

**DRAFT**

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

**Department of the Air Force**



**December 2022**

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 Personal home addresses and phone numbers will not be published in the Final SEA.

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

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

## 1 INTRODUCTION

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

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

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

### 1.1 Purpose of and Need for Action

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

### 1.2 Regulatory Framework

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

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

### 1.3 Interagency and Intergovernmental Coordination and Consultations

#### 1.3.1 Interagency Coordination and Consultations

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

49  
50 The following regulations are addressed as part of this SEA: Section 106 of the National Historic  
51 Preservation Act and implementing regulations (36 CFR Part 800), Section 7 of the Endangered Species  
52 Act (ESA) and implementing regulations, and the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA).

53  
54 A CZMA consistency determination was sent to the Florida State Clearinghouse on 9 December 2022  
55 indicating a preliminary finding that the implementation of the Proposed Action would be consistent with  
56 the Florida Coastal Management Program. Concurrence from the Florida State Clearinghouse was received  
57 on 12 December 2022. Correspondence regarding this consultation is in Appendix A.

### 58 59 **1.3.2 Government to Government Consultations**

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

70  
71 The following Native American tribal governments were consulted regarding this Proposed Action for the  
72 2019 EA or for this SEA:

- 73 • Miccosukee Tribe of Indians
- 74 • The Muscogee (Creek) Nation
- 75 • Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
- 76 • Seminole Tribe of Florida

77  
78 Correspondence regarding these consultations is in Appendix B.

### 79 80 **1.4 Public and Agency Review of the Environmental Assessment**

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

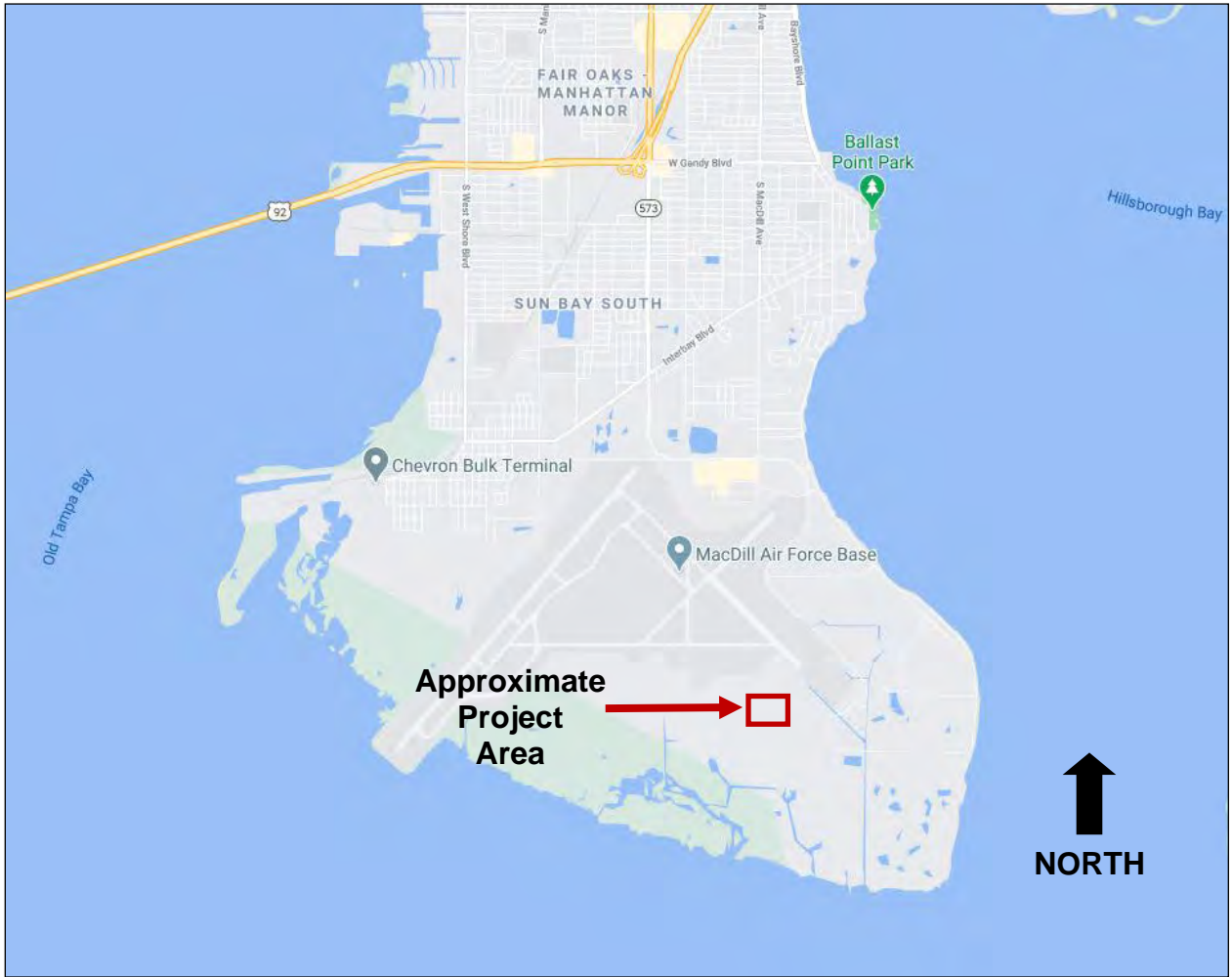
88  
89 A notice of availability of the Draft SEA was published in the *Tampa Bay Times* announcing the availability  
90 of the document for review on DD MMM 2023. The notice of availability invited the public to review and  
91 comment on the Draft SEA. The public and agency review period ended on DD MMM 2023. The notice  
92 of availability and newspaper announcements are provided in Appendix C.

