

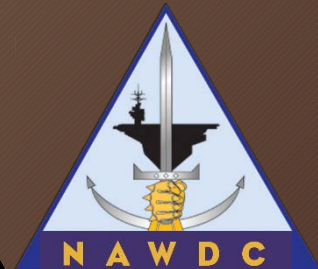


Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization

Final Environmental Impact Statement

www.FRTCModernization.com

Jan. 28, 2020



Capt. Evan Morrison

Commanding Officer
Naval Air Station Fallon



Agenda

- Fallon Range Training Complex
- Need for range modernization
- Overview of Proposed Action
- National Environmental Policy Act process
- Summary of Final EIS
- Oral comment session



Fallon Range Training Complex

- “The Carrier in the Desert”
- Navy’s premier aviation training range
- Aviation and ground training
- Air wing and integrated training

100 percent of deploying naval aviation and naval special warfare units train on the Fallon Ranges.



An F-35 fighter jet is shown in flight against a backdrop of a hazy, mountainous landscape. The aircraft is dark grey with the number '212' visible on its side. A semi-transparent black banner with white text is overlaid on the lower portion of the image.

Need for Modernization

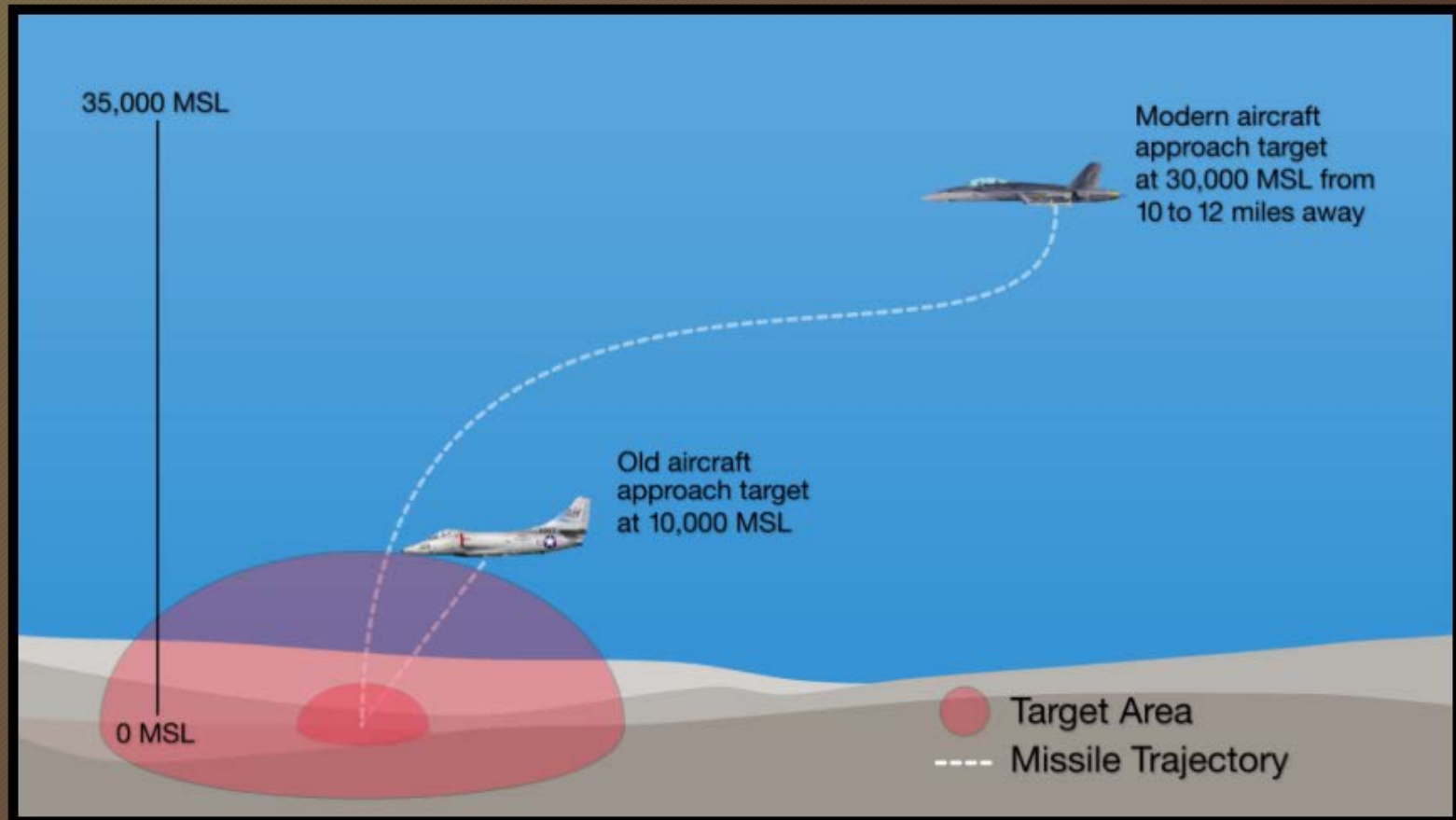
Ninety Days to Combat

- Weapons systems and technology have significantly advanced
- Gaps identified in aviation weapons and ground mobility training
- Current size of land and airspace ranges severely restricts ability to use weapons systems to train for combat
- Current training is limited and not meeting requirements



