceptible to snapping or toppling in the event of a catastrophic typhoon. Under the proposed action, guide wires would be installed to support the tree at Northwest Field, thereby reducing the potential for its collapse.

649:ADL – Refer to Section 5.5.8.2 for a discussion of the potential impacts to wildlife and proposed mitigation measures associated with LFTRC Alternative 5 (Northwest Field). Table 2.8-1 of the Draft SEIS (pages 2-93 to 2-95) provides a summary of the Best Management Practices that would be implemented to avoid the introduction of non-native invasive species from the construction and operation of the proposed action. In particular, refer to the Contractor Education Program, Biosecurity Outreach and Education, Incorporate Biosecurity Measures, and implementation of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point Plans.

105	5-403	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Special-Status Species - Federal ESA- Listed and Candidate Species Construction Impact	SIAM Guam rail - impacts to 283 acres (115 ha) of rail recovery habitat	649:ADM The preferred HGR alternative site is known historically to the Mariana dove and the Guam Micronesian Kingfisher. The proposed alternative will impact habitat for these species and other special-status species. Best steps for brown tree snake projects in eradication, research has been on going on Guam for over 2 decades. In addition, the eradication of feral mammals (cats, dogs, pigs and deer) in the areas designated as recovery habitat for special status species.
106	5-403	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Special-Status Species - Federal ESA- Listed and Candidate Species Construction Impact	SIAM Mariana fruit bat - impacts to 196 acres (79 ha) of fruit bat recovery habitat. Mariana dove - impacts to 196 acres (79 ha) of dove recovery habitat. Guam Micronesian Kingfisher - impacts to 196 acres (79 ha) of Kingfisher recovery habitat	649:ADN The Guam rail and other special status species are known, historically, at the preferred LFTRC alternative site. The Guam rail should be seriously considered for the potential mitigation measures as relate to the impact on its recovery habitat. Mitigation measures should include a designated ERA on AAFB east of Pati Point extending southeast to Anso Point (AAFBI Golf course linkerway forest). Forest enhancement should involve the eradication of feral mammals.

649:ADM – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

649:ADN – Potential impacts to the Guam rail and its recovery habitat are provided in Section 5.5.8.2 of the Draft SEIS. As stated in the Draft SEIS, the forest enhancement mitigation measure would include ungulate management consisting of exclusion fencing and active control (i.e. trapping, snaring, shooting) with the goal of eradication within the fenced areas.

Pati Point on Andersen AFB is already a designated Natural Area. Access to the existing Pati Point Natural Area is highly restricted to protect the natural resources, and is allowed only with the permission of Andersen AFB. The natural area is managed in accordance with the Joint Region Marianas Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan.

Response:

649:ADO – As stated in the Draft SEIS, to document the effectiveness of the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point implementation at construction sites, the DON has developed and implemented a long-term monitoring program for terrestrial vegetation, invertebrates, and vertebrates on Guam. For any clearing of vegetation that is adjacent to or contiguous with native habitat, the perimeter and 98 feet (30 meters) into the habitat would be surveyed to identify vegetation community, vertebrate, and invertebrate species composition.

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106	S-404	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Special-Status Species - Federal ESA-Listed and Candidate Species Construction Impact	<p>LSI Mariana fruit bat - impacts to 81 acres (33 ha) of fruit bat recovery habitat; implementation of BMPs would avoid and minimize impacts. Mariana crow - impacts to 81 acres (33 ha) of crow recovery habitat; implementation of BMPs would avoid and minimize impacts. Guam Micronesian Kingfisher - impacts to 81 acres (33 ha) of kingfisher recovery habitat; implementation of BMPs would avoid and minimize impacts. Mariana eight-spot butterfly - implementation of BMPs would avoid and minimize impacts. Serranther tree - impacts to 67 acres (27 ha) of Serranther recovery habitat; implementation of BMPs would avoid and minimize impacts.</p>	Assessments will need to occur to ensure that BMPs established for the IHR is indeed effective on avoiding and minimizing impacts to Special status species.
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649:ADO

649:ADP – As stated in the Draft SEIS, to document the effectiveness of the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point implementation at construction sites, the DON has developed and implemented a long-term monitoring program for terrestrial vegetation, invertebrates, and vertebrates on Guam. For any clearing of vegetation that is adjacent to or contiguous with native habitat, the perimeter and 98 feet (30 meters) into the habitat would be surveyed to identify vegetation community, vertebrate, and invertebrate species composition.

649:ADQ – As stated in the Draft SEIS, proposed forest enhancement would benefit native forests. In particular, the objectives of ungulate management, control/suppression of invasive plants, and outplanting of native species.

107	3-404	1		Table 3.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Special-Status Species – Federal ESA- Listed and Candidate Species Construction Impact	LSI Mariana fruit bat, Mariana crow, Green Nannomimus kingfisher critical habitat – impacts to 12 acres (5 ha) of critical habitat. The remaining 264 acres (147 ha) of critical habitat would remain functional to serve the intended conservation role for the bat, crow and kingfisher. Guam rail – impacts to 49 acres (16 ha) of rail recovery habitat. Mariana eight-spots butterfly – implementation of BMPs would avoid and minimize impacts. Siamothoe tree – impacts to 154 acres (62 ha) of Siamothoe recovery habitat, implementation of BMPs, including 100-foot (30-m) buffer around the remaining mature tree at RWF, would avoid and minimize impacts.	Assessments will need to occur to ensure that BMPs established for the LFTRC is indeed effective in avoiding and minimizing impacts to Special status species	649:ADP
108	3-405	1		Table 3.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Special-Status Species –Guan- Listed and SOGCN Construction Impact	LSI <i>Hemitelia longpetiolata</i> – implementation of BMPs would avoid and minimize impacts	In addition to <i>Hemitelia</i> , there are other native tree species of great conservation need, <i>Elaeagnus</i> , <i>Tristramia</i> and <i>Artocarpus</i> , to name a few. These species are struggling to survive due to the lack of reproduction. Mitigation should include for seedlings to develop in its natural habitat by controlling or removing invasives. In addition, outplanting of these native tree species.	649:ADQ

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109	S-403	5		Table 5.7-4 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Special-Status Species - Guam- Listed and SOGON Construction Impacts	LSI Tabernaemontana racemosa, Cycas mexicana - implementables of BMPs would avoid and minimize impacts.	Tabernaemontana racemosa and cycas are known to occur at the proposed LFTRC site. These species should be preserved in as natural habitat as it occurs. If found in the Mangroves, they should be transplanted and monitored to good health. Mitigation for either native SOGON tree species in the area should be addressed.	649.ADR
110	S-405	5		Table 5.7-4 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Vegetation Operative Impact	LSI With implementation of BMPs, range fires and potential introduction of new or spread of existing non-native species on Guam during LFTRC operations is considered unlikely.	A bio-security plan will need to be developed and implemented to its maximum ability to ensure no introduction of new or spread of existing non-native species on Guam at the proposed HGR and LFTRC site and adjacent habitats. Of concern, is the unintentional clearing of vegetation in the area for operations. The clearing of vegetation should remain in the biographies of the construction phase.	649.ADS
111	S-405	5		Table 5.7-4 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Terrestrial Conservation Areas/ Operation Impacts	NI None present	The proposed HGR site was included as part of recovery habitat within Recovery Plans for Special status species. This site has not been identified as critical habitat, or conservation area, however the existence of a restored and functional habitat is suitable for species recovery. For the purpose of native species conservation, the importance of maintaining the forest at the site is vital.	649.ADT

649:ADR – As stated in the Draft SEIS (see Section 2.8), pre-construction plant surveys would be conducted within the proposed construction footprint and high-value (both biologically and culturally) plant species such as *T. rotensis*, cycads, and *Heritiera* could be salvaged during construction activities and translocated to suitable habitat.

649:ADS – Table 2.8-1 of the Draft SEIS (pages 2-93 to 2-95) provides a summary of the Best Management Practices that would be implemented to avoid the introduction of non-native invasive species from the construction and operation of the proposed action. In particular, refer to the Contractor Education Program, Biosecurity Outreach and Education, Incorporate Biosecurity Measures, and implementation of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point Plans. As stated in the Draft SEIS, all construction would occur within the limits of construction shown in the project figures and vegetation clearing would be the absolute minimum necessary.

649:ADT – Potential impacts to recovery habitat for special-status species was addressed in Section 5.1.8.2 of the Draft SEIS.

Response:

649:ADU – Potential mitigation measures that would be implemented as a result of potential impacts to special-status species were provided in the Draft SEIS in the Environmental Consequences section for each cantonment/family housing and LFTRC alternatives.

649:ADV – It is expected that due to proposed human activities prior to the beginning of live-fire training activities, wildlife species would move away from the vicinity of the LFTRC.

649:ADW – It is expected that due to proposed human activities prior to the beginning of live-fire training activities, wildlife species would move away from the vicinity of the LFTRC.

649:ADX – It is expected that due to proposed human activities prior to the beginning of live-fire training activities, wildlife species would move away from the vicinity of the LFTRC.

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112	5-425	5	Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Terrestrial Conservation Areas: Operation Impacts	LSI Refuge – no physical disturbance of Overlay Refuge habitat; temporary live-fire noise impacts to 1,891 acres (854 ha) of Overlay Refuge lands; implementation of BMPs would avoid and minimize impacts.	Mitigation should reflect on impacts to protected species that may occur.	649:ADU
113	5-426	5	Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Native Wildlife: Operation Impact	LSI With implementation of BMPs, potential impacts to wildlife from LFTRC operations would be reduced to less than significant.	Mitigation should include a watch point or some sort of surveillance to ensure no native wildlife is at risk during LFTRC operations. Native species present should be welcome and allowed to leave on its volition.	649:ADV
114	5-426	5	Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Special-Status Species – Federal ESA- Listed and Candidate Species: Operation Impact	LSI Mariana fruit bat. Mariana eight-spur butterfly – implementation of BMPs would avoid and minimize impacts.	See comments for Native Species	649:ADW
115	5-426	5	Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Special-Status Species – Federal ESA- Listed and Candidate Species: Operation Impact	LSI Mariana fruit bat – no physical disturbance of recovery habitat; temporary live-fire noise impacts to 1,101 acres (446 ha) of fruit bat recovery habitat; implementation of BMPs would avoid and minimize impacts. Mariana eight-spur butterfly – implementation of BMPs would avoid and minimize impacts.	See comments for Native Species	649:ADX

116	5-407	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Special-Status Species - Federal USA- Listed and Candidate Species Operation Impact	NI Mariana crow, Guam rail, Guam Micronesian kingfisher - species no longer occur on Guam, therefore there would be no impacts due to operations of LFTRC. Some other tree - implementation of BMPs would avoid and minimize impacts.	The HGR preferred site is a potential site for species recovery. Historically, the site was known to support crown, kingfisher, and rail. Through these species are not presently found in these habitats, the potential to have them released at these sites or sites in the general area of the HGR are most likely. Some Guam/Guam crow land along Rte. 15. The proposed action at Rte. 15 has a great impact for the recovery efforts and planning process.	649:ADY
117	5-407	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Special-Status Species - Federal ESA-Listed and Candidate Species Operation Impact	NI Mariana crow, Guam rail, Guam Micronesian kingfisher - species no longer occur on Guam, therefore there would be no impacts due to operations of LFTRC. Mariana fruit bat, Mariana crow, Guam Micronesian kingfisher critical habitat - No impacts. Mariana eight-spot butterfly - implementation of BMPs would avoid and minimize impacts. Scimitar tree - implementation of BMPs would avoid and minimize impacts.	The preferred LFTRC site is in the footprint of Refuge Overlay, which was identified for native species recovery. Despite the absence of the crow, rail and kingfisher at the site, the habitat must remain intact for the recovery of the species. The rail and the kingfisher are species subject to be released on Refuge proper. The proposal to have an operating LFTRC at the site does have a great impact for recovery efforts.	649:ADZ
118	5-407	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Special-Status Species - Guam- Listed and SOGCN Operation Impact	LSI Heritiera longipetiolata - implementation of BMPs would avoid and minimize impacts.	see comment for Special status species Guam Listed and SOGCN for construction impacts	649:AEA

649:ADY – The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has advised the DON that it is reasonably certain that the effects of the proposed action are likely to persist during the lifespan of the proposed action and overlap the period when reintroduction of special-status species is reasonably certain to occur and it is likely to be exposed to the effects of the action. There are currently neither projected dates for re-introduction of the crow, kingfisher or rail, nor successful suppression of the brown treesnake to a level which would support reintroduction. Until the species are successfully re-introduced and then have the potential to be exposed to construction and operational activities associated with the proposed action, impacts to extirpated species would be limited to recovery prospects. Potential impacts to special-status species and associated recovery habitat are provided in the Environmental Consequences sections of the Draft SEIS for each cantonment/family housing and LFTRC alternative. .

649:ADZ – The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has advised the DON that it is reasonably certain that the effects of the proposed action are likely to persist during the lifespan of the proposed action and overlap the period when reintroduction of special-status species is reasonably certain to occur and it is likely to be exposed to the effects of the action. There are currently neither projected dates for re-introduction of the crow, kingfisher or rail, nor successful suppression of the brown treesnake to a level which would support reintroduction. Until the species are successfully re-introduced and then have the potential to be exposed to construction and operational activities associated with the proposed action, impacts to extirpated species would be limited to recovery prospects. Potential impacts to special-status species and associated recovery habitat are provided in the Environmental Consequences sections of the Draft SEIS for each cantonment/family housing and LFTRC alternative.

649:AEA – As stated in the Draft SEIS (see Section 2.8), pre-construction plant surveys would be conducted within the proposed construction footprint and high-value (both biologically and culturally) plant species such as *T. rotensis*, cycads, and *Heritiera* could be salvaged during construction activities and translocated to suitable habitat.

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119	5-409	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Special-Status Species - Guam- Listed and NOGGIN: Operation Impact	LSI Marinae eight-spot butterfly, Tabernaemontana rotensis, Cyano muraena- implementation of BMPs would avoid and minimize impacts	see comment for Special status species Guam Listed and NOGGIN for construction impacts. Mitigation should address the potential occurrence of the when directed ground dove, the Micronesian rearing,. Eize tail skink, and rem occurring native tree species found at the site that are no longer regeneration.	649-AEB
120	5-407	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Marine Fleet, Invertebrates, Fish, and EFH- Construction Impact	LSI Potential indirect short-term impacts to marine flora, invertebrates, fish and EFH from increased recreational use (damage to reefs typically caused by anchors, reef- walkers, or scuba diving, muckling, and fishing activities) would be avoided or minimized to less than significant impacts with the implementation of BMPs	Similar to the Contingency and Family Housing Alternatives, mitigation to ensure that the workforce is educated and safety briefed to adventure the marine resources. With the additional population, Conservation Law Enforcement will be needed to monitor and regulate the activities to the marine resources and regulate the laws that protect the resources.	649-AEC
121	5-408	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Marine Fleet, Invertebrates, Fish, and EFH- Construction Impact	NI There would be no in-water construction or dredging, therefore there would be no direct short-term impacts. Stormwater runoff from the project area would not enter sensitive waters, therefore there would be no short-term impacts to marine flora, invertebrates, fish, and EFH associated with construction runoff	Mitigation will need to ensure that the marine resources will not be impacted by the proposed activities. The concern is the workforce using the marine resources. For this purpose, mitigation should ensure secured funding for GovGuam Conservation Law Enforcement to increase their fleet of officers and the necessary to function as a unit.	649-AED

649:AEB – As stated in the Draft SEIS (see Section 2.8), pre-construction plant surveys would be conducted within the proposed construction footprint and high-value (both biologically and culturally) plant species such as *T. rotensis*, cycads, and *Heritiera* could be salvaged during construction activities and translocated to suitable habitat. As stated in the Draft SEIS, there have been no observations of the ground-dove or starling within the Northwest Field LFTRC project footprint and occurrences of either species at Northwest Field are considered very rare. The Pacific blue-tailed skink is not a special-status species and is considered relatively common in all habitats throughout Guam.

649:AEC – Best Management Practices are described in more detail within the impact analysis sections; primarily educational training for the construction workforce and DoD personnel and their dependents on the value of natural marine resources and how to avoid adversely impacting them while utilizing/enjoying them. Recreational areas likely to be impacted by the proposed action are also discussed in more detail within the impact analysis sections.

649:AED – DoD's ability to fund actions is limited by Federal law. However, to mitigate adverse impacts associated with the proposed military relocation program, DoD would continue to support the efforts of the Civilian Military Coordination Council to develop recommendations, as appropriate, regarding adjustment of construction tempo and sequencing to directly influence workforce population levels and indirectly influence induced population growth before infrastructure capabilities are exceeded. Such support may include providing project-related employment and population forecasts, participating in the identification of shortfalls in Guam public services, and assisting in the identification of federal programs and funding sources that may help GovGuam to address shortfalls.

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122	5-408	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Special-Status Species - Federal ESA- Listed and Candidate Species Construction Impact. (Marine Resources)	LSI Green sea turtle, hawksbill sea turtle. Short-term indirect impacts to green sea turtle and hawksbill sea turtle from disturbance resulting from increased activity in the area. Potential indirect impact on special- status species from increased recreational use as mentioned above would be avoided or minimized to less than significant impacts with the implementation of BMPs.	The concern with impacts to native sea turtles on Guam is the illegal harvesting and nest disturbance by humans. The need to increase Law Enforcement Officers will help monitor the regulatory statutes which protect the sea turtles on Guam.	649.AEE
123	5-409	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Marine Conservation Areas Construction Impacts	NI There are no marine conservation areas at or adjacent to the proposed Route 15 LFTRC alternative. Therefore, there would be no impacts to such areas.	The concern is the workforce of the construction phase that is likely to use the marine conservation areas designated on Guam. They will need to be briefed on the laws protecting the Marine Conservation areas and there will be a need for Law Enforcement to monitor the compliance with the increase of non-local staff on island.	649.AEF
124	5-409	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Marine Conservation Areas Construction Impacts	LSI Construction activities for the NW alternative are expected to result in less than significant direct and indirect short-term impacts to conservation efforts and management activities of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge - Rizdon List with the implementation of BMPs.	See comment for Route 15 Alternative above. In addition, the concern is the close proximity of the LFTRC to the Marine Conservation Areas in Northern Guam. The GNWR unit has unmet protecting the marine resources within the unit. East of GNWR is the Fat Face MPA which also has statutes. The need for workforce to be aware of these statutes is necessary prior any activity at these protected areas. Increased Law Enforcement is needed to monitor and enforce areas.	649.AEG

649:AEE – DoD’s ability to fund actions is limited by Federal law. However, to mitigate adverse impacts associated with the proposed military relocation program, DoD would continue to support the efforts of the Civilian Military Coordination Council to develop recommendations, as appropriate, regarding adjustment of construction tempo and sequencing to directly influence workforce population levels and indirectly influence induced population growth before infrastructure capabilities are exceeded. Such support may include providing project-related employment and population forecasts, participating in the identification of shortfalls in Guam public services, and assisting in the identification of federal programs and funding sources that may help GovGuam to address shortfalls.

649:AEF – Best Management Practices are described in more detail within the impact analysis sections; primarily educational training for the construction workforce and DoD personnel and their dependents on the value of natural marine resources and how to avoid adversely impacting them while utilizing/enjoying them. Recreational areas likely to be impacted by the proposed action are also discussed in more detail within the impact analysis sections.

649:AEG – Best Management Practices are described in more detail within the impact analysis sections; primarily educational training for the construction workforce and DoD personnel and their dependents on the value of natural marine resources and how to avoid adversely impacting them while utilizing/enjoying them. Recreational areas likely to be impacted by the proposed action are also discussed in more detail within the impact analysis sections.

122	5-409	5	Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Marine Flora and Fauna/Invertebrates: Operation Impacts:	...If there would be no in-water training, the small number of rounds that could float outside the range and enter the marine environment would have no direct long-term impacts to marine flora and invertebrates.	Not sure what is meant by "small number of rounds that enter the marine environment." Is this per training day or after a year of training exercises? The concern is the lead impact to the marine resources, once rounds ricochet enter. What type of mitigation will be proposed to ensure that the marine environment is safe and free from lead deposits as a result of rounds entering the waters from the LFTRC site?	649:AEH
125	5-409/410	5	Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Fish and EPM: Operation Impacts	LSI There would be no in-water training. The potential number of rounds that could ricochet outside the range and enter the marine environment would have a less than significant effect, long-term impact to fish and EPM.	Not sure what is meant by "minimal number of rounds that enter the marine environment?" Is this per training day or after a year of training exercises? The concern is the lead impact to the marine resources, once rounds ricochet enter. What type of mitigation will be proposed to ensure that the marine environment is safe and free from lead deposits as a result of rounds entering the waters from the LFTRC site?	649:AEI
127	5-410	5	Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Special-Status Species - Federal ESA- Listed and Candidate Species; Operational Impacts	LE: With use of range safety procedures, range lighting, design to minimize impacts to special status species, and implementation of BMDA, direct impacts to green sea turtles and hawaiian monk seals would be less than significant.	Not sure what is meant by "minimal number of rounds that enter the marine environment?" Is this per training day or after a year of training exercises? The concern is the lead impact to the marine resources, once rounds ricochet enter. What type of mitigation will be proposed to ensure that the marine environment is safe and free from lead deposits as a result of rounds entering the waters from the LFTRC site?	649:AEJ

649:AEH – There would be long-term, localized accumulation of ammunition debris in the benthic habitat from the range operations; however, the amount of bullets that actually make it to the marine environment from ricochets would be negligible. Therefore, there would be minimal potential for ingestion or benthic contamination. Such potential impacts were discussed in more detail in the 2010 Final EIS (Volume 2, Chapter 11: Marine Biological Resources).

649:AEI – There would be long-term, localized accumulation of ammunition debris in the benthic habitat from the range operations; however, the amount of bullets that actually make it to the marine environment from ricochets would be negligible. Therefore, there would be minimal potential for ingestion or benthic contamination. Such potential impacts were discussed in more detail in the 2010 Final EIS (Volume 2, Chapter 11: Marine Biological Resources).

649:AEJ – As no LFTRC activities would physically occur on any beach that may be used by nesting sea turtles, and noise levels from LFTRC operations would not affect nesting sea turtles, there would be no impacts to nesting sea turtles due to LFTRC operations at Northwest Field.

The DON understands and recognizes the significance of collecting scientific data from the Ritidian unit of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge. Restricting access to certain DON areas at certain times is required to maintain public safety. Impacts associated with reduced or restricted access to specific land areas are acknowledged and evaluated in the SEIS. Final plans concerning access to sites potentially impacted by the proposed action have not been developed. The DON looks forward to working with stakeholders to develop plans for cultural stewardship and access that balance operational needs, public safety concerns, and the continuing public use and enjoyment of these sites. Note that the majority of currently publicly accessible areas of Ritidian unit and cultural properties at Ritidian Unit would be outside of the LFTRC surface danger zones. Additionally, it should be noted that the public is currently restricted from accessing the majority of the Ritidian Unit of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The addition of the LFTRC under Alternative 5 would increase the amount of beach restricted to public access by approximately 10%. The Final SEIS has been amended to address the DON's intent to coordinate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for new beach access to ensure the public can access the remaining portions of the beach at Ritidian Point not encumbered by the LFTRC surface danger zones.

158	5-410411	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Marine Conservation Areas: Operation Impacts	N: There are no marine conservation areas at or adjacent to the proposed, Range 15-LFTRC alternative. Therefore, there would be no impacts to each area.	The concern is the increase population from the proposed scope, members of the Marine Corps and their families will need to make use of the local and federal laws that protect the resources on the island. The Marine Conservation Areas are favorable sites for recreational sites, actions required for these sites will need to be revised and regulated.	649:AEK
159	5-410411	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Marine Conservation Areas: Operation Impacts	LSI NWF Alternative 5 operational activities would result in less than significant direct and indirect impacts to conservation effects and management activities at the Guam NWR. - Ritidian Unit with the implementation of BMP) and coordination between USFWS and the DON for current or planned research and conservation programs.	-be concern is how feasible is the training schedule when fishers and local resource agencies need to access areas within the designated SDZs. If for example a sea turtle event occurs? How much access will the resource agencies have to fulfill their mission at the ONWR unit?	649:AEL
158	5-410411	5		Table 5.7-1 Summary of Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures for LFTRC Alternatives	Marine Transportation: Operational Impacts	US: Direct impact from full- or part-time closure of the SDZ will exclude vessels from entering. Through the use of live-fire observation, marker notification, and clear updates to include the SDZ, impacts to similar transportation would be less than significant during operation.	Most of the Marine Transportation traffic along the western side of the island are fishermen who fish in pelagic waters and fishermen who fish inshore for a living, on a daily basis. In most cases, these fishermen are active during weekends (Friday, Saturday, etc.) High seas that occurs at our island. Mitigation to allow for fishermen to access areas within the SDZs during seasonal fish runs will need to be provided.	649:AEM

649:AEK – Best Management Practices are described in more detail within the impact analysis sections; primarily educational training for the construction workforce and DoD personnel and their dependents on the value of natural marine resources and how to avoid adversely impacting them while utilizing/enjoying them. Recreational areas likely to be impacted by the proposed action are also discussed in more detail within the impact analysis sections.

649:AEL – The DON understands and recognizes the significance of collecting scientific data from the Ritidian unit of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge. Restricting access to certain DON areas at certain times is required to maintain public safety. Impacts associated with reduced or restricted access to specific land areas are acknowledged and evaluated in the SEIS. Final plans concerning access to sites potentially impacted by the proposed action have not been developed. The DON looks forward to working with stakeholders to develop plans for cultural stewardship and access that balance operational needs, public safety concerns, and the continuing public use and enjoyment of these sites. Note that the majority of currently publicly accessible areas of Ritidian unit and cultural properties at Ritidian Unit would be outside of the LFTRC surface danger zones. Additionally, it should be noted that the public is currently restricted from accessing the majority of the Ritidian Unit of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The addition of the LFTRC under Alternative 5 would increase the amount of beach restricted to public access by approximately 10%. The Final SEIS has been amended to address the DON's intent to coordinate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for new beach access to ensure the public can access the remaining portion of beach at Ritidian Point that is not encumbered by the LFTRC surface danger zones.

649:AEM – Significant adverse impacts to land use were identified in Section 5.5.6, Land and Submerged Land Use due to the new restrictions on public access to submerged lands under the Northwest Field LFTRC. The text of Section 3.6, Affected Environment and Figure 3.6.1-1 were edited to include fishing areas, including Fish Aggregating Devices. The recreational and sociocultural impacts of the new public access restrictions on fishing are described in Sections 5.5.7 and 5.5.15, respectively. Specifically, there would be loss of access to areas relevant to recreational boaters and fishermen. Offshore fishing areas located within the LFTRC Surface Danger Zones would be inaccessible during associated range use. To provide awareness of times that the range is in use, the DON would provide the proposed training schedule to the U.S. Coast Guard, who would issue and broadcast a Notice to Mariners that would identify the location of the Surface Danger Zones and direct vessel operators to navigate clear of the active Surface

Response:

Danger Zones. Additionally, boaters and fishermen would be able to contact range control via radio or phone to get real time updates of active ranges, which would minimize impacts. Section 7.7.6 identifies a significant cumulative impact on submerged lands access. No additional mitigation is proposed.

131	2-03	6	Table 6.1.3-1 Summary of Additive Impacts and Potential Mitigation Measures	Terrestrial Biological Resources		The additive impacts to Rumorse forest, designated Overlay Refuge and Recovery Habitat is extensive and significant. Mitigation should be designing a new ERA and expanding the existing ERA's	649:AEN
132	2-07	7	7.6.1 Step 6A: Assess potential long-term impact...	Noise	Projects such as airfield operations, eviction training, ground-based training, and/or traffic have the potential to generate operational noise levels that may be incompatible with leisure activity in the vicinity. The impact would be localized.	The Draft SEIS should also address noise impacts to native wildlife species. Increase noise may have an impact on protected species at they occur at the preferred alternative sites.	649:AEO
133	3-07	7	7.6.1 Step 6A: Assess potential long-term impact...	Land and Sub- merged Land Use	Projects that may restrict public access to a community-valued resource would have an adverse impact.	Access should not be restricted in public areas in the footprint of the LFTRC. SDZ's extend outward, encroaching public lands used for recreational, educational, and cultural purposes.	649:AEP
134	7-07	7	7.6.1 Step 6A: Assess potential long-term impact...	Airspace		Concern on Airspace is the potential of low-altitude flights from military aircraft, mostly from Military helicopters. AGL should be implemented and enforced to avoid adverse impacts to the less significant impacts to human population and protected wildlife species.	649:AEQ

649:AEN – As stated in the Draft SEIS, the DON proposes to expand the existing Orote Ecological Reserve Area and designate a new Ecological Reserve Area at the NAVMAG.

649:AEO – Potential noise impacts to wildlife and special-status species are addressed in the Draft SEIS in the environmental consequences section within the terrestrial biological resources section for each cantonment/family housing and LFTRC alternative.

649:AEP – The DON understands and recognizes the significance of recreational sites located on DoD property on Guam. Restricting access to certain DON areas at certain times is required to maintain public safety. Impacts associated with reduced or restricted access to specific land areas are acknowledged and evaluated in the SEIS. Final plans concerning access to sites potentially impacted by the proposed action have not been developed. The DON looks forward to working with stakeholders to develop plans for cultural stewardship and access that balance operational needs, public safety concerns, and the continuing public use and enjoyment of these sites. Note that the majority of currently publicly accessible areas of Ritidian unit and cultural properties at Ritidian Unit would be outside of the LFTRC surface danger zones. Additionally, it should be noted that the public is currently restricted from accessing the majority of the Ritidian Unit of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The addition of the LFTRC under Alternative 5 would increase the amount of beach restricted to public access by approximately 10%. The Final SEIS has been amended to address the DON's intent to coordinate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for new beach access to ensure the public can access the remaining portion of the beach at Ritidian Point not encumbered by the LFTRC surface danger zones.

649:AEQ – The section in the Draft SEIS to which you refer pertains to the impacts to airspace as a resource and not the effects of low-level flights on population or wildlife. There is no aircraft activity proposed in the SEIS action and the environmental effects of other flight activities within Guam airspace have been addressed in other relevant NEPA documents (for example the 2010 Final EIS for the Marine Corps relocation). Therefore, the SEIS proposed action contributes no additional flight activity that is appropriate to analyze from a cumulative perspective. The effects of low-level flights over Guam are outside the scope of the SEIS.

Response:

649:AER – The cumulative effects analysis in Chapter 7 of the SEIS does take into account some larger projects undertaken or proposed by private landowners for which information was readily available in public records (e.g., Projects G-7, G-8, N-2, N-10, N-28, N-29, N-35, N-36, N-41, C-2, and others). Many of these are identified as being intended for workforce housing.

649:AES – There are manmade and natural impacts to resources. Over time, the impacts of development have been subject to increasing levels of local and federal agency review and approval with the goal of balancing the benefits of development with the potential environmental impacts while minimizing the potential for overconsumption of resources. The DoD is committed to the protection and responsible stewardship of the environment.

649:AET – The proposed mitigation measures as provided in the Draft SEIS would address all impacts to special-status species due to the construction and operation of the proposed action. The Navy is in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in accordance with section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. A Biological Assessment has been prepared by the Navy to analyze the potential impacts on Endangered Species Act-listed and candidate species and critical habitat under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Biological Opinion, issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service after their review of the Biological Assessment and consultation as part of the Endangered Species Act Section 7 process, will be the final determination of impacts to Endangered Species Act-listed species that are being evaluated in this SEIS. The Biological Opinion may specify Conservation Recommendations that are discretionary proponent activities to minimize or avoid adverse effects of a proposed action on listed species or critical habitat, to help implement recovery plans, or to develop information. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service “effects determinations” from the Biological Opinion will be incorporated into the Final SEIS. As site-specific plans for construction projects are developed, to the maximum extent practical, the DON will minimize overall habitat loss.

649:AEU – While impacts to public services and permitting agencies were not considered substantial, additional factors were considered in the finding of significant impact. Because there was a finding of significance, potential mitigation measures were identified that would help support Guam's public services to the extent that they may be affected by the proposed action.