93  
94 Copies of the Draft SEA were also made available for review at the following locations:

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

97

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

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

*Source: Modified from Google Maps image*

## 2 DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

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

### 2.1 Selection Standards

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

### 2.2 Proposed Action (“P4”)

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

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





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



50

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

52

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

53

### 54 **2.3 No-Action Alternative**

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

61

## 3 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

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### 3.1 Resources Eliminated from Further Analysis

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

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

### 3.2 Water Resources

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

#### Surface Waters

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

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

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

#### Groundwater

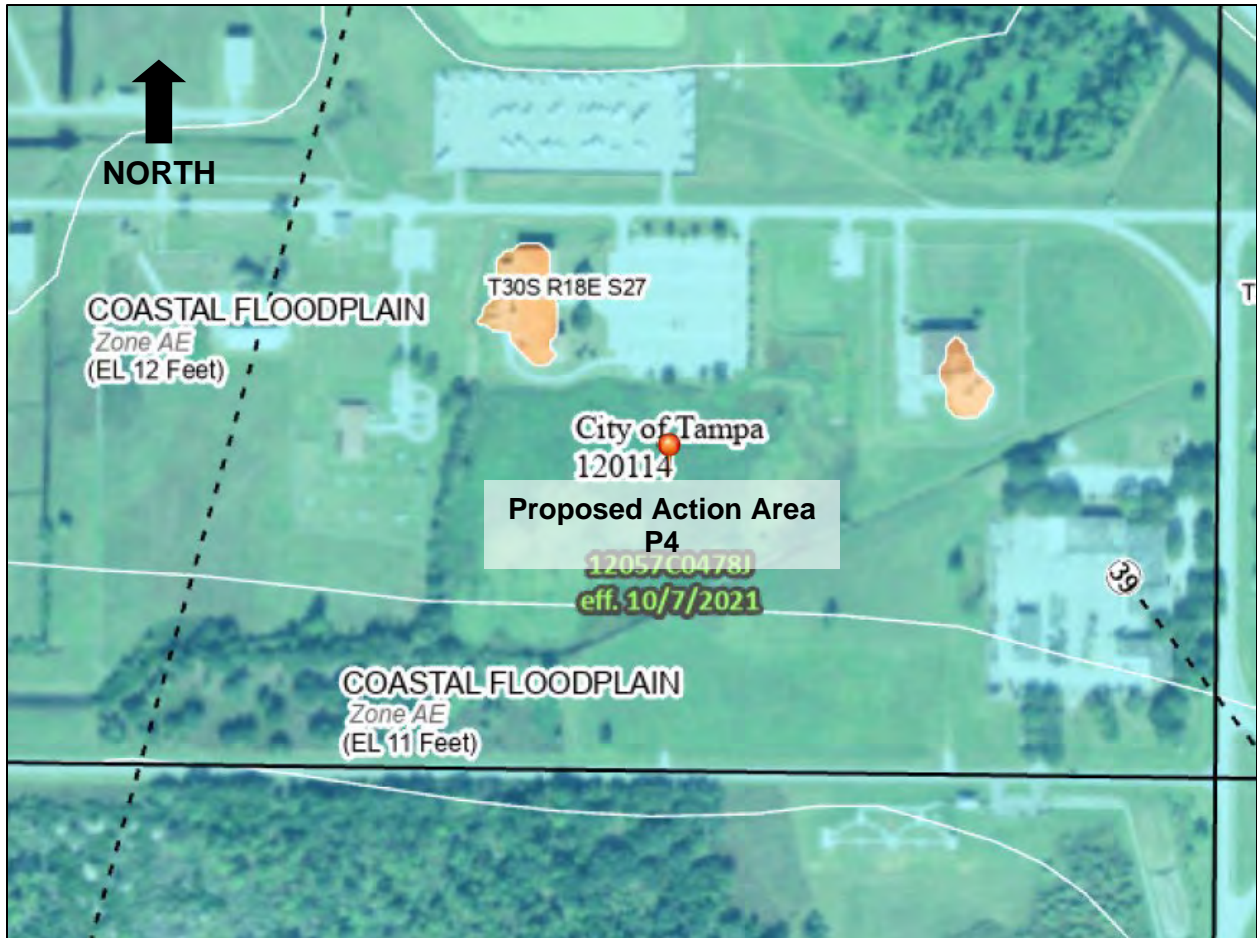
Groundwater is described and discussed in Subsection 3.8 of the 2019 EA, where the P4 area is referred to as T2.

50 **Floodplains**

51 The most recently available flood maps provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)  
52 show the project area to be entirely contained within Zone AE (Figure 3-1) as of the latest (7 October 2021)  
53 FEMA map update. This zone, also known as the 100-year floodplain, is defined as an area inundated by  
54 a 1 percent annual chance of flooding and for which base flood elevations have been determined  
55 (Hillsborough County 2022). Zone AE is within the High-Risk Areas (Special Flood Hazard Area) category  
56 of flood zones. The P4 area has an elevation of 12 feet NAVD88 (North American Vertical Datum of  
57 1988), except at the extreme southern portion of the site, where the elevation drops to 11 feet NAVD88  
58 above sea level (<https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps/national-flood-hazard-layer>).  
59

60 Approximately 93 percent of MacDill AFB, including the P4 area and Alternative 1 area, is within the 100-  
61 year floodplain. The remaining seven percent of the base is within the 500-year floodplain.  
62

63 Executive Order 11988, *Floodplains Management*, requires federal agencies to reduce the risk of flood loss;  
64 to minimize the impact of floods on human safety, health, and welfare; and to restore and preserve the  
65 natural and beneficial values served by floodplains. Federal agencies are required to evaluate the potential  
66 effects of any action it takes in the floodplain to ensure that its planning programs and budget requests  
67 reflect consideration of flood hazards and floodplain management. When an action is proposed to be  
68 located within a floodplain, the DAF is required to consider alternatives to avoid adverse effects and  
69 incompatible development in the floodplain. When the only practicable alternative consistent with the law  
70 and with the policy set forth in the executive orders requires siting the action in a floodplain, the project  
71 must be designed or modified to minimize potential harm to the floodplain. Finally, the DAF is required  
72 to provide public notice and an opportunity for public comment prior to proceeding with any action in a  
73 floodplain.  
74



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

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

77 **3.2.1 Environmental Consequences**

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

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

87 **3.3 Biological Resources**

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

91 The following vegetative and wildlife descriptions are based primarily on a visit and site inspection of the  
92 project area by ANAMAR, DAF, and Amentum personnel on 7 July 2022. These data are supplemented  
93 by survey results provided by Ecosphere Restoration Institute (ERI) and Environmental Science Associates  
94