Need for Modernization

Advanced weapons technology requires larger ranges.





Need for Modernization

The Fallon Ranges must be able to support how the Navy fights today so personnel are prepared for the conflicts of tomorrow.

Range modernization would:

- Address gaps in aviation weapons and ground mobility training
- Provide realistic training capabilities needed to meet evolving requirements
- Provide land and airspace needed to train to tactically acceptable parameters
- Maintain safety of local communities

Mr. Alex Stone

Fallon Range Training Complex
EIS Program Manager
U.S. Pacific Fleet

Proposed Action

- Renewal of current public land withdrawal (202,864 acres)
- Withdrawal of additional federal land (approx. 602,000 acres)
- Acquisition of non-federal land (approx. 65,000 acres)
- Airspace expansion and modifications
- Upgrades to range infrastructure



Comment Table

National Environmental Policy Act Process



Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS
Aug. 26, 2016

Scoping Period *
Aug. 26, 2016 - Dec. 12, 2016

Public Release of the Draft EIS
Nov. 16, 2018

Public Meetings and Comment Period *
Nov. 16, 2018 - Feb. 14, 2019

Public Release of the Final EIS
Jan. 10, 2020

→ Final EIS Public Review and Wait Period *
Jan. 10, 2020 - Feb. 10, 2020

Record of Decision
February 2020

* Opportunities for public review and comment



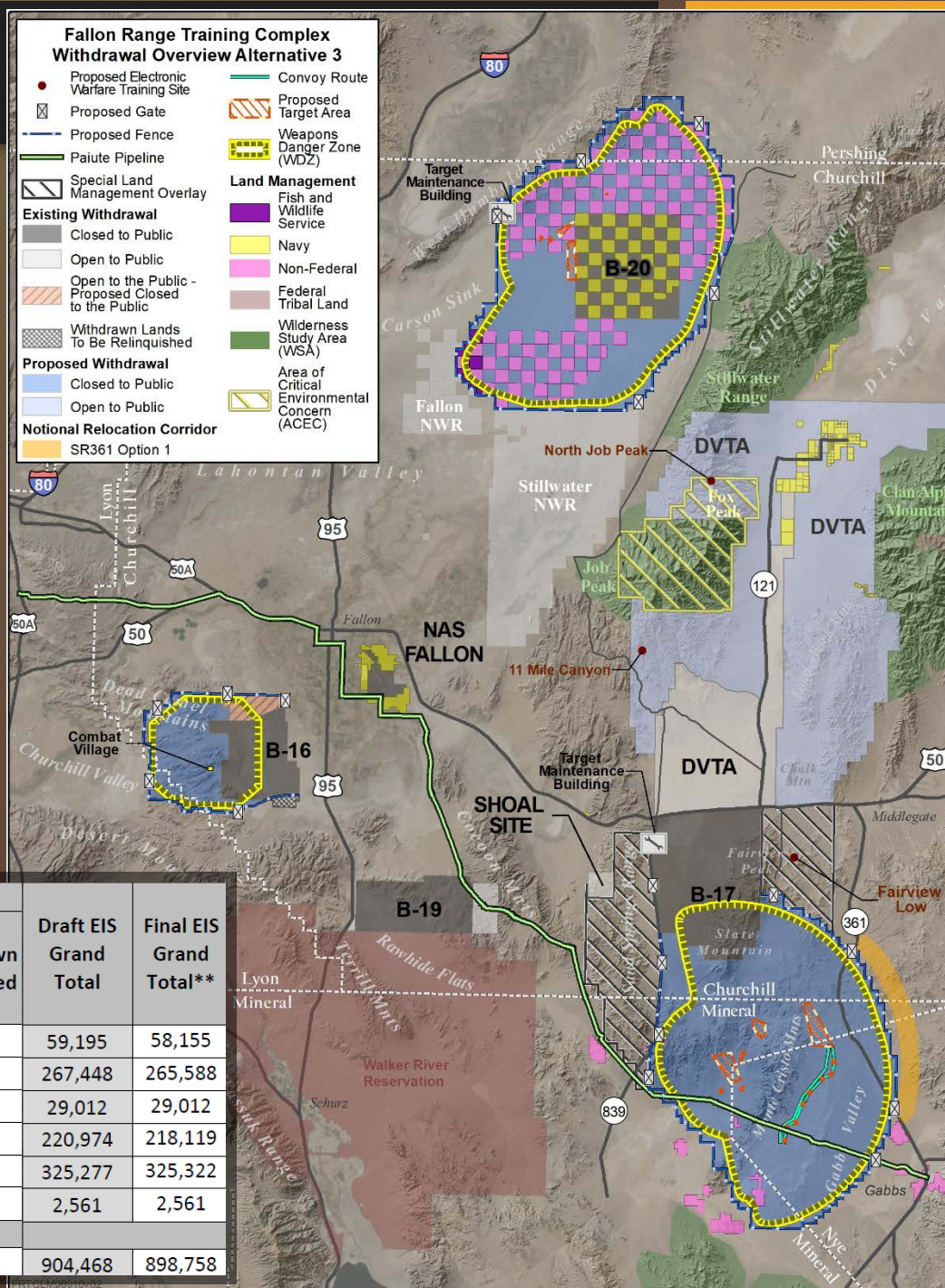
Stakeholder and Tribal Engagement

- Public scoping (Aug-Dec 2016)
- Multiple EIS development stakeholder meetings
 - Cooperating agencies
 - Tribes
 - Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada
- Draft EIS public review and comment period (Nov 2018-Feb 2019)
- Meetings with tribes and Federal, state, and local representatives (Dec 2019 and Jan 2020)
- Stakeholder and tribal engagement will continue after the EIS Record of Decision is signed

Alternative 3 (Preferred Alternative)

Area	Existing Acreage		