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135	7-4361	7		7.6.1 Summary of Potential Long-Term Impacts of Recently Completed, Present, and Reasonably Foreseeable Future Projects on Resource Areas		The Lead Agency or Proponent column does not include the private landowners activities. Since the 2010 EIS was one for review, many private landowners developed their properties in hopes that housing units will be leased to military personnel who opt to live off base. The impact to the clearing and development is a significant impact to conservation efforts for the recovery of T&L spp, and Special status species due to degraded forest or habitat loss.	649:AER
136	7-64	7		7.6.2 Potential for Cumulative Effect	Geological and Soil Resources, Terrestrial Biological Resources, Water resources, Land Use, Recreational Resources, and Marine Biological Resources	The concern is the cumulative effects on the natural resources on the island as result of development. When will we declare an "overconsumption" of our island's resources?	649:AES
137	7-74	7		7.7.4 Noise		Need for Mitigation. Potential mitigation measures proposed for avoiding or reducing impacts to resources are listed in Tables 4.6-1 and 5.7-1. No additional mitigation measures for cumulative effects are proposed.	649:AET
138	7-78	7		7.7.7 Recreational Resources		Need for Mitigation. Potential mitigation measures proposed for avoiding or reducing impacts to resources are listed in Tables 4.6-1 and 5.7-1. No additional mitigation measures for cumulative effects are proposed.	649:AEU

							preserve recreational resource.
139	7-80	7		7.7.6 Terrestrial Biological Resources	Guam rail and Micronesian Kingfisher	Research and management efforts continue to first wild populations of Guam rail and Guam Micronesian Kingfisher may eventually be reestablished on Guam	More the intent to expand existing ERA to find lands, to avoid impact to GNWR land and create additional ERA (from the Pati Point to Anao Point).
140	7-80	7		7.7.8 Terrestrial Biological Resources	Mariana crow	Production by brown tree snake, rat, and monitor lizard prevents recovery	With brown tree snake control (chemical barriers) at most sites, the Mariana crow was able to reproduce successfully. Insecure activity in the MSA (area where remaining crows existed prior 2012) may have caused the crow population to diminish. The crow population in Rota is slowly declining from illegal take. Mitigation should include crow reintroduction in HBU area.
141	7-80	7		7.7.8 Terrestrial Biological Resources		Full-eight recently completed projects have the potential to contribute to adverse cumulative effect to terrestrial biological resources on Guam (see Table 7.6-1). The primary impact from these projects would be the potential loss of native habitats and the increased potential for the spread of invasive species.	Mitigation should include the development and implementation of the Biosecurity Control Plan. Funding must be provided to GOVUAM agencies to regulate and monitor invasive species for new introductions and spread of existing invasive species on island. Funding should include control and eradication efforts for existing non-native species on island.

649:AFV

649:AEW

649:AEX

649:AEV – As stated in the Draft SEIS, the DON proposes to expand the existing Orote Ecological Reserve Area and designate a new Ecological Reserve Area at the NAVMAG. Pati Point on Andersen AFB is already a designated Natural Area. Access to the existing Pati Point Natural Area is highly restricted to protect the natural resources, and is allowed only with the permission of Andersen AFB. The natural area is managed in accordance with the Joint Region Marianas Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan.

649:AEW – Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act requires Federal agencies to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to ensure that they are not undertaking, funding, permitting, or authorizing actions likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat. The Navy is in formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in accordance with section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. A Biological Assessment has been prepared by the Navy to analyze the potential impacts on Endangered Species Act-listed and candidate species and critical habitat under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Biological Opinion issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service after their review of the Biological Assessment and consultation as part of the Endangered Species Act section 7 process, will be the final determination of impacts to Endangered Species Act-listed species that are being evaluated in the Final SEIS. The Biological Opinion may specify Conservation Recommendations that are discretionary proponent activities to minimize or avoid adverse effects of a proposed action on listed species or critical habitat, to help implement recovery plans, or to develop information. If consultation is concluded prior to the publication of the Final SEIS, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service “effects determinations” from the Biological Opinion will be incorporated into the Final SEIS. As site-specific plans for construction projects are developed, to the maximum extent practical, the DON will minimize overall habitat loss.

As stated in the Draft SEIS, the proposed mitigation for the removal of limestone forest would be forest enhancement of an equal area of degraded forest habitat on Guam. The proposed forest enhancement would include the management of existing degraded limestone forest on other areas of Guam, including removal of non-native invasive plants, planting of native species, and control and removal of ungulates that negatively impact native forests. This forest enhancement would increase the area of native forest on Guam that is not being impacted by non-native ungulates and increase the diversity of native species within the forest, thereby providing improved habitat for Guam's native species. This multi-pronged approach will address stressors and limiting factors challenging the eventual recovery of Guam's ecosystem.

649:AEX – Table 2.8-1 of the Draft SEIS (pages 2-93 to 2-95) provides a summary of the Best Management Practices that would be implemented to avoid the introduction of non-native invasive species from the construction and operation of the proposed action. In particular, refer to the Contractor Education Program, Biosecurity Outreach and Education, Incorporate Biosecurity Measures, and implementation of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point Plans.

To mitigate this significant impact, DoD would assist the Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources in locating funding from federal agencies such as the DoD Office of Economic

sponse:

Adjustment. the Department of the Interior. and others to regulate and monitor invasive species for new introductions and spread of existing invasive species include control and eradication efforts for existing non-native species in island.

Response:

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649:AEY – Reforestation of Masso Reservoir is not a mitigation measure under the proposed action. As stated in the Draft SEIS, the proposed mitigation for the removal of limestone forest would be forest enhancement of an equal area of degraded forest habitat on Guam. The proposed forest enhancement would include the management of existing degraded limestone forest on other areas of Guam, including removal of non-native invasive plants, planting of native species, and control and removal of ungulates that negatively impact native forests. This forest enhancement would increase the area of native forest on Guam that is not being impacted by non-native ungulates and increase the diversity of native species within the forest, thereby providing improved habitat for Guam's native species. This multi-pronged approach will address stressors and limiting factors challenging the eventual recovery of Guam's ecosystem.

142	7-BB			7.7.8 Terrestrial Biological Resources	Reforestation of Masso Reservoir (LAR-2) could have a beneficial impact on terrestrial biology.	The cumulative acreage of habitat loss is a great significance on terrestrial biology from all projects on Guam. Reforestation of Masso Reservoir is not equivalent to the amount of forest removed for DoD related development. Additional reforestation lands will be needed to meet the potential recovery of the terrestrial biological resources.	649-AEY
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Response:



Eddie Baza Calvo
Governor
Ray Tenorio
Lt. Governor

Comment ID: #607

Department of Parks and Recreation

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Raymond F.Y. Ihas
Director

607:A – Thank you for your comment. Section 4.1.15 addresses potential increase in required staffing for the Department of Parks and Recreation.

May 30, 2014

MEMORANDUM

To: Joint Guam Program Office Forward
P.O. 153246
Santa Rita, Guam 96915

Office of the Governor of Guam
Attn: Military Buildup Office (Mark Calvo)
Ricardo J. Bordallo Governor's Complex
Adelup, Guam 96910

From: Director

Subject: Department of Parks and Recreation's Input / Comment on the
Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)

Hafa Aday! The following are DPR's comments relative to the impacts of the subject DSEIS. Please note that the SHPO's review and comments will be provided separately.

- Population Change: Although significantly lower than the population stated in the 2010 Final EIS, an increase of 6,300 individuals and more than 10,000 during the peak of the construction period as proposed in this DSEIS will impact the following DPR activities and operations:
 - Increase in usage of parks, beaches and recreational facilities: Staffing requirements for these operations and facilities will need to be increased to ensure that adequate upkeep and safety is maintained.
 - Availability of existing outdoor recreational space: As the population increases, the availability of fixed outdoor resources (park shelters, camp sites, vendor areas, etc.) will result in the decrease of availability for island residents and visitors alike. Overcrowding of parks and beaches will likely result as well as encroachment into private properties, etc.

607:A

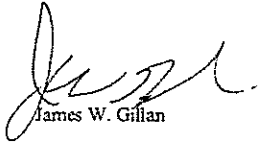
Comment ID: #606 (Cont.)

GOVERNMENT OF GUAM
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
DIPATTAMENTON SALUT PUPBLEKO YAN SETBISION SUSIAT

diseases are made known to DPHSS as soon as there is any suspicion, often we would require even suspect case reporting without waiting for laboratory confirmation.

The good thing about a somewhat slower phase in is that we have time to address these concerns. I thank the JGPO for its willingness to listen and to become real partners with our community.

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact the undersigned at james.gillan@dphss.guam.gov or phone 735-7101



James W. Gillan

Comment ID: #607(Cont.)

- o Burial Issues: It is anticipated that a large portion of the workforce required for the proposed buildup will come from foreign labor. Given the anticipated peak in population growth of 10,000 individuals, it is likely that an extremely small percentage may for one reason or another become deceased while on Island. Burial options include the transporting of the individuals back to their place of origin, private burial service, or burial at a public cemetery. It is likely that the burial will occur at DPR's public cemetery as this option in the most cost effective of the options. Although minimal, any impact to an already overcrowded public cemetery will result in a significant reduction in the remaining lifespan of the cemetery.

607:B

- Economic Activity: Correspondingly, the increase in population will inevitably result in the increase of businesses to serve the population. The impacts to DPR's outdoor recreational resources will likely include:
 - o Increase in number of land based and water based food and recreational vendors.
 - o Increase in the number of public safety incidents (water recreation related, thefts, altercations, etc.).
 - o Overcrowding of beach access and parking.
 - o Increase in the revenues from permit fees, etc.
 - o Increase in the availability and variety of outdoor recreational resources and opportunities.

607:C

- Public Services: Separate from the impacts of a population increase on DPR's outdoor resources, the proposed buildup will result in additional staffing requirements for plan reviews, site investigations and inspections. Although anticipated staffing requirements presently only call for 1 additional personnel for the proposed buildup approach, it is highly likely that an additional 2 personnel will be required to replace employees lost to retirement, etc. This issue is addressed separately in the SHPOs response.

607:D

- Socio-cultural Issues: Although difficult to assess due to the phased and gradual increase in population of the proposed action, it is likely that an increase in minor conflicts or altercations will occur as a result of overcrowding and competing for limited space (parking, park or beach areas, encroachment, etc.). Additionally, unintended conflicts/misunderstanding resulting from general cultural and social customs or practices of diverse groups (pacific islanders, foreign workforce and military personnel) is likely.

607:E

607: B – The potential impact would be minimal, or less than significant: therefore, no mitigation would be required. Additionally, Section 30 revenues would cover the expense of proper burial services even in the event that were to involve burial at a private cemetery. However, it is expected that a minimal number of Marines would die while on Guam, and these Marines would likely be transported stateside or to the Veteran's Cemetery at no cost to GovGuam.

607:C – Impacts to recreational resources are discussed in the recreational resources section for each alternative.

607:D – Analysis of additional staff required does not account for needs associated with potential retirements, only effects related to the proposed action are analyzed. Additionally, in the 2011 Programmatic Agreement (Stipulation IX.A), DoD recognizes that the additional workload associated with the undertaking and its effects may exceed current capacity of the Guam State Historic Preservation Office. While DoD is restricted from funding the State Historic Preservation Office directly, the 2011 Programmatic Agreement commits to work cooperatively with Guam State Historic Preservation Office to reduce workload. For example, 2011 Programmatic Agreement Stipulation IX.A.1 commits DoD to designate a DoD-funded Guam State Historic Preservation Office Liaison to serve as the principal point of contact and to assist with coordination, communication, and documentation preparation and review during the construction phase associated with the Undertaking for no less than 20 hours per week. Additionally, 2011 Programmatic Agreement Stipulation VII.C.2 commits DoD to support Guam State Historic Preservation Office's update of the current Guam Historic Preservation Plan in accordance with Secretary of Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Preservation Planning as part of its five-year planning cycle and continue to do so every 5 years for the life of this agreement. The hope is that providing a State Historic Preservation Office Liaison and assisting Guam State Historic Preservation Office with their responsibility to update the Guam Historic Preservation Plan during the life of the 2011 Programmatic Agreement will help reduce overall Guam State Historic Preservation Office staff workload.

607:E – See Section 4.5 of the Socioeconomic Impact Assessment Study (Appendix D to the SEIS) for more information on sociocultural impacts.

Response:

Comment ID: #607 (Cont.)

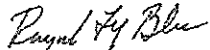
- Land Acquisition: Impacts in this area include, but are not limited to, access to beaches and historical sites and resources. Although existing access may be limited/restricted, it is unclear what level of future access to these resources will be provided. Detailed impacts of access issues to recreational, cultural and historical resources are addressed in the SHPOs comments.

607:F

In addition to the current PA being coordinated with the SHPO to address the impacts of the proposed undertaking, DPR will continue to work diligently and in collaboration with other departments and agencies as well as with the Military to develop strategies, policies and programs to address the impacts from both the fiscal aspect and through partnerships to ensure that island residents and visitors alike are afforded the opportunity to experience Guam's outdoor recreational, cultural, and historical resources. Thank you for your continued support of DPR and for the opportunity to comment.

607:G

Regards,


RAYMOND F.Y. BLAS

607:F – The DON understands and recognizes the significance of cultural and recreational sites located on DoD property on Guam. Restricting access to certain DON areas at certain times is required to maintain public safety. Impacts associated with reduced or restricted access to specific land areas are acknowledged and evaluated in the SEIS. Final plans concerning access to sites potentially impacted by the proposed action have not been developed. The DON looks forward to working with stakeholders to develop plans for cultural stewardship and access that balance operational needs, public safety concerns, and the continuing public use and enjoyment of these sites. Note that the majority of currently publicly accessible areas of Ritidian unit and cultural properties at Ritidian Unit would be outside of the LFTRC surface danger zones. Additionally, it should be noted that the public is currently restricted from accessing the majority of the Ritidian Unit of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The addition of the LFTRC under Alternative 5 would increase the amount of beach restricted to public access by approximately 10%. The Final SEIS has been amended to address the DON's intent to coordinate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for new beach access to ensure the public can access the remaining portion of the beach at Ritidian Point not encumbered by the LFTRC surface danger zones.

607:G – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.

Comment ID: #621



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

July 1, 2014

Joseph Ludovici
Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy
Infrastructure, Strategy and Analysis
201 12th Street South
Suite 701E Room A
Arlington, VA 22202

Joint Guam Program Office Forward
P.O. 153246
Santa Rita, Guam 96915

Subject: EPA comments on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) for the Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Relocation (2012 Roadmap Adjustments), Guam (CEQ# 20140118)

Dear Mr. Ludovici:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the above-referenced document pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and our NEPA review authority under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act. EPA is a cooperating agency on the project EIS and has worked closely with the Department of Defense (DoD) to review and comment on the project since 2007. On February 17, 2010, EPA rated the original Draft EIS for the military relocation "Environmentally Unsatisfactory - Inadequate" (EU-3), based, in part, on the projected unsatisfactory impacts to Guam's existing substandard drinking water and wastewater infrastructure, and the associated potentially significant adverse impacts to public health. Since then, the scale of the proposed military relocation has been reduced. On November 12, 2013, we provided comments to DoD on the Preliminary DSEIS. We appreciate the changes made to the document to address some of our comments.

621:A

Based on our review of the DSEIS, we have rated the preferred alternatives as Environmental Concerns, Insufficient Information (EC-2) (see enclosed "Summary of Rating Definitions"). Although the reduction in size of the military buildup has substantially reduced the project's expected impacts to water and wastewater utilities, the reduced project would still significantly impact one aquifer sub-basin and contribute wastewater flows to Guam Waterworks Authority (GWA) wastewater treatment plants that are currently operating in non-compliance with their existing Clean Water Act discharge permits. GWA's Northern District Wastewater Treatment Plant (NDWWTP) would receive a 53% increase in average baseline flows as a result of the project.

The DSEIS indicates that funding to upgrade civilian water and wastewater utilities impacted by the project has been appropriated (specifically, the appropriation of \$106,400,000 from the FY2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act) and that impacts, including those to the NDWWTP, are mitigable.

621:A – Thank you for your comment. Responses tied to specific impacts on water, wastewater, solid wastes, etc., are largely addressed in the subsequent pages. With respect to recommending that the DON seek additional ways to avoid impacts to vegetation (specifically limestone forest), it should be noted that we have identified a new preferred alternative combination that places the family housing on Andersen AFB instead of at Finegayan. This change from the Draft SEIS would mean approximately 240 fewer acres of limestone forest would be impacted at Finegayan. This new alternative is qualitatively within the spectrum of alternatives analyzed in the Draft SEIS and, consistent with guidance published by the Council on Environmental Quality as adopted by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, does not require the preparation of another supplemental draft.

Comment ID: #621 (Cont.)

We greatly appreciate the efforts that DoD has made to obtain this funding, as it is crucial to ensure the significant impacts to the NDWWTP are addressed. Our rating of EC-2 is based on the expected availability of this or equivalent funding for the needed upgrades to the NDWWTP. EPA would consider it unacceptable for DoD to place the burden of addressing project-related increases in wastewater on GWA. If adequate funding is not made available for this purpose and the project's impact burden would fall on GWA alone, EPA would have objections to the proposed action, and may find it environmentally unsatisfactory (see enclosed "Summary of Rating Definitions"). GWA is ill-equipped financially to accommodate the additional project flows while currently pursuing compliance with its discharge permits. Adding a substantial flow to any of GWA's existing wastewater treatment systems would exacerbate an already significant water quality problem caused by inadequate treatment of sewage, and increase the potential human health and environmental risk associated with those facilities operating in noncompliance. We will continue to work with DoD and the other stakeholders on these issues and to provide technical assistance, where needed. Our enclosed comments request additional information regarding impacts to the wastewater collection system.

Our EC-2 rating also reflects our concerns regarding the potential impacts to the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer (NGLA) drinking water supply and the future management of the NGLA. The DSEIS acknowledges significant impacts to one aquifer sub-basin from seawater intrusion, and proposes mitigation that relies on clear, coordinated, and sufficiently funded, multi-party NGLA management. The DSEIS does not describe such an organized and funded management scenario, and the multiple deficiencies identified in GWA's drinking water system further complicate the situation. Climate change effects also could contribute to increased salinity in the aquifer over time. To address these uncertainties and the significant impact to the aquifer sub-basin, DoD should prepare an adaptive management strategy to provide guidance for managing the aquifer and addressing impacts that future monitoring might reveal once project groundwater pumping begins. We recommend that DoD contribute funding for the needed additions to the monitoring network and provide technical and financial assistance to the Guam Environmental Protection Agency to ensure the multi-party NGLA management stakeholders group is prepared and has the necessary leadership and organizational capability to collectively manage the aquifer.

Finally, the preferred alternatives for the main cantonment and live-fire training range (LFTR) would result in substantial deforestation and significant impacts to terrestrial biological resources, which have already experienced a serious decline in health on Guam. We encourage DoD to seek out additional ways to avoid loss of limestone forest, which is vital for Guam's federally-listed threatened and endangered species and the health of the NGLA. Because of the magnitude of these impacts, and the fact that some of the project footprint would remove areas serving as mitigation for previous DoD impacts elsewhere, we believe that a more substantial mitigation proposal is warranted, and urge DoD to continue to work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service towards this end. The proposed large-scale deforestation would also require a more developed system to manage the large quantities of green waste than is presented in the DSEIS.

We appreciate DoD's continued good faith efforts to work closely with EPA on the modified buildup and we look forward to our continued coordination with DoD, the Government of Guam, and other

621:A
Cont.

Response:

Comment ID: #621 (Cont.)

federal agencies in this endeavor. If you have any questions, please contact me at (415) 972-3854, or contact Karen Vitulano, the lead reviewer for this project, at 415-947-4178 or karen.vitulano@epa.gov.

621:A
Cont.

Sincerely,



Kathleen H. Johnson, Director
Enforcement Division

Enclosures: Summary of EPA Rating Definitions
EPA's Detailed Comments

cc: J. Dan Cecchini, Joint Guam Program Office
Earl Campbell, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Mark Calvo, Director, Guam Military Buildup Office
Eric Palacios, Guam Environmental Protection Agency
Martin Roush, Guam Waterworks Authority

Comment ID: #621 (Cont.)

SUMMARY OF EPA RATING DEFINITIONS

This rating system was developed as a means to summarize the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) level of concern with a proposed action. The ratings are a combination of alphabetical categories for evaluation of the environmental impacts of the proposal and numerical categories for evaluation of the adequacy of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE ACTION

"LO" (Lack of Objections)

The EPA review has not identified any potential environmental impacts requiring substantive changes to the proposal. The review may have disclosed opportunities for application of mitigation measures that could be accomplished with no more than minor changes to the proposal.

"EC" (Environmental Concerns)

The EPA review has identified environmental impacts that should be avoided in order to fully protect the environment. Corrective measures may require changes to the preferred alternative or application of mitigation measures that can reduce the environmental impact. EPA would like to work with the lead agency to reduce these impacts.

"EO" (Environmental Objections)

The EPA review has identified significant environmental impacts that should be avoided in order to provide adequate protection for the environment. Corrective measures may require substantial changes to the preferred alternative or consideration of some other project alternative (including the no action alternative or a new alternative). EPA intends to work with the lead agency to reduce these impacts.

"EU" (Environmentally Unsatisfactory)

The EPA review has identified adverse environmental impacts that are of sufficient magnitude that they are unsatisfactory from the standpoint of public health or welfare or environmental quality. EPA intends to work with the lead agency to reduce these impacts. If the potentially unsatisfactory impacts are not corrected at the final EIS stage, this proposal will be recommended for referral to the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ).

ADEQUACY OF THE IMPACT STATEMENT

Category "1" (Adequate)

EPA believes the draft EIS adequately sets forth the environmental impact(s) of the preferred alternative and those of the alternatives reasonably available to the project or action. No further analysis or data collection is necessary, but the reviewer may suggest the addition of clarifying language or information.

Category "2" (Insufficient Information)

The draft EIS does not contain sufficient information for EPA to fully assess environmental impacts that should be avoided in order to fully protect the environment, or the EPA reviewer has identified new reasonably available alternatives that are within the spectrum of alternatives analyzed in the draft EIS, which could reduce the environmental impacts of the action. The identified additional information, data, analyses, or discussion should be included in the final EIS.

Category "3" (Inadequate)

EPA does not believe that the draft EIS adequately assesses potentially significant environmental impacts of the action, or the EPA reviewer has identified new, reasonably available alternatives that are outside of the spectrum of alternatives analyzed in the draft EIS, which should be analyzed in order to reduce the potentially significant environmental impacts. EPA believes that the identified additional information, data, analyses, or discussions are of such a magnitude that they should have full public review at a draft stage. EPA does not believe that the draft EIS is adequate for the purposes of the NEPA and/or Section 309 review, and thus should be formally revised and made available for public comment in a supplemental or revised draft EIS. On the basis of the potential significant impacts involved, this proposal could be a candidate for referral to the CEQ.

Comment ID: #621 (Cont.)

EPA DETAILED COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT, GUAM AND CNMI MILITARY RELOCATION, GUAM, JULY 1, 2014

Wastewater

Impacts to the Northern District Wastewater Treatment Plant

The DSEIS notes that the proposed action would result in an estimated 53% increase in the average baseline flows to the Northern District Wastewater Treatment Plant (NDWWTP) by 2028 (p. 4-108). It adequately characterizes the state of noncompliance of this facility, and the fact that contributing additional flows to this facility would be a significant impact until Guam Waterworks Authority (GWA) achieves compliance with the secondary treatment standards stipulated under its National Pollutant Discharge Eliminate System (NPDES) permit. The DSEIS also discloses the less substantial increased flows to the other wastewater treatment plants that would occur as a result of civilian population growth associated with the buildup and that those facilities are also out of compliance with their NPDES permits.

621:B

To mitigate the significant impact to the NDWWTP, the DSEIS states that DoD would assist GWA in locating funding from federal agencies and others, and references the Economic Adjustment Committee (EAC) set up by the Secretary of Defense to address assistance to support public infrastructure requirements. In addition, the Consolidated Appropriations Act appropriated over \$106M for civilian water and wastewater improvements on Guam (p. 4-108). This funding is crucial to ensure that the impacts to the NDWWTP from the buildup are addressed. If this funding is unavailable for NDWWTP upgrades, then the significant impacts from the additional wastewater flows that would occur as a result of the project would be unmitigated. Given the financial and resource constraints that exist for Guam, it is unrealistic to anticipate that GWA could, on its own, accommodate the increased project flows in a manner compliant with environmental standards.

The DSEIS discloses the increased indirect wastewater flows to the Agana WWTP that would be generated by the temporary construction workforce and induced civilian population, and concludes that the impacts would be less than significant since the additional flows would be minor. However, the impact assessment criteria in the DSEIS include: *"if a utility would operate within the design and capacity of its systems with the additional estimated demands of the proposed action, but is expected to be operating in violation of its regulatory requirements when the proposed action would occur, there would be a determination of significant adverse impact"*. (p. 3-97). We are aware that DoD has requested additional funding to support other wastewater infrastructure improvements, and appreciate DoD's efforts to support the necessary upgrades to avoid significant impacts to public health and water resources from the project.

Recommendation: The FSEIS should identify measures DoD would take to ensure GWA's NDWWTP would meet the requirements of its current NPDES permits before it receives additional flows from the project. Include any updates regarding the status of the requested additional funding, as well as the use of the \$106M for NDWWTP, in the FSEIS.

Consistent with the impact assessment criteria identified in the DSEIS, identify the increase in flows to Agana WWTP as significant.

621:B – As stated in the SEIS, DoD would assist Guam Waterworks Authority in locating funding from federal agencies such as the DoD Office of Economic Adjustment, the Department of the Interior, and others. As discussed in Section 2.9.1, Subsection 2822(d) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Pub. L. 113-86) directs the Secretary of Defense to convene the Economic Adjustment Committee "...to consider assistance, including assistance to support public infrastructure requirements, necessary to support the preferred alternative for the relocation of Marine Corps forces to Guam." In accordance with subsection 2822(d), the Economic Adjustment Committee will submit a report to the congressional defense committees describing the results of the Economic Adjustment Committee's deliberations and containing an implementation plan to support the DON's preferred alternative for the relocation of Marine Corps forces to Guam. The implementation plan will detail descriptions of work, costs, and schedules for completion of construction, improvements, and repairs to Guam public infrastructure affected by the realignment, including improvements and upgrades to the Guam wastewater system and expansion/rehabilitation of the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer monitoring well network for sustainment of the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer. In addition, Section 8102 of the Fiscal Year 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act (Public Law No. 113-76) appropriated \$106.4 million to the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Office of Economic Adjustment, for civilian water and wastewater improvements on Guam. These funds will remain available until expended. To support this implementation plan, DoD assessed Guam's public infrastructure, including Guam Waterworks Authority's water and wastewater systems that may be affected by the preferred alternative. The water and wastewater assessment recommends rehabilitation of existing Northern Guam Lens Aquifer monitoring wells and placement of additional monitoring wells to facilitate sustainment of the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer.

The SEIS has been revised to provide clarification on the wastewater contributions from the proposed action to the Agaña Wastewater Treatment Plant and rationale on the less than significant impact determination in Draft SEIS. The Agaña Wastewater Treatment Plant was upgraded to primary treatment upgrades (being implemented as required by the 2011 Court Order) and secondary treatment upgrades are required by the 2013 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit. As stated in the Draft SEIS, the impacts from the proposed action to an utility would be determined to be significant adverse impact that if a utility would operate within the design and capacity of its systems with the additional estimated demands of the proposed action, but is expected to be operating in violation of its regulatory requirements when the proposed action would occur. Additionally, as stated in the Draft SEIS, in a situation where a utility is currently operating in violation of regulatory requirements and the proposed action would utilize this utility above a negligible amount, there would be a determination of significant adverse impact as well. Under the preferred alternative, the increase wastewater flows from the proposed action would be from indirect sources, from induced civilian growth (0.04 million gallons per day), less than one percent of the total projected flow. Therefore, consistent with impact assessment criteria in the SEIS, less than significant impact to the waste water flow to Agaña Wastewater Treatment Plant is anticipated from the proposed action. It should be noted that the construction workforce would likely be located within the Northern District Wastewater Treatment Plant area under the preferred alternative.

Response:

The Final SEIS will continue to identify the impact of the proposed action to the Agaña Wastewater Treatment Plant as less than significant for both the duration of construction and for operations. The DON will include any updates on requested additional funding in the Final SEIS. If available before Final SEIS publication, the DON will provide an update on the use of the \$106M.

Comment ID: #621 (Cont.)

Impacts to the GWA wastewater collection system

The DSEIS evaluates the capacity of the wastewater collection system to receive the additional flows from the Proposed Action and includes a new relief sewer to convey additional wastewater flow to the main GWA sewer along Route 3. With this, it concludes that the GWA interceptor sewer along Routes 3 and 9 would have adequate capacity to convey flows higher than those projected for the proposed action, and that off-base improvements to the GWA collection system are not required for the preferred alternative (p. 4-108). This assessment does not indicate the basis for this statement nor identify documentation showing adequate condition of the GWA sewer lines. In addition, the DSEIS does not evaluate other aspects of the collection system, including the condition of pump stations and manholes.

621:C

621:C – The SEIS was revised to add additional details of a sewer capacity study conducted in support of the 2010 Final EIS and applicable to the SEIS. A sewer hydraulic model developed in the Guam Waterworks Authority Water Resources Management Plan and modified with field data and calibrated with flow monitoring data. Based on a similar flow scenario in the sewer capacity study, the projected increase in flow for the cantonment and family housing alternatives that are serviced by the Northern District Wastewater Treatment Plant, including the preferred alternative, the 30-inch sewer trunk along Route 3 and Route 9 and the 42-inch sewer trunk can adequately convey dry- and wet-weather flows. There is one segment of each sewer size that is projected to flow at greater than 75% capacity. These may warrant additional evaluation by Guam Waterworks Authority. It is DOD’s understanding that GovGuam received funding from U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to conduct sewer system evaluation study in northern Guam but has not awarded the work.

Also the final SEIS was revised to add available information regarding condition of other Guam Waterworks Authority sewer lines, pump stations and manholes. If information was available from Guam Waterworks Authority regarding the timelines for improvements and how that correlates with the implementation of the proposed plan was added.

Water Resources section in the Final SEIS has been revised to include discussion of the potential impacts to groundwater quality from potential sanitary sewer overflows.

621:D – Primary treatment upgrades were completed at the Northern District Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Agana Wastewater Treatment Plant on December 2012 and June 2013, respectively. A capacity report for the Northern District Wastewater Treatment Plant has been referenced in the SEIS. A Preliminary Design Report for the Agana Wastewater Treatment Plant primary treatment upgrades has been referenced in the SEIS.

The sentence "About 36% of the estimated increase in wastewater flow from the baseline is attributable to direct and indirect effects from the proposed action." has been revised to "The estimated direct and indirect wastewater flows represent a 36% increase from the baseline."

The DSEIS also does not consider the environmental impacts of the additional flows to the GWA collection system. It identifies the deficiencies of the GWA wastewater collection system, as revealed in EPA’s National Enforcement Investigations Center (NEIC) report, including the aged and deteriorated sewer pipes that are subject to excessive infiltration and inflow resulting in sewage spills and operational problems at the WWTPs, and the number of spills from GWA’s sewage collection system that greatly exceed spill rate norms for similar wastewater systems (p. 4-100). While it states that GWA is proceeding with capital improvement projects to replace and rehabilitate the collection system, it acknowledges that improvements to the operation and maintenance of the existing GWA wastewater infrastructure are in the initial stages and require several years and significant funding to achieve full compliance. Until this occurs, increases in flows could result in increases in sanitary sewer overflows. This pollutant source is not identified in the groundwater impact discussion.

621:D

Recommendation: Provide additional information in the FEIS regarding the condition assessment of the GWA sewer lines. Discuss the condition of pump stations and manholes. Estimate the potential for increased SSOs from the increase in flows through the deficient GWA collection system. Include the estimated timeline for improvements and how that correlates with the project schedule. Impacts to groundwater quality from this source should be evaluated and disclosed.

WWTP Capacities

The WWTP capacity evaluation in the DSEIS concludes that both Northern District and Agana WWTPs have the ability to treat wastewater to primary treatment standards up to 9 MGD and 12 MGD respectively (p. 4-101 and 4-102). No information or references are included to support these estimates.

In addition, it appears there is an error in the comment regarding Table 4.1.14-1 where the DSEIS states, "About 36% of the estimated increase in wastewater flow from the baseline is attributable to direct and indirect effects from the proposed action." Based on the data in the table, we believe that this statement should be revised to say that "about 69% of estimated increase in wastewater flow from the baseline is attributable to direct and indirect effects from the proposed action."¹

Recommendation: Provide the basis for the conclusions regarding WWTP capacities in the FEIS or in an appendix. Correct the statements regarding flow increases in relation to Table 4.1.14-1.

¹ Estimated increase consists of Direct Flow (1.23), Indirect flow (0.61), Guam Civilian Growth (0.84) totaling 2.68. Direct plus indirect (1.23 + 0.61 = 1.84) represents 69% of the total increase of 2.68.