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

102

103 **Vegetation**

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

110

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

113

114



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

Note: Photo taken 7 July 2022 during site visit

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117  
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125

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

*Note: Photograph faces southwest.*



126  
127  
128  
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**Figure 3-4. Herbaceous Vegetation in Area Proposed for a South Entrance Roadway from Golf Course Avenue to P4**

*Note: Photograph faces north.*



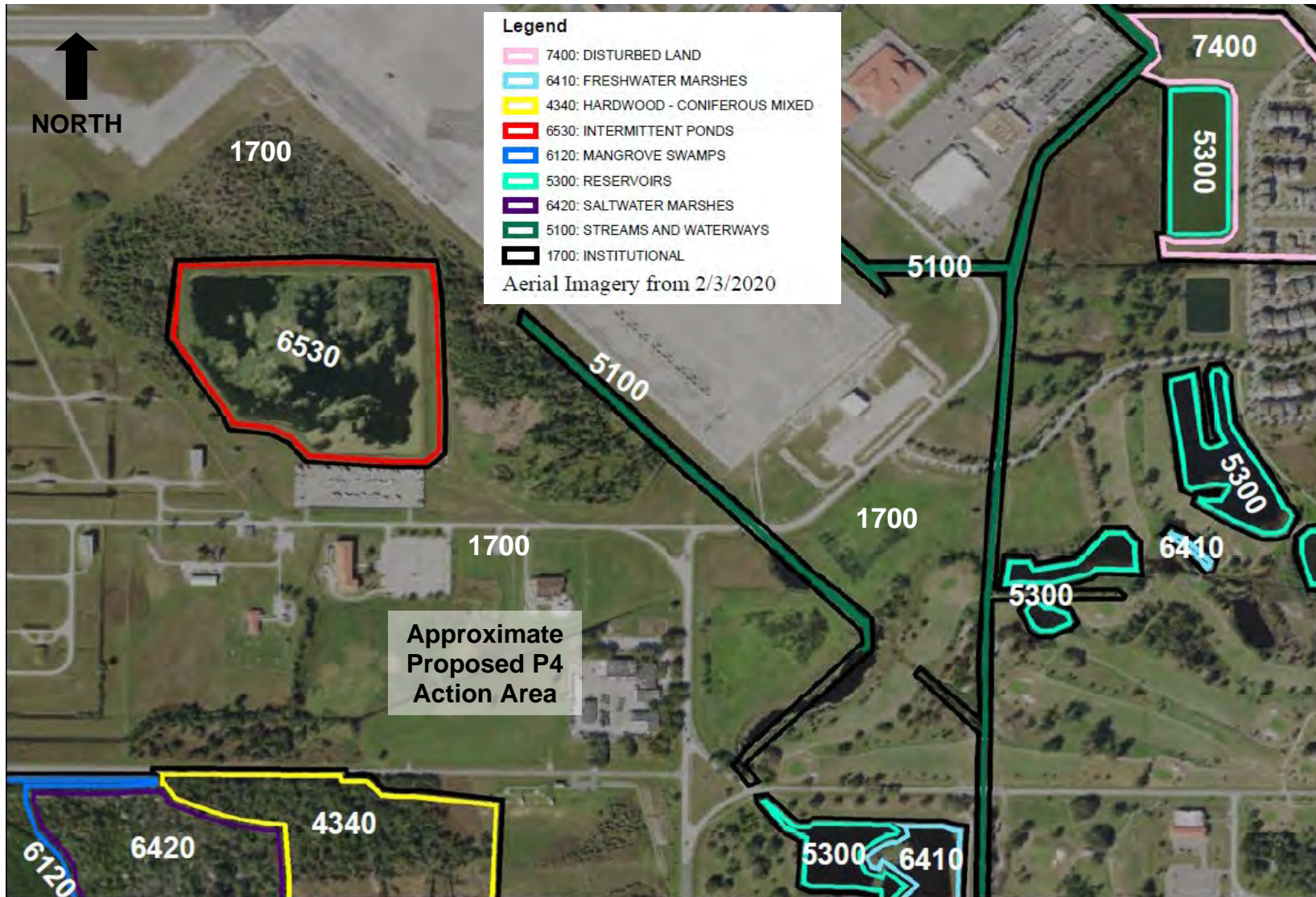


Figure 3-5. Florida Land Use, Cover and Forms Classification System Codes in and around the P4 Area

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131  
132

133 **Wildlife**

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

140  
141 Fish were evident in the ditch along the south border of the site but could not be identified to species. It is  
142 probable that the ditches contain such fish taxa as eastern mosquitofish (*Gambusia holbrooki*), killifishes  
143 (Fundulidae), and introduced cichlids (Cichlidae). Laval frogs (tadpoles) of saline-tolerant species, such  
144 as the introduced invasive Cuban treefrog (*Osteopilus septentrionalis*), may also inhabit the ditches, at least  
145 seasonally. The striped mud turtle (*Kinosternon baurii*) is well suited for such coastal ditch habitat and  
146 probably inhabits the project area.

147  
148 **Imperiled and Protected Species**

149 **Results of Surveys and Site Visits**

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

156  
157 ANAMAR, DAF, and Amentum personnel visited the P4 area and briefly observed the resources in this  
158 area on 7 July 2022. No threatened and endangered species were observed in this area during the site visit.  
159

160 A total of 13 threatened and endangered species (4 federal-listed and 9 state-listed species) were  
161 documented by ERI and ESA (2019) during their 2018 and 2019 surveys. In addition, bald eagles and their  
162 nests were documented on the base by these researchers. The surveys by ERI and ESA (2019) did not  
163 include the P4 area and no federally or state-listed species were observed by them in that area. Previous to  
164 the 2018–2019 surveys, imperiled species and wildlife surveys were conducted at MacDill AFB in 1992,  
165 1994, 1995–1996, 2003–2004, 2011–2012 (ERI and ESA 2019). In addition, on 10 May 2005,  
166 representatives from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Mote Marine Laboratory, and MacDill  
167 AFB conducted a survey of the shallow nearshore waters within the restricted area along MacDill's southern  
168 coastline. Table 3-1 lists all listed and protected species that have been recorded at MacDill AFB.