	Withdrawn ¹ (acres)	Non-Federal (acres)	Navy Fee Owned (acres)
B-16	27,359	0	0
B-17	53,546 ²	1,215	25
B-19	29,012	0	0
B-20	21,576	0	19,429
DVTA	68,809	0	8,751
Shoal	2,561	0	0
Totals*	202,864	1,215	28,205

Developed through coordination with Cooperating Agencies, Governor's Office, and Tribes, and based on public comments



Area	Requested Additional Withdrawal and Proposed Acquisition					Draft EIS Grand Total	Final EIS Grand Total**
	Draft EIS Withdrawn ¹ (acres)	Final EIS Withdrawn (acres)	Draft EIS Non-Federal (acres)	Final EIS Non-Federal (acres)	Final EIS Existing Withdrawn Not to be Renewed (acres)		
B-16	31,836	31,875	0	0	-1,079	59,195	58,155
B-17	211,424	209,564	1,237	1,237	0	267,448	265,588
B-19	0	0	0	0	0	29,012	29,012
B-20	118,204	115,349	61,765	61,765	0	220,974	218,119
DVTA	245,200	245,428	2,518*	2,334*	0	325,277	325,322
Shoal	0	0	0	0	0	2,561	2,561
Totals*	606,664	602,216	65,520	65,336	-1,079	904,468	898,758

Resource Areas Analyzed

Potentially Significant Impacts

- Mining and Mineral Resources
- Livestock Grazing
- Transportation
- Cultural Resources (tribal access)
- Recreation

Potentially significant cumulative impacts on land use, mining and mineral resources, livestock grazing, transportation, water resources, noise, and recreation

Less than Significant Impacts

- Geological Resources
- Land Use
- Airspace
- Noise
- Air Quality
- Water Resources
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources (resources)
- Socioeconomics
- Public Health and Safety
- Environmental Justice



Mining and Mineral Resources

Key Changes Between Draft EIS and Final EIS

- Included methodology for valuation of mining claims

Proposed Mitigation

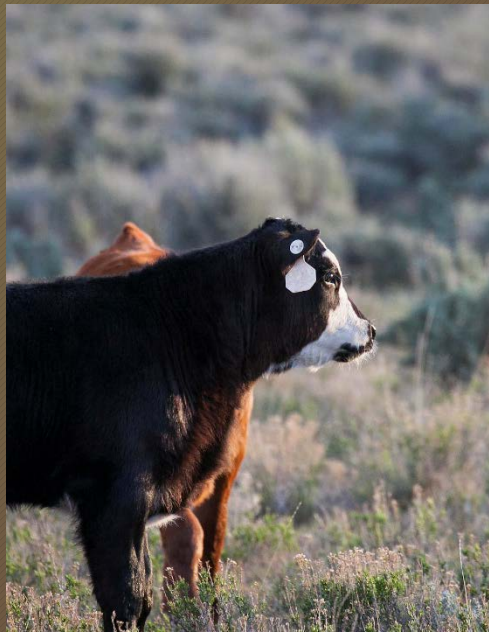
- Payments to holders of mining claims that otherwise cannot be resolved
- Conditionally accommodate exploration and development of geothermal and salable resources in Dixie Valley Training Area