Drinking Water and the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer

Management of the NGLA, the Drinking Water System, and Mitigation

The Northern Guam Len Aquifer (NGLA) has been designated as a Sole Source Aquifer under the Safe Drinking Water Act. The DEIS states that the impacts to the NGLA from the extraction of the 1.7 million gallons per day (MGD) of potable water that would be needed for the preferred alternative would be less than significant for the overall NGLA, but would cause short-term, localized significant impacts to the Finegayan sub-basin (p. 4-20). According to the U.S. Geological Survey Study², increased withdrawal may result in higher levels of chloride concentrations in the Finegayan sub-basin, but the DSEIS states that, by redistributing withdrawal rates among the extraction wells, it *could* be possible to meet the water demands and maintain acceptable salinities over all existing and proposed Guam Waterworks Authority (GWA) and DoD wells (emphasis ours). The DSEIS identifies potential mitigation for the localized significant impacts: DoD would, as appropriate, implement enhanced water conservation measures, improve existing water systems to reduce system leaks, adjust pumping rates at DoD wells, use existing wells, and/or increase the use of surface water from Fena Reservoir to reduce withdrawals from the NGLA. The DSEIS also states that DoD could provide additional water production capacity to GWA, if requested, to assist GWA in meeting the increased demand while GWA makes improvements to its system (p. 4-105). We have the following questions and concerns:

Roles and resources for agencies managing the NGLA

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) model has limitations due to uncertainties regarding the actual conditions within the aquifer; therefore, the actual capacity numbers could be very different from the model results. The DSEIS states that DoD supports the USGS recommendations for rehabilitation and expansion of the hydrologic data collection network and monitoring, as well as identifying possible funding solutions and the role DoD would play in these processes. Because of the importance of additional data collection for managing the NGLA, EPA is concerned by the current lack of clarity regarding DoD's role and definitive funding sources for the monitoring network. Additionally, the roles of the various agencies tasked with managing the NGLA and potable water supply are unclear. The DSEIS notes that the Guam Water Resource Development Group meets regularly to manage the aquifer, and consists of DoD, Guam Environmental Protection Agency, GWA, Consolidated Commission on Utilities, Guam Department of Public Works, and the University of Guam's Water and Environmental Research Institute (WERI). The DSEIS does not identify USGS as a member of this group, yet it states that the USGS and WERI would conduct periodic monitoring of the aquifer groundwater chemistry to optimize the system and adjust pumping rates if chloride levels show an increase (p. 4-106). The decision-making roles of the agencies are poorly defined. For example, it is unclear who would adjust pumping rates. The 2012 National Enforcement Investigations Center (NEIC) inspection of the GWA public water system revealed a lack of understanding of the whole system by the operators, and a lack of standard operating procedures, among other deficiencies. These deficiencies must be addressed for the type of coordinated management identified in the DSEIS to occur. Additionally, despite the limitations and uncertainties identified, a clear adaptive management strategy is not presented.

Shifting water among basins

While GWA may be able to shift water around its distribution system on a small scale, depending on the extent of the increased chloride levels, it is not clear whether GWA has confirmed its ability to shift water across the island, if necessary, nor whether DoD would also have a role in shifting water. The

² USGS 2013c, *The Effects of Withdrawals and Drought on Groundwater Availability in the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer*, Guam: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2013-5216 <http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2013/5216/>

621:E

621:E – The Guam Water Resource Development Group will develop specific roles and responsibilities during future meetings.

The U.S. Geological Survey is a partner and technical resource to the University of Guam-Water and Environmental Research Institute. The University of Guam-Water and Environmental Research Institute is one of the active stakeholders and can invite the U.S. Geological Survey to participate.

The DON endorses the establishment of additional monitoring wells in accordance with the U.S. Geological Survey proposal for rehabilitation and expansion of the hydrologic data collection network and monitoring in Northern Guam Lens Aquifer as part of an overall strategy within the Guam Water Resource Development Group.

DoD would assist the GovGuam in locating funding for the rehabilitation and expansion of the hydrologic data collection network (i.e. deep monitoring wells) and monitoring of Northern Guam Lens Aquifer. As discussed in Section 2.9.1, Subsection 2822(d) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Pub. L. 113-86) directs the Secretary of Defense to convene the Economic Adjustment Committee "...to consider assistance, including assistance to support public infrastructure requirements, necessary to support the preferred alternative for the relocation of Marine Corps forces to Guam." Section 8102 of the Fiscal Year 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act appropriated \$106.4 million to the Secretary of Defense acting through the Office of Economic Adjustment for civilian water and wastewater improvements on Guam. These funds will remain available until expended. As appropriate, the Economic Adjustment Committee process will support the identification of specific projects utilizing appropriate and authorized DoD funds via the Office of Economic Adjustment to support public infrastructure requirements, and would address the requirement for installation of deep monitoring wells and monitoring of Northern Guam Lens Aquifer.

DoD has connection points within DoD water system where it can supply water to Guam Waterworks Authority, if requested. Some of the connections serving residential/commercial areas are closed because Guam Waterworks Authority is currently producing enough water in those areas. The Guam Water Resources Development Group will coordinate sharing of water between DON and Guam Waterworks Authority and other water management strategies.

The Guam Water Resources Development Group will discuss appropriate adjustments to pumping rates of Guam Waterworks Authority and DoD wells to resolve any water quantity and quality issues.

Comment ID: #621 (Cont.)

DSEIS does not discuss the likely impacts that shifting water across the island, if it is possible to do so, would have on the sub-basins supplying the water.

Potential mitigation

The predicted amount of groundwater (1.7 MGd) to be extracted is less than that predicted in the Preliminary DSEIS (2.1 MGd), which EPA reviewed in late 2013. It is not clear whether water conservation or other mitigation measures identified above to conserve water have already been factored into this latest estimate. Regarding the provision of additional water production to GWA if requested, the mechanism for doing this is not identified, nor is it clear at what cost this could be accomplished. We are aware that GWA is trying to reduce purchases of DoD water because it's much more expensive than producing its own water.

Recommendations: Identify the roles of the member agencies in the Guam Water Resource Development Group, including that of DoD, and explain how rehabilitation and expansion of the monitoring network could be funded, including the likelihood of this occurring. Prepare an adaptive management strategy that anticipates potential outcomes and provides guidance for managing the aquifer once project pumping has begun and should monitoring reveal greater impacts than predicted. This should include potential actions that could be taken if salinities cannot be reduced. Discuss probable effectiveness of the shared management scenario and how identified deficiencies in the public water system could influence this effectiveness. We recommend that DoD contribute funding for the needed additions to the monitoring network and provide technical and financial assistance to the Guam Environmental Protection Agency to ensure the multi-party NGLA management stakeholders group is prepared and has the necessary leadership and organizational capability to collectively manage the aquifer.

Discuss logistics of shifting water and the potential impacts to other basins, should this be necessary. Identify the mechanism for providing GWA with water and whether there would be a cost. Clarify the reduced potable water consumption estimate and whether water conservation, leak detection measures, etc., have already been implemented.

Consider combining all monitoring and management plans (monitoring, adaptive management, wellhead protection, Low Impact Development) into a single groundwater management plan that would not only cover pumping rates and chloride levels, but the entire suite of groundwater protection mitigation measures and BMPs to ensure their continuing operation, maintenance, monitoring, and effectiveness in protecting the aquifer. This plan should include a reporting mechanism so post-construction impacts can be disclosed to interested parties.

Wellhead Protection Zones

The preferred main cantonment alternative is proximate to the wellhead protection area of seven existing production wells at Finegayan. The DSEIS states that some of these wells may need to be relocated or abandoned, or their continued use negotiated with GEPA due to the potential for groundwater contamination, and that these actions would be done in accordance with GEPA regulations (p. 4-14).

Recommendation: The FSEIS should identify which wells would likely need to be abandoned or relocated. We recommend that development in wellhead protection zones be avoided and that DoD pursue avoidance by increasing density and adjusting the project footprint as necessary. Include additional discussion of the impacts associated with potential development in wellhead

621:F – After a preliminary discussion of wellhead protection Best Management Practices with Guam Environmental Protection Agency, it appears feasible to keep the DON Finegayan wells in service. This will minimize the need for installation of replacement wells. The DON also discussed the necessity to develop within wellhead protection areas and received general guidance from Guam Environmental Protection Agency that development in the wellhead protection areas could be allowable with the implementation of appropriate structural Best Management Practices.

621:E
Cont.

621:F

Comment ID: #621 (Cont.)

protection zones and how groundwater would be protected if this occurred. All mitigation should be included in a project-specific Wellhead Protection Plan.

621:F
Cont.

Potential contamination of groundwater from munitions at the Live Fire Training Range (LFTR)

In our comments on the Preliminary DSEIS, we expressed concerns regarding potential contamination from munitions use at the firing ranges for the preferred alternative 5, which locates the live-firing ranges above the NGLA. We recommended that the "periodic Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessments" (REVA) be preceded by baseline monitoring, especially considering that the proposed Multi-purpose Machine Gun range location includes an active contaminated Military Munitions Response Program site (Site 52-UXO 4A MRA254 Burn and Dump Site -AOC-94) and it would be important to capture any groundwater contamination from this site for baseline inputs to the REVA.

621:G

We are pleased that the DSEIS states that, prior to the construction of the range, a site survey would be conducted, including installation of four wells; groundwater sampling would occur to provide actual data on the depth, flow direction(s) and quality of water present; and this information would be provided to the REVA program (p. 5-314). For active training ranges, in general, we have observed that DoD does not typically verify its REVA model results with actual sampling and monitoring, even when the results of the model exceed the REVA trigger levels. Because of the importance of the NGLA and the permeability of soils overlaying it, this practice would not be acceptable for this site.

The DSEIS discloses that lead ammunition would be used and that lead and other heavy metals, including nickel, chromium, cadmium, and copper, tend to accumulate in soils at training ranges, but are not very soluble (p. 5-83). The DSEIS mentions other munitions constituents, but does not identify these compounds nor discuss their solubility or threat to drinking water in the NGLA.

The DSEIS states that site-specific data will be used to determine the frequency of monitoring and range clearance, and that programmatic guidance recommends monitoring and clearance every 5 years.

Recommendations: We strongly recommend, in addition to baseline monitoring, that fate and transport modeling be conducted, using a model that is created for the site-specific soil and permeability parameters present at the firing range site, and that regular contaminant groundwater monitoring be conducted at the ranges to update the model.

Discuss, in the FEIS, the munitions constituents that would be associated with the munitions used at the LFTR and the solubility and leaching potential of each in onsite soils. Identify which constituents would be modeled, sampled and monitored during the operations phase.

Regarding range clearance, DoD should consider the vulnerability of the sole-source aquifer, including pathways to groundwater that exist from the karst geology and the presence of sinkholes at the site of the preferred LFTR alternative, and develop a robust plan to conduct range cleaning at a greater frequency than generally occurs at mainland training ranges (5 years). In addition, DoD should implement BMP effectiveness monitoring to ensure that BMPs are operating as intended and are not leaching pollutants. Because of the vulnerability of the NGLA, additional BMPs that could limit migration of contaminants should be explored, such as Passive Reactive Berm technology³ and the use of sorbents and biostimulants⁴.

³ <http://www.serdp.org/Program-Areas/Environmental-Restoration/Contaminants-on-Ranges/Protecting-Groundwater-Resources/ER-200406>

⁴ <http://www.serdp.org/Program-Areas/Environmental-Restoration/Contaminants-on-Ranges/Protecting-Groundwater-Resources/ER-200406>

621:G –Site inspection and design/construction information, data from the site survey (preceded by installation of four wells at the Northwest Field LFTRC with associated groundwater sampling and aquifer testing as needed), as well as actual munitions loading data will be provided to the U.S. Marine Corps Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessment and Operational Range Clearance programs. The purpose of the Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessment program is to identify whether there is a release or substantial threat of a release of munitions constituents from the operational range or range complex areas to off-range areas. These programs will use that site specific data to determine the frequency of monitoring and range clearance, and will include consideration of past and present conditions/usage of areas within the range boundary. In particular, the Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessment program uses site-specific available data and actual munitions loading data to determine further assessments regarding the potential for an identified receptor to be impacted by potential munition constituent migration through an identified pathway.

The Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessment program is intended to address DoD policy requirements to ensure range operations are not harming or creating an unacceptable risk to human health and/or the environment. For the proposed action on Guam, data from the Northwest Field LFTRC monitoring wells will be used to determine the need for further assessments, including the need to verify the results of site-specific Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessment model.

In addition to lead, which is the indicator munition for small arms ranges, the Final SEIS has been revised to include a discussion of munitions constituents specific to the Hand Grenade Range where explosives are used. The Final SEIS has been revised to include the proposed baseline monitoring and fate and transport modeling of trinitrotoluene (TNT), cyclotetramethylene tetranitramine (High Melting Explosive, HMX), and hexahydro-trinitrotriazine (Royal Demolition Explosive, RDX), and perchlorate at the Hand Grenade Range in Andersen South, as part of the site-specific implementation of the Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessment and Operational Range Clearance programs on Guam. The Final SEIS has also been revised to include a discussion of the chemical properties that affect the fate and transport mechanisms for explosives-derived indicator constituents, but will not be able to verify site-specific migration potential for any munition constituent until the Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessment and Operational Range Clearance programs are implemented.

The DON would normally only consider site-specific and comprehensive data collection after the conceptual Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessment model-based triggers/criteria have been exceeded (i.e. screening-level modeling). In consideration of the vulnerability of the sole-source aquifer and Guam's unique geologic features, the DON proposes a site-specific implementation of Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessment and Operational Range Clearance programs that is more stringent than required under existing policy.

As required by the Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessment and Operational Range Clearance programs, subsequent fate and transport modeling will use site-specific data collected

under baseline monitoring (which do include collection of site-specific soil and permeability parameters at the firing range site). The DON would appropriately conduct further assessment of the site-specific model, further evaluation of Best Management Practices, and/or consideration of follow-up groundwater sampling/aquifer testing when triggers/criteria are exceeded.

The Final SEIS states that quarterly inspections of the range Best Management Practices will be performed. Inspections will lead to identifying if Best Management Practices are still in place or if maintenance is required. Any deficiencies that cannot be immediately addressed will be reported to the Public Works Department for corrective action. Additionally, the Range Environmental Vulnerability Assessment program will also evaluate Best Management Practice effectiveness and recommend adjustments as needed.

The DON will investigate additional technologies that could assist with range design and minimizing potential impacts (specific technologies or brands were not mentioned to ensure the full range of Best Management Practices are considered). Prior to the construction of the range, the DON will perform a site survey/inspection to inform range design activities, to include evaluating the optimal site grading and any necessary soil amendments to minimize range constituent migration. Appropriate Best Management Practices will be evaluated and incorporated into the design and construction of the range to minimize the off-site migration of stormwater runoff and reduce the infiltration of munitions constituents (e.g. vegetation buffers, pH adjustment of soil and water quality/quantity Best Management Practices).

Comment ID: #621 (Cont.)

Stormwater

Stormwater Pollution and Management

We appreciate the information in the DSEIS regarding the Low Impact Development (LID) plans for the project's main cantonment, which includes references to LID studies, appendices with conceptual designs, and a listing of LID goals (p. 4-16). It also includes DoD's commitment to follow EPA's "Technical Guidance on Implementing the Stormwater Runoff Requirements for Federal Projects under Section 438 of the Energy Independence and Security Act" (p. 4-16). Because of the karst environment at the main cantonment site, monitoring the effectiveness of LID features is critical. The DSEIS states that, ultimately, a field monitoring program for pollutant removal efficiency would be implemented under the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program and Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) to measure the success of meeting pollutant removal requirements and to modify water quality treatment strategies and BMPs, as necessary (p. 4-18). While the Best Management Practices in the DSEIS identify the LID Plan, a SWMP is not listed.

621:H

621:H – There is no current Guam requirement to monitor Low Impact Development effectiveness post-construction. However, the DON will develop and implement a "Low Impact Development Best Management Practice Operation and Maintenance Inspection Checklist" consistent with the 2006 CNMI Guam Stormwater Management Manual to ensure the effectiveness of Low Impact Development features. Any deficiencies will be reported to and addressed by the future Public Works Department of the Marine Corps Base Guam.

The following text has been added to chapter 4.1 and also an appropriate Best Management Practice to Table 2.8-1: "Low Impact Development effectiveness in areas of karst geology is of special concern. While there is no current Guam requirement to monitor Low Impact Development effectiveness post-construction, The DON would develop and implement a "Low Impact Development Best Management Practice Operation and Maintenance Inspection Checklist" consistent with the 2006 CNMI Guam Stormwater Management Manual to monitor and ensure the effectiveness of Low Impact Development features during operation. Any deficiencies would be reported to and addressed by the future Public Works Department of the Marine Corps Base Guam.

As indicated in the text, "a field monitoring program for pollutant removal efficiency would be implemented under the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan and Stormwater Management Plan to measure the success of meeting pollutant removal requirements, and modify water quality treatment strategies and Best Management Practices, as necessary."

Text has been added to clarify that "As part of the initial design, the project area was delineated into sub-basins with stormwater conveyance systems to route discharges to appropriately sized detention basins within each sub-basin." Table 2.8-1 lists Low Impact Development features: operation and capacity is site-specific and would be determined during the final design phase and, therefore, are not listed in Table 2.8-1.

Recommendation: We recommend the development and implementation of an LID Monitoring Effectiveness Plan. The purpose of the plan would be to make certain the appropriate LID measures are designed/sited, maintained, monitored, and effective during the operations phase. As recommended above in our groundwater comment, this plan could be part of a larger more comprehensive groundwater management plan.

On page 4-17, the DSEIS assumes that detention basins would be present to control flow rates for discharges exceeding the retention capacity of LID features included in the project design. The DSEIS may be referring to detention basins described further down on page 4-17, but this should be clarified. In addition, Table 2.8-1 should include a summary of the operation and capacity of the LID features and accompanying detention basins that are included in the proposed action.

Ensuring Compliance with the Stormwater Construction General Permit (CGP)

We appreciate that the DSEIS acknowledges there may be stormwater discharges to the ocean and that CGP coverage would be required and obtained. The statement in the DSEIS that the notice of intent (NOI) is not a permit application (p. 4-13) is incorrect, however, as an NOI is considered to be a permit application for a general permit.

621:I

621:I – Thank you for your comment. The following text has been added to Section 4.1.2 to address this comment: "A comprehensive Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan would be updated for Proposed Action. The Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan provides an integrated, comprehensive approach to stormwater management for all construction projects associated with the Guam military relocation. In addition to procedures and practices to prevent discharge of pollutants from construction sites and water resources in Guam, the Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan provides roles and responsibilities of various DON organizations as well as contractors/subcontractors, regular monitoring and Best Management Practice inspection, evaluation, training, and reporting procedures. Submittal of Best Management Practice inspection reports and discussion of stormwater non-compliance at weekly Quality Control/construction progress meetings would be required. The Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan addresses compliance inspections during wet weather (weekly during dry periods and daily, along with pre- and post-storm during storm/rain events), details of inspection procedures, and documentation requirements. Details of the non-compliance or discharge reporting to the DON organizations and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 are included in Program Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, as well as

Preparing documents such as the SWPPP and obtaining coverage under the CGP are important; but, in order to protect water resources, their implementation must be ensured throughout the construction phase. The original DEIS committed to various BMPs and compliance with local sediment and erosion control regulations and the CGP, and stated that impacts to surface water would be less than significant. In response to EPA's comments on the original DEIS, DoD asserted that "enforcement of adequate erosion and sediment control measures and site specific BMPs would be aggressively maintained throughout construction", and "For construction projects at Apra Harbor or near water bodies, extra BMP measures would be provided along the site perimeter near the water (i.e. two lines of defense for sediment & erosion control instead of one sediment control BMP)." Despite these commitments and assurances, EPA observed a large discharge of sediment from multiple storm water filtration systems, leaking cement wash-out containers, and inadequate sediment control BMPs in place during a Clean Water Act construction stormwater inspection in July 2013 while some of these projects, approved

Resources: ER-20(434 and <http://www.serdp.org/Program-Areas/Environmental-Restoration/Contaminants-on-Range/Protecting-Groundwater-Resources/ER-1229>

Response:

stormwater compliance enforcement procedures, which include discovery of non-conformance, reporting potential non-compliance, and contractual enforcement."

Comment ID: #621 (Cont.)

under the original ROD, were under construction.

Recommendation: Establish an enforcement framework and chain of accountability for the construction phase of the main cantonment. This is especially important, given that this project is much larger than those under construction during EPA's 2013 inspection. The FEIS should include an outline of the framework, including, at minimum, whom would be accountable, inspection schedules, and requirements for documentation of inspections and compliance actions.

621:I
Cont.

Endangered Species Act (ESA) Requirements under the CGP

In our comments on the Preliminary DSEIS, EPA noted that discharge authorization under EPA's CGP for construction projects associated with the relocation would require a demonstration of compliance with the ESA before discharge authorization is granted. The DSEIS (p. 3-5) states that discharge authorization would be sought under Criterion E as described in Appendix D of the CGP and that the consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is ongoing. Consultation will need to be concluded before CGP coverage is granted, and DoD will need to comply with any necessary mitigation measures identified from the consultation.

621:J

We also requested additional information concerning plans for consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) regarding species under its jurisdiction. The DSEIS acknowledges NMFS' recent proposed listing of numerous coral species, some of which are present in Guam coastal waters and may be affected by sediment from construction-related stormwater discharges, but continues to lack information regarding plans for consultation with NMFS.

Recommendation: The FSEIS should discuss any plans for consultation regarding the coral species that have been proposed for listing and any other potentially affected species under the jurisdiction of NMFS to ensure compliance with the ESA.

Solid Waste

Green waste

The clearing of over 1,000 acres of secondary limestone forest and 140 acres of other vegetation for the preferred main cantonment alternative will result in the need to manage very large volumes of green waste. The DSEIS states that green waste generated during the buildup would be handled by the utilities and site improvements contractors at the designated laydown area located in the northeast corner of Finegayan near the Tactical Vehicle Gate and the Main Gate. The utilities and site improvements contractor would be required to divert all the green waste, with trees and stumps mulched and smaller-sized green waste composted (p. 4-110). The DSEIS also states that a proposed green waste processing facility at Naval Base Guam Landfill may also be used to process green waste generated during construction. The DoD will seek permit authorization from Guam EPA for the proposed green waste processing facility.

621:K

We are concerned that DoD is transferring too much responsibility to the utilities and site improvements contractor, and that sufficient pre-planning for the large amount of green waste has not yet occurred. In addition, processing green waste at the Navy landfill would involve transportation from Finegayan to Navy Base Guam, which would add traffic and air quality impacts that were not evaluated. We also stress the need for sufficient oversight of this operation. As noted in our stormwater comments, the

621:J – Comments received regarding the Construction General Permit requirements have been noted. The DON will comply fully with the any legal requirements set forth in the Biological Opinion which will be issued at the conclusion of consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

621:K – The DON updated the Final Comprehensive Construction and Demolition and Solid Waste Management Plan for Guam Military Relocation, including the green waste management sections. The Utilities and Site Improvement contractor will be required to process/compost green waste on-site. As part of construction waste management, contractors will be required to submit a green waste processing/composting plan to Navy and obtain required solid waste permits for green waste processing and composting from Guam Environmental Protection Agency. The DON will review the contractors' project-specific waste management plans prior to their submittal to Guam Environmental Protection Agency and will provide oversight during the construction.

Comment ID: #621 (Cont.)

preparation of planning documents and commitments does not guarantee compliance in the field; effective oversight is essential.

621:K
Cont.

Recommendation: The FSEIS should confirm the plan and logistics for managing the volume of green waste. It should describe how DoD, as the owner of the prospective green waste facilities, would ensure sufficient planning by the utilities and site improvements contractor, and include mechanisms for ensuring compliance and oversight of green waste management and for development of permit technical documents in support of a permit application. DoD should ensure sufficient lead time for obtaining permits from Guam EPA and for constructing and operating compost or green waste facilities, since they appear critical for the management of the significant amount of green waste anticipated.

Use of DoD Landfills

The DSEIS indicates that the Navy landfill would be used to dispose manage waste not accepted at Layon municipal solid waste landfill (MSWLF). In our comments on the Preliminary DSEIS, EPA inquired about the operating and permit status of the Navy landfill facilities, and about the Navy's prior plans for closure of those facilities. We appreciate that the DSEIS states that the proposed action would be consistent with any prospective permit terms and conditions, and that the Navy is coordinating with Guam EPA to ensure compliance of its landfill facilities. The DSEIS also references the continued use of the Anderson Air Force Base (AAFB) landfill facilities for solid waste not accepted at the Layon MSWLF. Please note that the operating and permit status of AAFB landfill facilities is not clear and should also involve coordination with Guam EPA to ensure that the proposed action would be consistent with the operating status of the landfill facilities and any prospective permit terms and conditions. EPA will continue to work with DoD and Guam EPA to provide technical and regulatory assistance on the Navy and Anderson landfill facilities, as needed and appropriate.

621:L

Recommendation: Provide an update in the FSEIS regarding the status of the coordination with Guam EPA regarding the DoD landfill facilities and the timing for a new green waste processing facility at the Navy landfill.

Guam Zero Waste Plan

The DoD Office of Economic Adjustment funded the development of a comprehensive Guam Zero Waste Plan (<http://www.one.guam.gov/zero-waste/plan.html>) to plan for and mitigate solid waste impacts of the buildup through 2025; however, this information is not reflected in the DSEIS.

621:M

Recommendation: Incorporate or reference the Zero Waste Plan and its recommendations in the FSEIS and confirm DoD's support for its implementation, in collaboration with GovGuam and Guam EPA.

Biological Resources

Mitigation for Significant Impacts

The preferred main cantonment alternative would clear over 1,000 acres of secondary limestone forest and over 140 acres of other vegetation from the Guam Overlay Refuge (p. 4-50). The DSEIS recognizes that limestone forests are important on Guam because they retain the functional ecological components of native forest that provide habitat for the majority of Guam's native species, including Guam- and federally-listed threatened and endangered species, as well as maintain water quality and reduce fire risk (p. 5-339). Nevertheless, approximately 977 acres of recovery habitat for the endangered Mariana fruit

621:N

621:L – The permit status of the Navy Base Guam Apra Harbor is currently being discussed with the Guam Environmental Protection Agency. Andersen AFB Landfill is not proposed for any use for the proposed action, implementation or operations phase. Updates to the regulatory status of these two landfills has been added in the final SEIS.

621:M – GovGuam's Zero Waste Plan and DoD's Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan (Stormwater Management Plan) are mentioned in the Final SEIS. DoD supports recommendations in GovGuam's Zero Waste Plan that are consistent with 1) DoD's Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan; 2) are not legally prohibited; and 3) are cost-effective. DoD's waste reduction, reuse, and recycling efforts supports and complements GovGuam's implementation of its Zero Waste Plan.

621:N – The DoN will work closely with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service during the Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation process to ensure impacts on protected species and their habitat are addressed. The results of the consultation will be included in the Record of Decision.

As stated in the Draft SEIS, the proposed mitigation for the removal of limestone forest would be forest enhancement of an equal area of degraded forest habitat on Guam. The proposed forest enhancement would include the management of existing degraded limestone forest on other areas of Guam, including removal of non-native invasive plants, planting of native species, and control and removal of ungulates that negatively impact native forests. This forest enhancement would increase the area of native forest on Guam that is not being impacted by non-native ungulates and increase the diversity of native species within the forest, thereby providing improved habitat for Guam's native species. This multi-pronged approach will address stressors and limiting factors challenging the eventual recovery of Guam's ecosystem.

As stated in the Draft SEIS, the DoN proposes to expand the existing Orote Ecological Reserve Area and designate a new Ecological Reserve Area at the NAVMAG. Both of these areas would not be subject to future DoD development.

The primary purpose of military properties is to support the military mission. However, the DoD, in cooperation with the Fish and Wildlife Service has identified a dual purpose of most undeveloped lands on Guam military bases, which is as a Refuge overlay for wildlife. However, the cooperative agreement between the Fish and Wildlife Service and the DoD clearly states that the primary purpose of the lands proposed to support military relocation is to meet the military mission. Though the loss of habitat would occur if the proposed action is implemented, extensive mitigation and conservation measures are proposed as part of the action.

Comment ID: #621 (Cont.)

bat would be removed under the preferred main cantonment alternative (p. 4-55) as well as 978 acres of recovery habitat for the extirpated Mariana crow, the Micronesian kingfisher, and the Guam rail (which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) plans to reintroduce), thus reducing the total populations of these species the island can support (p. 4-57).

In addition to the main cantonment, the impacts to terrestrial biological resources from the preferred LFTR alternative would also be significant (p. 5-340), removing over 200 acres of limestone forest, including over 90 acres of valuable primary limestone forest (p. 5-339). Because the LFTR would impact the Guam National Wildlife Refuge managed by the FWS, in addition to the DoD-managed Overlay Refuge, impacts include removal of 12 acres of "critical habitat" for several endangered species under the Endangered Species Act, with impacts to an additional 200+ acres of critical habitat that would become inaccessible and possibly impacted by noise.

The DSEIS states that removal of this vegetation for the main cantonment and LFTR would be significant but mitigable. Mitigation includes forest enhancements on approximately 1,200 acres of limestone forest to include ungulate fencing, removal of non-native vegetation, and planting native species (p. 4-52, 5-340). To mitigate for the loss of the overlay refuge conservation areas, DoD would designate 553 acres of forest in the NAVMAG as an Ecological Research Area and expand the Orote ERA by 32 acres (p. 4-54).

While we defer to the FWS for determination as to whether the proposed mitigation is sufficient for impacts of such magnitude, we are concerned that mitigation proposed on DoD land would be subject to future development impacts. The project proposes to develop the LFTR in areas that have been set aside to mitigate previous project impacts; for example, the LFTR would remove the ungulate enclosure being constructed as mitigation for previous Air Force actions on AAFB in accordance with a FWS Biological Opinion (p. 5-329). In addition, the LFTR largely occurs in a conservation area from previous FWS consultations (Figure 5.5.8-2). The mitigation proposed does not appear to replace these mitigation areas in addition to providing mitigation for this project's impacts. The cumulative impacts analysis for terrestrial biological resources indicates a serious decline of terrestrial biological health on Guam (p. 7-78). The significant impacts from the proposed projects, in addition to the loss of areas serving as mitigation for other projects' impacts, warrants a robust mitigation proposal that would restore or conserve resources in perpetuity.

Recommendation: Continue to work with FWS to develop a more substantial mitigation proposal. We recommend establishing conservation areas on lands that would not be subject to future DoD development. Identify a mechanism where this could occur, such as the transfer of DoD property to a third party for conservation purposes or the purchase of private property and transfer to a conservation organization or agency for preservation in perpetuity. We note that Barrigada includes almost 100 acres of primary limestone forest and some wetlands that are valuable resources for protection.

Alternative B, D are environmentally preferable

EPA continues to strongly recommend that DoD consider the use of South Finegayan for family housing, as represented in main cantonment Alternative B, in order to reduce significant impacts to terrestrial biological resources. Alternative B would redevelop existing unutilized housing in South Finegayan and would save almost 200 acres of secondary limestone forest that would be removed under Alternative A (p. 4-38, p. 4-157). In addition, Alternative B would reduce new impervious surface by 100 acres over Alternative A and would be located further from nearshore environments and Haputo

621:N
Cont.

621:O – The DON has added an alternative combination to the SEIS and changed the preferred alternative as a result of its continued analysis of reasonable alternatives and feedback from the public and local and federal agencies during the Draft SEIS public comment period. The new alternative combination moves the preferred family housing location from Finegayan to Andersen AFB, while maintaining the main cantonment at Finegayan. This new alternative combination is essentially a combination of cantonment and housing alternatives already analyzed in the Draft SEIS. It also moves the preferred housing location from an undeveloped area that was part of the Overlay Refuge to an area that is already developed for family housing, thus avoiding the impacts to the recovery habitat present in the southern portion of Finegayan.

The DON stresses that the preferred alternative may change as we continue the SEIS process, and that a final decision will not be made until all alternatives are analyzed and the Final SEIS has been completed.

621:O

Comment ID: #621 (Cont.)

Beach, offering a larger buffer. Preserving forest also helps protect the groundwater in the NGLA and preserves the carbon sequestration that would otherwise be lost from the deforestation.

621:O
Cont.

Locating the main cantonment at Barrigada (Alternative D) would spare 757 acres of limestone forest over the preferred alternative. This would go a long way towards reducing impacts.

Recommendation: Consider the serious decline of terrestrial biological health on Guam and select an alternative that would reduce impacts while also meeting the purpose and need of the project. Alternative D should be considered for the main cantonment. At a minimum, Alternative B should be selected over the preferred alternative since it is very similar but with fewer impacts.

Impacts to the Haputo Ecological Reserve Area (ERA)

The family housing under Alternative A would be located on the cliff at an elevation of 360 feet and 0.1 mile from Haputo Beach. We appreciate that the project proposes a 100 foot vegetated buffer from Haputo plus a 200 foot landscape buffer, however we believe a larger buffer with natural vegetation would be more protective. The DSEIS acknowledges that the plant cover at Finegayan protects the thin soils from erosion (p. 4-5). Preserving the natural vegetation is more protective and reduces the risk of introducing fertilizers or pesticides to the near-shore environment. The DSEIS states that avoiding pesticides and fertilizers would be *considered* to protect water quality (p. 4-16); however this would be difficult to enforce.

621:P

Recommendation: We strongly recommend that a larger vegetated buffer be used for the family housing area. This could be accomplished by using the higher density of 6 housing units per acre (the DSEIS states that the density would be 4-6 units per acre). We also continue to recommend the use of Finegayan South for housing, as it is disturbed land and would not involve development so close to the valuable coral resources at Haputo.

Biosecurity

Any additional movements of personnel or supplies increases the risk of further spread of the invasive brown tree snake; therefore, ensuring sufficient biosecurity must be a top priority. The DSEIS states that the Navy will follow standard Navy biosecurity protocols regarding detection and management of non-native species and that the Navy agrees that it will fund the increase of current federally funded brown treesnake interdiction measures (in Guam, CNML and Hawaii) where the increase is related to direct, indirect and induced growth caused by the Marine Corps relocation to Guam (p. 4-55).