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170

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

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

172 \* SA = Species is listed due to the similarity of appearance with the federally threatened American crocodile, *Crocodylus acutus*.  
 173 Sources: DAF (2010, 2012, 2016, 2021, 2022), ERI and ESA (2019), and B. Myers (USFWS, pers. comm. 16 November 2022)  
 174 with status modifications based on FWC (2021).  
 175

176 **American Alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*)**

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

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

186  
187 **American Crocodile (*Crocodylus acutus*)**

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

195  
196 **Gopher Tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*)**

197 Populations of gopher tortoise inhabiting Florida and surrounding states were, until recently, candidates for  
198 listing under the ESA (USFWS 2019a). The Eastern Distinct Population Segment of this species was  
199 removed from the candidate list based on a Federal Register notification of findings published 12 October  
200 2022. The species remains protected in Florida as a state threatened species. Gopher tortoise burrow  
201 surveys were conducted by ERI and ESA (2019) over a total of 11 days spread over the months of October  
202 and November 2018 and January, February, March, and June 2019. These workers documented a total of  
203 297 potentially occupied burrows and 18 abandoned burrows on MacDill AFB (Figure 3-6). The majority  
204 of the burrows documented by ERI and ESA (2019) were observed in two main clusters: one cluster was  
205 located between the south ramp and the runway, and the other cluster of burrows was located south of the  
206 DFSP (labeled as “Tank Farm” in Figure 3-6 below). The soils in the project area appear unsuitable for  
207 gopher tortoise burrows as they are poorly drained or somewhat poorly drained with depths to water table  
208 of from 3 to 36 inches. This species is unlikely to inhabit the project area except as occasional visitors from  
209 a colony to the south. Nonetheless, potential effects of construction and operational traffic cannot be ruled  
210 out as tortoises may occasionally venture onto nearby roads.

211  
212 **Eastern Indigo Snake (*Drymarchon couperi*)**

213 The P4 area appears poorly suited as habitat for the federally threatened eastern indigo snake (including the  
214 population proposed as the new species, *D. kolpobasileus*, see Krysko et al. 2016, but see also Folt et al.  
215 2019), although the species cannot be fully ruled out. The area lacks gopher tortoise burrows, and other  
216 subterranean microhabitats, which eastern indigo snakes are well-known to utilize to avoid desiccation and  
217 as shelter against extreme temperatures. This species has not been recorded within MacDill AFB for over  
218 25 years. For this reason, and for those mentioned above, its presence within the project area is unlikely.

219  
220 **Audubon’s Crested Caracara (*Polyborus plancus audubonii*)**

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

231

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

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

244

245 **Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*)**

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

255

256 **Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*)**

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

266

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

268 The red knot, possibly including the federally threatened *rufa* red knot has been documented to occur on  
269 MacDill AFB and has been the focus of a biological assessment by ANAMAR Environmental Consulting  
270 (2015) prepared for MacDill AFB as part of an EA for maintenance dredging activities at the base. At least  
271 128 sightings of this species have been recorded in the eBird database (<https://ebird.org/explore>) at the  
272 AFB, primarily during the month of November. All sightings at MacDill AFB were associated with sandy,  
273 muddy, and armored shorelines along the eastern and southern portions of MacDill AFB. These locations  
274 are at least one mile from the project area. A search for observations of this species on the Avian Knowledge  
275 Network (<https://avianknowledge.net/index.php/observations-map/>) on 16 November 2022 revealed three  
276 sightings on MacDill AFB for the last 12 months. The P4 area lacks habitats identified by Niles et al.  
277 (2008) as preferred by red knots and a search of all available literature and online databases failed to reveal  
278 any records of this species from this area. Therefore, the presence of this species within this area appears  
279 unlikely.

280

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

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

293

294 **Tricolored Bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*)**

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

304

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

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

308

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

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

315

316 **Imperiled Plants**

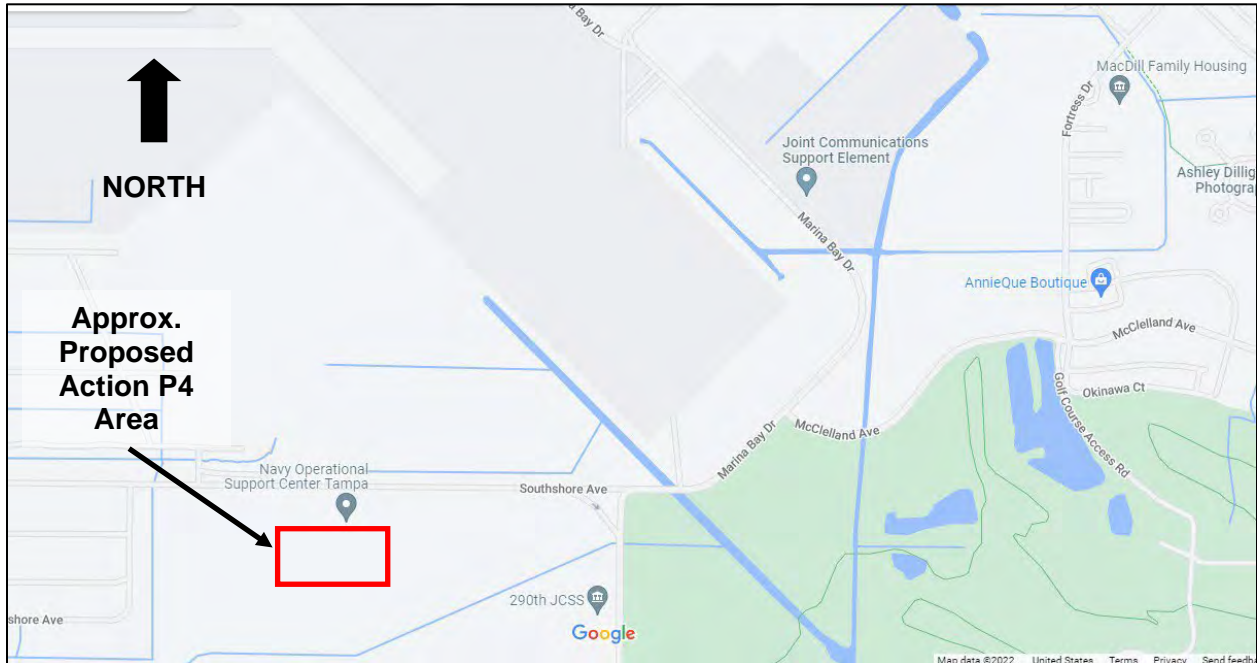
317 No federally threatened or endangered plant species have been documented on MacDill AFB (DAF 2010,  
318 2012; DAF 2016; ERI and ESA 2019), and no state protected plant species have been recorded from the P4  
319 area.

