



PRESS RELEASE

Public Affairs Office
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 5, 2025

Navy Proposes to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Transition of Seven FA-18E/F Squadrons to F-35C Squadrons

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Navy announces its intent to prepare an EIS to analyze the potential environmental effects associated with transitioning seven existing FA-18E/F squadrons at one of the Navy's master jet bases (Naval Air Station [NAS] Lemoore, California or NAS Oceana, Virginia) to F-35C Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter squadrons. The Navy will study the reasonably foreseeable environmental effects of the proposed action.

Public Comment Period

The Navy is initiating a 30-day public scoping process to receive comments on the scope of the EIS concerning alternatives to or the impacts of the proposed action, as well as relevant information, studies, or analyses. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the Navy is also seeking comments to assist in identifying historic properties potentially affected by the project and the nature of those potential impacts. The public scoping period begins December 5, 2025, and ends January 4, 2026 at 11:59 PST. The public is invited to visit the project website at <https://www.nepa.navy.mil/F35C> to learn more.

How to Submit Comments

The Navy invites the public to submit comments for consideration in the development of the Draft EIS. Comments may be submitted in one of the following ways:

- Electronically via the project website: <https://www.nepa.navy.mil/F35C>. Comments must be submitted by 11:59 PST on January 4, 2026.
- By mail, postmarked no later than January 4, 2026, to the following address:

Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command, Atlantic
Attn: EV21JB, F-35C EIS Project Manager
6506 Hampton Blvd, Building A
Norfolk, VA 23508

For assistance with questions, please contact the U.S. Fleet Forces Command, Mr. Ted Brown, Installations and Environment Public Affairs Officer, at (757) 836-4427. Additional information about the project may also be found at <https://www.nepa.navy.mil/F35C>.