621:Q

Recommendation: Continue to consult with FWS to ensure biosecurity is sufficient for the project. Provide an update on this consultation in the FSEIS.

Recreation

The DSEIS is inconsistent in its evaluation of impacts to recreation from the LFTR. On page 5-328 it states that there will be a less than significant impact on recreation from the preferred Alternative 5. Impacts include eliminating access to public hiking trails and accessible caves for 39 weeks of the year. The environmental justice analysis on p. 5-383 concludes that "the access restrictions resulting from implementation of Alternative 5 would result in significant impacts to recreational resources and the need to relocate the USFWS Nature Center. In addition to access restrictions, there are potential indirect impacts from firing range noise, which could lessen visitor enjoyment of recreational resources in the area and affect uses by private landowners at Jinapsan Beach". Table 5.7-1 again lists a less than

621:R

621:P – The DON has added an alternative combination to the SEIS and changed the preferred alternative as a result of its continued analysis of reasonable alternatives and feedback from the public and local and federal agencies during the Draft SEIS public comment period. The new alternative combination moves the preferred family housing location from Finegayan to Andersen AFB, while maintaining the main cantonment at Finegayan. This new alternative moves the preferred housing location from an undeveloped area that was part of the Overlay Refuge to an area that is already developed for family housing, thus in effect accomplishing the goals inherent in your comment. The DON stresses that the preferred alternative may change as we continue the SEIS process, and that a final decision will not be made until all alternatives are analyzed and the Final SEIS has been completed.

621:Q – In accordance with the Endangered Species Act section 7 process, the DON has conducted section 7 consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding biosecurity issues. The Final SEIS will be updated based upon the consultation process and the preparation of the Biological Assessment. The Biological Assessment can be found in Appendix F.5 in the Final SEIS.

621:R – The inconsistencies mentioned have been corrected in the Final SEIS. The impacts to recreation are consistently identified as being significant in the Final SEIS.

Response:

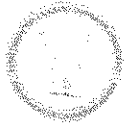
Comment ID: #621 (Cont.)

significant impact for the preferred Alternative 5.

Recommendation: Correct the discrepancies in the conclusions for impacts to recreational resources associated with the LFTR. Based on the described access restrictions, it appears impacts would be significant.

621:R
Cont.

Comment ID: #675



DIPATAMENTON I KAQHAO GU'NAHAN CHAMORRO
DEPARTMENT OF CHAMORRO AFFAIRS

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June 25, 2014



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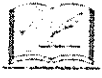
GUAM MUSEUM

Subject: Department of Chamorro Affairs Comment on the Draft Supplemental
Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)



Buenas yan Hafa Adai,

The following general comments are provided for your review and consideration:



In October 2011, The Guam Public Library System (GPLS) became a division under the Department of Chamorro Affairs by the Reorganization Advisory No. 6 and the Reduction in Force Advisory No. 2 to consolidate other cultural and learning resource and service divisions into the Department of Chamorro Affairs (DCA). The Reorganization and Reduction in Force Advisory identified positions within the Library on the layoff plan. Positions identified were "seven (7) Library Technician I, one (1) Library Technician II, two (2) Building Custodians, one (1) Administrative Officer, one (1) Secretary I and one (1) Administrative Aid position."

675:A



This proposed action in Advisory 6 will leave GPLS with a total of twenty-one (21) employees that consists of: ten (10) library technicians, one (1) library technician supervisor, four (4) building custodians, four (4) administrative support, one (1) bookmobile driver, one (1) program coordinator. Advisory 6 also stated that: "GPLS Branch Libraries facilities will be transferred to the mayors of Merizo, Agat, Barrigada, Yona and Dededo due to lack of funds to sustain the department at its current level, and the funding of redundancies and lack of work for learning centers of excellence and to build community partnerships to staff and open these facilities for at least five days in the week." Notwithstanding the Advisory 6 language, the stipulated existing authority of the GPLS Board is the ONLY authority that MAY effectuate governance and policy direction as to partnering with the mayors of the 5 villages wherein 5 public community libraries are situated. This was further clarified with an Attorney General

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675:A – Thank you for your comment. As documented in this SEIS, the DON acknowledges the existing substandard conditions of key public infrastructure systems and social services on Guam and the interest to have the DON fund improvements to these systems and services. The DON's ability to fund actions is limited by Federal law. However, to mitigate adverse impacts associated with the proposed military relocation program, the DON would continue to support the efforts of the Civilian Military Coordination Council to develop recommendations, as appropriate, regarding adjustment of construction tempo and sequencing to directly influence workforce population levels and indirectly influence induced population growth before infrastructure capabilities are exceeded. Such support may include providing project-related employment and population forecasts, participating in the identification of shortfalls in Guam public services, and assisting in the identification of federal programs and funding sources that may help Gov:Guam to address shortfalls.

Comment ID: #675 (Cont.)

June 25, 2014

Subject: Department of Chamorro Affairs Comments on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)

Page 2

legal opinion. Guam law requires a public hearing prior to enacting reorganization. To date, Branch Libraries facilities are under the administrative purview of the GPLS/DCA.

675:A
Cont.

The Guam Public Library System (GPLS) continues to operate below staffing standards to accommodate the needs of current and potential new users. American Library Association (ALA) standards for Adequate Public Library Services (as adopted by the Guam Public Library Board) requires the following: six professional librarians for every 50,000 people plus one professional librarian for every 7,500 when over 50,000; one professional librarian in each branch library; one professional librarian to service the institutional libraries and the visually impaired, etc." GPLS maintains libraries in the following villages: Hagatna (Main Facility), Agat, Dededo, Barrigada, Merizo, and Yona. The condition of these facilities are considered fair with the exception of the Dededo facility which needs substantial interior and exterior improvements. The Dededo Library Branch remains open to the public twice a week despite current conditions.

The following specific comments with cited pages are provided for your review and consideration:

675:B

Page 4-144 Table 4.1 15-22 JoG and Selected Agencies Driven by Population Growth. Due to reorganizational mandates and budgetary constraints, current staff levels have dropped to 21 FTE's. The table reflects 30 FTEs. Please use current staffing number to recalculate staffing requirements for population growth.

Because of existing deficits in staff, facilities and equipment at GPLS, an increase in population will significantly impact operations of the libraries, especially the northern facility where the proposed increase in population will be.

We look forward to working with all parties concerned including DoD and the federal government to determine how best to fund the impacts we have identified.

675:C

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact the undersigned at joseph.cameron@dca.guam.gov or phone 671-475-4278.

Senseramente,

JOSEPH ARTERO-CAMERON
President

675:B – Table 4.1.15-22 reflects year 2010 staffing levels. Impacts to the Guam Public Library System were determined to be significant, in part, based on existing deficiencies.

675:C – No specific changes to the SEIS are requested in this comment nor required in response to it. However, your comment is an important contribution to the NEPA process and will be considered in the decision-making process.



OFFICE OF THE VICE SPEAKER
THERESE M. TERLAJE
Chairperson of the Committee
On Culture and Justice

I Mina'trentai Kuáttro na Liheslaturan Guåhan
34th Guam Legislature

COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

I. OVERVIEW

The Committee on Culture and Justice convened a public hearing on March 21, 2017 at 5:31 PM in *I Liheslatura's* Public Hearing Room on the historic properties to be adversely impacted by the proposed urban warfare training range at Andersen South and proposed mitigation plans; and cultural and historic resources impacted by the proposed Live-Fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC) at Northwest Field, AAFB, the biological opinion on critical habitat due to U.S. Fish & Wildlife in Fall 2017, the Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP) between the U.S. Fish & Wildlife and the Department of Defense, and an update on the Programmatic Agreement for this project.

Public Notice Requirements

Notices for this public hearing were disseminated via email to all senators and all main media broadcasting outlets on March 14, 2017 (5-Day Notice) and again on March 16, 2017 (48-Hour Notice). The notice was also published in the Guam Daily Post on March 14, 2017 and in the Pacific Daily News from March 18th through 21st.

Senators Present

Vice Speaker Therese M. Terlaje, Chairperson
Senator Telen Cruz Nelson, Vice Chairperson
Senator FRANK B. AGUON, JR.
Senator Louise B. Muña
Senator Fernando Esteves
Senator Régine Biscoe Lee

Appearing Before the Committee

Lynda Aguon, State Historic Preservation Officer, Dept. of Parks and Recreation

Joe Quinata, Chief Program Officer, Guam Preservation Trust
David Lotz, Vice Chair of Board, Guam Preservation Trust and Guam Historic
Preservation Review Board
Johnny Sablan, President, Department of Chamorro Affairs
Celestino "Tino" Aguon, Chief, Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources,
Dept. of Agriculture
Jeff Quitugua, Wildlife Biologist, Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources,
Dept. of Agriculture
Sabina Perez
Dr. Kelly Marsh-Taitano, Adjunct Professor, University of Guam and Principle
Researcher, Nihi Ta Fanhasso' Cultural and Historical Consulting
Senator Hope Cristobal
Jesse Castro
Cathy McCollum

Submitted Written Testimony

Dr. Kelly Marsh, Adjunct Professor, University of Guam and Principle
Researcher, Nihi Ta Fanhasso' Cultural and Historical Consulting
Johnny Sablan, President, Department of Chamorro Affairs

II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY & DISCUSSION

Vice Speaker Therese Terlaje, Chairperson of the Committee on Culture and Justice called the informational briefing to order at 5:31 PM. The Chairperson presented the agenda items that would be heard during the hearing and then took a moment to recognize the Committee members present. Chairperson Terlaje invited government agency representatives to provide testimony.

Chairperson Terlaje:

I'd like to welcome all of you and am very grateful for your presence here and thank you very much.

The committee invited, specifically, the Guam State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Historic Resources Division, Department of Parks and Recreation, represented by our SHPO, Ms. Lynda Aguon. Thank you for coming Lynda. The Guam Historic Preservation Review Board, which is chaired by Michael Makio, who is represented today by the Guam Preservation Trust Director, Joe Quinata. Thank you for coming. I invited also all the members of the Guam Historic Preservation Review Board and some of them are here in the audience. Thank you for coming. And the Guam Preservation Trust. So, you're wearing two (2) hats today, Joe. I invited the Department of Agriculture, the Department of

Chamorro Affairs; I think they will be here shortly.

The purpose of this Informational Briefing is to receive a status report from the Government of Guam. These are all of our Government of Guam agencies, on their findings and their anticipated actions with regards to the impact of the Live-Fire Training Range on historic and cultural properties particularly.

I'd like to thank my colleagues for being here and I'd like to introduce them to you all right now. To my left is my Vice Chair Telena Nelson and to her left is Senator Régine Lee and to her left is Senator Fernando Esteves. To my right is Senator Frank Aguon and to his right is Senator Louis Borja Muña; thank you colleagues for being here.

I'm going to begin with a summary of the ROD (Record of Decision). The ROD, the Record of Decision was filed in August 2015, in regards to Cultural Resources; the ROD states that, "Construction of the Live-Fire Training Range Complex under Alternative 5 would result in significant impacts. Twenty (20) historic properties would be directly adversely affected and culturally important resources could be impacted by vegetation removal. Some of the impacts are not fully mitigable due to restrictive access to two (2) NHRP eligible archaeological sites and some are significant, but mitigable, as a result of substantial changes in the audible environment."

It also says that, "There would be significant but mitigable impacts, as a result of adverse affects to six (6) known historical properties from construction of IT communication lines." And, there are many, of course, biological and other environmental impacts that are listed, but right now I'm just going to concentrate on the cultural resource impacts. It says, "Mitigation for Cultural Resources Impacts would be implemented into the 2011 Programmatic Agreement (PA), which would include reviewing projects as they are developed to confirm the identification of historic properties and appropriate measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate adverse affects."

It says, "Potential impacts to culturally important natural resources will be addressed through requirements of the 2011 PA in coordination with knowledgeable traditional practitioners and the PA requires consultation with the public and the PA parties, which includes the Guam SHPO, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the NPS, which is the National Park Service, and Guam Preservation Trust, and the Department of Chamorro Affairs." Some of the mitigation also says that, "[T]hey would update the Guam Historic Preservation Plan. They would nominate two (2) or more historic properties on

DoD (Department of Defense) land per year for listing in the National Registry of Historic Properties and twelve million dollars (\$12 Million) would be appropriated under, it says, the FY 2012 Consolidated Appropriation's Act, for a Guam Cultural Repository Facility to mitigate cumulative impacts."

And one more, "And that they would develop a Range Mitigation Plan." And for the record, the agencies that are listed here, they have presented comments to the SEIS, Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, and so those comments I am going to enter into the record for this hearing, just to increase the access to them again.

In the summary, they said, "[T]he Ritidian Unit of the Guam NWR (National Wildlife Refuge) is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services and under its custody and control, as discussed above and under the authority provided in Section 2822 of the FY 2015 NDAA (National Defense Authorization Act), the Department of the Navy will pursue an agreement with U.S. Fish and Wildlife to establish and operate a Surface Danger Zone that overlays portions of the Ritidian Unit. "The agreement will allow for continued management of the Ritidian Unit consistent with the purposes for which it was established."

And, I think that everybody has received copies of the two (2) maps that I think are important for our discussions tonight. One is a Firing Zone Map that I obtained from Mike Carson from MARC, which shows the firing range and the surface danger zones put on top of documented archaeological sites and there's another map which is included in either the ROD or the SEIS that shows the special status species observations of the Live Fire Training Range alternative on the Northwest Field. So, these show very helpful overlays onto Ritidian from Northwest Field onto Ritidian.

Surface Danger Zones - These maps show that while the firing ranges are being built up on Northwest Field, on top of the cliffs, their surface danger zones go all the way out to the ocean. So, they go over Ritidian and out to the ocean and I just want to note that for the record and I'm sure all the panels are aware of that so just for the public who are not able to see the map. These maps are available at my office and I'll also publish them online.

I'd also like to welcome Dave Lotz, who currently works for the National Park Service. But, he's also a member of the Guam Historic Advisory Board. Is that correct?

David Lotz:

I'm currently the Vice Chairman of the Guam Historic Preservation Review Board and also Vice Chairman of the Guam Preservation Trust and I am here at your invitation as a member of the Board, although as you've already recognized I do work as a Cultural Resource Program Manager here with the National Park Services. So, I can impart some knowledge either way.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Thank you very much for your attendance and we have the President of Chamorro Affairs, Mr. Johnny Sablan. Notably the Department of Chamorro Affairs is supposed to manage as part of this ROD, the cultural repository. So we are going to talk about that in just a minute.

So, I would like to invite Lynda to begin and pretty much for all of you, you know I know we can go on and on. Probably each one of you has information that would be helpful to the public and I'm sure everyone here has questions and we could go on forever because Ritidian is very important to us. But, if you could give us your status update on what you think would be helpful for the public to know and if there's any area that you think the public could have an impact on please highlight those. And if there's any way that you think that we can avoid adverse impacts that have been documented and if you have come to find any other adverse impacts to historical properties or otherwise that were not documented, then could you please share those with us, too.

I will begin with Lynda, Guam State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). Thank you, Lynda.

Lynda Aguon:

Thank you Senators; actually I don't know where to begin, maybe you should ask me a question. My name is Lynda Aguon.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Okay Lynda. Thank you. As a SHPO, did you agree with the assessment of the historical and cultural sites that would be impacted by the Live Fire Training Range that were reported in the SEIS (Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement)? Or the ROD?

Lynda Aguon:

Yes. In some respects I do agree with what they found, what properties they found that would be adversely affected. And in some respects we don't agree. And it needed further evaluations and further identification studies. They've

done tremendous... the Department of Defense has done tremendous surveys in that area alone. I think Andersen Air Force Base comprises over 11,000 acres with respect to the Live, oh I'm jumping ahead, I'm going to the urban combat area. We did receive the final technical report based on the work plan we reviewed.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Which report? Say the name again?

Lynda Aguon:

The Final Technical Report, which we received in January (2017), but we have not reviewed it. You must understand that our office is inundated with reports a mile high and we have one archaeologist considered qualified under National Parks Service guidelines. We have other reviewers, but it would be the state archaeologist who reviews the reports that comes in for the buildup.

Chairperson Terlaje:

What is contained in that report? Generally, the Technical Report.

Lynda Aguon:

What areas they surveyed, newly discovered sites, previously recorded sites. They contain information on the evaluation if a site is eligible for the National Register. I think in that and tables comparing pot shards and various information and I think it's over a 1,000 pages.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Could you describe very briefly for the public, but with enough details so they can get an accurate description of what historical properties that you are concerned about at Ritidian that would be impacted by the Live Fire Training Range?

Lynda Aguon:

First and foremost, I am very concerned about the burials they discovered be it an arm bone, a finger bone, some sort of human skeletal remains. And we try and leave it and preserve it in place, not to disturb it and we try and make sure that nothing happens in that area. So, that's first and foremost. We want to protect, the skeletal, human remains. The other is the lattes that they discovered, that is going back pre-contact times. Well, I can't say pre-contact, but the lattes; the settlements; those are very important. Then after that, I don't think we would find a lot of Spanish time or sites, but latte, and possibly the Northwest Field itself. I found that they are expanding the boundary in the Northwest Field

area versus what we have on record. And we are going to encourage, highly or strongly encourage them to conduct the adequate identification in the area prior to doing any activity. So the latte; WWII; all sites to us are important to us. It's part of our history. So depending on what it is, you look for the integrity of association, a feeling for our island, with respect to our history. It's hard to explain. I mean I've been in this business for over twenty (20) years and every day I learn something. Needless to say that I have not read all these reports and I really admire my State Archaeologist and Mr. Joe Garrido who have to struggle through reading all these technical reports and then I just come and sign off. It's like, "Okay, here I am trying to give you a status report." So, but, those are important, so everything that pertains to our history how we evolved as a people; as a society. With the respect to the Ritidian, it is not on the National Register and I believe we wanted that under former Vice Speaker Won Pat to nominate it the National Register. It never took a strong foothold to proceed with that nomination. It is on the Guam register but I'm not sure even if the federal entity will ... especially with their MOA with the conservation of the kingfisher habitat, you know the MOA that evolved. So I just wanted to stress that regarding the Ritidian, it probably could be afforded more protection if it was registered as a historic land mark but first you have to register it in the National Historic Register.

Chairperson Terlaje:

So your office is not pursuing that at this time? You were thinking that the Department of Defense might be.

Lynda Aguon:

Actually we do have a draft which we provided to Speaker Won Pat and they were supposed to, under Dr. John Peterson and it was supposed to have been submitted but because it is under federal jurisdiction they have to. I can prepare the nomination and submit it to them, whether they agree or disagree, it's under their jurisdiction so they have the right to refuse a nomination.

Chairperson Terlaje:

So what should the public expect for Guam or your office to do in regards to Ritidian; the planned adverse impacts to Ritidian?

Lynda Aguon:

Ritidian, well what do I expect Guam to do? The only thing I can suggest is to proceed with the nomination to the National Register.

Chairperson Terlaje:

According to DOD's Record of decision, they will mitigate these impacts. The one's that are mitigable and of course they are those that are not mitigable. So those that are not, are you able to, in your position, is there any role for you to either push them to register, one of the things they are supposed to do is register two (2) properties a year. Do you have any input into which two (2) they will register and do you have input into how they're going to mitigate the effects to Ritidian?

Lynda Aguon:

Okay we're talking first about avoiding the impact? That's not going to happen.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Will they be able to do that; avoid the impacts?

Lynda Aguon:

Senator let me get this first straight in my mind. You're asking about the Ritidian site or the live-fire training range?

Chairperson Terlaje:

I'm going to focus on Ritidian right now; I think the live-fire, if you could talk about that too, that would be fine. They're a part of one project; the live-fire training range is planted up at Northwest field but extends out over Ritidian.

Lynda Aguon:

So it's a very important site. How to proceed? What do you think? You think it's feasible to avoid that, to avoid the impact? To me it's a struggle but we can try. What happened to Pagat, they moved it. Now if they want to move the Live Fire Training Range over to Pugua Point, but that's another; they keep moving around the island; you keep finding sites in coastal areas. The best thing to do? I mean they probably spent millions of dollars already with all of the studies and all of the things that are needed in the progress of the contracts and everything. It's worth a try to avoid it or minimize the construction of all the facilities up above. So you buffer, your surface danger zone is not extending out; I don't know if they can do that. That's from my perspective. I'm not an expert in any technical aspects with moving it here and I'm not an engineer. Mitigating it? Oh, gee, how often is the Ritidian site going to be, the wildlife refuge, going to be open every year? Three hundred (300), two hundred (200) some days. Try and mitigate that down to less than two hundred (200) some days. Mitigation can be also, various things you can do to mitigate and it's negotiable. That's what happened in the Programmatic Agreement. So you know, ideas can come from

the people. How do you want to mitigate it? Well let's get some ideas from the people.

Chairperson Terlaje:

That's what I want to know specifically; does your role as SHPO or does your division have any role in the negotiated mitigation?

Lynda Aguon:

I believe we do. Yes.

Chairperson Terlaje:

So what do you think?

Lynda Aguon:

We can as we review the final report. That's what I mentioned in our letter, our official letter, that this is what we would like to happen based on the comments of the people, that we would like to mitigate with less impact to the Ritidian side and these are our suggestions and recommendations.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Okay. So do you think that the technical report is where their mitigation plans are contained? Or is it in the range mitigation plan? Can you give us a list where these mitigation plans are or are they still being developed? What is the status of the mitigation plans?

Lynda Aguon:

We've commented on one and as we go along in projects you have different mitigation plans as they come.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Will there be different ones for Ritidian? For the live-fire training range? Or one?

Lynda Aguon: No, you see my office hasn't brought that issue up with the Ritidian side. I'm sorry I failed in that respect. So there is no mitigation in the area we're dealing with. We're just up in the plateau area so there is no mitigation plan for Ritidian.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Is there a mitigation plan for...?

Lynda Aguon: Senator, I could be wrong? You know I would have to go back,

you've seen our records but I know there's a range mitigation plan for something else but not for...

Chairperson Terlaje:

Not for this area? Not for this range? So to your knowledge there are no existing mitigation plans for the Live-Fire Training Range area?

Lynda Aguon: Maybe you would ask the biologists?

Chairperson Terlaje:

I'm going to ask all of them, but for you?

Lynda Aguon:

I'm going to make this clear, I'm not sure. Let me check and get back to you.

Chairperson Terlaje:

If there are, could you please let us know what they are and what their status is, if they're still being negotiated or if negotiations are done and if you've approved any? I'd like to know if there's a part in these negotiations where the public can get involved. That's my goal. Okay?

Are you able to share from the reports that you have received from the surveys that have been done by the Department of Defense, which cultural sites or how they described the cultural sites that will be impacted? I'm assuming then that these are different since they are submitting a whole new report that these are different than the ones that were listed in the SEIS, potentially, including more?

Lynda Aguon:

Latte period site, several are mixed. World War II. That's how they describe it but there's no one specific site. The Northwest Field latte site. They are just broken down as they find it. Pottery scatter, mitten scatter, mitten concentration of fish bones.

Chairperson Terlaje:

How do they describe Ritidian? Do they do it by pottery scatter, bits and pieces or do they describe it as an ancient village? Or do they describe it as a historical land space?

Lynda Aguon:

It's a settlement site. We consider it in our inventory as the Ritidian archeological site. It's a settlement site.

Chairperson Terlaje:

So is there any role that you know of for the public to have input in regards to this Live-Fire Training Range project, to your knowledge or with your agency?

Lynda Aguon:

Yes. Every time they have a project under the buildup, they submit to us. It's called a "Programmatic Agreement memo"; one is for SHPO and one is for the public.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Have they done that for the Live-Fire Training Range?

Lynda Aguon:

Yes.

Chairperson Terlaje:

It's already been submitted?

Lynda Aguon:

Yeah.

Chairperson Terlaje:

And the comment period is open or not?

Lynda Aguon:

I think it was back then, I'm stumped. Under the PA...

Chairperson Terlaje:

Just to reiterate, the Programmatic Agreement, they submit memos for each project.

Lynda Aguon:

In this Live-Fire Training Range, there are different projects going on. There are PA's but not for the totality of the project itself, the Live-Fire Training Range Complex. You have the ramps, you have the ramps going up, and you have utilities; so those are some of the different PA memos that come into our office. That's where the public can pick up a copy or go on the URL for Navy and I think I sent you that URL and pick up a copy and comment and it will tell you "these projects will adversely affect properties and how it's going to be mitigated. They will tell you, I think you've seen a PA memo. You've seen one.

There are little, small projects that do come to our office under the PA, Programmatic Agreement.

Chairperson Terlaje:

So have you seen those that indicate impact to the archeological or the settlement sites at Ritidian?

Lynda Aguon:

It doesn't mention the impact for Ritidian.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Can you make a recommendation for those who might want to comment on those memos that impact the Ritidian settlement site? Which memo should they look to?

Lynda Aguon:

We don't have one yet for that.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Not yet? Do you expect one?

Lynda Aguon:

We should. I don't know Senator those questions are...

Chairperson Terlaje:

I'm thinking the way you're describing the Programmatic Agreement, the memos that are being submitted if they're piecemeal like that they might not clearly indicate the Surface Danger Zone when they're building one ramp or one structure. It's going to be difficult to follow. Okay. All right. Is it okay, I'm going to come back to you Lynda for more questions after we hear from the rest? Maybe they can fill in some of the information here. Joe Quinata?

Joe Quinata:

Yes, my name is Joe Quinata the Chief Program Officer for Guam Preservation Trust. And also we sit at the table with the Programmatic Agreement. We're one of the signatories in consultation. I know that the Guam Preservation Trust, we've stated strongly about public access and they are addressing public access but at one of our consultation meetings, I was really concerned when I read one of their documents. I was concerned about traditional cultural practices and the properties that are related to these traditional cultural practices. When we talk about traditional cultural practices, we talk about the suruhânus going in a

taking and they do that regularly down at Ritidian. We talk about the fishermen that go fish out there and we know that the SDZ, the safety zone, goes beyond the reefs so we were concerned about that. And these are traditional, cultural practices/properties that also hold very strongly into all of these mitigations or the process that they have to go through. We offered our help, the Guam Preservation Trust, with the military to get the public involved in this, to find out how we can be able to resolve this public access and traditional, cultural practices, the properties that are related to that. We do sit down and we do support the SHPO as we go through our consultation meetings. We do have a regular, quarterly report, status report that we go through and we review them to find out like you said if there is an adverse action, there's an impact, how can we be able to best mitigate it where their operation and what our needs are, and are met. It is a work in progress as we go on with the Programmatic Agreement.

There's the other concern I raised regarding the Programmatic Agreement and that is their fulfillment of what they agreed to do and one of the most important things is the repository. That still has not been produced and my comment to that was if you do not produce a repository, then there's a breach in agreement. Then we have to go back and do another negotiation. So they are aware of that and they're trying to see how to get the funding for that. What we have found out or what we were told was that although it was appropriated, it was not authorized. And so that's what we are faced with right now. If they don't produce it, then there's a breach in the agreement.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Joe aside from access then, is your agency concerned or the Guam Preservation Trust concerned with impacts to the historical properties at Ritidian?

Joe Quinata:

Yes, we are concerned and we've submitted our letter regarding those...

Chairperson Terlaje:

Are you aware of any way that the adverse impacts to historical cultural resources at Ritidian can be avoided at this point?

Joe Quinata:

They could be avoided in many different ways. When we sit at the table regarding the Programmatic Agreement, there are ways that we can be able to put in our concerns and say "Hey, maybe we can perhaps treat this with a little bit" so that we can be able to avoid that and if we could do that, that would be a great thing. But we're sitting at the table so that we make sure that what they

said they were going to do in the Programmatic Agreement is done. And that includes mitigation.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Well for both of you, Lynda and Joe, was Litekyan or Ritidian included when the Programmatic Agreement was signed? Were the impacts to that area included at that time?

Joe Quinata:

No.

Chairperson Terlaje:

They weren't. So those mitigations really were not directed to avoid anything at Ritidian or maybe specifically mitigate anything in that area.

Lynda Aguon:

In the Programmatic Agreement? No, because they were looking at Pagat at the time. It wasn't looked at, at the time.

Chairperson Terlaje:

So are you negotiating mitigation? Joe is your agency negotiating mitigation for Ritidian or Litekyan?

Joe Quinata:

At this point, we really have to look to the SHPO to take the lead in mitigation. We only sit as a consultation to the PA. The SHPO has the lead and has the authority to make that call. We suggest and we make recommendations.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Have you made any for a mitigation plan or any specific mitigation regarding avoidance proposals? I mean are there any?

Joe Quinata:

No we have not.

Chairperson Terlaje:

I'm sorry I don't have the listing in front of me of when it was listed on the Guam registry. Can you just describe for the public very briefly what is it that's important about that area?

Lynda Aguon:

Well it was where the Chamorros settled and then in the mid-1800s, they were taken out by the Spanish and herded in the area of Hagåtña. Mind you as I read in Juan Pobre, there were a hundred and fifty (150) villages on Guam at the time of Spanish contact. So a hundred fifty (150) villages all over the coastal area. It's very important to us the Ritidian site. You look at the ecology of the area, the environment, it was rich. They could sail over to Rota, is it Rota? Well, Rota, right. They did it every day at the time before the Spanish came and they wrote about it, that they would take passengers and even go to Cavite. Of course everybody knows our history goes back almost four thousand (4,000) years ago or thirty-eight hundred (3800) years to be exact, almost to be exact. That's why it's important. It's a connection to the Chamorro people with all these settlement sites. They are really being destroyed not only by federal government but also by private industries. You know they want to build hotels and this and that, and this and that, especially at Pago bay. So our island is so strange, it's so small and yet we have so many sites. To protect it, what can the people do? Well we're doing something with Ritidian. We have a voice out there and in the next annual meeting, which is in April, and I really want to have someone sign that Programmatic Agreement to be a voice in that. I don't know if Fuetsan Famalao'an ever signed it, I think a lot of them got re-invited to sign the Programmatic Agreement and you would have a place at the table to say something but right now there is nothing that would bring those groups in to state their feelings about this; about Ritidian. That's why it's important. There was previously a settlement site, then the Spanish came, built their church, so forth and so on, then they kicked them out all over the place; Tarague, Jinapsan, Pugua point. It's very important to reestablish it as a connection to the Chamorro people. Let's pursue it. Let's have them redesign the Live-Fire Training Range. I don't know have them move it ten (10) degrees to the east or whatever the direction to avoid the SDZ.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Are you aware of any specific way that we could or you could negotiate that? Or that we could or as a signer of the Programmatic Agreement or party, are you able to impact that?

Lynda Aguon:

I believe we can.

Chairperson Terlaje:

You think so? Could you describe it to us Joe?

Joe Quinata:

I know that there is always a possibility and I encourage the Legislature to be part of the Programmatic Agreement. Be a signatory so you can sit and be a part of the negotiations. Be part of the mitigation team. But there is a possibility. The Live Firing Range is on hold. They're not doing anything there and before they do, I think that we need to put some effort and we can sit at the table and they know what our concerns are. They know what are needs are. They've learned it from Pagat so they're aware of that. If we can step up and do some you know, negotiation as far as mitigation is concerned. I think that would be a good thing. I encourage all the other organizations to come in and sign the Programmatic Agreement so they can be a part of the team that sits around the table.

Chairperson Terlaje:

But if I may, right now the ones that are representing the government of Guam and the people of Guam are those that are there right now. Do you think there's still opportunity to negotiate avoidance? Negotiate mitigation? According to Lynda there has been no plan that's been set for the mitigation of Ritidian right now or for the Live Fire Training Range. Do you think you or your agency will be involved in that?

Joe Quinata:

Yes we've always been involved, Senator. We continue to forge forward. They know what our mission is. They know why we sit on the table. We're there to make sure that what they signed, the agreement that we have with them, in the beginning.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Okay. Lynda regarding the consulting parties that did not sign the Programmatic Agreement, are you continuing to notify them of the project memos or just the status of the Programmatic Agreement or not?

Lynda Aguon:

The ones that didn't sign?

Chairperson Terlaje:

Correct the ones that did not sign. There are many groups in the community including the Legislature at that time that were consulting parties and they did not sign the agreement in the end and are they at all being notified?

Lynda Aguon:

By me or the federal agency? No. You can ask but they do have a website; I think

I have the URL. They can go to, come to our office. As for if they want to sign, they would have to on the second re-invitation to sign the Programmatic Agreement. You know when I signed the Programmatic Agreement it's not because I'm in favor of the military buildup. That's the wrong perception that was conveyed to others. It's not that. I am here to protect our resources. There's a process for these federal agencies to follow to protect and that's their mandate. It's not our mandate. So I'm here to represent the people of Guam in that respect. Now more importantly is the sectional intent of the National Historic Preservation Act. There's more in that section that tells these federal agencies that have control of their property or jurisdictional property, to make sure these properties, historic properties, are not impacted and to have a plan in place. You're going to do the nomination. You're going to do all sorts of things. I think it's two (2) pages long. §106 is just a trickle in the big bucket there you know. So I'm here not because I'm in favor of the buildup but because somebody has to represent the people in that respect with protecting historic properties.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Okay, yes. I just want to see if the public can get some assurance that those protections are going to be maximized for this place in particular.