320

321 **Wetlands**

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

331  
332 Man-made ditches occur within the southern portion of the P4 area and along the western boundary of this  
333 area (Figure 3-6). These ditches appear to be upland-cut through what was historically upland habitats. If  
334 these ditches were dug as part of a government mosquito control program, then the ditches may meet the  
335 wetland exemption pursuant to Section 62-340.750 of the Florida Administrative Code (available online at  
336 <https://www.flrules.org/gateway/ruleno.asp?id=62-340.750>). A box culvert is proposed for the south  
337 entranceway over the southern ditch and this construction will likely require wetland permitting. A search  
338 of the National Wetlands Inventory online wetlands mapper on 10 August 2022 showed that only the ditches  
339 (categorized as “Riverine”) were mapped in and around the P4 area (Figures 3-7).  
340



341  
342 **Figure 3-6. Man-made Ditches Associated with the P4 Area**  
343 Source: Modified from Google Maps  
344  
345



346

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

348

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

349

### 350 3.3.1 Environmental Consequences

351 **P4**—It is unlikely for any federally listed species to occur in the P4 area, although this possibility cannot  
352 be completely ruled out. Federally listed species, and species proposed for federal listing, that may  
353 potentially occur within the P4 area include American alligator, American crocodile, gopher tortoise,  
354 eastern indigo snake, crested caracara, eastern black rail, wood stork, piping plover, rufa red knot, Florida  
355 manatee, and tricolored bat. The project area is not within designated critical habitat for any listed species.  
356

357 Based on analysis of P4 and the associated project area, and in compliance with Section 7(a)(2) of the ESA,  
358 the DAF has determined that P4 may affect but is not likely to adversely affect ESA-listed species. The  
359 DAF initiated a consultation with USFWS in early 2019 for federally protected species under their  
360 jurisdiction and received a response from USFWS on 01 Mar 2019 that the proposed action is not likely to  
361 adversely affect federally protected species such as the wood stork. The DAF re-initiated consultation with  
362 USFWS on 14 November 2022 for federally listed species, and species proposed for listing, and received a  
363 response on DD MMM 2022 concurring that that the project “may affect, but is not likely to adversely  
364 affect” the American alligator, eastern indigo snake, gopher tortoise, wood stork, and tricolored bat and  
365 their habitats, and have no effects on other ESA listed species. These consultations ensure compliance with  
366 the ESA. Appendix A contains the consultation correspondence. Pre-construction briefs will be given to  
367 construction crews to inform them of appropriate procedures should any of these or other ESA-protected  
368 or proposed species, or the gopher tortoise, be observed. An emphasis will be given for gopher tortoise and  
369 eastern indigo snake protection measures. Relocation or mitigation may be necessary if an American  
370 alligator, gopher tortoise or an eastern indigo snake is observed within the project area.  
371



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

377  
378 No significant impacts to vegetation, wildlife, imperiled and protected species, or wetlands are expected  
379 resulting from P4. Considering that Alternative Actions P1, P2, and P3 would occur on areas already  
380 developed, including existing buildings, impacts to these resources are also insignificant. Impacts to  
381 vegetation would be greater for P4 than what was analyzed in the 2019 EA for P1, P2, or P3 but would not  
382 be significant.

383  
384 **No-Action Alternative**—Implementation of the No-Action Alternative would result in no changes to  
385 vegetation, existing wildlife or the availability of resources to such wildlife, or to imperiled and protected  
386 species. The field would remain vegetated and mowing or brush hogging of the herbaceous vegetation  
387 would continue at the same approximately annual frequency as currently occurs. Conditions would remain  
388 as described above.

389

### 390 **3.4 Geology and Soils**

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

395

#### 396 **3.4.1 Environmental Consequences**

397 By nature of the proposed activities, soils would be covered by impervious surfaces (asphalt and concrete)  
398 and fill material brought in to raise up the base of the building above the 100-year flood elevation. BMPs  
399 planned for the construction, such as silt fencing and staked hay bales as per standards in Florida DEP  
400 (2008), would eliminate or greatly reduce the chance of off-site turbidity and sediment deposition associated  
401 with the construction of the box culvert and south entranceway. All measures would remain in place and  
402 in good working order until the soil has stabilized sufficiently, after which all control measures would be  
403 removed. Therefore, impacts to geological resources are expected to be minimal and less than significant.  
404 Impacts would be similar between P4 and the Alternative Action P1, P2, and P3 scenarios.

405  
406 **No-Action Alternative**—Under the No-Action Alternative, existing conditions with respect to geological  
407 resources would remain unchanged from current conditions. Therefore, no impacts, adverse or otherwise,  
408 would be expected to occur.

409

### 410 **3.5 Cultural Resources**

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

416  
417 Between 2018 and 2020, MacDill AFB completed a comprehensive survey for archaeological resources.  
418 This base-wide Phase I archaeological study by Schnitzer et al. (2018), and others, surveyed 4,535 acres  
419 and discovered 41 new sites. Most of the sites that were discovered were determined ineligible for the  
420 NRHP, except for five, which are currently undergoing a Phase II investigation to gather more information  
421 to determine each site’s eligibility.

422  
423 Of the two historic districts, 28 historic facilities, and 50 known archaeological sites located at MacDill  
424 AFB, none are located within the APE.