Livestock Grazing

Key Changes Between Draft EIS and Final EIS

- Included more details regarding valuation of payment for losses associated with grazing allotments



Proposed Mitigation

- Payments to federal grazing permit holders
 - Allow for valuation of cost of replacement forage or losses from inability to provide replacement forage
 - Determine value of improvements made by permit holders



Transportation

Key Changes Between Draft EIS and Final EIS

- Provide funding for improvements to Lone Tree Road (to B-16)

Proposed Mitigation

- Keep Simpson Road (B-16) open under Alternative 3 (Preferred Alternative)
- Fund environmental analysis, design, and construction for realignment of roads (SR-361 for Preferred Alternative)

Noise

Key Changes between Draft EIS and Final EIS

- Added population data with noise contours overlaid on census tracts

Proposed Mitigation

- Establish new noise-sensitive areas around Crescent Valley and Eureka
- Create airport exclusion areas around Gabbs, Crescent Valley, and Eureka airports

Water Resources

Key Changes Between Draft EIS and Final EIS

- Included methodology for valuation of water rights
- Completed and incorporated a Water Resources Study
- Confirmed Navy will not seek to acquire any water rights in Dixie Valley Training Area

Proposed Mitigation

- Acquire valid water rights in Bravo ranges as needed





Biological Resources

Key Changes Between Draft EIS and Final EIS

- Incorporated final biological studies

Proposed Mitigation

- Avoid placing targets in biologically sensitive areas
- Fund study on aircraft overflight impacts on sage grouse leks
- Accommodate access for wildlife management, including spring and wildlife guzzler monitoring and maintenance
- Hire two conservation law enforcement officers
- Revise the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan

Cultural Resources (Impacts on Resources)

Key Changes Between Draft EIS and Final EIS

- Updated status on Section 106 consultation
- Included updated data from completed Class III Cultural Resources Inventory
- Broadened impact analysis from distinct ground disturbance areas to a wider area (Potentially Impacted Areas), including special use airspace



Proposed Mitigation

- Avoid/minimize impacts on cultural resources, sacred sites, and traditional cultural properties
- Continue surveys and complete ethnographic overview study to determine future management

Cultural Resources (Impacts on Tribal Resources and Access)

Key Changes Between Draft EIS and Final EIS

- Bolstered discussion of impacts related to tribal access; changed impact conclusion

Proposed Mitigation

- Finalize and implement an amended 2011 Programmatic Agreement
- Partner with Tribes to develop a managed access plan
- Establish a dedicated Tribal Liaison position at NAS Fallon
- Fund tribal range access coordinator positions
- Seek tribal expertise for future surveys and monitoring efforts
- Update and implement Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan



Recreation

Key Changes Between Draft EIS and Final EIS

- Developed draft memorandum of agreement for managed hunt program

Proposed Mitigation

- Accommodate bighorn sheep hunting on B-17
- Install wildlife water guzzlers outside of weapons danger zones in coordination with Nevada Department of Wildlife
- Accommodate other events (e.g., racing events) on a periodic basis on all Bravo ranges

Socioeconomics

Key Changes Between Draft EIS and Final EIS

- Moved animal unit month (AUM) discussion to Socioeconomics, as the metric for calculating potential economic impact
- Clarified process for making payments and valuation for holders of mining claims, federal grazing permits, and water rights
- Created a Special Land Management Overlay south of U.S. Highway 50 instead of withdrawal



Proposed Mitigation

- Compensate for loss of privately-owned land, water rights, mineral rights, and certain real property improvements
- Accommodate development of geothermal within portion of Dixie Valley Training Area and recreational opportunities (bighorn sheep hunt program) within B-17

Public Health and Safety

Key Changes Between Draft EIS and Final EIS

- Added historical wildfire data
- Added figures showing wildfire potential
- Added outline of Wildland Fire Management Plan

Proposed Mitigation

- Develop and implement robust Wildland Fire Management Plan in cooperation with federal, state, and local partners

Oral Comment Session

- Comments at today's meeting (oral and written)
- Written comments:
Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest
c/o FRTC EIS Project Manager
420 Stevens Ave., Suite 300
Solana Beach, CA 92075
- Comments must be postmarked or received by Feb. 10, 2020, for consideration in Record of Decision

*All comments will be considered by the Navy.
Comments will be addressed in the Record of Decision if they are substantive and are not similar to comments received on the Draft EIS that are addressed in the Final EIS.*