Lynda Aguon:

May I just convey also to let everyone know that this state archeologist is very detailed in the way he reviews reports. Any discrepancy or any, I mean we find reports that are just down right "who wrote this?" You know these people are supposed to have a master's and come off giving us a hard time sometimes. We tell them do it this way, do it this way; no you can't do it that way. To me I want to say they hide things and it's only appropriate because we find things that are hidden so it's very time consuming. The state archeologist can only do so much. They demand too much from him because in forty-five (45) days you have a thousand page report to review you know. Well put it on top of the pile of ten (10) here or you know our office is very busy. And to sit here to ask me all these questions, just today I had to review the file and our file is like that long but if you have a second session I'll come.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Thank you. I know like I said, we could be here for days on just this one project and just this one agency but I'm trying to as fast as we can to spread this knowledge to people in the community. We've got people who are very interested. If there is a role for them I want to ask you to highlight it for them and for us. If there is a role for you, I want you to just remind us what that is so we can support you in that role and if you need our support, to please let us know.

Joe, I'm sorry could you just tell us, do you have communication that says that this Live Fire Training Range is put on hold?

Joe Quinata:

Right now I'm looking at it and nothing is, according to their report, nothing's been done yet.

Lynda Aguon:

It may be because we haven't reviewed the final technical report.

Chairperson Terlaje:

So they have submitted a final technical report pending your review?

Lynda Aguon:

Yeah it may be that.

Chairperson Terlaje:

And do you expect the mitigation plan to be contained in there for this area?

Lynda Aguon:

You know, I, this is not the one I reviewed yesterday. I don't know.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Okay. Mr. Lotz could I ask you if you have any comments along these lines to help people understand this firing range on this property.

David Lotz:

I'll certainly elaborate on that. If I may, let me just give a little background that covers your whole agenda because I think it would be advantageous. I'm Vice Chairman on the two boards, Guam Preservation Trust and the Trust is represented by our Chief Program Officer Joe Quinata in the Programmatic Agreement which was signed by the Trust. Joe on behalf and the Historic Preservation Board is represented by the State Historic Preservation Officer. By the nature of our legislation there is no specific statutory basis even though we have some discretion relative to the Programmatic Agreement. That was in 2011. There were many parties that did not sign and the signature would have been for concurring party which troubled a tremendous amount of people because it implied you agreed with everything that was being said. I would say that even if you do not agree, I would sign and encourage all parties interested to sign because it gives you a seat at the table and it gives you an opportunity to receive items such as a semi-annual report and particularly the annual meeting for this

year is coming up the last week of April. And I have participated in those as a representative of a signature which is the National Park Service. Those still have a good forum to go over many of the items that you're bringing up to our attention today. A couple of things I do want to mention, the repository actual went backwards before the Congress and a few years ago it had the appropriation but not the authorization. The authorization came through in the Defense Authorization Act that passed in Congress and signed by the President late last year so I do know that the Office of Economic Adjustment of the Department of Defense has been in contact with the government of Guam, particularly the Governor's office, on that.

I have been concerned that the Programmatic Agreement calls for public access; that was written in 2011 and it's my understanding with the exception of the traditional medicine practitioners, the people who would like to have access to the cultural sites that actually started with only a few people allowed entry earlier this calendar year. I think it is very disappointing because you do not see people in the, particularly the U.S. Navy, seeing the advantage of working with the people of the island who just want to visit our heritage in many areas that are controlled by the Department of Defense. Relative to the Live Fire Training Range, I do believe Congress has actually appropriated funds for that and there has been a couple of items that have been, and this is an advantage of also going through becoming a concurring party because the range mitigation plan was a focus of that discussion. Now even though on the range mitigation plan I have seen adjustments to avoid certain areas of cultural resources and while you actually don't destroy the footprint of these, you enter adverse effects into those because you change the character of the surroundings and of course it impacts access and particularly the character is a troubling concern. I'll get back to Ritidian in a minute but just before, you have on the agenda relative to Anderson South.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Dave can I interrupt you right there? In that range mitigation plan, do you think that is the mitigation plan specifically for the Live Fire Training Range?

David Lotz:

Yes it is.

Chairperson Terlaje:

All right, thank you.

David Lotz:

It's listed in the semi-annual report at the end of last year and it's stated on page one (1). Just a comment on the Anderson South, what is left there is really marginal because the vast amount of Chamorro cultural resources was probably in my opinion heavily destroyed when Anderson South Marbo Annex was constructed. I've seen, for instance, an aerial photo of what was then Anderson South between the cliff line and Route fifteen (15). That whole area was just cleared massively and I believe in the 1950's; anything that was there would've been destroyed. Now interestingly this one site, 2008, I had the opportunity to see and it has a portion of a latte set and unfortunately a portion of this was covered and bulldozed because of a permit of clearing it right away. So that's just kind of the overall aspect on that.

Let me get back to the Ritidian site because I think we need to look at the Chamorro village latte below the cliff line if it's presently part of the Guam Wildlife Refuge which is actually owned by the refuge and not part of the overlay refuge. There has been some discussion and I would say I received unofficial information that presumably the wildlife refuge will be closing as a result of the impact of the overlay refuge. Now to me if that were to occur, there would have to be an agreement between the U.S. Navy Department of Defense and Fish and Wildlife Service Department of Interior. Now to me that agreement would be subject to National Environment Protection Act in section 106 of National Historic Preservation Act; which would open up the very questions that are being posed here because the 2011 Programmatic Agreement was determined principally by the Navy to not reopen for the change of location of the firing range. Now I think what should also be looked at is depending on what agreement comes in the play between the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Navy, this is an assumption again, if for some reason that land was no longer controlled by the Navy then I think it would be wise to look into the requirements of U.S. Public Law 106-504 which was passed in November 13 of the year 2000. And while it's extensively worded, it could be interpreted that if an agency of the federal government no longer needs that land, it is not allowed to go to another federal agency. It then becomes an opportunity for the government of Guam to acquire that land. Now this raises a lot of questions on the potential future of the firing range and I've asked many people, perhaps some in this room could enlighten us on this but, we unfortunately have not heard what is going to be the details and agreement between the Navy and Fish and Wildlife Service relative to Ritidian.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Do you expect that agreement at a certain time like this summer? Is there a name

for that agreement that you're referencing?

David Lotz:

I've only heard that there was an agreement that was supposed to be signed but then when did I expect it? I expected it a year ago. So it's really uncertain as to what's happening on that. But when you see that there is an overlay, there's going to have to be some sort of agreement and there was some, a representative in Washington did passed legislation to allow the overlay of the safety zone. And that piece of legislation did mandate an agreement so there's a statutory basis for that.

Chairperson Terlaje:

But to your knowledge, none of the Guam agencies will be involved in that process, that agreement, except after the agreement or prior to concluding the agreement will the NEPA process begin?

David Lotz:

I really don't have an answer to that. I wish I did.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Okay. If anyone knows the answer to that, please let us know. I'd like to know exactly when the NEPA process is going to kick in with that agreement; thank you Dave.

Mr. Sablan I know you're here to talk about the repository is it okay if I let Tino Aguon from the Department of Ag talk about Ritidian in particular? Did you have any input on Ritidian in particular? I'm sorry introduce yourself for the record.

Johnny Sablan:

My name is Johnny Sablan; I'm the President (translated from Chamorro) of the Department of Chamorro Affairs. Our part, our vote is really after our partners like SHPO and others involved in the Programmatic Agreement that's when we come in basically to assist in the implementation and the preservation of what the findings are so I, of course I, in my personal point of view is that we look forward to keeping all artifacts for the people of Guam and that's basically our role is to protect our artifacts and putting it into the cultural repository as designated by SHPO and others.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Is the government of Guam in negotiations with the repository to your

knowledge?

Johnny Sablan:

Right now there's an implication by several stakeholders from Washington to come to Guam in April 27th and to discuss the pulling of cultural repository. That's all I could address.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Thank you very much and thank you for your letter. If there are any other updates regarding the repository, the Programmatic Agreement, the memos that you think particularly Ritidian, Litekyan, these very important sites or any news on the agreement, in your roles as signatories; you're also a signatory correct? To the Programmatic Agreement, yeah I am willing and I'm sure my colleagues are willing to help you facilitate getting that information to the public. Getting input from the public if it will help you represent us in these negotiations or these very important meetings or in influencing any agreements with Fish and Wildlife or any other parties. I'm going to let Tino Aguon from Department of Ag.

Tino Aguon:

Hafa Adai, Senator. Senators thank you very much for this opportunity. My name is Celestino Aguon, I see there are a bunch of other Aguons here; Senator Aguon as well. That was by accident or by chance. And to my left is actually Jeff Quitagua a staff biologist with the division. I'm with the Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources, Department of Agriculture. What I have provided and I believe your aides have made copies of it, are several documents related to this issue, the live firing training range. Just to back it up just a little so we understand what we're doing here, this is the called the NEPA process, the National Environmental Protection Act process. And this is mandated by the U.S. Congress at all agencies that are intended to do a federal action. They must have their action reviewed by all participating agencies and governments. And so you have to my right Lynda Aguon who is with SHPO no? The State Historic Preservation Office as well as Joe Quinata with the Guam Preservation Trust. That is a legal mandate that this interaction is required. Also part of the NEPA is that any impacts to the natural resources that we are concerned, our department and division are mainly concerned with the natural resources of the island. We mainly focus on endangered species of both plants and animals and how that impacts as far as any mandate or action a federal agency plans to implement. So that's why we're here today. There is a federal action. We had known this process several years back. We made copies and provided that for you. We provided our input and gave a whole list of mitigative actions if possible and whether or not those can be implemented. One of the things I think maybe

Lynda and maybe even Joe would mention, with some resources you cannot touch the stuff. If you're talking about a historic site, as soon as you lay your human hands on it, you have destroyed the resource as is. You have compromised I guess a professional or a resource person from analyzing or accessing how old this thing is and etc. etc. so those are some of the things. Our mandate mainly is in regards to natural resources so what we did was we provided our feedback as far as that goes. We always go hand in hand with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service. They are our federal counterpart. We are just a Guam agency. Unfortunately the federal government chooses to ignore us and we pull that lever. Sometimes it works and sometimes it's like "oh well". That's one lever that we have is our cooperation or partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service. The other lever that we have available to us is a federal listing under the Endangered Species Act so our mandate is related to the recovery of natural resources and endangered species. As soon as we see there's an impact we pull that lever and they, that's how we get their attention. Under the NEPA process of federal law, unless you address those issues under the federal law, you cannot move forward with your action. And so that's how we kind of deal with that situation as far as whether or not the agency that's planning the action meets our needs and if they don't, then we pull the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service into the pot and they kind of go to bat for us. The federal avenue if you may. So those are some of the things that happen. One of the things that, and these folks to my right and Jeff as well, know very clearly is that you have a window of opportunity to comment and that's through the NEPA process; there's a timeline. If you don't submit the comments in time, you've passed that opportunity and everything moves forward with or without your comments. Sometimes you can work to get those in and other times you cannot. It always depends. Under Guam law we have those levers as well and this is in regards to the protection of natural resources we have a currently on the books, Guam's endangered species. Most if not all of the species that we have are also on the federal listing. So they're not only locally listed but they are also federally listed so there's another legal lever that we have an opportunity to pull. For example the Guam Micronesian kingfisher, the "Sihek", most of you know what that is. It's a little bird that is under the listed federal Endangered Species Act. So that's one of those, the Guam sea turtle is another one etc. etc. so you can go down the list.

Those have more weight, in terms of federal responses. When we pull those levers, then when we say well those are all locally listed. But they are all well whatever, and so there are different ways to try and get our attention. This was mentioned by Mr. Lotz. That it actually tabled some of their activities. And so when I saw some of the stuff going on I thought it was interesting. And so I had to pull all the historic records that we have and that's why you got copies of

those. One of the things that is also evident when we move through this process, is whether or not, and this is how we play hand in hand with the Guam Preservation Trust, the State Preservation Trust Office, as well as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, we all communicate and let everyone know that we have concerns and whether or not those concerns are being addressed through the NEPA process as well and then we move forward in that regard. So that's why we are mandated under federal law. That's why we are all here to talking about the whole process as far as the action that the military, the Department of the Navy (DON) is planning to implement. So they're looking for comments and all that, of which we submitted multiple times. And so I guess there was a question whether or not they feel we are being listened to, yes and no. As you know we are in a recovery mode of our endangered species. And those we have to move along. We kind of played the partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in terms of all the endangered species recovery. We got the funding under that etc. etc. etc. So that really is working out fairly well for us. When it comes to these kind of actions we also make it known to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service the very impact. These areas technically have been identified in our, I'm looking to Jeff for the correct buzz word, our recovery plan for certain species so those that are out there for several years, so our recovery plan for the Guam kingfisher, the "Sihek", and all the native forest birds that used to be a part of Guam. Those are in that and it identifies the critical habitat. That's the word that I'm trying to pull out of my mind, sorry. I'm getting old here. But anyway it's the critical habitat that is crucial. Those need to be identified because if you don't identify that and it comes up later, then you get that idea that you are mentioning things in response to some action. Those were done way ahead of the game and I think they know it. One thing very interesting, you were asking questions about Ritidian. Just a little bit of a tidbit of Guam information that was like the stronghold for much of Guam's native forest birds. Ritidian Point, you know down below and that hold area. Those areas have been crucial and in fact we have some of the progeny or the off spring of the birds that we actually had pulled out of the wild. And so those are a few of the interesting tidbits. The other question was whether or not they are listening to us. I think the response is they are because with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as part of our partnership with them and we stay in communication with that agency that is a U.S., federal agency, they have the legal levers to mandate. Some of the things that we don't have, because we have the local listing but that doesn't carry as much weight unfortunately. And all our native forest birds are listed under that particular document. One of the things we do annually is renew our endangered species list. That's on an annual basis and we communicate that with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. So they are aware of the activities both the recovery aspect and all the other actions related to the recovery of the endangered species. So I think

we are ok for the most part. My only little pet peeve here if I may is that we don't have as strong as legal levers to as some of my counter parts to my right. SHPO, State Historic Preservation Office that is a mandate that I believe here is under congressional authority that SHPO has to be done on a local level so as a legal lever we on another hand have to find our levers with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and all our cooperation with them. We have all the documents related to our partnership with them and everything else associated with.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Tino may I direct some?

Tino Aguon:

Sure.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Your testimony. After you submitted testimony during the need for a process on the SEIS and the Record of Decision came out. Was there any other need for process that you are aware of?

Tino Aguon:

Not that I know of.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Are you anticipating the NEPA process to occur when the agreement between the U.S Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Defense occurs?

Tino Aguon:

As I understand it with ROD, Record of Decision, once that is done that's basically final. And any negotiations or agreements or actions taken, would be subsequent to that and I'm not sure if it's binding or not.

Chairperson Terlaje:

But you are not aware. You're agency has not been notified. Are you involved with the agreement between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Defense? Are you helping them?

Tino Aguon:

We are not at the table so to speak.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Being consulted?

Jeff Quitugua:

We are just consultants to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as collaborative of partners, when it comes to the Record of Decision.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Are you aware of the agreement that they are trying to negotiate with the Department of Defense?

Tino Aguon:

You know what to tell you the truth I don't recall if we are or are not. I don't believe we are at this moment as far as this process already. And usually the ROD basically encapsulates everything else agreed to. Because it's the Record of Decision what they formally agreed to and whether or not anything subsequent to that up to other agency trusting.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Are you involved in any pending biological opinion that is being prepared?

Tino Aguon:

Biological opinion, BO? The biological opinion is part of the ROD. That's what it is. And so that basically is the process that already has been completed per say. So in reality the way I understand it is the ROD is the final document that act as a guiding document for all agencies as far as the federal agency and whoever the counterparts are.

Chairperson Terlaje:

And then; did you get a copy of this?

Tino Aguon:

Yes I did.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Doesn't this show in depth that the habitat that has been designated and made by your agency that this Live Fire Training Range is going to impact that habitat? So that has been decided already in the record of decision, right?

Jeff Quitugua:

That was the alternative that was proposed during the SEIS after the Pagat Firing Range plan was closed. And from our review that is right on top of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge which is a crucial habitat for a lot of our native species

that are on there. Not just for our forest birds but there is the Guam tree snail that is in there recently submitted or added to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Endangered Species Act in 2015. But yes that is basically habitat that is very crucial to the recovery of the species. You know when we talk about the biological resources it is also cultural resources. A lot of our native species are a part of our culture. So we work very closely with SHPO and especially when it comes to these opportunities to review these documents, we do work closely hand in hand with their office, with Lynda's office. The Serianthes, the Hayun Lagu is just right there in the foot print, off of one of the high power range area and that's going to have a huge impact. That's the only living tree here on Guam. So that is information we had printed out into our reviews and I think because of that it has startled at least DoD and as well the U.S. Fish and Wildlife to put a hold on Ritidian to look at it further and to really decide if it is the actual place to hold this firing range. So that's what is putting a stop right now because of the Hayun Lagu.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Well I thank you for the efforts. But I want to say something. I went to a briefing by the engineer for the Department of the Navy I think and was given an update on their projects and she made it sound very clear that they're waiting for a biological opinion this summer. And that it's the only impediment to the building of this firing range at this point. I have other information that there may be an agreement between Fish and Wildlife and Department of Defense. Was your agency signatory to the Programmatic Agreement or not? Okay, Department of Agriculture was not. Okay well if your agency has any knowledge of these types of things hopefully you'll share them with us and with the public. The public wants to be involved. There's a big segment of the population of Guam that does not want to see the endangered species impacted, their critical habitat, they absolutely don't want to see our cultural resources, our historic sites, further impacted so we are looking to you please to assist all of us in keeping us on that table, negotiating for us or not negotiating for us or at least Senator Aguon is the head of the build-up, Military Build-up Committee for the Legislature. I'm just concerned because it does not sound very reassuring at this point. I'm going to read something from this mitigation plan. I'm hoping maybe these are some areas that we can focus on and have again another impact. And if the NEPA process comes down please help us out. There's a comment period. The comments are due April 24 for the "Andy South" and you said it's not as important as the Ritidian areas far as archaeological sites or because it's been disturbed but part of the mitigation plan, the public parts of it, that I can discern sound like the investigation by the Department of the Navy, Department of Defense, will be provided to the SHPO in the form of technical reports. So you

said you received one of these. And in addition to the technical reports, the Department of the Navy will prepare a consolidated information package to present the findings to the public. I don't see here any other real actions by the public that are going to be allowed. But if you can find those for us I appreciate it. The other thing they say is, the Department of the Navy will provide an opportunity for design review of the Live Fire Training Range to the Guam SHPO. Has that already been done? Has the SHPO agreed to the design of the Live Fire Training Range?

Lynda Aguon:

Not necessarily agreed to the design but we reviewed the design.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Reviewed, okay.

Lynda Aguon:

We need to avoid any impacts or adverse affects. We discussed that with them.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Okay.

Lynda Aguon:

Yes.

Tino Aguon:

Senator if I may jump in here. I think one of the things having our agency gone through this whole NEPA process over and over again, one of the things that we have learned is that, you make it very clear to the action agency, this time I guess is the Navy, that these are the points that need to be addressed, I think that has to be very clear because if you respond in a very general way, you're not going to get anything done out of it. And they could weasel out of anything. And so I think in our experiences with the whole NEPA process that you need to be very clear as to what has to be done. One of the things that are very interesting on our end is that we are natural resources. We love native forest habitat. Any time we could do stretches or acreage of forest without anything that makes us happy. Because we're looking at forest that could recover or is going to stay as is and is left untouched. I think that helps SHPO, State Historic Preservation's needs as well. There's a dual thing here. And so one of the things that is also clear with the Live Fire Training Range complex action that it is going to create a whole bunch of people coming back and forth. We've seen this just on Guam's tourism movement of people. When you have a bunch of people and I guess I've seen

numbers ten (10) to nine thousand (9,000) Marines coming in and out. It's a bunch of people. And we already have problems with the coconut rhinoceros beetle. We have problems with little fire ants. We have some introduced species that have become noxious and are creating a whole list of environmental problems. What we have made clear is that even when you get to that process where you've addressed everything. When you start moving a bunch of people, you have to be very clear that these things that are a part of the movement of military personnel is sanitized to the ninth degree and we've seen actions where they've agree to that but like it's said in the expression the rubber meets the road whether or not you are doing it. If you are not doing it and you are giving lip service to the action we're not getting anywhere. I think.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Are you approving any mitigation plans for this Live Fire Training Range? Your agency?

Tino Aguon:

We do it in concert with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services.

Chairperson Terlaje:

What is that name of the plan?

Tino Aguon:

I don't think we have actually seen. How many have we seen, Jeff?

Jeff Quitugua:

We haven't seen anything current to the Live Fire Training Range. We have seen stuff with the other things they have proposed. In what 10 years ago during the EIS, the Marine relocation which is included the cantonment in other aspects of DoD. There just so many things going on with DoD property that we reviewed. Like everything outside the gates. It's become like a domino effect. Things are just speeding up really quick. Just like today I did 3 clearing grading permits for people wanting to build homes and rent it out to military families. It's become a major issue for our department at least in that part. But going back to your question we have been in communication with at least our partners which is the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services. These matters at least. So we provide a lot of updates with status updates with species, things that they are not aware of, what's out there. Especially with the changes that are occurring out there, our island when it comes to our resources. Yes thank you.

Chairperson Terlaje:

I understand. Are you aware of any government of Guam lands that are being used for any mitigation of Department of Defense properties?

Jeff Quitugua:

Yes.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Besides the Sella Bay treatment plant up in the area. Are there others?

Jeff Quitugua:

That's the only one that we know of. That's the Kilo Wharf mitigation that was right off I guess north no sorry East of Sella Bay.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Please keep us posted if you hear of other government of Guam land that is designated to be used as mitigation areas for the Department of Defense projects. Okay. Just one last question for Lynda, Lynda are you aware that the Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan is there one for Guam or is there an area in particular?

Lynda Aguon:

There's one for Guam. We received that today. 2015.

Chairperson Terlaje:

You just received it today?

Lynda Aguon:

Yes, today; this morning.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Is this the first one we've received? Have you received one before?

Lynda Aguon:

We received pre-final in 2014.

Chairperson Terlaje:

What is, are you supposed to approve this plan or just review it?

Lynda Aguon:

No we review it, and then we let them know what the problems are with their

plans, fix it and correct it. And they produce the final. But we didn't get the final until this morning.

Chairperson Terlaje:

What timeline are you under for that Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan review?

Lynda Aguon:

Actually it's the final. The timeline is gone. Whatever the timeline we had is gone. But it doesn't prevent us from reviewing it and giving our comments. It's still going to be on record.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Is that something that we could look at and the public could look at and also give you comments on?

Lynda Aguon:

I believe there is a restriction on. I could find out. There is a restriction on for public use and it's not even permissible under FOIA. But I could find out. Dave may be you could find out if you see the plan?

David Lotz:

It's my opinion that it's for official use only. It's for official use only. I had to sign for that.

Chairperson Terlaje:

I'm going to ask you to consult with whoever you need to consult with maybe our legal counsel or something and see if this is something that you can share with the Government of Guam and the people of Guam can also like you said if we already missed the deadline if we can have some input let's try to do that. This is their Cultural Resources Management Plan and other mitigation plan that come before you. I think my colleagues are anxious for some questions. I am anxious also that there are members of a group here called Save Ritidian, Save Litekyan. I'd like to hear from them and I think they might have questions for you. I think there's so many questions that we're not going to have answered tonight, we might send you some in writing and ask you again. But I also like to recognize before we go any further that we have in our presence tonight the original land owners of the Litekyan area and these families and I'd like to acknowledge the Government of Guam as a policy that we will pursue, we will return those lands to these original land owners. So I want to remind everyone that that's our policy on the books. So everything you can get to help us. Get that

to happen. To mitigate the impact not really mitigate to avoid the impacts. So please help us to help you. I'm going to allow my Vice Chair to begin some questions and a few questions from my colleagues. Thank you.

Senator Telena Nelson:

Thank you Madame Chair. Ms. Aguon, thank you for being here this evening I just have a very simple question. Just to understand the timeline so you said that you received the final summary issued out today?

Lynda Aguon:

That's right.

Senator Telena Nelson:

It dates back.

Lynda Aguon:

Which one are we looking at?

Senator Telena Nelson:

I'm sorry go ahead.

Lynda Aguon:

The Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan. It's dated 2015

Senator Telena Nelson:

Yes just received it today.

Lynda Aguon:

Yes.

Senator Telena Nelson:

And then you mentioned something about Northwest Field expanding the boundary beyond what is being reported earlier this evening.

Lynda Aguon:

Yes for the purpose of their Section 110 Report. So I quickly looked through yesterday. And I just went to the map.

Senator Telena Nelson:

What was the report? Can you say the report again?

Lynda Aguon:

It's called the Section 110 Report. It's the Anderson Air Force Base National Historic Preservation Act Section 110 Cultural Resources Identification and Evaluation Studies and that was dated 2015.

Senator Telena Nelson:

Okay how far was this boundary expanded?

Lynda Aguon:

An acreage; I know the Northwest Field that we have on the boundaries on the site area is I think 600 acres.

Senator Telena Nelson:

Six hundred (600) acres?

Lynda Aguon:

Dave, correct me if I'm wrong because he used to be the Cultural Resources Manager at Anderson Air Force Base.

Senator Telena Nelson:

Can someone clarify that?

Lynda Aguon:

Northwest Field. The boundary.

Senator Telena Nelson:

Six hundred (600) to what?

Lynda Aguon:

Pardon me?

Senator Telena Nelson:

Six hundred (600) to what?

Lynda Aguon:

Expanded to I'm not sure, Senator. I have to get back to you on that. I just quickly looked at the map yesterday.

Senator Telena Nelson:

Okay and then I'm not sure if I heard this correctly but you said that there is no

plan for mitigation yet. Did I hear that correctly? For the mitigable areas. Did I hear that there was no plan?

Lynda Aguon:

Yeah and then I think I retracted then said I'll check into that as I remember seeing a range mitigation plan. It's in the Programmatic Agreement required to produce several range of mitigation plans. So that's in the Programmatic Agreement with respect to the semiannual report that was July to December. It has the mitigation measures.

Senator Telena Nelson:

So is it your job to ensure that there is a mitigation plan in place? Or is it someone else's job?

Lynda Aguon:

Well it's my job to let them know. It's required. Once you do a study you find all these sites you care what is important. You need the range mitigation plan.

Senator Telena Nelson:

So did you create the mitigation plan?

Lynda Aguon:

No we didn't create it. In consultation with the Navy, Department of Defense. We created it together first they submit one.

Senator Telena Nelson:

So it's created together?

Lynda Aguon:

Yes it's based on the study, how are you going to mitigate site two hundred twenty-one (221) it's a Latte Set, it extends its covered five (5) acre. How are you going to mitigate that?

Senator Telena Nelson:

So you mentioned some areas of your concern this evening like the cultural impacts and so forth, as far as the human remains, you know the pre Latte period, the Latte Stones. You created; you worked with the Navy to create a mitigation plan for this?

Lynda Aguon:

No. I mean. I'm sorry I missed directed here somewhere. We mitigate it together; we worked on a range mitigation plan together.

Senator Telena Nelson:

How would they mitigate?

Lynda Aguon:

The urban combat training southern Anderson.

Senator Telena Nelson:

But how the urban?

Lynda Aguon:

That involves nine hundred (900) acres. We only reviewed three hundred (300) acres of that, three hundred (300) and some acres.

Senator Telena Nelson:

So how do you?

Lynda Aguon:

So there's five (5) sites located, it was in the newspaper. And it says that we will mitigate the five (5) sites. We haven't mitigated yet because we're waiting for the PA memo too, to proceed with the mitigation plan. So we meet, discuss, then a mitigation plan is produced.

Senator Telena Nelson:

But do you have an idea of how you are going to mitigate it? Because you're aware of it, right?

Lynda Aguon:

Yes of course. I mean.

Senator Telena Nelson:

So can you share with us what you would propose?

Lynda Aguon:

Okay. Let's take for example a burial.

Senator Telena Nelson:

I'm sorry say again?

Lynda Aguon:

A burial. A skeletal remains human remains.

Senator Telena Nelson:

Ok.

Lynda Aguon:

You find something it's not a complete skeletal remain, a complete individual, if it were, are you going to take it out of the ground? What are you going to do with it? Are you going and so forth? Okay. You have a plan to mitigate it. Are you going to take it out of respect or you're going to be very careful, make sure you have a professional physical anthropologist on board. So that's the mitigation part of the removal of burial. Are you going to keep it in place? Well what are the needs for that project? What's more important to me or to you is it the burial or the project itself? Can you avoid by moving a project ten (10) feet this way or whatever?

Senator Telena Nelson:

Yeah I understand that. I'm thinking the direct impact but thank you so much for your time Ms. Aguon. Thank you.

Lynda Aguon:

You're welcome senator.

Senator Telena Nelson:

Thank you Madam Chair.

Vice Speaker Therese Terlaje:

I'm so sorry Senator Lee did you have questions?

Senator Régine Biscoe Lee:

Just wanted to thank you all for your testimony and for being here this evening and for contributing to this informational briefing. I have a question and it's really kind of directed towards you Mr. Aguon and maybe Mr. Quitugua if you could help us out. You mention that U.S. Fish and Wildlife as your federal counter parts. I have a question that is kind of related to that. Perhaps you can assist me in answering it. So do you know if there's been any discussion of Fish and Wildlife relocating not just within Ritidian or Litekyan but to CNMI? To the CNMI?

Jeff Quitugua:

I'm sorry can you repeat that?

Senator Régine Biscoe Lee:

Has there been any discussion of Fish and Wildlife relocating not just within Litekyan but to the CNMI?

Tino Aguon:

You know if I may I believe so. I think the strategy has been since it's been difficult because of all the legal levers on our end that potentially some of the activities can be moved to the CNMI; it's always whether or not they have the assets to do it or not. Whether the infrastructure is present or not you got to handle whatever they need in terms of that. They actually done some activities related to the training range where they actually do basic maneuvers related their training etcetera etcetera. So as you know the CNMI has a whole list of islands besides Saipan and Tinian and Rota. There's a bunch of others and so what they've done I believe I may be wrong that they reached an agreement with the CNMI that some of the islands are available I guess in that regard. But that's up to them. We are kind of like in reality because I have my wife's side is from Rota and I'm not sure if she wants the world and her family has CNMI connections so to me my heart's always been the Marianas. I've done so many surveys of the chain. I was actually part of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service back in 1982. We actually did bird surveys there. So anyway I have a real good feel if not appreciation for those areas. Unfortunately there is the economic and I'm not going to talk much on that and the aspect of it that actually helps it the discussions to move forward. So whether or not they consummated that you know I can't give you a real good answer as far as that goes but we could always follow up on that and find out for sure.

Senator Régine Biscoe Lee:

Maybe perhaps given your background I'm just curious because I've been seeing information about Mariana's Trench or Marine Monument. And for the potential for it being under consideration for a sanctuary so I'm just concerned that maybe the potential joint designation could change things with Fish and Wildlife and their presence in Litekyan in particular. So Mr. Aguon if you could and if Mr. Lotz has any information about that.

Tino Aguon:

The designation of the trench certainly will have impact, whether or not that is good. Of course with the SDZ going way out in the Rota channels that's going to

impact fishermen for sure. And so that designation could potentially impact whether or not and it's always about whether or not the military is willing to accommodate Guam's needs as far as that goes. And so that's always an open discussion.

Senator Régine Biscoe Lee:

Mr. Lotz?

David Lotz:

I just wanted to add under the Mariana's Trench National Monument, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has certain responsibilities in the Northern Mariana Islands, the rest of the monument is submerged and that's under NOAA, I don't know what arrangements or agreements have been made with the CNMI relating to the three islands in the Fish and Wildlife Service but that relationship was established today the potential proclamation.

Senator Régine Biscoe Lee:

Okay thank you for that and to also Mr. Aguon I just want to reiterate some of your testimony you were talking about the need for us within the grandeur broader NEPA process just to be very clear about our action items and just to be very clear about essential mitigation and so moving forward I think all of us we need to be very clear about what it is that's the most important to us I think we kind of create a list for them and this is the list that are completely non negotiable for us and these are the things we really need to be taken care of and it's important and very clear about that in our minds in our community and kind of put that down as action items and list them and be clear about what our plan is. They're going to create a plan on their own whether or not they're going to incorporate our comments that's a whole other issue but at least we need to be very clear in each of these different aspects in cultural preservation for Fish and Wildlife and all of our resources. We just need to be clear what it is we value.