425  
426 The P4 area overlies a closed landfill, and despite this, the area has a “medium” probability for  
427 archaeological resources. The site was recently surveyed for cultural resources (as temporary trailer  
428 location T2 as referred to in the 2019 EA) and no potential archaeological sites were detected.

### 429 430 **3.5.1 Environmental Consequences**

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

433  
434 The DAF initiated consultation with the Florida State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) on 28 Nov 2018  
435 to confirm that P4 would not impact historic resources (Appendix A). The review was conducted in  
436 accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and 36 CFR  
437 Part 800: Protection of Historic Properties. In the letter, dated 07 Jan 2019, from the SHPO, it was  
438 determined that the proposed project is unlikely to adversely affect historic properties listed or be eligible  
439 for listing on the NRHP. The DAF re-initiated consultation with the Florida SHPO on 24 October 2022  
440 regarding the new P4 area. The response letter from Florida SHPO was received on 7 November 2022,  
441 where it was again determined that the proposed project should have no effects on historic properties (see  
442 Appendix A).

443  
444 Native American tribal governments of the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, Seminole Nation of  
445 Oklahoma, and the Seminole Tribe of Florida were consulted for the 2019 EA, where the P4 area was  
446 referred to as T2. The DAF re-initiated consultation with these governments on 9 November 2022 regarding  
447 the new P4 area. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation was not a consulting tribe when the 2019 EA was prepared  
448 and has been consulted on 9 November 2022 as part of this SEA. Correspondence regarding these  
449 consultations is in Appendix B.

450  
451 No impacts are expected for cultural resources for P4. Impacts would be similar between this action and  
452 the Alternative Action P1, P2, and P3 scenarios. Regardless, should any archaeological resource be  
453 discovered during project construction, work would cease until all appropriate consultation is accomplished  
454 with SHPO and tribal governments.

455  
456  
457 **No-Action Alternative**—Under the No-Action Alternative, existing conditions with respect to cultural  
458 resources would remain unchanged. Therefore, no impacts, adverse or otherwise, would be expected to  
459 occur.

## 460 461 **3.6 Transportation**

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

### 468 469 **3.6.1 Environmental Consequences**

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

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

482  
483 **No-Action Alternative**—No new construction would occur with implementation of the No-Action  
484 Alternative and transportation conditions near the project area would remain unchanged. Such  
485 transportation relating to the project area would continue to be limited to a very small number of vehicles  
486 annually involved with mowing/brush cutting the vegetation during routine maintenance activities.  
487

### 488 3.7 Occupational Safety and Health

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

#### 491 3.7.1 Environmental Consequences

492  
493 **P4**—Construction activities associated with P4 are not expected to increase safety risks. The environmental  
494 consequences that would result from implementing P4 as the permanent site would be similar to those  
495 associated with T2 as discussed in the 2019 EA. Construction activities would be accomplished in  
496 accordance with federal, state, and local regulations to minimize general construction hazards. P4 would  
497 comply with OSHA requirements to ensure the protection of workers and the general public during  
498 construction. Considering that P4 does not involve the demolition of existing buildings, while P1 through  
499 P3 each have a demolition component, there would be less potential occupational safety and health hazards  
500 associated with this P4.

501  
502 **No-Action Alternative**—No changes to occupational health and safety would occur, indirect or cumulative,  
503 for the No-Action Alternative as the new construction will not take place and no changes to the workforce  
504 will occur.

### 506 3.8 Air Quality

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

#### 509 Climate Change

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

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

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

525  
526 Given that the P4 area has an elevation of 12 feet NAVD88, this area is particularly vulnerable to flooding  
527 and other effects of climate change. Climate change will be addressed in the project design and  
528 construction, which includes an energy efficient heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system, and other  
529 facilities, designed to reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions to the extent possible.

### 531 3.8.1 Environmental Consequences

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

535  
536 Air emissions generated during implementation of P4 would be short-term and insignificant. The air  
537 emission totals due to implementation of P4 would be comparable to those of Alternative Actions P1, P2,  
538 and P3 discussed and described in the 2019 EA, although this new P4 area is farther away from sensitive  
539 receptors (residential neighborhoods and schools) than P1 and P2. Therefore, no significant adverse effects  
540 are expected for sensitive receptors under the P4 scenario.

541  
542 **No-Action Alternative**—Air quality and greenhouse gas emissions would remain at baseline conditions for  
543 the No-Action Alternative. No construction-related air quality changes or air emissions related to a new  
544 facility will take place. A minor amount of fossil fuels would be burned occasionally during mowing or  
545 brush hogging of the existing herbaceous vegetation, and the dead cut stems of vegetation would give off  
546 minor amounts of greenhouse gases during decomposition. No effects on sensitive receptors would occur  
547 for the No-Action Alternative.

## 548 3.9 Environmental Restoration Program

549  
550 The Environmental Restoration Program (ERP), formerly known as the Installation Restoration Program,  
551 is a subcomponent of the Defense ERP that became law under the Superfund Amendments and  
552 Reauthorization Act. The ERP requires each DoD installation to identify, investigate, and clean up  
553 hazardous waste disposal or release sites. ERP-designated sites within MacDill AFB include Solid Waste  
554 Management Units (SWMUs) 2 and 3 (Matty 2017a, b).

555  
556 SWMU-3 is a 14.4-acre former landfill between Golf Course Avenue and Southshore Drive (Figure 3-8)  
557 and it includes much of the P4 area. The site is believed to have received wastes from 1950 to 1959 (Snyder  
558 2022). Wastes disposed of at SWMU-3 included municipal waste and construction debris (Matty 2017b).  
559 Although no records exist of industrial or hazardous wastes being disposed of at SWMU-3, such activities  
560 cannot be ruled out. The current contaminants of concern in groundwater at SWMU-3 are arsenic and iron  
561 and these analytes are monitored via annual sampling and analysis of groundwater, which has occurred  
562 since March 2006. The results of the annual groundwater monitoring indicate that the contaminant plume  
563 is stable and not migrating offsite. The 2016 Tenth Annual Basewide Groundwater Monitoring Report in  
564 2016 reviewed the sampling and analysis results for arsenic and iron in landfill sites in the southern portion  
565 of MacDill AFB and concluded that concentrations of these metals are related to naturally occurring sources  
566 (Snyder 2022). The 2016 report went on to recommend that groundwater monitoring be discontinued but  
567 to continue the annual land use control surveillance. The 2016 monitoring report was approved by Florida  
568 Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in a letter dated 11 Nov 2016 (Matty 2017b). Three  
569 groundwater monitoring wells at SWMU-3 were abandoned in January 2017 in accordance with the Well  
570 Abandonment Letter Work Plan, Landfill Sites (Snyder 2022).

