

PEIS for the proposed growth, realignment, and stationing of new and existing Army aviation assets. The proposed action includes the consolidation and reorganization of existing aviation units, and the potential establishment of one or more Combat Aviation Brigades (CABs). The proposed action will increase the availability of helicopter assets to meet current and future national security requirements and will allow the Army better to organize existing aviation assets to promote more effective training and force management. The Draft PEIS evaluates the environmental impacts associated with the proposed action, which also includes the construction and renovation of garrison facilities, as well as additional training needed to support the aviation units. Land acquisition is not being considered as part of this action.

The Draft PEIS considers the following alternatives: Alternative 1—Realign and Station Existing Aviation Elements of Up to a Full CAB or Activate and Station a New CAB at Fort Carson, Colorado. Under this alternative, the Army either will consolidate existing aviation units not currently assigned to a CAB into a standard CAB structure at Fort Carson or activate a new CAB at Fort Carson. As part of this alternative, aviation units will conduct training on existing land at Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site (PCMS), Colorado, in order to maintain training proficiency and support integrated training with ground units. Land acquisition is not being considered as part of this action. Alternative 2—Realign and Station Existing Aviation elements of Up to a Full CAB or Grow, Station and Activate a CAB at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) Washington. Under this alternative, the Army either will consolidate existing aviation units not currently assigned to a CAB into a standard CAB structure at JBLM or activate a new CAB at JBLM. As part of this alternative, aviation units will conduct training on existing training land at Yakima Training Center (YTC), Washington, in order to maintain training proficiency and support integrated training with ground units. Land acquisition is not being considered as part of this action. Alternative 3—Implement Alternatives 1 and 2 (preferred alternative). Under this alternative, the Army will implement both alternatives. Under this alternative, the consolidated units forming a CAB would be stationed at one installation, and the new CAB would be activated and stationed at the other installation. Fort Carson and JBLM would each gain

up to one CAB. As part of this alternative, aviation units would conduct training on existing training land at the installation's training maneuver area (PCMS for Fort Carson and YTC for JBLM) in order to maintain training proficiency and support integrated training with ground units. Alternative 4—No Action Alternative. Under this alternative, the Army would retain its aviation force structure at its current levels, configurations, and locations.

Fort Carson and JBLM are the only stationing alternatives that meet all of the Army's stationing requirements for new CAB stationing. These locations have existing runways and airfields, provide adequate maneuver and airspace for CAB operations, and are equipped with existing training ranges that can support CAB training. Most importantly, Fort Carson and JBLM are the only major installations that have three or more Brigade Combat Teams but no CAB dedicated to provide aviation support for training. The proposed action would allow the Army to maximize integrated air-ground training. Land acquisition is not being considered as part of this action.

**DATES:** The public comment period will end 45 days after the publication of a notice of availability in the **Federal Register** by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments may be sent to: Public Affairs Office, U.S. Army Environmental Command, Attention: IMPA-AE, 1835 Army Boulevard, Basement (Building 2000), Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-2686.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Public Affairs Office at (210) 221-0882; fax (410) 436-1693; or e-mail at [APGR-USAECNEPA@conus.army.mil](mailto:APGR-USAECNEPA@conus.army.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A CAB consists of approximately 120 helicopters, 600 wheeled vehicles, and 2,700 Soldiers. The CAB is organized into five battalions and a headquarters unit. CAB units include combat, reconnaissance, and logistics support aircraft.

The Draft PEIS assesses, considers, and compares the direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental effects of proposed CAB growth and realignment for each alternative. The primary environmental issues evaluated include impacts to air quality, soil, airspace, cultural resources, natural resources, and noise. In addition, the Army considers those issues identified by the public and other organizations during the public scoping period (10 September–10 October 2010).

Environmental impacts associated with the implementation of the proposed action include significant impacts to transportation on the Interstate 5 corridor near JBLM and to fish and water quality in Puget Sound. There are potentially significant impacts to biological resources at YTC from increased potential for wildfire and habitat degradation associated with aviation training. Impacts will also include significant but mitigable impacts to soils at Fort Carson, PCMS, and YTC as well as significant but mitigable impacts to water resources at YTC. At PCMS, cumulative impacts to soils are predicted to be manageable with current dust control mitigation techniques. Impacts to cultural resources, air quality, noise impacts, public land use, and socioeconomic impacts were all determined to be less than significant.