Tino Aguon:

Thank you. One of the things we've done is really cultivate a partnership with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and I think we really done that to the ninth degree and for the most part and they have become an advocate for our needs. One of the things we are always aware is that they don't work for us they also have their federal mandate. It was mentioned that NOAA is also another federal agency that actually based on my experiences is a very good advocate for the natural resources in terms of fishing, fishermen, and you know etcetera etcetera providing funding for different studies to be done. They provide quite a bit. They provide a big degree of funding and empowerment for the islands. And I

can't say enough to show how much we appreciate that as well as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. There's this real nice partnership I believe that really helps us as we move along. What we are always aware of if we don't have the lever we pull it from someone and make our concerns very clear to the action agency that we are not appreciative of and don't move forward. And so I think what it is and then again as I mentioned the Endangered Species Act both from the federal and local side provides us with a significant amount of leverage when it comes to some of these things. In the end like you all say they could choose to ignore us and that's when I think we move it up the chain, either here or the Governor or etcetera etcetera.

Senator Régine Biscoe Lee:

Okay. Si yu'os ma'ase. Thank you all so much. Thank you madam chair.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Senator Esteves?

Senator Fernando Esteves:

Hafa Adai. Thank you for being here. Ms. Aguon you bring up a very valid point that caught my attention. Often times you know we're catching federal counter parts either one pushing the limits beyond what their supposed to do, trying to attempt to sneak things through but I guess my question is with the representation you bring to the table on behalf of the people of Guam, do you have or are in need of assistance in the vetting process of their mitigation plan for right now speaking in regards to Ritidian Firing Range?

Lynda Aguon:

Let me understand the question.

Senator Fernando Esteves:

Who helps you with the technical reports on their mitigation plan from the Department of Defense side?

Lynda Aguon:

Oh. Actually we do have a liaison; a SHPO/Navy liaison; you mean to help us review –

Senator Fernando Esteves:

I think somebody on our end that has our interest, not saying that you don't, but someone with the technical expertise. I mean, not necessarily on the legal sense, but specifically on the technical sense, because I do have a military background

and I can look at these ranges and judge by the topography whether there's a higher likelihood of affecting these areas. Would you know the types of ammunition and weaponry they intend to use at these live-fire ranges? I bring that to light so that we can pull resources and assist each other because at least based on the judgment, based on three (3) different types of munitions, they have maximum range extensions or maximum ranges in which you can somewhat estimate what the likelihood of potential impact zones would be. Typically with military ranges, they tend to be very, very safe so that impact range goes way out but the likelihood depending on the range often times is much more mitigated than what it would be and what they show on the map. So I guess it brings to light both for two (2) reasons I think if we can find a resource within GovGuam who can help with the technical, with the evaluation of the technical report that the Department of Defense brings to the table but I think more importantly to make sure that nothing is slipping through the cracks/or get lost when they attempt to drown us in paperwork. I have looked at the SEIS reports that came out in 2015 when I first came in just binders and binders and it was nice they gave me CD's but Lord, you know I could spend a whole two (2) years doing that so I understand the position you're in and really to reaffirm that you're not alone. I believe there's a lot of technical expertise in the government that could assist you just because you know you're right, once we go down this road often times we're not going to be able to come back. So again, extending my services and whatever I can do reaching out to you to please notify us if anything came up. As soon as you get the mitigation report from Department of Defense so that we can either individual or as a consolidating crew, start really combing through that because time is always of the essence.

Lynda Aguon:

Yes, senator with respect to what we do is the technical, we have the technical people to review the reports with respect to preservation to historic sites and properties, cultural resources. I think in regards to the range of the ammunition going and the burns, I think that's already been discussed during the SEIS.

Senator Fernando Esteves:

And I guess the question is who provides you that information and pretty much the "warm and fuzzy"; is that from the Department of Defense?

Lynda Aguon:

I think it's already provided; what our archeologist does is just review. He an expert and also ranges in –

Senator Fernando Esteves:

Okay so our archeologist reviews that and he verifies the technical or vets the technical report?

Lynda Aguon:

It's already been reviewed, yes. We can ask you to help I mean if we get anything like that in case they redesign.

Senator Fernando Esteves:

I mean it's like you said, often times just asking them to adjust it five (5) meters or a hundred (100) feet to the right or left, it can have really tremendous impacts on what we do. I just want to ensure that in moving forward –

Lynda Aguon:

When I brought that up, it was regarding a utility trench which they avoided to impact a site, which they moved, but we've never asked them to move the range this way or that way.

Senator Fernando Esteves:

I just use it as an example. I guess my concern is obviously coming into this just ensuring that you know we're not getting a "warm and fuzzy" from Department of Defense liaison or SHPO representative saying "Oh no we're good; the bullets won't even go that far. It's not going to affect this site at all." Without actually vetting if that's actually true or not, because we've seen historically that the information provided from DOD isn't the most accurate or within best interest of those that it's going to affect. Again I just want to extend there are multiple resources within GovGuam that are available at your disposal to help assist that and ascertain that it is the truth that they're telling us because I would never take anything from the Department of Defense. I always take it with a grain of salt. Thank You.

Lynda Aguon:

Thank you.

Tino Aguon:

Senator if I may, there's such a thing as a GPS and I think that's what Lynda was trying to mention is that when we are out in the field, staff biologists are suppose to be, you've got your pair of binocs, and you need a compass. One of the things we've added to our repertoire of equipment is the GPS unit because most of the time if we find a historic site, we click it. We turn it on and identify it and mark it then move on because more than likely, the northwest field even though it encompasses the live-fire training range, it such a huge expanse of an area. Like I

mentioned, we had designated or purposed for critical habitat, quite a bit of that. You know the runways, the old runways, are still there and are still being used for practice runs. So there's quite a bit of different assets, so to speak, that are there and for the most part we don't go out in the field thinking we're going to find a unique, historic property or asset. So when you're out in the field, you basically click the GPS and you've already identified it then at the end of the day, you report that. A way of tracking is fairly evident or apparent when we're doing that; that's how we do that stuff. And anytime we on our end find unique things, one of the things we kind of slightly went through is that the northwest field Ritidian point has a federally/locally listed endangered species of tree: *Serianthes nelsonii*, hayun lãgu, is endangered, there's only on Guam, (is there one (1)?) One (1) parent tree and that's in Ritidian point. See that was the legal lever I was basing it on. I think its Rota, there are actually several of those trees; there aren't too many. That's why it proposed in the federal –

Senator Fernando Esteves:

I have it here actually on the map that I'm seeing that one (1) tree. I guess my concern is –

Tino Aguon:

It looks like a tangan tangan tree if you really look at it; it's very fine, it's a legume. And so it's very unique and there's only one (1) on Guam.

Senator Fernando Esteves:

My concern is with the mitigation and I guess, I understand you guys are marking these sites. But again as far as the mitigation portion on the Department of Defense's side, I think accepting anything other than .000001 percent chance that any of our cultural or historical sites or ecological sites, could be negatively affected I wouldn't, from my standpoint, accept anything less or greater than that chance of it. What I just want to be careful of is them just telling us there's not a chance, you know on this earth, that it would be affected without us actually vetting that statement.

Tino Aguon:

Two (2) things I think need to go on and we've done the same. One is you identify the location; two, we on our end, provide a biologist person who is adept at getting around and finding where that is; is present when that it occurring when there are key sensitive areas I think you can't go without having somebody, a whole person, actually being there when any activity is going on. We have had in that situation made known to them when they do their basic training or whatever that may be, and told them this has got to be the way it's

going to be; these are the only areas. What we do is we send people/our staff, out there to just verify and that's how you would find out whether or not they are setting violations of that agreement. As soon as that happens, guess what? We call long distance to U.S. Fish and Wildlife service.

Senator Fernando Esteves:

I think the Chairwoman wants to bring another panel on board. And again, I just want to close with this one point is looking at the map you've provided and the overlay, that one tree we're talking about, that one tree, is within the impact zone, the direct impact zone of a machine gun range. It's a multipurpose machine gun range and I guess my concern is, as I talk with our state preservation folks, there's no technical continuity there to understand that. So in reviewing the technical aspect and what Department of Defense tells us, I'm afraid it seems like there might be a gap there. Because especially to most of us who might understand or just simply put, that we have that one tree in the direct impact zone of a machine gun range I think is very, very concerning. So again vetting, having somebody that can vet that and has an understanding of whether we go through multiple vetting systems or levels just to ensure is very important because my assumption I would've expected the panel to know what type of range that was? So that's either going to be five hundred fifty-six (556) or seven hundred sixty-two (762) caliber machine gun; might even go up to a higher caliber. If they happen to be shooting in that direction, say bye bye to that last tree that we have in an instant. So the concerns are there and I know you guys are addressing those concerns, but that's just the thing. It might be that having somebody, with additional technical knowledge and experience might be beneficial, so that when Department of Defense is giving you a "warm and fuzzy", you have another watch dog to make sure. Thank you, I'm sorry I know we have another panel madam chair.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Thank you very much Senator. We don't have that much time left, but I would like if you could please indulge us by waiting I think these people might need your attention as well as ours and since you are our representatives in the government. I'm going to call on Sabina Perez, Kelly Marsh, and Senator Nelson were you going to testify? Okay those are the only ones who have signed up for testimony although I do have the addresses of all the others that signed up and we will give you copies of all the information we've received here, thank you. Sabina, you may proceed.

Sabina Perez:

First of all I would like to start off that I am a member of Prutehi Liteksyan/Save

Ritidian and I hope that we can all come together as a community to protect the natural and cultural resources which are going to be impacted by the Live Fire Training Range Complex. I just want to make some clarifications. I've read the 2015 Biological Opinion that has been completed regarding the serianthes nelsonii. So as a result, basically, these negotiations take place between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Defense's legal team. And what they determined for this serianthes nelsonii was that they were going to spare the tree with a hundred-foot perimeter around the tree based on root systems, the technical scientific literature regarding root systems. And so that's how they came up with the hundred foot perimeter around the tree. So they are going to spare the tree. They are going to put a buffer area around the tree based on root systems. Yet, despite all of the negotiations they agreed to put up a firing range, the largest of the firing ranges next to the endangered tree. And bear in mind that this is the only reproductive tree on Guam. Part of the negotiations, as far as mitigation is concerned, is that they are going to do a minimum of thirty (30) out-plantings of seedlings that came from this tree as well as do some viability testing of the seeds, as well as do genetic testing to see if this is a special sub-type compared to the one on Rota. I would like to also add that there was a recovery plan created in 1994 regarding the serianthes nelsonii and it stated specifically that the habitat must be protected for the recovery of this species. Yet we see now in 2015 in their biological opinion, they decided that the habitat surrounding this tree was going to be destroyed. So this is the update.

The other thing that I would like to add is that there was a new listing that came out, a relatively new listing that came out in October 2015, regarding additional threatened and endangered species. From what I understand, some of these species are medicinal plants. I myself have been involved in the ecological studies involving plants and for me that is not enough training for me to identify these medicinal plants. You can easily miss them. You need someone with additional expertise, suruhanus, people who practice traditional medicines. So I think we need to encourage our agencies to have suruhanus/suruhanas who know how to identify these plants. It is really crucial to identifying the impacts to our historic properties. I have a question as to whether this was actually done with the first Programmatic Agreement and any amendments to it. This is something that I highly encourage our agencies to look into. Because from what I understand, a biological assessment has been completed and it is now on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Office and they are determining whether there is enough information for them to make an analysis and to go forth and make a biological opinion. So the problem with the biological opinion is that we are left out of the conversation. It's only when it is finalized that we know what the mitigation plan is and these are the shortcomings of the Endangered Species Act.

The other shortcoming of the Endangered Species Act is that it allows for the taking or the harm of an individual if it is deemed that it is not going to cause the extinction of the species. So my question is, in 1994 there were one hundred twenty-one (121) serianthes nelsonii plants, today there are only thirty (30) or less. So how is it that this only one individual mother tree is going to be exposed to more damaging winds, possibly fires? How did we allow that to happen? Partly because we are not allowed in the conversation. So I really highly encourage all of you to help protect this tree and do all you can to stop this firing range from happening.

I also have a couple of questions here regarding cultural resources. So again, the Programmatic Agreement was signed March 9, 2011. Should I submit these questions to the Historic Preservation Office and shall I get responses?

Ok, so basically, since the signing of the Programmatic Agreement in 2011:

1. How many Chamorro Burials have been uncovered? How many have been preserved in place? Where are these burials stored? Was there proper notification to consulting parties to these discoveries?
2. How many burials ceremonies have been conducted and were the consulting parties informed?
3. Section 800.5 of the 36 CFR 800 Protection of Historic Properties part (V) states, "the introduction of audible elements diminishes the integrity of the properties significant feature." Is the DoD compliant in addressing this potential adverse effect of the proposed firing range to Chamorro burials located in Litekyan and Inapsan – historic properties listed in the Guam Register of Historic Places?
4. At the signing of the Programmatic Agreement in 2011, did the DoD include the Litekyan and Inapsan archaeological sites areas to be potentially affected by a proposed firing range? Where consulting parties given the opportunity to comment?
5. On page 17 of the March 9, 2011 Programmatic Agreement – "Develop Range Mitigation Plan" (RMP), where is this plan and were the consulting parties or the public able to have opportunity to review the plan? Does the SHPO have any concern to the DoD compliance to this section of the Programmatic Agreement?

6. If consulting parties did not sign the Programmatic Agreement in 2011 for whatever reason, will those consulting parties lose their right to review the implementation of the Programmatic Agreement?
7. The announcement by DoD that areas that are slotted for clearing of forest containing traditional medicinal plants, would grant access to traditional healers a certain number of hours to collect significantly important traditional healing plants(amot). Has this mitigation measure been reviewed as flawed? Are there any measures to preserve these forests instead and relocate military building footprint or any undertaking elsewhere? How many acres of culturally significant plants have been destroyed since the implementation of the Programmatic Agreement?
8. Is the DoD compliant in the proper storage of archaeological artifacts? Where are they stored? Is DoD compliant in the proper storage and treatment of the historic properties?
9. How many historic properties eligible for listing on the National Register have been nominated for inclusion to the list?
10. On page 36 of the Programmatic Agreement, "Termination". Does this section allow for the SHPO to terminate the Programmatic Agreement if DoD is not in compliant with the agreements listed in the Programmatic Agreement?
11. Is there a list of violations of the Programmatic Agreement compliance?

I would like to submit this as record.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Thank you very much. I will transcribe those and also forward them to the SHPO. Lynda, if we could get some answers to these questions that would be helpful and I appreciate your cooperation with that. (To Sabina) Should some of those questions go to Department of Agriculture also?

Sabina Perez: Yes.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Thank You.

Dr. Kelly Marsh:

(Refer to submitted written testimony).

Chairperson Terlaje:

Thank you very much Dr. Marsh-Taitano. I appreciate the points you made because they were not made by the panel earlier about the real significance of this area compared to all other sites. And I know we put up a big fight when it came to Pagat, and we are not hearing much regarding this site, so I appreciate that. Senator Hope Cristobal.

Senator Hope Cristobal:

Thank you madam chair and thank you senators for hanging out with us this evening. As you have heard, we just have a tremendous amount to lose in continuing with this plan by the military just because they cannot share training, Live Fire Training Ranges. You know you have the Air Force and Marine, and they just refuse to come together so we're suffering. We're going to suffer the consequences of their decisions. What I'd like to point out is the offset of the SEIS, FEIS, and all the NEPA processes was that the military, the Department of Defense referred to this area as federally controlled lands. Not that they own the lands. So obviously, that's an issue we need to look at. They are admitting that these are federally controlled. I would also like to see overlay after overlay of the impact because that would make it much clearer to the general public of the impacts to this area. I also notice that the military recreational area is cut out from here and yet the civilian area is going to be fully impacted.

I'm here more importantly because over the many years that I've been following the work of the preservation of our ancestral burials, again I want to reiterate how important it is for us to instill community respect for our ancestral burial grounds. It's our respect but generally we want to impart into our community that these ancestral areas are sacred to us. These are sacred grounds and we need to protect them. And we need to do everything we can to protect them.

Secondary purpose is that we have not written our Chamorro history and this area is so rich with information about our identity, who we are as people, how we value these resources that we're referring to now as resources but they are our ancestors that are buried in the ground there. And I believe the first option is to leave the burials in situ. But I have yet to see that happen; I have yet to see that recommendation. And I think we need to begin to start with the highest standard of preservation. We're just allowing digging up and I know we tried to downplay this "oh I know it's just a piece of finger" or "it's just a piece of a human being". The fact remains that these are human remains of our ancestors and we need to respect that. And so I'm here again to plead with everyone. I

really appreciate the fact that everyone within the GovGuam that is concerned with this came forward. As a member of the public I feel like I've been lost among all the studies going on as a consulting party.

I don't remember ever receiving public notice. And there seems like there has been little if no transparency in the plans that have moved forward. You know just up north I'm also concerned about our farmers up there and how these Live Fire Training Range will impact the quality of our produce. If we're really encouraged a third leg of our economy which is to improve and raise our agricultural production, this should be a major concern because most of these areas will be impacted by the dust of a new suburbia that will be built at NCS. The dust there is a real concern regarding the quality of the produce as northern farmers. And I'll leave it at that but thank you very much for having this informational hearing. A lot of this stuff I'm hearing for the first time as a member of the public and as a member of a consulting party. Si Yu'os Ma'ase'.

Jesse Castro:

Good evening Senators. Thank you very much for giving us an opportunity to speak out. My name is Jesse Castro. My father's name is Jesus Castro. My father's father's name is Jesus Castro. We own lot 998. Lot 998 at Ritidian got lost during the war. If you look back on the paperwork, our family was basically moved from that location and it wasn't included in the condemnation. My grandfather made a lease agreement with the federal government, but the federal government did not honor that, so there was a breach. Everybody is talking about all the laws, well there's a breach. Secondly, my father was the administrator for Jesus Castro. He had to go before court and prove ownership. They won, so ownership was established. They felt pressured to go ahead and do the settlement, so that's what my father told me, and they received a check for that lot and the check bounced. So come further now into the future or past to us, there was an overall blanket agreement in which the federal government would pay out. My father told me "don't accept it." I am his administrator. So speaking for three (3) generations, we do not accept any of the offers, anymore. That land is ours but we also understood that it was needed for Guam. Guam was in a unique situation in World War II. They were persecuted and punished and they were killed. People had to live through that, so they understood that unique might to defend what you value. So they stood back for the people of Guam and said okay. That's the resources that was being utilized by the family to sustain us. Not for one generation; not for recent things with Fish and Wildlife; but for many more. The Department of Defense had a unique situation where they were going to return the property. We brought this to their attention, Fish and Wildlife. We brought it to your attention and we keep bringing it to your

attention that you have a bad situation with Ritidian. It is not owned by the federal government, it's still owned by some people. So we still exercise and we still voice it. That is our property. We're willing to share; we've always said that; we've always done that. We understand the importance of our community. We understand the importance of our heritage. We want to come to an agreement that we own that property and we will renegotiate a lease with whoever is going to be a good steward. Thank you very much.

Cathy McCollum:

Thank you, Vice Speaker, for giving me this opportunity and I appreciate what Mr. Jesse Castro had just said. Yes, I agree totally that we want our lands back. At least with the Ritidian families we've been at this fight for a very long time. It even got stronger when I found out my grandparents were removed from their land in Ritidian by gunpoint and so I don't think that was a very friendly way of telling my grandparents to leave. And apparently they had to remove them because they were not happy with the outcome of the court. Their idea of just compensation was not theirs. Anyway, I received a letter as the Magahaga of the Nasion Chamorro from this Programmatic Agreement. I read it to the Nasion at a meeting that we had and I was telling them that I'm very leery about signing this Programmatic Agreement because I find it to be a "problematic agreement." An agreement is something that we both agree on, and the Nasion Chamorro, will stand by that we do not agree with what's happening to our island. We do not agree with the military buildup. We do not agree with our lands to be used as firing range no matter where it's going to be. So we took a stance and we said we will not sign this Programmatic Agreement because we do not agree. But we do want to be informed for everything that happens, everything that is discussed. We'd like to be at that meeting regardless of whether we sign it or not. I think it is the responsibility of whatever government wants to call us that they're our bosses. I think the people of Guam should be told of what's happening to our island. They took our lands unconstitutionally and so we want to stress that fact that it was taken unconstitutionally. There's this whole idea of everything that we do is unconstitutional but I want to throw it back at them that everything they have done to us has been unconstitutional. And so I also wanted to stress that in this Programmatic Agreement, I believe Ancestral Lands Commission should be involved because there's two things I remember when I was a commissioner of the Ancestral Lands Commission. That area that you were saying that is going to be used as a target range in Anderson South was slated to be given back to the Ancestral Lands Commission and it was supposed to go back to the original land owners. We took a tour; the commissioners took a tour up to that area because it was one of the returned properties or so I thought. And now this area at Ritidian where you see here on the submerged lands, it is an

Ancestral Lands Commission property. It doesn't belong to Fish and Wildlife; it doesn't belong to any federal (agency). I have a document that I had given to the last legislative body to review because it was signed from GSA to Governor Gutierrez and it was deeded over to the government of Guam. So it's in the coffers of the Ancestral Land Commission and I believe that they should be very much involved with this; with this talk that's going on that involves our island because there's a lot of these things that are happening on government returned properties. And you know the thing is once it's returned to the government it's supposed to be returned to the original land owners. So it may be a submerged property but that belongs to the Ancestral Lands Commission at this time until such time it's returned to the original land owners. And then there was something else that I wanted to find out, what was that public law that said that once an agency is transferred to another federal agency and they're going to remove them from it, it comes back to the government of Guam 103?

Chairperson Terlaje:

We can provide it to you.

Cathy McCollum:

Thank you. Also, Fish and Wildlife, I don't know if they're protecting anything at Ritidian. Since the time we have started this fight, I have not yet seen anything released by them that's wildlife. They showed me fanihi that came from Rota but they haven't shown me any fanihi, our bats and our birds. So I don't know what kind of stuff they're showing down there at Ritidian but I don't believe that Fish and Wildlife is really a good steward for Ritidian. And I'd also like to stress that 23-25 was passed and I hope that you all still stand by it. 23-24 also states that any government agency is not supposed to be in cahoots with the Fish and Wildlife. According to Tino, they're very friendly with the Fish and Wildlife. I understand that they're federally funded by the Fish and Wildlife. They call the Fish and Wildlife their bosses, and that's something I think this legislature needs to look at and find out are they a government of Guam agency or a federal agency if they're completely federally funded. Because there's something wrong with this picture if the legislature says they're not supposed to be in cahoots with the Fish and Wildlife, any government agency. I have stressed this before that they surely are. So I think you need to look at 23-24 also and find out whether this agency is following the law, in the books. It's still in the books unless you guys do something with it. Thank you.

Chairperson Terlaje:

Thank you very much. Okay I want to thank all of you especially Tino, Lynda, Mr. Lotz, all of your testimonies and all of you and your presence and patience.

I'd like to very much thank my colleagues Senator Esteves and Senator Nelson. This concludes the hearing on this informational briefing and the time is now 8:12 PM. Thank you again very much.

III. FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee on Culture and Justice hereby reports out Bill No. 14-34 (COR), As Introduced - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 1923 TO CHAPTER 19, TITLE 1, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ALLOWING THE PERIODIC AUDIT OF EACH AGENCY'S STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES AND REQUIRING SUCH PROCEDURES TO BE POSTED ON EACH AGENCY'S WEBSITE, to *I Mina'trentai Kuåttro na Liheslaturan Guåhan*, with the recommendation _____.

Activists oppose Ritidian firing range

Apr 29, 2017 Updated Apr 30, 2017



PRUTEHI LITEKYAN: A group of more than 30 activists demonstrated at the Chief Quipuha intersection in Hagåtña on Friday, April 28. The demonstrations come on the heels of a proposed military firing range adjacent to Ritidian, which would include the development of a hand grenade range and a live-fire shoot house. Norman M. Taruc/The Guam Daily Post

<http://www.pacificnewscenter.com/local/13413>

Thursday, 27 April 2017

Prutehi Litekyan stands united to save sacred lands; opts-out of Programmatic Agreement

Written by [Rebecca Elmore](#)

“Såtban Litekyan stands united in our efforts to save the sacred lands that have been in federal hands for decades.” -Prutehi Litekyan

Guam - Several government agencies convened this morning for the Annual Programmatic Agreement workshop to discuss the protection of Guam’s historic properties and cultural resources.

Major Timothy Patrick, the Public Affairs Officer for the U.S. Marine Corps Forces delivered a Q&A this morning on the PA’s accomplishments through 2016.

“The programmatic agreement is developed under Section 106 of the Historic Preservation Act and it provides guidance for the mitigation of potential adverse effects to historic properties,” Major Patrick said.

Representatives from the Department of Defense, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, SHPO, and Members of the Guam Legislature were present.

One of the groups not in attendance? Prutehi Litekyan, also known as “Save Ritidian Guam.” The Guam-based group is known for their opposition of a military firing range on sacred native lands. And although they were invited to attend the workshop, PA coordinators said the org’s representatives were not present this morning.

A representative from the group tells PNC: “Såtban Litekyan stands united in our efforts to save the sacred lands that have been in federal hands for decades. The certain environmental impacts are not justifiable in any way, for any reason. From habitat loss of endangered species to the disruption of sacred lands, the firing range impacts are innumerable. Further, members of the organization are families still pushing for their ancestral lands to be returned to them. The organization is also requesting that the SHPO not sign the PA, and terminate it.”

A petition on Change.org to Save Ritidian from degradation and militarization of native lands was created around two months ago and has already garnered over a thousand supporters.

The activist group is one of the newest collaborators added to the PA workshop since the agreement’s inception in 2011. Major Patrick shared that the workshop is a space for participating parties to raise their concerns and aims to protect Guam’s Historic Properties and Cultural Resources.

"The workshops serve as a venue for all participating parties to review important tasks and requirements that have been accomplished since the signing of the 2011 programmatic agreement," Major Patrick said.

But Victoria-Lola Leon Guerrero, a representative from Independent Guahan tells PNC, "When you think about the PA in particular, several groups have refused to sign it because we don't think there is a way to mitigate any damage to our cultural resources. Places like Ritidian really need to be left alone. A firing range does not belong anywhere near a sacred space."

Several Programmatic Agreement accomplishments were listed today, including the addition of local nominations for the National Register for Guam's historic properties. Places like Maulap River Site, Dãdi Beach Japanese Bunker, Dobo Springs Site, Tarague Well, and the Torres Farm latte site have been nominated. Another accomplishment listed by the PA is the Range Mitigation Plan and the guided development of ranges on Guam.

However, the online petition by Prutehi Litekyan makes their opposition to the proposed Ritidian firing range very clear: "We oppose the establishment of any military firing range and align our efforts with other regional movements working to prevent environmental degradation and destruction on sacred and native lands."

And Vice Speaker Therese Terlaje agrees. In a press release, the Chairwoman on Culture and Justice expressed her solidarity as well: "the firing ranges at Northwest Field were not specifically contemplated in the PA and overlay very significant historical properties, including an ancient village at Ritidian/Litekyan that should not be disturbed."

The tone for today's overall event has been "friendly", says David Snyder, a public access coordinator and attendee of the workshop. He tells media that most of the discussion this morning centered around the Guam Culture Repository -- a major milestone for the PA. The repository was a stipulation of the 2011 PA, requiring appropriated funds to construct a facility to house archaeological artifacts and cultural remains found here on Guam.

When asked what the collaborative groups in the programmatic agreement could be doing better, Major Patrick said: improved communication.

"We prepared and delivered several educational presentations to the mayor's council and villages to encourage public input to the Historic Preservation Plan because we need that public collaboration, we need that public input to learn what people's concerns are," he said.

The Programmatic Agreement workshop is currently taking place at the Guam Museum and is expected to last until six this evening.

https://www.postguam.com/news/local/proposed-firing-range-training-zone-discussed/article_cafe629c-0e31-11e7-8df4-43261de11528.html

Proposed firing range, training zone discussed

Manny Cruz | The Guam Daily Post Mar 22, 2017



INFORMATION BRIEFING: Linda Aguon of the State Historic Preservation Office, answers questions from Vice Speaker Therese Terlaje about her office's role in protecting historic and cultural sites and resources in light of the military buildup. The Legislature held an information briefing on the possible negative impacts to Andersen South and Ritidian with the planned military buildup, on Tuesday, March 21. David Castro/The Guam Daily Post

Make your voice heard

Comments on the military's plans may be submitted to criwebcomment@navy.mil through April 27.

"There's a large portion of our community that don't want to see our ecology, cultural and historical resources further impacted by militarization." - Vice Speaker Therese Terlaje

After weeks of tension over native sovereignty, land stewardship and the impact of a proposed military firing range adjacent to Ritidian, representatives from various agencies and interests raised concerns over a proposed urban warfare training range at Andersen South at an information briefing on Tuesday.

"First and foremost, we want to protect the human skeletal remains, and then the pre-contact-era latte stones," said Linda Aguon, a Guam State Historic Preservation officer. "Northwest field itself must be protected, and an adequate evaluation of the area needs to be conducted."

One of the training areas at Andersen South will include the proposed development of a hand grenade range, and a live-fire shoot house. Another training area will require demolition of some of the abandoned structures at Andersen South, such as certain former enlisted personnel barracks, according to the military's plan.

Artifacts in the area

A major point of contention for many residents is the impact to numerous cultural resources within the desired area that are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Some of these resources include:

- Artifacts from the Latte Period, scattered approximately 270 meters east-west by 50 meters north-south, comprising pottery fragments, stone tool fragments, a shell adze fragment and fire-altered pieces of coral. A few pieces of charcoal, terrestrial gastropod shells and a bird bone fragment were also observed.
- Another area that has scattered Latte Period artifacts spread across 60 meters northeast-southwest by 40 meters northwest-southeast, situated at the southeast side of what is known as the Mogfog Depression, according to the military. The site is comprised of varying densities of pottery fragments, stone tool fragments and fire-altered pieces of coral.
- Latte Period pottery fragments in an area measuring 8 meters north-south by 5 meters east-west.

Aguon said mitigation of impacts to these areas is still possible through nomination of these sites to the NRHP.

The Guam Preservation Trust's Joseph Quinata said his agency is strongly concerned about cultural practice and access to sites.

"When we talk about cultural practices, we're talking about suruhanus going in to gather medicinal plants, and we talk about fishermen being allowed to fish there where a surface danger zone would be imposed," Quinata said.

The creation of a historical repository, which is part of a programmatic agreement concerning the properties, has yet to be clarified.

"They have not produced it, and therefore it's a breach of agreement," Quinata said.

Vice Speaker Therese Terlaje said it was deeply concerning that most Guam agencies are not signatories to the programmatic agreement.

"This isn't very reassuring," Terlaje said. "There's a large portion of our community that don't want to see our ecology, cultural and historical resources further impacted by militarization."

Training complex

The military plans to develop a live-fire training range complex within Andersen Air Force Base, but public access at the adjacent Ritidian Wildlife Refuge will be limited during the training as part of a required safety buffer zone, according to a previously released military document.

<http://www.pacificnewscenter.com/local/13015>

Monday, 13 March 2017

Independent Guåhan holds teach-in about firing range plans for Ritidian

Written by Donna De Jesus

The teach-in will be this Thursday at the UOG CLASS Lecture Hall from 6 to 8 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

Guam - Independent Guåhan will be holding its fourth teach-in this Thursday evening to raise awareness about the negative impacts of the planned firing range near Litekyan, or what's commonly known as Ritidian.

Every month, Independent Guåhan holds a teach-in, or an enlightenment discussion about topics the group feels the Guam community should know about. This month, the organization has partnered with Prutehi Litekyan, a group dedicated to the protection of natural resources, to discuss topics relating to the history of Ritidian and the impacts of a live-fire training range.

UOG Professor of Chamorro Studies, Dr. Michael Lujan Bevacqua, shared with PNC, "The U.S. Military build-up, as part of that, there are plans to do a firing range near the Litekyan area, which is a culturally significant, sacred place, a beautiful beach shore, there's so much history attached to that place. And if the U.S. Military's plans go through, then it will be cut off to the public, the heritage and historic sites could be threatened, what has been done there to protect the wildlife could also be threatened. And so, this teach-in is an opportunity for people who haven't heard about this, or maybe know a little bit about it but really want to learn a lot more about what's going on up there, to come and hear the presentations, and hopefully join the conversation."

Speakers from both Independent Guåhan and Prutehi Litekyan will be presenting their stand on protecting the Ritidian site from further militarization. Some topics up for discussion are the area's cultural history, the latte sites and cave paintings, the history of protest and resistance, what the military's plans would mean for Guam and the Marianas, and legal approaches. "There are still some activities, such as legal lawsuits which could stall or stop the process," Bevacqua said. "It is Chamorro Month, it's Mes Chamoru, and a lot of people think that Mes Chamoru is about eating more kelaguen or saying 'Háfa Adai' a little bit more than usual, but you can also spend Mes Chamoru by learning about the sacred Chamoru sites, and what we can all do to protect and defend them."