571



572

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

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

573

574

575

576

### 3.9.1 Environmental Consequences

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

584

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

594  
595 If concentrations of arsenic and (or) iron in soils exceed the Florida DEP residential soil cleanup target  
596 levels (currently 2.1 mg/kg for arsenic and 53000 mg/kg for iron) and the soils are removed from SWMU-3  
597 during construction, the soils must subsequently either be replaced in the original excavation area or (if  
598 there's no longer room for the soil onsite) the soils must not be placed on any other area of the project site.  
599 Any soils removed from the site and not directly replaced in situ must be hauled off-site for treatment and  
600 (or) disposal at the contractor's expense.

601  
602 In addition, because per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are under investigation on MacDill AFB,  
603 any soil to be removed from the construction site must first be sampled and analyzed for PFAS (Snyder  
604 2022). A state certified laboratory that can achieve a detection level below the current EPA regional  
605 screening level of 0.013 mg/kg. Similarly, any groundwater generated from dewatering activities is to be  
606 analyzed for PFAS using a laboratory using a method that can achieve a detection level below the current  
607 EPA regional screening level of 40 ng/l. The contractor must provide the laboratory results to AFCEC 6  
608 CES/CZOE for interpretation prior to any action (Snyder 2022). For groundwater, if the PFAS results are  
609 below 40 ng/L, the contractor may discharge the groundwater back to the ground or to a sanitary sewer  
610 system. More guidance can be found in the Contaminated Media Disposal Guidelines in Snyder (no date).

611  
612 There are three abandoned groundwater monitoring wells within or along the boundaries of SWMU-3 with  
613 an additional well located north of Southshore Avenue. However, there may be additional wells at  
614 SWMU-3. Prior to construction, the contractor must survey the site and mark the exact locations of the  
615 known wells and any additional wells uncovered during the survey. All groundwater wells must be avoided  
616 during construction, in accordance with Federal Acquisition Regulation 52.236-9, so as not to damage them.  
617 In the event of damage to one or more wells, the well(s) must be repaired or abandoned and reinstalled in  
618 accordance with the MacDill Basewide Environmental Restoration Work Plan and at the expense of the  
619 contractor. Determination of repair versus replacement will be by MacDill AFB Environmental Restoration  
620 personnel. MacDill AFB ERP will determine the location of any replacement wells to be installed.

621  
622 **No-Action Alternative**—The contamination plume in the groundwater at SWMU-3 would remain stable  
623 for the No-Action Alternative. No changes to the concentrations of arsenic and iron, or in the behavior of  
624 the groundwater carrying these contaminants, would occur resulting from the No-Action Alternative.

625

### 626 **3.10 Indirect and Cumulative Effects**

627 Indirect and cumulative effects are described and discussed under Subsections 4.12.1 through 4.12.6 of the  
628 2019 EA, where P4 is referred to as T2. Implementation of the Proposed Action would not result in  
629 additional or increased cumulative effects beyond what was analyzed in the 2019 EA.

630

#### 631 **3.10.1 Summary of Cumulative Effects**

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

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

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

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MacDill AFB, Tampa, Florida

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



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MacDill AFB, Tampa, Florida*

Transmission and Substations System			electrical distribution system. Proposed improvements include upgrading the switch gear capacity at the Tanker Way Gate electrical substation from 25 kV to 35 kV. Additionally, a total of 22,100 linear feet of new 15-kV electrical distribution lines would be installed to interconnect the Tanker Way Gate substation with the Dale Mabry Gate, the MacDill Avenue Gate, and a new 2,037-square-foot switching station to be constructed near the south flight apron. A 768-square-foot electric power station building would be constructed at the Tanker Way Gate. The 15-kV, below-ground, electrical distribution line would be housed in high density polyethylene conduit, which would be encased in concrete. Installation of the electrical line would be accomplished primarily through direct burial with directional boring used, as needed, to avoid impacts to roadways, taxiways, drainage ditches, and archaeological sites.	Hazardous Waste and Materials, Infrastructure and Transportation
Fuels Operations Facility	MacDill AFB	2025	Proposed construction of a new 3,580-square-foot fuels operation facility in the parking lot east of Building 1062. Once completed, Building 1062 would be demolished and a 4,296-square-foot parking lot would be constructed in its place.	Soils and Geology, Hazardous Waste and Materials, Infrastructure and Transportation
Marina Channel Maintenance Dredging	MacDill AFB	2027–2028	The purpose of this action is to maintain required width and depth of the marina channel. This action is accomplished, on average, every 10 years. Maintenance dredging enables security forces to safely access the marina basin, Coon Creek basin, and Tampa Bay during all tidal levels throughout the year via two connecting channels. These channels are located within the same area on the southern portion of the installation.	Water Quality, Noise (underwater), Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geology and Soils, Hazardous Materials and Waste
Various Installation Development Projects	MacDill AFB	2020–(ongoing)	This includes various short- to long-range facility, airfield, transportation network, energy, and utility	All resources

			development projects proposed to meet mission requirements at MacDill AFB.	
<b>STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT</b>				
FDOT projects	FDOT / Hillsborough County	Fiscal year 2023–2027	Projects include bridge repair/rehabilitation, traffic signal updates, Information Technology services communication	Noise, Air Quality, Infrastructure and Transportation
Manhattan / Interbay Improvements	City of Tampa	2022– (ongoing)	Improvements include maintenance and construction associated with roadways adjacent to MacDill AFB	Air Quality, Infrastructure and Transportation
ELAPP Stormwater Improvements — South Tampa	City of Tampa	2022– (ongoing)	A series of stormwater improvement projects are planned for the South Tampa area to better deal with surface water runoff during the rainy season. This project includes infrastructure improvements and biological stormwater treatment in a created wetland system.	Water Resources, Biological Resources, Infrastructure