Members of the public, including native communities and federally recognized Native American Tribes, and Federal, State, and local agencies are invited to submit written comments on environmental issues, concerns and opportunities analyzed in the Draft PEIS.

A copy of the Draft PEIS is available at <http://aec.army.mil/usaec/nepa/topics00.html>.

Dated: October 25, 2010.

**Hershell E. Wolfe,**

*Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Environment, Safety, and Occupational Health).*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army

#### **Record of Decision (ROD) for Training Range and Garrison Support Facilities Construction and Operation at Fort Stewart, GA**

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, DoD.

**ACTION:** Record of Decision.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Army announces the availability of the ROD for the construction and operation of up to twelve range projects and two garrison support facilities at Fort Stewart. The Army, through the ROD, selects Alternative B for implementation. Alternative B includes sites for projects that predominantly utilize footprints of existing ranges, limits construction and restrictions on existing maneuver terrain, are located in relative close proximity to the cantonment area to reduce unit transit

time, and have less overall environmental impacts. The decision sites ranges and support facilities in locations that reflect the proper balance of initiatives for the protection of the environment, mission needs, and Soldier and Family quality of life considerations.

**ADDRESSES:** To request a copy of the ROD, please contact Mr. Charles Walden, Project Manager, Directorate of Public Works, Prevention and Compliance Branch, Environmental Division, 1550 Frank Cochran Drive, Building 1137-A, Fort Stewart, Georgia 31314-4928 or e-mail [Charles.Walden4@us.army.mil](mailto:Charles.Walden4@us.army.mil).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Kevin Larson, Public Affairs Office, at (912) 435-9879 during normal business hours.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The decision to proceed with the implementation of Alternative B allows the Army to better accomplish its sustainability goals on Fort Stewart because the sites are optimal for design, lessen environmental impacts, and are more land-use compatible. Minor to negligible impacts have been identified for cultural resources and consultation with the Georgia State Historic Preservation Office is complete. Moderate adverse impacts have been identified for soils, water quality, protected species, timber resources, wildland fire, and noise as part of implementing the decision. There are no practicable alternatives to locating the projects in wetlands or floodplains, but the selected alternative minimizes floodplain and wetland impacts. There will be moderate adverse impacts to protected species (red-cockaded woodpecker and frosted flatwood salamander). Formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is complete and all practicable mitigation measures and best management practices will be implemented to offset environmental impacts. The action will not jeopardize the continued existence of these species. The Known Distance Range, a Qualification Training Range, an Infantry Squad Battle Course, a Fire and Movement Range, and a 25 Meter Zero Range were analyzed as part of the proposed action in the Environmental Impact Statement, but have been deferred due to funding. These five ranges have been included in the ROD because they may be funded in the future. Mitigation associated with these ranges will be implemented in the event the ranges are constructed. The No Action Alternative would not provide enough ranges and support facilities needed to adequately accomplish the

mission. Alternative C, with different range and support facility sitings than Alternative B, would result in greater adverse environmental impacts and is not preferred operationally.

The Final EIS and ROD may be accessed at <http://www.fortstewart-mmp-eis.com>.

Dated: 25 October 2010.

**Hershell E. Wolfe,**

*Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army, Environment, Safety and Occupational Health.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Education (the Department), in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the reporting burden on the public and helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. The Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before January 4, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be electronically mailed to [ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@ed.gov) or mailed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., LBJ, Washington, DC 20202-4537. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that Federal agencies provide interested parties an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. The Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Regulatory

Information Management Services, Office of Management, publishes this notice containing proposed information collection requests at the beginning of the Departmental review of the information collection. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: November 1, 2010.

**Darrin A. King,**

*Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management.*

### Office of Vocational and Adult Education

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Title of Collection:* Measuring Educational Gain in the National Reporting System for Adult Education.

*OMB Control Number:* 1830-0567.

*Agency Form Number(s):* N/A.

*Frequency of Responses:* Annually.

*Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profit.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 15.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 600.

**Abstract:** The Secretary has amended title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations by adding a new part 462 that establish procedures the Secretary uses when considering the suitability of tests for use in the National Reporting System (NRS) for adult education. The regulations further the Department's implementation of section 212 of the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA). These regulations also include procedures that States and Local eligible providers would follow when using suitable tests. The AEFLA makes accountability for results a central focus of the law. It sets out performance accountability requirements for States and Local programs that measure program effectiveness on the basis of student academic achievement and other outcomes.

Educational gain is the key outcome measure in the NRS, which describes students' improvement in literacy skills during instruction. States are required to have their local programs assessments