The teach-in will be on Thursday, March 16, at the UOG CLASS Lecture Hall from 6 to 8 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

https://www.postguam.com/news/local/group-calls-for-preservation-of-ritidian-medicinal-plants/article_111b4868-06ed-11e7-83ed-ab826c06cec6.html

Group calls for preservation of Ritidian, medicinal plants

Tihu Lujan | The Guam Daily Post Mar 13, 2017



TUPUN AYUYU: Yo'ámte apprentice Ursula Herrera points out tupun ayuyu, a rare native herbal medicine, along the Ritidian cliff line during the Ámot Walk with Yo Ámte on March 11. Tihu Lujan/The Guam Daily Post

With the planned live-fire military training range site nearby, which will loom over the Ritidian coast, one group is showing Guam residents that in the Chamorro culture Ritidian is sacred ground, and once was an ancient village.

It's also considered a place for traditional healers to gather medicinal plants, or ámot.

Local group Prutehi Litekyan, or Save Ritidian, recently launched a series of public awareness events, as well as a letter-writing campaign and petition urging local and Department of Defense officials not to sign the Integrated National Resource Management plan, which would initiate the implementation of a live-fire training complex. The range will be used by Marine Corps troops relocating from Okinawa to a planned base in Guam.

The "Ámot Walk with Yo Ámte" drew a group of Guam residents – including native suruhanas or yo'ámte, or herbal healers; aspiring students who want to learn traditional healing practices; and intrigued hikers and friends – to Saturday's trek along the Litekyan, or Ritidian, cliff line last Saturday. The group marched through the boonies as part of an educational protest against the proposed firing range, which will be developed on Andersen Air Force Base, adjacent to Ritidian.

During the walk, suruhanas pointed out a medley of native medicinal plants, and at times were mesmerized by the sight of some plant species that are still intact or growing naturally, including hale nunu, gaogao uchan, pupulan aniti, aga telang, tupun ayuyu and putpotpu.

Prutehi Litekyan spokeswoman Sabina Flores Perez emphasized the sensitivity of the ámot extraction process. She said that it's not as simple as transplanting the ámot, but that the how, where and when are very important, and that respects must be paid to Chamorro ancestors.

'We need to do anything that we can'

"For us, it's all connected with our ancestors and you can feel their energy here," Perez said. "Once you dislocate us from that, it actually affects how effective the medicine is. We need to do anything that we can to preserve our island and our culture that has lasted here for such a long time."

According to yo'âmté apprentice Moñeka De Oro, while some of the plants may be growing elsewhere in isolated parts of the island, putting a firing range near accessible sites like Ritidian threatens the usability of the âmot.

"This place is a sacred, pristine part of the island," De Oro said. "This is still a place frequented by healers to pick medicines, especially rare medicines that we can't grow elsewhere and would only survive in this area."

De Oro said she hopes to preserve the beauty and sanctity of the Ritidian coastline, which has been a peaceful Chamorro ancestral dwelling for centuries. There's a lot at stake, she said.

"The access to this place is at stake," De Oro said. "Right now it's peaceful, but if they build a firing range, you're just going to be hearing bullets flying. That sort of sound pollution is not going to leave this place as peaceful as it is."

'Why would you want to destroy this?'

During times the firing range would be in use, part of Ritidian will be restricted from public access because a safety buffer zone must be established. The military has said there will be no actual firing of weapons at Ritidian.

Suruhana Bernice Tudela Nelson, a resident of Dededo, avidly takes trips to Ritidian and land in the nearby Andersen Air Force Base to retrieve her âmot. Concerned for the future of the sacred site, Nelson was left with more questions than answers.

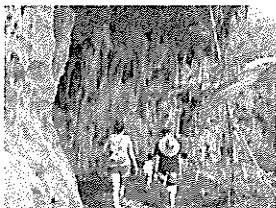
"Why would you want to choose some place that is very sacred? Why would you want to destroy this?"

Tihu Lujan

Covering Business, Nonprofits, Tourism, Environment, Lifestyle, Special Features, and more.

Walkers hike to support Ritidian, protest range

Kyla P Mora , kmora@guampdn.com Published 6:56 p.m. ChT March 11, 2017 | Updated 7:36 p.m. ChT March 11, 2017



(Photo: Kyla P Mora / PDN)

On the way into the jungle, yo'ámte apprentice Ursula Herrera turned to participants near her and held out her hand. "Everyone got their Visine?" [Fullscreen](#)

In Herrera's hand lay a cluster of small white buds from a **Prutehi Litekyan "Save Ritidian" Protest Walk** that demonstrated how to squeeze the bud to produce what she excitedly called "and Ritidian" for you.

"It grows by the ocean so that after you're done swimming in the salt water you can squeeze it in your eyes. It's best if you've had it in the fridge for a little bit and it's chilled," Herrera said. "They only last for a day but they're so refreshing."

One has to wonder, one walker suggested, who it was that first thought to use the plant that way. Herrera smiled. "Ancestral wisdom and plant spirit – as 'woo-woo' as it sounds, the plants let you know. They guide you to them."

On Saturday, March 11, it was Herrera's turn to guide people to the plants as part of the Prutehi Litekyan "Save Ritidian" Ámot Walk. Ámot is Chamorro for medicine.

The group scheduled the walk as part of a series of protests and attempts to raise awareness about the proposed live fire training range for Andersen Air Force Base, which would be constructed in close proximity to endangered species, limestone forests and trees, including those housed in the Ritidian Wildlife Preserve.

About 25 walkers gathered at the preserve at 10 a.m. Before they started their walk, they stopped at the edge of the jungle. They recited a traditional Chamorro chant requesting permission to enter.

Activists were joined by students of traditional medicine, traditional healers known as yo'ámte or suruhanus, curious hikers and supportive friends.

The entire group, however, seemed united in their interest in the traditional plants and natural resources found in the preserve.

Sinajana resident and Guam native Kallen Perez, 27, brought her son Nolan Bamba along. Halfway through the walk, Nolan called excitedly to his mother to point out a design on a rock that looked like a hook from the popular Disney movie "Moana", set in Polynesia.

Perez's response was cheerful and light – she's seen the movie 10 times now, thanks to Nolan's enthusiasm for it. But when it came to reminding her son of the heritage behind images in the movie, her voice grew stern.

"He says to me, 'Mommy, Moana's boat looks like the boat on my flag!'" Perez said. "I tell him, 'It was your boat first before it was Moana's boat. Okay? That's *your* boat that Moana borrowed.'"

Perez came to support Herrera, a longtime friend, and to teach her son about the natural resources and plants in the jungle. Perez has always been interested in herbal medicine, especially since that time a late-night remedy prescribed by Herrera killed Perez's nasty cold.

Walkers visited the limestone forests, viewed pictographs on the cave walls, and examined medicinal plants like tupun ayuyu and putpotput, also known as *Pepperonia marianensis*.

At the end of the walk, the group gathered in a circle, where Prutehi Litekyan spokesperson Sabina Flores Perez addressed the walkers, urging them to speak to their local leaders about the issue of preserving Ritidian.

One of Perez's key concerns is a process known as mitigation, which she calls a weakness in the Endangered Species Act. Theoretically, Perez said, under mitigation, if a plant can be grown elsewhere, it can be considered okay to destroy a plant currently in existence.

That's not good enough, she said, especially when it comes to plants that may be genetically unique to Guam, as well as limestone forests that will never grow back if damaged.

"We're not willing to take that risk," Perez said. "We need to stop this now. We need our people to speak out, come to our gatherings and develop a community around protecting our environment. Our elected leaders have the power to stop this."

Perez said that the group has reached out to Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo, and that they are currently awaiting a response from Gov. Eddie Calvo on the issue.

The walkers turned back toward the beach after about an hour of hiking, and one final chant of gratitude. As she thanked everyone for coming, Herrera's voice broke.

"There's so much here at risk," Herrera said, tears in her eyes. "You see what we have to lose. This is everything we have."

Read or Share this story: <http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2017/03/11/walkers-hike-support-ritidian-protest-range/99047602/>



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Bordallo will review petition opposing firing range at Ritidian



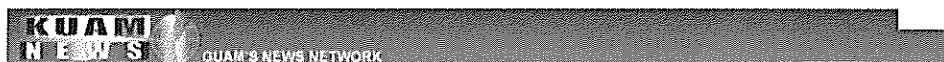
Posted: Mar 10, 2017 8:19 AM
Updated: Mar 17, 2017 8:19 AM

By Nick Delgado [CONNECT](#)

Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo is responding to concerns by local advocacy group Prutehi Litekyan, which has launched a petition aimed at preventing the construction of a live fire training range complex near Ritidian.

Member Sabina Perez said, "With the destruction of that area is going to be the impacts to our endangered species, our cultural ancestral sites, our aquifer, and ultimately it's going to impact our people."

Bordallo said she understands these concerns and looks forward to reviewing the petition. However, she said the community expressed support for the Ritidian location in previous hearings, because it's located completely on Department of Defense land, and it addressed the main concerns voiced during the original Environmental Impact Statement. She added that the DoD has committed to ensuring public access to cultural sites, adding these sites are not part of the actual range, but are instead part of a surface danger zone used to ensure public safety.

[NEWS](#)[COMMUNITY](#)[SPORTS](#)[TV](#)[RADIO](#)[VIDEO](#)[WEATHER](#)[ABOUT](#)[LIFESTYLE](#)

Group wants to save Ritidian from becoming firing range

Posted: Mar 06, 2017 12:58 PM

Updated: Mar 13, 2017 12:58 PM

By Isa Baza [CONNECT](#)

It's home to endangered species and some of the island's most important archaeological sites - and while the United States military has identified Ritidian as the next spot for a live fire training range, a local advocacy group is campaigning to stop the range's construction before it's too late.

"The more people that speak out the more that we can protect our endangered species - it's not too late," said Sabina Perez.

Local direct action Group Prutehi Litekyan - Save Ritidian - isn't backing down with efforts to prevent the construction of a live fire training range in Northern Guam. The group recently started a petition they hope will dissuade elected officials from signing the Integrated National Resource Management Plan which is up for resigning this year.

"We're urging them not to sign this document if it entails a construction of a live fire training range complex over at Andersen Air Force Base," said Perez, Save Ritidian organizer. She added that the proposed firing range would have destructive effects on Guam's cultural ancestral sites that date back 3,500 years, the island's aquifer, and its endangered species.

"So one of them is known as the Hayan Lagu tree," she detailed. "There's only 30 of these trees in the world and they only exist in Guam and Rota; there's only one mature tree on Guam and its standing in close proximity to the largest of the firing ranges that they plan to build."

She adds that the mother tree has the potential to provide seedlings that could regenerate the species. "So I don't think she can withstand a firing range with 6.7 million bullets being fired annually," she projected.

Another concern raised by organizer Joni Kurr is that insulation of the firing range would limit public access to the area. She told KUAM News, "People won't be able to go and visit these sites 548 there are families who have family members that are buried on this land. These are original landowners as well who have been almost continuously protesting the military's presence and the military's lack of proper compensation for taking away their land."

The group calls the proposed construction of the Ritidian range an "environmental injustice" and they're asking the community to support the cause by signing an online petition directed at Governor Eddie Calvo and Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo. You also learn more about the group by emailing save.ritidian@gmail.com.

https://www.postguam.com/news/local/petition-opposes-military-firing-range-sites/article_e4b9035e-ff18-11e6-a38c-2b1595dd7d09.html

Petition opposes military firing range sites

Daily Post Staff Mar 3, 2017

The Guam-based group Prutehi Litekyan: Save Ritidian has launched an online petition opposing any U.S. government plan to develop military live-fire training range sites on island.

"We oppose the establishment of any military firing range and align our efforts with other regional movements working to prevent environmental degradation and destruction on sacred and native lands," according to the group's statement on change.org.

The group aims to gather 500 signatures and, as of yesterday, was approaching 400 signatures on its online petition.

The group states it specifically protests the plan that would allow for the construction of the live-fire training range complex at Andersen Air Force Base.

That plan is related to supporting the relocation of almost 5,000 U.S. Marines who will be moving to Guam, some on a rotational basis and others regularly stationed here, as part of a U.S.-Japan agreement. The proposed live-fire training facility will be located near the proposed base for the Marines in Dededo's Finegayan area, according to the military's previously released plans.

The proposed live-fire training range complex for the Marine base will require a safety zone that would restrict public access, when the range is in use, to a portion of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge at Ritidian. The area is both a wildlife refuge and a popular destination for its white, sandy beaches.

The group states that the 2010 and 2015 Records of Decision, which gave the Marine base plan the go-signal, "underestimate or leave out the impacts of endangered species" in areas of the refuge that will be affected by the firing range activities on the base.

"We vehemently protest the detrimental impacts that the firing range would have on the ancient village of Litekyan, or Ritidian; Urunao, and Jinapsan and all of the species, endangered or otherwise, within the Guam Wildlife Refuge," according to the group.

The construction of the firing range complex, the group stated, "constitutes an environmental injustice to the indigenous people of Guam, the Chamorro people, and further disempowers native communities through militarization and contamination of native lands."

The group plans to submit its petition to members of the U.S. Congress, Guam legislative leaders, Gov. Eddie Calvo and the U.S. Wildlife Service.

Petitioning [US House of Representatives Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo](#) and [5 others](#)

Prutehi Litekyan: Save Ritidian and Oppose Degradation and Militarization of Native Lands



We, the Guam-based group **Prutehi Litekyan: Save Ritidian**, are

Sign this petition

1,276 supporters

224 needed to reach 1,500

First name

Last name

Email

Guam

Your city

change.org petition

<https://www.change.org/p/prutehi-litekyan-save-ritidian-and-oppose-the-degradation-and-militarization-of-native-lands>

Letter to

US House of Representatives Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo

Governor Eddie Baza Calvo

34th Guam Legislature Speaker BJ Cruz

34th Guam Legislature Vice Speaker Therese Terlaje

Chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources Congressman Rob Bishop

U.S. Fish and Wildlife services

Prutehi Litekyan: Save Ritidian and Oppose Degradation and Militarization of Native Lands

We, the Guam-based group Prutehi Litekyan: Save Ritidian, are a direct action group dedicated to the protection of natural and cultural resources in all sites identified for DOD live-fire firing training on Guam. We oppose the establishment of any military firing range and align our efforts with other regional movements working to prevent environmental degradation and destruction on sacred and native lands. Our work promotes the continued pursuit for return of ancestral lands.

We protest the signing of the Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP) that would allow the construction of the Live-Fire Training Range Complex (LFTRC) at Andersen Air Force Base. We vehemently protest the detrimental impacts that the firing range would have on the ancient village of Litekyan (Ritidian), Urunao, and Jinapsan and all of the species, endangered or otherwise, within the Guam Wildlife Refuge. We protest the signing of the INRMP for the following reasons:

1. There is an ongoing Earthjustice lawsuit seeking to set aside the 2010 and 2015 Records of Decision regarding the relocation of the Marines from Okinawa to the Marianas Islands because the Department of Defense found no other alternatives for the move and also did not create a single Environmental Impact Statement for various projects it would involve.
2. Of the options considered, building the LFTRC at the Northwest Field would be the most destructive option to the environment, the natural and cultural resources, and to the communities surrounding the area.
3. The 2010 and 2015 Records of Decision underestimate or leave out the impacts of endangered species in the Refuge Overlay of the Guam National

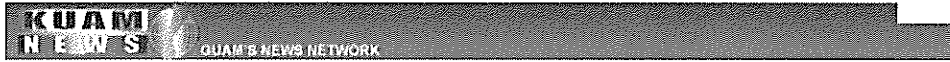
Wildlife Refuge.

4. Mitigation efforts are not sufficient to protect endangered species. Avoidance of adverse effects stemming from the construction and operation of live-fire ranges is the only option.

5. The LFTRC poses a tremendous risk of contaminating Guam's primary fresh water resource – the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer (NGLA).

6. The impact on ancestral and historic sites cannot be mitigated because many of the resources at the site still remain in pristine, undisturbed condition and are still being studied. Furthermore, Litekyan/Ritidian is a sacred site for native people and a place of spiritual connection to their ancestors.

7. The construction of the LFTRC constitutes an environmental injustice to the indigenous people of Guam, the Chamorro people, and further disempowers native communities through militarization and contamination of native lands. Please sign our petition to divert the LFTRC and the signing of the INRMP, which would have a devastating impact on the people and land of Guåhan. For more information, please email: save.ritidian@gmail.com.



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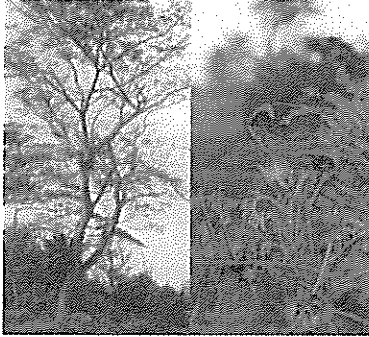
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Online petition seeks to secure Guam's natural resources

Prutehi Litekyan: Save Ritidian! **Awareness Wave**

Friday, March 3 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Chief Kepuha Loop in Hagatna



Posted: Mar 01, 2017 5:26 PM
Updated: Mar 08, 2017 5:26 PM

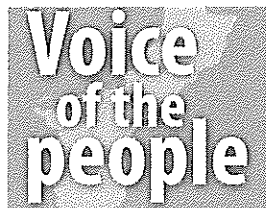
A new campaign is launched today aimed at protecting the natural and cultural resources of Guam land identified for the military's live-fire training range. The action group *Prutehi Litekyan: Save Ritidian* oppose the establishment of any military firing range and started an [online petition](#) and letter campaign to elected officials urging them to not sign the Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan.

This plan would allow for the construction of the Live-Fire Training range Complex at Andersen Air Force Base. The group hopes elected leaders will ensure the utmost protection of endangered species and ancestral and historic sites like Litekyan and Urunao along with Pagan and Tinian and our Northern Guam Lens Aquifer.

Along with the [online petition](#), the group will hold its first community wave this Friday March 3rd from 4:30pm to 6pm at the Chief Kepuha Loop in Hagatna.

Opinion: Firing range would threaten forest

Linda Tatreau and Joni Quenga Kerr 2:22 p.m. ChT Nov. 14, 2016



(Photo: PDN file photo)

Hayun lāgu is one of the most endangered trees in the world. The entire global occurrence of hayun lāgu (*Serianthes nelsonii*) is comprised of only one adult tree on Guam and perhaps no more than 30 adult trees in Rota. Of special significance to Guam, this tree was named in 1919 for Peter Nelson, a botanist and director of the Guam Department of Agriculture, who collected the first specimens to be described to science. Standing on the Ritidian cliff line, the last mother tree on Guam, the last seed source for the entire Guam population, will be completely surrounded by a firing range. In designing their plans for the firing range complex, Department of Defense (DoD) planners drew a small notch in the northwest corner of their largest range, indicating that the tree would be spared, but all the surrounding forest would be cut down and completely removed for the impact area. However, scientific literature abounds with evidence of the harmful effects of fragmenting forests and creating disturbed edges. The last hayun lāgu on Guam, will become more exposed to damaging winds, fire from training exercises, and easier incursion from invasive plants and insects that are so distinct in these types of edge habitats. Many of Nelson's descendants still live on Guam, and many have not had the chance to see the tree that carries their family's name. If the firing range is constructed as planned, there is a chance they never will.



The Rotary Club of Northern Guam presented a check to the University of Guam to help re-propagate the *serianthes nelsonii*, the large tree in the background, into its natural habitat. The name of the tree in Chamorro is hayun lāgu. The tree is on Andersen property. (Photo: PDN file)

The fact that Guam's last hayun lāgu occurs on this cliff line is not surprising as this forest is uniquely pristine and harbors a variety of Guam's rare species. Located within the proposed footprint of the firing range complex and main cantonment areas is one of a very few pristine limestone karst forests left in Guam. Limestone karst forests, the dominant forest type in the Marianas, are some of the most amazing, yet most endangered, habitat types in the world. This forest is so valuable that even DoD has attempted to set it aside as a conservation area multiple times – including an agreement with the Guam National Wildlife Refuge as Refuge Overlay to be considered endangered species recovery habitat, and even for use as a mitigation area for another large-scale project, called Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance, or ISR, Strike. To mitigate for ISR Strike, DoD was required to install a fence to keep deer and pigs out and protect native species in this area. This million-dollar fence is scheduled to be demolished and the forest turned into the firing range complex.

We are writing to the people of Guam to remind them of just how precious this forest is and how catastrophic it would be to lose this gem. It contains endemic species that are found nowhere else on Earth, and are already in trouble from habitat loss and invasive species. In addition to hayun lāgu, the firing range could wipe out one of the last and largest populations of the Mariana Eight-Spot butterfly (*Hypolimnys octocula*), a species extinct on Saipan and now known only from Guam. The list goes on: thousands of fadang (*Cycas micronesica*) would be cleared and at least five other plants listed under the Endangered Species Act, or ESA, would be affected. Furthermore, fadang is on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of endangered

species. Very little of this was highlighted in the supplementary Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The plant species recently listed under the ESA were not even documented accurately. Once this forest is cut down and its limestone floor destroyed by live ammunition and military exercises, it can never be restored to its current pristine state.

OUR VIEW: Ahead of military buildup, save medicinal plants
(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/opinion/editorials/2016/11/01/our-view-ahead-military-buildup-save-medicinal-plants/93100102/>)

Ritidian, or Litekyan, harkens back to prehistory when Chamorro ancestors lived and thrived near the sea. The buildup threatens to shatter the forest and its cultural heritage connection to the native people of Guam. Indeed, fishers, refuge visitors, and recreational users maintain substantial ties to the area. At the very least, DoD owes the people of Guam a revised EIS before these plans move forward.

In addition, if DoD continues to dismantle previous mitigation, how can the people of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands believe anything that DoD promises us? This mistrust materialized in a lawsuit filed in U.S. federal court on July 27, 2016. The Tinian Women's Association, Guardians of Gani (Gani are the Mariana Islands north of Saipan), Earthjustice and the Center for Biological Diversity sued the U.S. Navy

over current and proposed training plans in the CNMI, focusing on compliance with the ESA and other environmental laws. If DoD destroys a previously required mitigation project, why are they allowed to move forward with multiple construction projects and training on Guam? Are there other DoD actions that fail to comply with the law? Is DoD making the case that they are above the law and that they do not have to comply when it comes to resources that belong to the people of Guam and the CNMI?

So far, they seem to be getting away with it.

[Chamorro healers save medicinal plants](#)

(<http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2016/10/26/chamorro-healers-save-medicinal-plants/92760962/>)

What can concerned residents of the Mariana Islands do to prevent destruction of our resources? Stay informed, make noise, fight back. Our actions must be visible and compelling for our leaders and DoD to take notice.

Contact the [Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office \(mailto:pifwo_admin@fws.gov\)](mailto:pifwo_admin@fws.gov) to encourage the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to take a stronger stance on the listed species they are mandated to protect.

Urge our governor to take a stand against DoD's plans: [Gov. Eddie Baza Calvo \(http://governor.guam.gov/contact/\)](http://governor.guam.gov/contact/).

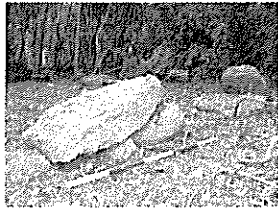
Write to our Mariana Island representatives in Congress and adamantly oppose DoD's ISR/Strike and reckless plans for Tinian and Pagan that threaten our valuable resources: [Madeleine Z. Bordallo \(https://bordallo.house.gov/contact/email\)](https://bordallo.house.gov/contact/email) and [Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan \(https://sablan.house.gov/contact-me/email-me-zip-authenticated\)](https://sablan.house.gov/contact-me/email-me-zip-authenticated).

Linda Tatreau is a retired Guam Department of Education teacher. Joni Quenga Kerr is an associate professor at Guam Community College.

Read or Share this story: <http://www.guampdn.com/story/opinion/readers/2016/11/13/opinion-firing-range-would-threaten-forest/93777904/>

Findings reveal ancient Chamorro life

Jerick Sablan , jpsablan@guampdn.com 11:55 p.m. ChT Sept. 13, 2015



(Photo: University of Guam)

Findings at an archaeological site at Ritidian are some of the oldest in the Pacific islands and showcase the life of the Chamorro people over thousands of years in the Marianas.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which controls a wildlife refuge at Ritidian, announced in December 2014 the discovery of the previously unknown site.

University of Guam archaeologist Mike Carson and refuge maintenance worker Brian Leon Guerrero came across the site while exploring the eastern part of the refuge.

"This comes as a complete surprise because we thought we knew where every sacred and significant cultural site was on the refuge," Park Ranger Emily Sablan said in December.

The ancient site includes sets of latte stones that sit in a small clearing on the refuge.

Also found on the site were cultural midden deposits, or piles of domestic waste associated with past human settlement, which were found at each latte set and adjacent areas.

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Further study took place in June, and the findings were presented as part the University of Guam's Micronesian Area Research Center (MARC) seminar series in a presentation entitled, "Identifying, Understanding and Protecting Our Heritage Sites" on Wednesday in the UOG CLASS Lecture Hall.

The seminar featured the MARC's visiting Associate Professor of Archaeology Mike Carson, who has spent more than 10 years researching the historic sites, cultural artifacts and landscapes at Litekyan, also known as Ritidian.

Carson said digging in the area found a site that was more than 3,500 years old.



(Photo: University of Guam)

"It's one of the most ancient in all of the Marianas in fact within the Oceania region."

Ritidian continued to be a place Chamorros lived for thousands of years after the first settlement, he added, and the site contains artifacts that span those millennia.

Carson recommends residents go up to Ritidian to experience the site.

"If you haven't been there I hope you will go there soon and go again and again," he said.

There's a lot to see and learn at the site, he said.

In the dig, researchers found remnants of an ancient coral reef more than 4,000 years old, which showed how the sea level has changed on the island since the Chamorros first arrived.

Ritidian saw much of this change and the Chamorro people learned to adapt throughout it, Carson said.

As the reef expanded, their diet changed, pottery changed and the way Chamorros built houses changed, he said.

"All these periods of history are represented in one place," Carson said.

About 3,000 years of the island's history can be seen in Ritidian, he added.

"You see how Chamorro civilization has adjusted and evolved on its own and overcome different challenges over time," he said.



(Photo: University of Guam)

Latte houses

The Chamorros started to build latte houses, and 15 sets of well-preserved examples can be found at Ritidian. Latte houses are homes built atop raised stone pillars.

Researchers found that each latte site was unique, with each latte having a different design, Carson said.

For example, some latte had sockets, which researchers believed help keep the parts together. The latte is comprised of the cap, called tasa, and the pillar, called haligi.

Some haligi had notches, which would help keep the latte stable, he said.

They also found lines of stone and cobble in front of the latte homes, which could be a patio of some sort, he said.

Another interesting find was that some of the haligi had lusong, or mortar holes, which suggests that Chamorros were recycling materials.

"So it tells you something about the people who made this site they were into recycling long before it became fashion," he said.

One of the things researchers are working on is making 3-D renderings of the latte sites that residents can look at to feel as if they're at the sites.

Firing range



(Photo: University of Guam)

Access to the latte site and other parts of the wildlife refuge at Ritidian will be restricted in the future when the military starts using a firing range.

The site for military training range is within the fence at Andersen, but part of the adjacent wildlife refuge is needed for a safety buffer zone for more than half of each year when the proposed live-fire training range complex will be in use.

Read or Share this story: <http://www.guampdn.com/story/news/2015/09/13/findings-reveal-ancient-chamorro-life/72044570/>

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Explore the recently-discovered latte village in Ritidian

Posted: Sep 11, 2015 5:14 PM

Updated: Sep 11, 2015 5:15 PM

By Isa Baza [CONNECT](#)

Located in a closed part of the Ritidian Wildlife Refuge, not many have access to the rediscovered 15 home latte village that dates back to the 1600s. Today archaeologist Dr. Mike Carson gave KUAM News an exclusive tour of the site.

We began at the shore, climbing up the cliffline, where scattered latte stones and pottery were abundant. Further up was a burned patch of soil with rubble at its wake - something Dr. Carson says is a mystery to archaeologists. He explained, "There are some suspicions that perhaps this was related to historical events of Spanish-Chamorro wars, or hostilities between different villages, or even within the village, but it doesn't necessarily mean something violent."

Other burn patches were found throughout the site. Pointing out a specific location, Dr. Carson said, "This is another example of the black burned areas with the cleared pile pushed off to the side, and in this case, the latte stone are definitely inside the cleared rubble debris pile which, you can see one right here, is very clear that this is a latte stone, and we know that it must have come from this place here."

Then we found a stone-filled platform, something Dr. Carson says is unique to Northern Guam. The platform is too rough to sleep or walk on, leaving archaeologists baffled yet again.

Then at the latte home furthest up the cliffline we saw what Dr. Carson calls the *Matang Guma* - a line of stones marking the entrance to a home. "This is the first time we saw this at the refuge, but it occurs at a number of other latte, as well," he shared. It was here the stone work became noticeably more refined.

We asked if he thought it's most likely since this is the nicest latte stones, since they're obviously very carefully carved out, that this might be the home of the maga'lahi. Chamorro visual artist Raphael Unpingco said, "Definitely, definitely, maga'lahi, maga'haga, definitely the high cast matao, matua, a cast that everyone would have to keep their heads lower than."

After hiking back down the cliffline, we trekked across a beach to the second latte site. "This site's quite interesting," Carson made sure to highlight, "there's three latte sets, in alignment with one another, so they're all facing toward the ocean, and they're on the same alignments and have the same kinds of materials, and even the same archeological dating that goes with them so we know these are contemporaneous group of people who knew about each other."

This is one of the few sites in Guam where intact latte homes were located in a close enough proximity to walk from one to another, to get a sense of the different personalities living in the village, and what it may have been like living here hundreds of years ago.

Dr. Carson concluded, "As archaeologists we can come here and see the last time

people were living here, everything's sort of frozen in time about the personalities and interrelationships of the people and families that lived in this village."



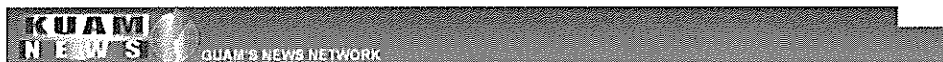
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Discovered Ritidian village is link to Guam's past



Posted: Sep 08, 2015 4:01 PM

Updated: Sep 08, 2015 4:01 PM

By Isa Baza [CONNECT](#)

You may have heard of an ancient latte village that came to life after its discovery late last year. This and other heritage sites will be featured at a University of Guam seminar tomorrow that features Chamorro heritage, history, and culture.

Dr. Mike Carson says the recently discovered ancient latte village at Ritidian is the closest thing to seeing what ancient Chamorro civilization was actually like.

"What's so special about this is it's so nicely preserved of a whole village complex," he shared. "There's very few places in Guam where you can see that today - in places where people can have some kind of access." At a UOG seminar on Tuesday, he will discuss the preliminary findings into his research at the site, adding, "We will show the distribution of the site so you can see how the village was organized, how those houses related to one another, where different individuals and families lived, and how they related to each other as a village complex, as well as the unique architectural styles of each of those latte houses and the kinds of artifacts we found."

Among the artifacts are pieces of pottery, tools, fishing hooks, slingstones, and more here are just a few of the thousands of artifacts that have been found. Dr.

Carson said, "We usually don't find slingstones but we did find one at a latte house so it may have been used there in fact it was broken right down the middle so probably upon impact so this tells us something about what happened in the last stages of people living at this place. And people also often ask about the fish hooks, and I can't show you everything we have but I can show you this one nice piece which is a fishing gorge. This is a v-shaped gorge intended to get caught in the fish's mouth."

Along with Dr. Carson's presentation, producer Rita Nauta will feature an advance screening of a community-based film. "It's a production of a documentary, we titled it *Hasso I Guinahan Guahan*, which means Hasso is a Chamorro term to think, to reflect, to imagine," she explained.

The project started two years ago when she found a cave at Ritidian that had been vandalized. "And that really gave us a sense of urgency that we needed to get the message out, especially to our younger generations that these sites, these are tangible evidence of our ancestors and how they lived," said Nauta.

She said the video will help the youth establish a connection with our history, and will hopefully inspire them to preserve our history and heritage. The event takes place Wednesday at 5:30pm, at the UOG Lecture Hall in Mangilao, and is free to the public.



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MARC series to discuss rediscovered ancient village

Lacey A.C. Martinez , lemartinez@guampdn.com 11:47 p.m. ChT Sept. 7, 2015



(Photo: PDN file)

If you're eager to learn about the findings from a recent archeological dig, which unearthed an ancient Chamorro village, head to the University of Guam Wednesday.

The university's Micronesia Area Research Center is reviving its seminar series with "Identifying, Understanding and Protecting Our Heritage Sites" featuring visiting associate professor and archeologist Mike Carson, who will be talking about the Ritidian results.

"This village was inhabited in the 1500s through 1600s, and provides a glimpse into Chamorro life at a critical point in cultural history — the period of early contact between Chamorros and the Spanish," Carson says. "I will discuss ideas about what life may have been like during that time and share pictures of the site and the artifacts found there."

Carson spent more than a decade researching cultural artifacts, landscapes and historic sites at Ritidian, also known as Litekyan. Last November, the area was discovered after visiting the limestone forest in the area, revealing a well-preserved village with 15 latte house remains.

The village might have been home to early Guam settlers around the mid-1600s or earlier, according to Pacific Daily News files.