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

639  
640  
641  
642

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

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

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

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

652 \* Impacts to the 100-year floodplain are unavoidable given the majority of MacDill AFB is within this floodplain.  
653

### 654 3.12 Other NEPA Considerations

655 This section provides a discussion of other pertinent NEPA considerations associated with P4 and the No-  
656 Action Alternative.  
657

#### 658 3.12.1 Unavoidable Adverse Effects

659 Only minor, less-than-significant adverse effects are associated with P4. Energy supplies would be  
660 committed to the building and some associated infrastructure (such as outdoor lighting). Fossil fuels would  
661 be used in construction equipment, construction vehicles, and personal vehicles for USSOCOM personnel.  
662 The use of such non-renewable resources under P4 would be unavoidably adverse but the effects would not  
663 be significant. The addition of turf grass and landscaping plants would require some minimal amount of  
664 irrigation water, at least when first establishing these plants.  
665

666 These effects are avoidable compared to that of the No-Action Alternative.  
667

668 **3.12.2 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources**

669 P4 (and the Alternative Actions P1 through P3) would each irreversibly commit fuel, manpower, materials,  
670 and costs required to complete the scope of work chosen. The No-Action Alternative would not commit  
671 any additional resources.  
672

1 **4 PERSONS AND AGENCIES CONTACTED**

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4

1 **5 LIST OF PREPARERS**

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

4  
5 **Table 5-1. Preparer Names, Qualifications, and Roles for this EA**

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

6  
7

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## APPENDIX A. Interagency Coordination and Consultations





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



24 October 2022

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

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

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

Dear Dr. Parsons,

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

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

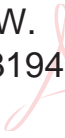
3. A Phase I archaeological survey was conducted in 2017 across the eastern portion of MacDill AFB and encompassed the project area. This area was deemed as “medium” probability for encountering archaeological resources (see attached Project Figures). Six archaeological sites were discovered during this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

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

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

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

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



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Date: 2022.10.24 10:44:50 -04'00'

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

3 Attachments:

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



## FLORIDA DEPARTMENT *of* STATE

**RON DESANTIS**  
Governor

**CORD BYRD**  
Secretary of State

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

November 7, 2022

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

Dear Mr. Rider:

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

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

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

Sincerely,

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

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







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



14 November 2022

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2 Attachments:

1. Original USSOCOM MISO Consultation Package
2. Project Figures



## Jason Seitz

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

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

Jason,

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

V/R

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

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

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

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

Good Luck.

*Chris Stahl*

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

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

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

Good afternoon Florida Clearinghouse,

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

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

Respectfully,  
Andy

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



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







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



7 November 2022

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

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

Dear Mr. Cypress

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

3 Attachments:

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

cc:

Kevin Donaldson





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



7 November 2022

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

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

Dear Mr. Hill

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

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

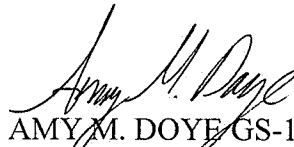
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**CHARGE THE STORM...LET'S GO!**

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

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

3 Attachments:

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

cc:

Corain Lowe-Zepeda





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



7 November 2022

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

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

Dear Mr. Johnson

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

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

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

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

3 Attachments:

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

cc:

Edwin Marshall





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



7 November 2022

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

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

Dear Mr. Osceola

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

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

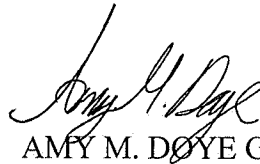
A Phase I archaeological survey was conducted in 2017 across the eastern portion of MacDill AFB and encompassed the project area. This area was deemed as "medium" probability for encountering archaeological resources (see attached Project Figures). Six archaeological sites were discovered during this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

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

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

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

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



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

3 Attachments:

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

cc:

Dr. Paul Backhouse

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

Nation & World

# US houses of worship increase security after gun massacres

BY DEEPA BHARATH AND LUIS ANDRES HENAO  
Associated Press

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Religious leaders who once preferred to leave



ASHLEY LANDIS | Associated Press

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## The Sod Father

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References Upon Request



LEGAL NOTICE

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

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

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

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

July 24, 2022

0000236991-01

LEGAL NOTICE



### CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA

### NOTICE OF SPECIAL EXCEPTION REQUEST

**DATES OF PUBLIC HEARING:**

Special Commission Meeting (City Commission serving as the Planning & Zoning Board)

Wednesday, August 3, 2022

5:30 P.M.

Special Commission Meeting

Wednesday, August 3, 2022

Immediately following the 5:30 P.M. Special Commission Meeting

**LOCATION OF PUBLIC HEARING:**

City of South Pasadena City Hall  
7047 Sunset Drive South, South Pasadena, FL 33707

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

**NATURE OF REQUEST: SPECIAL EXCEPTION**

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

**LOCATION OF THE PROPERTY:**

1475, 1477 and 1479 Pasadena Avenue South, South Pasadena, FL 33707

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

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

Carley Lewis, MMC  
City Clerk

7/24/2022

0000237986-01

### Hillsborough County Voters

## Request Vote By Mail or Vote Early



**you still get a sticker!**

### Request Vote By Mail



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

**Deadline to request a mail ballot: August 13**



### Early Voting

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

**August 8 – 21, 10 AM – 6 PM**

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

Election Day is **August 23.**

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

@HillsboroughSOE



**Craig Latimer**  
Supervisor of Elections

0000236444-01

**Tampa Bay Times**  
**Published Daily**

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

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

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

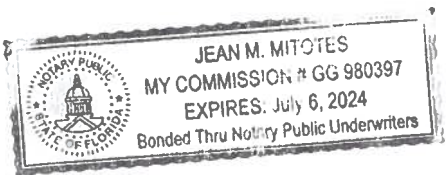
Signature Affiant

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

Signature of Notary Public

Personally known           X           or produced identification

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



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