The series revival also will feature an advance screening of "Hasso: Guinahan Guáhan," a film by Guam's online encyclopedia, Guampedia. Rita Nauta, film producer, will discuss the purpose of the film, which was supported by a grant from the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency.

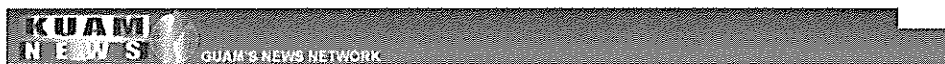
"The film aims to show people that these sites are tangible, and that the history they contain is real — there are remnants of our ancestors' lives that our kids can actually see and say, 'this was carved by my ancestors,'" Nauta shares.

"We hope that 'Hasso' will inspire people, especially our younger generations to be the best defenders and stewards of our historic sites."

IF YOU GO

- **What:** Micronesian Area Research Center seminar series
- **Where:** University of Guam CLASS Lecture Hall
- **When:** 5:30 p.m. Sept. 9

Read or Share this story: <http://www.guampdn.com/story/life/2015/09/07/marc-series-discuss-rediscovered-ancient-village/71627654/>



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Guam Preservation Trust concerned about Ritidian

Posted: Jul 30, 2015 1:37 PM

Updated: Aug 20, 2015 1:37 PM

The Guam Preservation Trust completed the review of the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, and chief program officer Joe Quinata says the new version has incorporated many concerns. "The Guam Preservation Trust made waves at the very first environmental impact statement regarding Pagat Village, and we are happy that the Department of the Navy's preferred alternative is the Northwest Field, but we still do oppose the live firing range, as it infringes into our cultural resources in Ritidian," he said.

Meanwhile Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo said she has met with several Ritidian families and assures no private or GovGuam lands will be used for the live fire training complex. Public access to the area will be unchanged except when the range is being utilized.

She said DOD will continue to work with the Fish & Wildlife Service to find appropriate mitigations for these impacts.



Researchers rediscover ancient Chamorro village in Guam



ADVANCE FOR WEEKEND JUNE 27-28 - In this photo, taken on Friday, June 19, 2015, Students in a program run by the University of Hawaii record and map artifacts at a recently discovered ancient Chamorro village site near Ritidian Point ... more >

By GAYNOR D. DALENO - Associated Press - Saturday, June 27, 2015

AGANA, Guam (AP) - A recent rediscovery of an ancient village has drawn American and international anthropology students to Guam's Ritidian area to search for more clues about what life might have been like in that place hundreds of years ago.

Remnants of at least 15 ancient homes are part of the ancient village, said Mike Carson, an associate professor of archaeology and anthropology at the University of Guam.

Carson said he and other members of a group came across the ancient village after visiting caves in the limestone forest at Ritidian last November.

“What makes it significant isn’t the find itself, but it is in a place that could be opened to the public,” Carson said.

The remnants of this ancient village, which may have hosted a few generations of earlier Guam settlers in the mid-1600s or earlier, are also in relatively good condition, making it easy to see their original shapes, Carson said. The ancient homes are called latte.

Hunting and food preparation tools made of bones or coral, fishing hooks and pieces of beads and pottery have been found at the site.

Buildup argument

The ancient village’s rediscovery also has added wind to the argument of certain local officials who oppose the military’s plan that could further restrict public access to that part of Ritidian.

The ancient village already sits within an area at Ritidian that the public can access only with a special permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which manages the wildlife refuge.

Public access to the site is restricted for research, including studies on brown tree snake and wild pig eradication, and for wildlife habitat protection, said Laura Beauregard, manager for federally managed refuge locations in the Marianas.

“The idea of protecting habitat at the refuge is, one day, for the birds to be brought back,” she said.

Certain native Guam birds, such as the Micronesian kingfisher, are believed to be extinct in the wild, but are being raised in zoos across the world so that one day they can be rereleased into their habitat.

The federal Wildlife Service's concern about losing forest habitat for the kingfishers' future return to Ritidian has left it unable to sign on to the military's plan to build a Marine base on Guam, near the refuge at Ritidian.

The military has revised its plan, by moving the preferred location for housing for the Marines to Andersen Air Force Base to reduce the area of jungle that will be cleared, Pacific Daily News files show.

The preferred site for the proposed training range is within the fence at Andersen, but part of the adjacent wildlife refuge is needed for a safety buffer zone for more than half of each year when the proposed live-fire training range complex will be in use.

Speaker Judith Won Pat, who visited the ancient village recently with Vice Speaker Benjamin Cruz, Wildlife Service representatives and Carson, said she prefers all of the military activities, including the safety zone, be held within existing military bases.

"This should be a totally historic site," Won Pat said of the ancient village and the Ritidian area. Certain local families also claim ownership to parts of the Ritidian land, she said.

Guam Delegate Madeleine Bordallo said last year that without a viable live-fire training range, the proposed military buildup on Guam might not occur.

Guam supporters of the plan to build an \$8.6 billion Marine base on Guam hope the military expansion will create more jobs and open up more business opportunities for island residents.

Jim Kurth, chief of the National Wildlife Refuge System under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, testified before a House Natural Resources Committee hearing last year that the wildlife refuge at Ritidian hosts "the island's best public beach,

the oldest known and longest-lasting ancient Chamorro settlement site, and the only place on the island where visitors can experience Guam's abundant natural resources and fragile ecosystem unimpaired by human activity."

Kurth testified that the Fish and Wildlife Service and the military "are currently engaged in cordial and frequent discussions" on the Ritidian issue.

Beachfront living

The ancient site of at least 15 latte homes — limestone and coral pillars — is located close to the Ritidian shoreline.

There also were stones lined in front of the pillars that used to be patios, Carson said.

The team of visiting anthropology students, led by professor James Bayman of the University of Hawaii's Department of Anthropology, is conducting limited excavation and other studies at the site.

Bayman said there are indications in some of the latte homes that men gathered in a home separate from a home where women gathered.

In 2008, Bayman also led a joint team from UOG and University of Hawaii that studied two ancient latte buildings, or latte, at Ritidian, not far from the cluster of 15 latte homes Carson's group came across.

An ancient settlement at Ritidian is documented in earlier times, including in 1819, when French explorer Louis de Freycinet wrote about his Marianas sojourn, Bayman's group wrote from the 2008 study.

Freycinet had described Ritidian as one of two places in Guam with "the finest building timber," the study states, quoting an English translation of the French explorer's notes.

"Mariana Islanders were colonized by the Spanish in the 17th Century, almost 150 years after Ferdinand Magellan initiated Europe's first contact with Guam in 1521, and their native latte buildings atop capped-stone columns . have

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Quoting previous historical documents, Bayman's group's 2008 study states that at Ritidian, "there were also flashes of Chamorro resistance to the Spanish, . when a priest was killed in 1681 or 1683."

The Spaniards abandoned Ritidian about 1682, according to Bayman's group's previous study, quoting previous historical documents.

Researchers rediscover ancient Chamorro village at Ritidian

Gaynor Dumat-ol Daleno , PDN 10:59 p.m. ChT June 19, 2015



(Photo: Mark Scott/PDN)

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A fragment of textured pottery, estimated to have been used in the 1600s, sits on the surface of an ancient Chamorro village site discovered last November. (Photo: Mark Scott/PDN)

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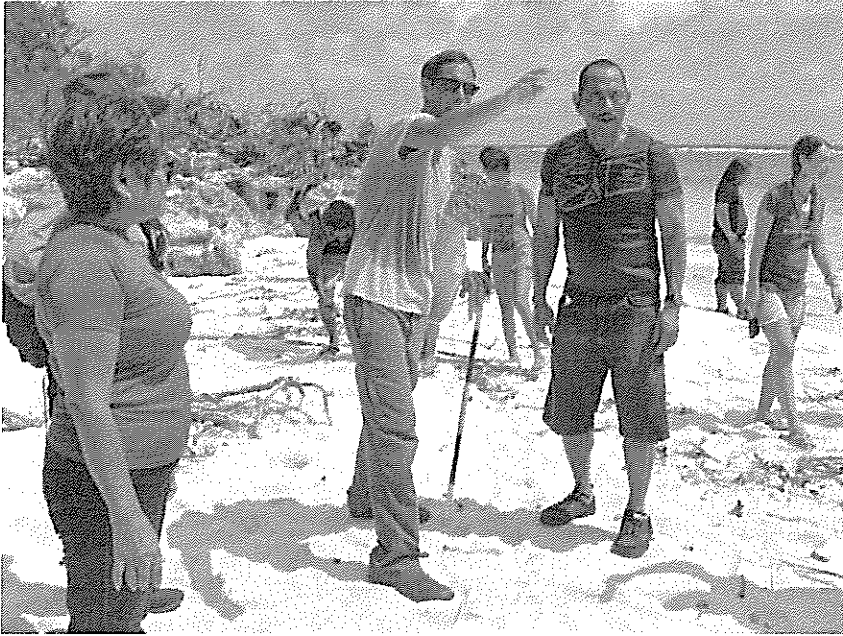
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Ancient Chamorro village on proposed live-fire danger zone

Kurth testified that the Fish and Wildlife Service and the military "are currently engaged in cordial and frequent discussions" on the Ritidian issue.



Mike Carson, professor of archaeology and anthropology at the University of Guam, orients Vice Speaker BJ Cruz to the layout of a recently discovered ancient Chamorro village near Ritidian on June 19. (Photo: Mark Scott/PDN)

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<http://www.pacificnewscenter.com/local/1200>

Thursday, 11 December 2014

Ancient Chamorro Village "Re-Discovered" in Ritidian Wildlife Refuge Below Proposed Firing Range

Written by Clynt Ridgell

U.S. Fish & Wildlife to Apply to Have Site Listed on National Register of Historic Places

Guam - An uncatalogued Ancient Chamorro village has been found at the Ritidian Wildlife Refuge. Although the latte complex was previously discovered by Hans Hornbostel in the 1920's it was not formally mapped. The site lies within the surface danger zone of the proposed firing range complex for the U.S. Marines who are being relocated to Guam from Okinawa.

A previously unmapped and uncatalogued Ancient Chamorro village has been "re-discovered" at the Ritidian Wildlife Refuge. This ancient latte site complex was found by University of Guam Archaeologist Dr. Mike Carson. Carson believes the site was previously found by Hans Hornbostel who worked for the Bishop museum in Honolulu, Hawaii in the 1920's but the specific latte sets were not formally mapped, recorded or excavated. Latte sets are comprised of latte stones which are ancient Chamorro pillars that were used as supports for houses. Ancient burials are sometimes found in and around latte sites. Dr. Carson believes this particular complex contains 8-10 latte sets. Dr. Carson says the latte sets in the Ritidian wildlife refuge have never been properly documented thus this ancient Chamorro Village has essentially been forgotten. The site is located Northeast of the refuge's administration building in an area of dense jungle that is not frequented by refuge staff or researchers. The site is also located below the proposed firing range complex for U.S. marines and it falls within the surface danger zone.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife officials say the site offers an excellent opportunity to observe, appreciate, and study this ancient village. These detailed studies could answer some questions and lead to new questions and discoveries regarding Ancient Chamorro life during the latte period. Refuge rangers say this find comes as a surprise and they say that plans are underway to submit a revised application that was previously submitted to the State Historical Preservation Office to include this site on the National Register of Historic Places.

Visits to the site will be available at a later date and inquiries may be directed by calling 355-5096/5097.

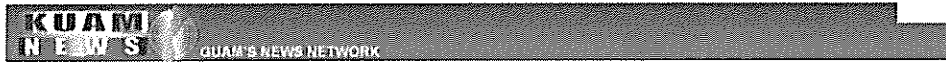
READ RELEASE FROM U.S FISH & WILDLIFE BELOW:

Important Archaeological Site Rediscovered
On Guam National Wildlife Refuge

On November 12, 2014, Dr. Mike Carson - a former University of Guam Associate Professor of Archaeology - visited the Guam National Wildlife Refuge at Ritidian Point. While exploring the eastern part of the refuge with refuge maintenance worker Brian Leon Guerrero, they came across an ancient Latte village complex site that has yet to be studied. The site is part of what Hans Hornbostel described in the 1920s as a large expanse covered with "dense latte" around the northern end of Guam. The specific latte sets; however, were not formally mapped, recorded, or excavated. Later island-wide surveys continued into the 1960s, acknowledging that the Ritidian area contained several latte sets but lacked proper documentation. "This is exciting news to the Refuge staff and all those concerned with Guam's cultural resources," said refuge manager Joseph Schwagerl. Dr. Carson led refuge manager Joseph Schwagerl and staff to the site the following day where a small clearing and markings were set. This ancient village site includes 8 to 10 latte sets. The cultural midden deposits are visible at each latte set and in adjacent areas. At least one of these midden deposits, outside the footprint of any latte house, is curious because it apparently consists almost entirely of burned material without visible artifacts. The site offers an excellent opportunity to observe and appreciate the layout of a latte village complex. The relationships among the different latte can be studied through detailed site recording, measurements, and discoveries of controlled excavations. Depending on the material findings, new questions may be addressed in regards to the ancient social life of the latte village. Because of its location, northeast of the Refuge's administration building, this area is not frequented by staff or researchers.

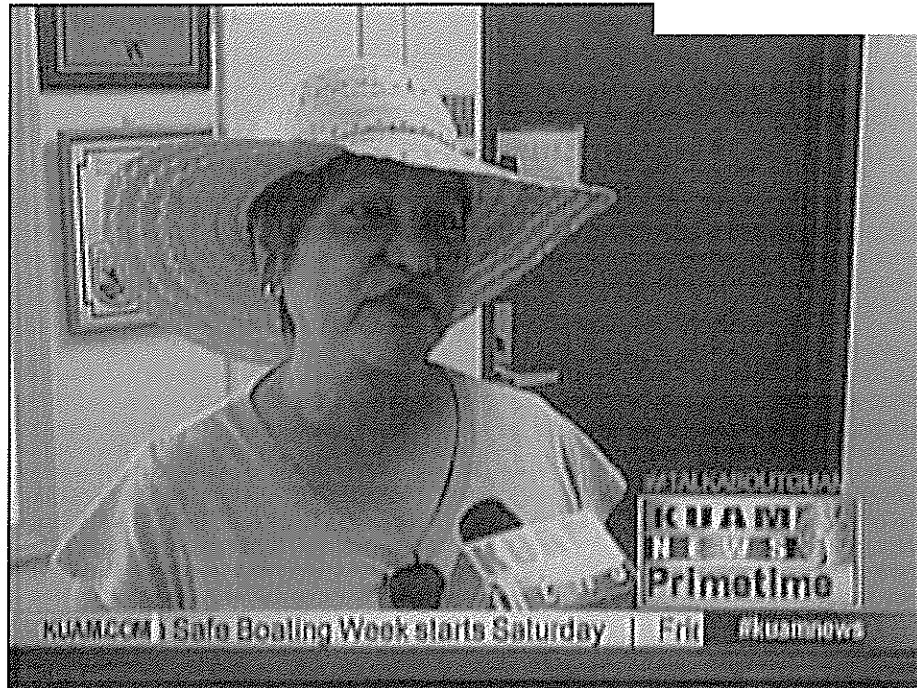
"This comes as a complete surprise, because we thought we knew where every sacred and significant cultural site was on the refuge," said park ranger Emily Sablan. This find is significant and plans are underway to submit a revised application, previously submitted to the State Historical Preservation Office, for this site to be included for listing in the National Register of Historical places. Visits to the site will be available at a later date and inquiries may be directed by calling 355-5096/5097 or submitting written inquiries on our website: <http://www.fws.gov/refuge/guam/>.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information, visit www.fws.gov, or connect with us through any of these social media channels:



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What Ritidian means to the military buildup



Posted: May 16, 2014 5:19 PM
 Updated: May 16, 2014 6:24 PM

by [Ken Quintanilla](#)

Guam - For the past few weeks we've heard discussion on controversial HR4402 and the proposal to establish a surface danger zone over parts of the Ritidian Wildlife Refuge. And just a day before the first public meeting begins on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, members of the Guam Legislature made their way to Ritidian to see what all the talk's about.

With all the talk about Ritidian and the proposal for a surface danger zone, members of the Guam Legislature wanted to see for themselves what's all the fuss about. "I like to go out and see the properties and see what the impact would be, I want to know firsthand, I could never speak about something I don't know anything about so I wanted to educate myself first," explained Speaker Judi Won Pat. She spearheaded a tour for members of the Guam Legislature of the Ritidian property in light of concerns raised by the recent Draft SEIS and Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo's introduction of HR4402. Vice Speaker BJ Cruz and Senator Tina Muna Barnes were in attendance along with other legislative staffers.

"It's very unfortunate because we learned so much in terms about a thousand of our ancient graves are here, and the pictographs, hand prints that are there and we were told to take basically take a look at it now, take a picture because this might be the last time that anyone will be able to see it," said Won Pat.

Won Pat says the presence of latte stones, lusongs and handpaintings at Ritidian makes her believe even more that the property is an ancient village. After the tour, a briefing was given by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the US Geological Survey and what possible impacts a surface danger zone could have on services. Wildlife biologist Tom Hinkle gave a presentation on the efforts to eradicate the brown tree snake and the reintroduction of endangered native birds to Guam.

"A lot of work has been done to reduce the snake population down here," he stated. "A barrier fence was set up and a lot of trappings to reduce the snake population, and all of this work that we already put out is going to be wasted."

The Ritidian visit comes less than 24 hours after Bordallo met with both Republicans and Democrats on HR4402 where she told KUAM News the measure was important for the buildup, especially its inclusion in the Fiscal Year 15 National Defense Authorization Act. "Would the buildup still move forward without putting HR4402 into the NDAA?", we asked Bordallo. "It will be delayed, it will be delayed and there's a good chance of it being cancelled completely and maybe going elsewhere which would be very unfortunate." She also added that such would be necessary.

Speaker Won Pat however doesn't believe it so. "That is totally false because I asked that same question and I asked that specifically of Mr. [Joe] Ludovici who made that comment and he was taken out of context and he was saying that they didn't quote everything that he said because he said very clearly that there are those other alternatives and it's not until the ROD comes out where they will give their preferred choice and if this is not going to be the preferred choice then there are other choices they have gone through the analysis following the NEPA process, so that's totally false," she said.

However it was during a congressional subcommittee meeting on HR4402 in the nation's capital where both the Navy and Fish and Wildlife testified on HR4402. During that hearing chairman John Fleming asked Joint Guam Program Office director Ludovici about the timeframe to resolve the interagency conflict between Fish and Wildlife and the military regarding the SDZ.

Ludovici will be on Guam during this Saturday's public meeting on the Draft SEIS. Won Pat meanwhile encourages everyone to attend the meeting or at least submit comments.



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Bordallo meets with Ritidian families

Posted: May 15, 2014 5:18 PM

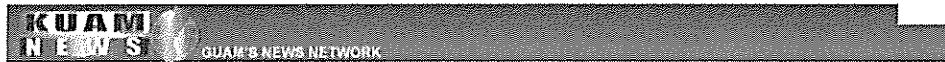
Updated: May 15, 2014 5:18 PM

by [Ken Quintanilla](#)

Guam – As part of Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo's listening tour, she also met with Ritidian landowners and families yesterday at her office following a teleconference this past month. Christopher Bejado says HR4402 has brought to light the land claims issues many Ritidian landowners have been facing.

He said, "We still are against HR4402 because in a way that is a coffin in the nail for us regarding our land claims at Ritidian regardless of whether our issue is with DOI you never know, the military is going to do what they want with a lot of the buildup that is going to occur on the island."

He says the meeting was positive as Bordallo has continued to listen to the landowners concerns however he cannot support her measure as he believes it will negatively impact the Ritidian families.



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Governor considers Ritidian landowners' input



Posted: May 13, 2014 5:00 PM
Updated: May 13, 2014 6:43 PM

by [Sabrina Salas Matanane](#)

Guam - Governor Eddie Calvo opened his door to hear the plight of Ritidian landowners. Their hope is for the feds to right a wrong in taking their property over 21 years ago.

With the Department of Defense announcing Northwest Field as its preferred alternative for a live fire training range the military has maintained it's a requirement that a surface danger zone be designated at the Ritidian Wildlife Refuge. "First of all it was an interesting historical lesson for me," Calvo said.

At the request of Ritidian landowners they met with Governor Eddie Calvo late this afternoon to share their story. It's a story that began when their property was taken away by the feds in 1963 under eminent domain. In 1993, Ritidian was deemed excess by the US military however instead of it being returned to the original landowners it was taken by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, which turned it into the wildlife refuge.

Christopher Bejado represents Ritidian families and said, "Right now we are really questioning what is going on down there for the past 21 years what is the Fish and Wildlife been going as part of their mission and mandate since taking over in 1993 up to the current date. so we want to know what is going on down there we see there's a big fence going on down there they're talking about rehabilitating the koko bird but in reality its been 21 years, what has happened in the last 21 years?" he said.

When reminded that the SDZ being proposed and military staying its required, Bejado said, "The touchy part the proposed live fire training range surface danger zone brings to light our issues with the Fish and Wildlife because with the proposal HR4402 in creating that danger zone brings to light our issues but it also gives us the fact that DOI and DOD making an MOU regarding proposed maintenance for FWS and possibly Navy taking control of that area brings to light whether does Fish and Wildlife really need to be

there? And we should have a rightful claim if the FWS is willing to relocate and move to another property. Why not the original landowners take their land back if they're willing to get up and move we should come and back in and take our land back?"

"If you're willing to give up throw your hands up and say you know what we're willing to move then you know it says you really didn't need that property."

As a result of this afternoon's meeting the governor says he and his will work with Ritidian families in not just providing more information on the impact of a surface danger zone but also righting the wrong against these families. "For many of them they're patriotic Guamanians and Americans and they are also people that believe that they were wronged and if there's a way for me to reconcile this military buildup and realignment of forces in to Guam as well as deal with the issues that they've brought up that's what my objective is how can we resolve these issues that they brought up," he said.

Ritidian families have requested through Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo's office an audience with National Wildlife Refuge system chief James Kurth who is currently in Guam. They are also hoping to meet with the congresswoman while she is on island.

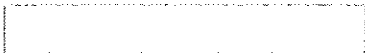
Meanwhile the Republicans in the legislature penned a letter to Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo expressing their support for her bill HR4402 which would allow authorize a surface danger zone over the Ritidian Wildlife Refuge. They are also asking that that she add HR4402 as an amendment to the proposed National Defense Authorization Act. The Republican senators say they consider this year's NDAA to be an opportunity to get the military buildup back on track.



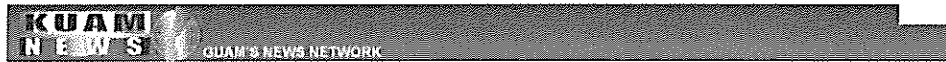
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Ritidian families sound off against Bordallo's legislation



Posted: Apr 30, 2014 5:06 PM

Updated: Apr 30, 2014 6:40 PM

by [Sabrina Salas Matanane](#)

Guam - In the nation's capitol today controversial HR-4402 had a public hearing before a congressional subcommittee. The measure was introduced by Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo who has recently come under fire from Ritidian families who feel they have been betrayed.

Bordallo said, "I have introduced this legislation because of a possible impediment for allowing a possible surface danger zone over the Guam National Wildlife Refuge - it is our understanding that having an SDZ over the refuge may or may not be compatible with the intent of having a refuge on Guam. So this hearing is necessary to receive the views of Fish and Wildlife and the Navy on this issue."

And while Bordallo received testimony on HR-4402 an ocean away, here at home the descendants of the original heirs to lands at Ritidian were blasting her bill. During a roundtable discussion on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact statement on the Guam military buildup.

Unlike the 2010 EIS - the 2014 Draft SEIS moves the proposed live fire training range complex for the marines from Pagat to Northwest Field. Catherine McCollum and Christopher Bejado are second generation descendants. The former said, "My heart is heavy today with knowledge that the surrounding areas of detachment five will be used a firing range. Landowners in Urunao and possibly Jinapsan will be restricted from using their properties through the best use 36 weeks out of the year this is totally ludicrous."

Bejado added, "Now this recent proposal uses military and federal lands on Northwest Field but is directly aimed at the Ritidian area and the Wildlife Refuge. I understand that its set back from the cliffside but it

still does not make sense to be shooting in the proximity of site that has been deemed an area with endangers species a turtle nesting site and whatever natural species the us fish and wildlife is supposedly trying to protect."

This is the latest fight with the feds for Ritidian families. Their land like many other properties were taken away under eminent domain. In 1993 Ritidian was deemed excess by the US military, however instead of it being returned to original landowners. "Based on a federal government protocol the land was snatched by the US Fish and Wildlife and turned into a wildlife refuge," said Bejado.

According to Bejado and McCollum not only do they oppose the live fire training range they feel completely blindsided by the congresswoman's introduction of HR-4402 on April 4th of this year that's because they actually met with her on Guam the day after. McCollum said, "No mention of this bill was told to us. Only that she supported the land return of Ritidian to us and that she would like to see US Fish and Wildlife removed from the area. She even supported introducing a Guam Lands Return Act of 2014 we left the meeting feeling hopeful now we feel totally betrayed."

Bejado said, "We walked out of that meeting with very positive feelings that the Ritidian families best interest would be something that she would keep in mind for future reference but not a mention of that bill which was proposed in Congress on April 4th the day before we met was ever brought up in our meeting with the congresswoman."

HR-4402 authorizes the secretary of the Navy to establish a surface danger zone over the Guam National Wildlife Refuge or any portion thereof to support the operation of a live fire training range complex. It would also authorize the secretary of the Navy to close the refuge and any portion of it to the public. During today's hearing in Washington, DC the congresswoman recognized the struggle of Ritidian landowners while at the same time noted the importance the live fire training range complex is for the Marines relocation.

"And I do look forward to their input in the process it is necessary that congress and the Navy consider this and hear from the people of Guam given the importance of the live fire training range to the rebalance," he said. Bordallo said, "I hope this whole exercise will provide us with time. Explore alternatives for the Wildlife Refuge for the future there are other areas in Guam and the region where a wildlife refuge could be located to meet the national goal of preserving and rejuvenating species. I think so I fully support this effort and will work to address the landowners concerns in the long term."

In the meantime for Ritidian landowners they don't plan to give up their fight, as Bejado said, "We will never stop fighting and bringing up the issues that are important to the return of our lands maybe these lands will not be returned in my life time but I want my children to understand that the history and the wrong that has been done with regard to the occupation of the US Navy and now the US Fish and Wildlife needs to be righted."

Meanwhile SEIS alternative for the live fire training range at Northwest Field has created an intergovernmental struggle between the Navy and the US Fish and Wildlife Service/

Guam Program Office director Joseph Ludovici was among those that testified today on Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo's HR-4402. He stressed the importance of the live fire training range for the Marines relocation to Guam, calling it a critical component. Ludovici told said the it was essential in maintaining training and readiness of Marine Corps personnel on Guam as required by federal law. He added the surface danger zone designation as proposed in HR-4402 is a safety requirement.

Ludovici said the Department of the Navy has been working with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of the Interior to address their concerns about the impact the range would have on the Ritidian unit and whether it can be implemented lawfully and in a manner that is both consistent with purposes for which the Ritidian wildlife refuge was established and which meets the Marine Corps purpose and need.

However Ludovici said they have not identified a solution, and cautioned that even if they can deconflict both the Fish and Wildlife Service and Marine Corps missions, legal obstacles may remain in that are impossible to overcome. The Navy is hoping for expeditious resolution because the timeline associated with a decision is March 2015. The purpose of HR-4402 according to Ludovici provides the flexibility that may be necessary if the legal restrictions that would prohibit consideration of Northwest Field as a reasonable alternative cannot be remedied through their current interdepartmental efforts.

Meanwhile National Wildlife Refuge system chief Jim Kurth also testified during today's hearing. Like Ludovici he said he looked forward to continuing the dialogue to assess all options to ensure the military's training missions are accomplished in a manner that minimizes delictorious impacts to the refuge and the species it was established to conserve. Kurth testified that Guam National Wildlife Refuge protects important cultural resources as well as contains the oldest known and longest lasting ancient Chamorro settlement site. During today's hearing he requested additional time to work with the Department of Navy in finding a resolution to the issues with surrounding the Marine Corps critical training requirement.

VIDEO: Ritidian Landowners Opposed to Placement of Firing Range Complex at Northwest Field (/archived/45-guam/guam-news/44690-video-ritidian-landowners-opposed-to-placement-of-firing-range-complex-at-northwest-field)

CLYNT RIDGELL / 29 APRIL 2014 / HITS: 1431

GUAM NEWS (/ARCHIVED/45-GUAM/GUAM-NEWS)

Guam - There was a lot of testimony given during last night's legislative hearing on the Draft SEIS for the Guam Military buildup held by Senator Frank Aguon Jr.'s committee.

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There were comments on a wide range of issues and concerns. For example some UOG students were concerned that the average member of the public will have a hard time deciphering and interpreting the data in the DSEIS. However, the issue of most contention seemed to be the proposed live fire training range complex at the Northwest field that would restrict access to the Ritidian wildlife refuge below. Chamoru nation member Catherine Flores McCollum is an heir to some of the property at Ritidian or Litekyan in Chamoru.

VIDEO: Ritidian Landowners Testify



"My heart is heavy today with the knowledge that the surrounding areas of detachment five will be used as a firing range. Owners of Urunao and possibly Jinapsan will be restricted from using their properties to their best use 36 weeks out of the year. This is totally ludicrous," said McCollum.

"Our family strongly opposes the proposal of the marine corps live firing range complex at the northwest field we also oppose Congresswoman Bordallos recent bill HR 4402 the Military Training and Readiness Act of 2014 which would quote authorize the Secretary of the Navy to establish a Surface Danger Zone or SDZ over the Guam Wildlife Refuge or any portion thereof to support the operation of a live fire training range complex," said Ritidian Heir Christopher Flores Bejado.

"Her action is irresponsible, it's illegal, it's illegal to stop short the process, the NEPA process. Uou have a national law that requires the SEIS and then she introduces this this is an illegal act by the Congresswoman and she needs to be called on it and it is time for her to step down because we can see by her actions she feels no accountability for the destruction and the damage that such military buildup will no doubt bring to our people," said former Senator Hope Cristobal.

There were various other comments given in opposition to the the military buildup. Also some asked that the public comment period be extended to 90 days rather than the current 60 days in order to allow for more time for analysis and comments.



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Families protest over Ritidian

*Posted: Jan 13, 2014 4:17 PM
Updated: Jan 13, 2014 4:17 PM*

by [Ken Quintanilla](#)

Guam - The Ritidian Families Coalition in collaboration with Nasion Chamoru stood their ground outside of the National Wildlife Refuge gate over the weekend in protest not allowing refuge vehicles to pass. RFC representative Catherine McCollum told KUAM News, "Our issue is that the land was taken unjustly and we would like it returned no compensation we don't want no more compensation we want our land back."

Because of this she believes the land is still theirs. But that is not the only concern Nasion Chamorru magalahi Danny Jackson, says that public rights of way from Route 3a to the shoreline is being blocked by the Fish and Wildlife Refuge and that this is the fourth gate that has been erected despite the other three being taken down after protest and PL 23-24.

McCollum says she has documentation to show that the refuge is encroaching on public domain.





COMMITTEE ON RULES

Senator Michael F.Q. San Nicolas, *Chairman*
I Mina'Trentai Kuåttro na Liheslaturan Guåhan • 34th Guam Legislature



COMMITTEE REPORT CHECKLIST

Part 1 / 1

INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING on Historic Properties Impacted by Proposed Urban Warfare at Andersen South and Proposed Live-Fire Training Range Complex at Ritidian and Northwest Field, Andersen Air Force Base (AAFB)		
(A) PUBLIC HEARING	(1) HEARING NOTICES SR §§ 6.04(a)(1) and 6.04(a)(2), Open Government Law (5 GCA, Ch. 8)	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (a) Five (5) working days prior (ALL Senators & ALL Media)	Date and Time of Notice: 3/14/17 6:09 am
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b) Forty-eight (48) hours prior (ALL Senators & ALL Media)	Date and Time of Notice: 3/16/17 4:25 pm
	(2) Date and Time of Hearing: 3/21/17 5:30 pm	3) Location: Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Bldg.
(B) COMMITTEE REPORT	(1) Committee Report filed with COR? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Date & Time: 5/5/17 5:05 pm
	(2) COMMITTEE REPORT COMPONENTS	
	(a) Front Page Transmittal to Speaker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	(a)(1) COR Chair Signature Line	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	(b) Title Page	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	(c) Notice of Public Hearing & Other Correspondence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	(d) Public Hearing Agenda	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	(e) Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	(f) Written Testimonies & Additional Documents	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	(g) Committee Report Digest(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(h) Related News Reports (optional)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
(i) Miscellaneous (optional)	n/a <input type="checkbox"/>	
(j) Committee Report Checklist(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
(C) COR Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CMTE Report duly filed <input type="checkbox"/> CMTE Report non-conforming for acceptance; Return to Committee	COR CHAIR (Signature, Date & Time)
	Notes: * Late submission, pursuant to S.R. § 11.06(a)	 5/8/17 3:40

